Wellingborough has a new mayor! Turn to page 2 to meet him.

Thank you to everyone who turned out and voted back in May. All 36 members of this council understand what a responsibility you have given us and we are here to represent you. Please do get in touch with us if we can help you in any way. You’ll find more information on how to do that inside.

I am honoured to be re-elected as leader of the council and to continue the work we’ve started over the past few years. My grandson, Edward (above), has just turned two and I’m delighted to be given further opportunity to make the borough somewhere he, and all of our children and grandchildren, can be proud to grow up.

This is an exciting time to live in Wellingborough, with many developments really picking up pace - you’ll see work progressing this year on Stanton Cross, the new crematorium and conversions of empty buildings, to name just a few. I believe that together we are creating a fantastic future for our borough and I look forward to seeing just how much we can achieve.

With very best wishes for a lovely summer,
Cllr Paul Bell, Leader of the Borough Council of Wellingborough

It’s all change at Wellingborough Council, with 14 new members elected in May. Of the 36 seats available, Conservative councillors won 27 with Labour councillors taking 9.

Councillors are elected by the community to make decisions about how local services are run and how public money is spent. Turn to pages 4 and 5 for important information about your new council, including who’s who, what they do, and how to get involved.

Also in this issue:
» Work starts on both Stanton Cross and the crematorium - page 3
» Tips to avoid homelessness for people living alone - page 6
» How to avoid the most common type of food poisoning this summer - page 7
» A reminder of what should go in your green bin - page 7
» Information and ideas to get the family fit and healthy - page 8
Contact & services
We know that understanding which organisation provides which service in Wellingborough isn’t always easy, so here’s a list of the most commonly used services that are provided by the council.

If a service isn’t listed, or you are unsure whether or not we provide it, please contact us so that we can point you in the right direction. Some services are provided by a number of organisations working together.

**FOR THESE SERVICES, CALL 01933 229 777**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Affordability housing</th>
<th>Building regulations</th>
<th>Business rates</th>
<th>Community grants</th>
<th>Council tax benefits and collection</th>
<th>Elections</th>
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<tr>
<td>Car parks</td>
<td>Cemeteries</td>
<td>Market</td>
<td>Parks and open spaces</td>
<td>Public toilets</td>
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<td>Recycling, refuse, garden waste and bulky collections</td>
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These services are run by Wellingborough Norse, the company that carries out environmental services on behalf of the council.

**FOR THESE SERVICES, CALL 01933 234 520**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Planning applications</th>
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<td>Planning permission to build, extensions, loft conversions,</td>
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Don’t forget you can find information, pay bills, send us comments, report issues, submit planning applications and much more 24 hours a day on our website.

Email us at: generalenquiries@wellingborough.gov.uk
Write to us at: Swanspool House, Doddington Road, Wellingborough NN8 1BP.

Other ways to get in touch

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STANTON DELIVERS

After 15 years in the planning, work has finally started on the major Stanton Cross development to the east of Wellingborough’s train station. A ceremony officially launched the scheme back in March and now first construction is underway.

The first phase of works will see preparations taking place for the extension of Midland Road, past the station and across the railway line. Passengers will have noticed a few changes at the station, as both the footway from Mill Road and the top car park have been closed to allow the work to start. The station can still be accessed on foot by the Midland Road entrance and there is ample provision in the remaining three car parks, meaning any disruption will be kept to an absolute minimum.

Council leader Cllr Paul Bell said: “I’m delighted that work has started and that residents are seeing this development finally begin - it’s been a long time coming. We’ve always said that Stanton Cross is about infrastructure first and this road and bridge will open up the whole site.”

Main developer Bovis Homes has said that the first homes could be ready by the middle of next year.

The whole scheme is expected to take between 10 and 15 years to complete and, when finished, it will provide more than 3,000 homes, up to 7,500 new jobs, an enhanced train station, a country park, schools, doctors, and business and shopping facilities.

Keep up to date on the latest Stanton Cross progress at www.stantoncross.co.uk

Our survey said...

The council recently commissioned an audit of the open spaces in the borough. The idea was to assess the quantity, quality and accessibility to help shape planning policies. The study covered lots of different types of open spaces including parks, provision for children and young people, allotments, cemeteries, and outdoor and indoor sports facilities. As part of the audit, a consultation took place with local communities, councillors, and sports clubs. The findings showed that around 70% of residents who responded felt the provision was satisfactory, but the vast majority (75%) did not use allotments and community gardens.

Find out more at www.wellingborough.gov.uk/planningpolicy

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Heritage fund

Grants are being offered to help restore and repair the town’s historic buildings.

Shop owners can apply for a grant to improve their shop fronts, with 58% of repair and 80% of restoration costs. Residents can apply for a grant of 50% for works costing up to £4,000 to repair or enhance original features, such as windows and doors, plasterwork and joinery.

The grants are part of the lottery-funded Townscape Heritage Initiative. For more information and to find out if you’re eligible, email heritage@wellingborough.gov.uk

Your village, your say

A neighbourhood plan to shape the future of Earls Barton is prepared for and by residents, continues to progress. Great effort is being put in by both the borough and parish council to make sure that future growth is influenced by the villagers themselves.

A plan which proposes to deliver homes to meet the needs of the parish until 2031 alongside a significant amount of new and upgraded recreation space, could be subject to a community referendum this summer - at which point it’s down to the people of Earls Barton to come out in force to make their ambitions a reality!

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Borough’s New Mayor

Councillor Barry Graves, former deputy leader of the council, has been elected as the new Mayor of Wellingborough. He was sworn in at the annual meeting of the council in May in front of a packed audience of friends, family and fellow councillors.

Cllr Graves has lived in Wilby with wife Pauline, who will be his mayoress, for 44 years. They have two sons and three grandchildren. He spent 40 years working in the footwear industry and, more recently, was chief executive of Serve, a voluntary organisation that delivers services and support for older people. He has been a borough councillor since 2007 and was deputy leader for four years.

Cllr Graves is an avid follower of Northampton Saints and will be using his mayoral year to promote sport, particularly for the under-10s. He will fundraise throughout his time as mayor with his main charity being Northamptonshire Carers.

If you would like the mayor to attend your event, please phone 01933 231 519 or visit www.wellingborough.gov.uk/mayor
Your council

The borough council is made up of 36 members, all elected by the community. They are divided into 16 areas, known as wards. Each ward is represented by either one, two or three councillors. Your ward councillor is there to represent your views and opinions and help you with any difficulties that the council could help to solve.

Borough councillors agree policies about how local services are provided and how the council’s money is spent. Regular committee meetings are held to help this decision-making process. Every councillor makes decisions that don’t have to be approved by all councillors.

All council and committee meetings are open to the public, although there are occasionally matters on the agenda that have to be confidential by law. Examples include discussion of legal proceedings and commercially sensitive information. This doesn’t happen often and a reason will always be given if it does.

You are welcome to attend council and committee meetings and to request to address the meeting. An agenda will be published at least five working days before each meeting. Minutes of meetings showing the outcome of each agenda item will be published as soon as possible, but usually within a week of the meeting. Every committee has a chairman and a vice-chairman. As well as deciding what will be on the meeting’s agenda, they also consider any requests from members of the public who would like to speak at the meeting. The full council meeting is chaired by the mayor.

Visit www.wellingborough.gov.uk and click on ‘your council’ or phone 01933 229 777 to find out:
- which ward you live in
- which councillors represent you and how to contact them
- information on the different committees, meetings calendar, agendas and minutes and how to request to address a meeting.

Borough councillors make decisions about things that affect you. Get involved and make sure your voice is heard.

Fourteen new councillors were elected in May. Here, two of them introduce themselves and explain why they wanted to take on the role.

Councillor Laura Stevenson
Earls Barton ward

Cllr Stevenson has had a busy few months. She qualified as a journalist, got married – once in Earls Barton and again in Auckland, New Zealand – and ran a marathon in Germany, as well as campaigning for and winning the Earls Barton seat on the council.

She previously worked in local government at Brent Council in Wembley, which should stand her in good stead as she finds her feet as a councillor.

Cllr Stevenson said: “I put myself forward as I wanted to make a real difference to the village I’ve lived in for the past eight years. I want to look after the interests of people in Earls Barton and make sure they continue to have a strong voice on the council.”

Councillor Eyseyn Francis
Victoria ward

Cllr Francis is a qualified accountant who has lived in Wellingborough all of her life. She put herself forward as a councillor after talking to local people and organisations when establishing her business.

Cllr Francis said: “I became more aware of local needs when I founded my company, which prompted my desire to be a voice within the community and help take local issues forward. I’m passionate about the success of Wellingborough and want to be part of the decision-making process to ensure outcomes are positive for everyone.”

She is looking forward to meeting and talking to all sections of the community within the Victoria ward.

We want to become more self-sufficient so we’re not dependent on government money. We have big plans for the borough.

Who’s who

Councillor Paul Bell
Leader of the council

“The Conservative group is proud to continue as the council’s administration and to have the opportunity to finish what we started during our previous term. Our priority is to serve the borough’s residents by providing the best possible services and facilities in a cost-effective way.”

Councillor Martin Griffiths
Deputy leader of the council

“I am proud to have been asked by my fellow Conservative councillors to work closely with the leader and senior officers of the council to implement the pledges that we made to the people of Wellingborough in the election. Many of our major projects have already moved forward at a pace since May and it is one of my tasks to ensure that this momentum is maintained.”

Councillor Andrew Scarborough
Leader of the opposition

“As leader of the opposition, I believe the council works best when it works together for the common good. It is my job, together with my Labour colleagues, to make sure the Conservative administration works in the best interests of all the people of the borough and to challenge them strongly if they fail to do so.”

Councillor Brian Emerson
Deputy leader of the opposition

“As deputy leader of the opposition I support my Labour colleagues so that we are an effective group. Part of this involves mentoring our new Labour councillors so that we make a difference as quickly as possible, in the wards we represent and in council. By being well-briefed, instead of opposing merely to oppose, we offer constructive criticism of the administration’s plans whenever appropriate.”

Your local MPs are Peter Bone (Conservative) for the Daventry constituency, Chris Heaton-Harris (Conservative) for the Daventry constituency, Contact Peter Bone at bonep@parliament.uk or 01933 279 363 and Chris Heaton Harris at chris.heatonharris@parliament.uk or 01604 859 721.
We love chicken. Almost three-quarters of us eat it every single week. And at this time of the year, the healthy and versatile family favourite brings us together round the barbecue on sunny afternoons.

But there’s one thing we don’t love about chicken: it can cause food poisoning.

The Food Standards Agency estimates that 280,000 cases a year can be traced back to campylobacter, a germ that’s often found on raw chicken. It’s the most common cause of food poisoning in the UK. You can’t see it, smell it or taste it, but you’ll know if it affects you. It can cause abdominal pain, diarrhoea and vomiting and, at its worst, campylobacter can kill.

Up to 80% of campylobacter cases come from contaminated poultry. The bacteria is killed by thorough cooking, so problems only occur if the germs are spread to other food or the chicken isn’t cooked properly.

Our health protection manager, Amanda Wilcox, has these tips to make sure your barbecue is bug free:

- Always store raw chicken separately from other food at the bottom of the fridge.
- Never wash raw chicken as this splashes germs around.
- Wash hands and utensils with soap and hot water.
- Make sure chicken is served piping-hot and cooked properly until the juices run clear and there’s no pink meat.
- It can be tricky to cook properly on a barbecue, and there’s also a risk of raw meat touching food that’s ready to eat. Cook in the oven first and then add flavour on the barbecue to make sure it’s safe.

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Alive 'n' kicking

Are you worried about your child's health or weight? Alive 'n' Kicking is a hugely successful lifestyle service for families with children aged 5 to 11 years old. It's completely free and it's coming to Wellingborough.

The sessions are for families who want to eat more healthily, be more active and have lots of fun doing this together. With recipe challenges, exciting activities, healthy snacks and lunchbox ideas, the programme helps children and their families reach and maintain a healthy weight.

Sessions start in the autumn. Call the team for more information on 01604 745 084 or email ANK@nhft.nhs.uk

Step to it!

This summer the county council’s 20 million steps challenge returns, asking everyone who lives or works in Northamptonshire to go for a walk over the weekend of 18 to 20 September.

Distances will be logged and the council will count them all until the whole county reaches the target of 20 million steps. Northamptonshire is the fifth fattest county in the country. Walking is an excellent way to start getting healthier and more active. It’s free, you don’t need any special equipment and you can do it anywhere.

It’s easy to take part in the challenge. Whether you decide to go for a short stroll or a five-mile hike, it all counts. Walk wherever you want – whether in the town centre, through one of our beautiful villages, or round a country park – and then log the distance you covered and the number of people who took part.

More information, including how to register and how to log your steps, can be found at www.northamptonshire.gov.uk/20millionsteps

A beach in our borough

Get your buckets and spades out - the beach is coming to town!

We may be more than 70 miles from the coast, but for three weeks this summer the ever-popular beach event will be back on Market Street. Organised by Wellingborough’s Business Improvement District, the seaside extravaganza opens on 8 August and runs until 29 August from 10am to 4pm each day.

Make a splash

The splash park at The Embankment is open every day throughout the summer holidays (depending on the weather). It is completely free and, as well as the main water feature, there are sandpits, picnic tables, and shelter. There is also free car parking, toilets and baby changing facilities.

Every summer, the council teams up with Northamptonshire Sport to organise sporting activities for children during the summer holidays.

The activities run for between two and five days each throughout July and August and give children of different ages and abilities the chance to develop their skills in a fun and safe environment.

All the courses are taught by qualified and DBS-cleared coaches and include football, cricket, table tennis, judo, archery and basketball. Prices range from completely free of charge for football coaching to £10 for two days of table tennis and up to £50 for a week-long basketball camp. All are held locally in Wellingborough.

Council sports development officer Quintin Allen said: “This summer is a brilliant time to get children excited about sport. We’ve had the FIFA Women’s World Cup, our prospective Olympians are gearing up for next year in Rio, it’s an Ashes summer, and the Rugby World Cup follows soon. We are building on this enthusiasm by offering high-quality activities at affordable prices, encouraging children to get active, do their best and have fun.”

For more information and to sign up, email qallen@northamptonshire.gov.uk or phone 01933 231 823.

Summer sports

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