HOW MUCH WILL IT COST?
Parish councils are funded by a “precept”, which is an amount factored into the year’s council tax for each property in the parish area. As part of the order making the town council, a first year anticipated precept was set at £306,372. This would be a cost of under £20 per household per year, or £0.38 per week.

This figure was reached as an estimation of some of the services that the new town council could deliver, including town centre environmental services and management, the market, war memorials, CCTV, community buildings, and events like Party in the Park and the Carnival.

The disaggregation of services from the borough council to the town council will be considered by councillors ahead of the creation of the town council in May 2020. It will be up to the town council to set the precept each year. The best way you can influence this is to become a councillor and stand for election, or to vote for someone who wants to do the things for the community that you agree with!

QUESTIONS?
If you have any questions then please don’t hesitate to contact the elections team on elections@wellingborough.gov.uk or by calling 01933 231513.

COUNCILLORS AND ELECTIONS
The new parish of Wellingborough is divided into 9 wards with a total of 23 councillors for the whole town council. The names of the wards and number of councillors for each ward (as agreed following the Community Governance Review consultation) are below:

1) Brickhill - 2 councillors
2) Croyland - 3 councillors
3) Hatton - 2 councillors
4) Isebrook - 1 councillor
5) Queensway - 3 councillors
6) Redwell - 3 councillors
7) Rixon - 3 councillors
8) Swanspool - 3 councillors
9) Victoria - 3 councillors

Elections will be held for these councillors on Thursday 7 May 2020. A map of the parish boundary and wards is below:

TOWN COUNCIL BOUNDARY AND WARDS
BACKGROUND
In 2018, Borough Council of Wellingborough undertook a Community Governance Review (CGR) with a view to create a town council for Wellingborough.

A public consultation was carried out between July and October 2018, with over 80% of responses in agreement that Wellingborough should have a town council.

TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS
Town and parish councils are the “grass roots” first tier of local government. They represent their communities and provide services for them.

Decisions taken by local authorities vitally affect the quality of life within their area and the role of the local council is of critical concern to the community it represents.

WHY NOW?
Local government in Northamptonshire is changing. The district and borough councils of Wellingborough, Kettering, Corby and East Northamptonshire will be dissolved and will be formed into a new North Northamptonshire Unitary Council. Northampton, Daventry and South Northants will form a new West Northamptonshire Unitary Council.

Northamptonshire County Council will also cease to exist, and the services it delivers will be disaggregated (split) across the two new unitary councils.

If there was no town council in Wellingborough, that would mean that Wellingborough would no longer have representation specifically focussed on Wellingborough. Councillors voted following the Community Governance Review to establish a town council so that residents could continue to have local representation.

The town of Wellingborough was the only area in the borough which did not have representation at this level.

WHEN WILL THE TOWN COUNCIL START?
The first elections to Wellingborough Town Council will be held in May 2020.

Once residents have voted the first meeting of the Town Council will be held within fourteen days of the election.

Wellingborough Town Council will then be an autonomous authority like any other parish council in the area, and will hold public meetings and begin to look at services that it could deliver for the residents of the town.

This will give a year of the town council running alongside Borough Council of Wellingborough before the new unitary authorities are officially created (1 April 2021).

HOW DO I STAND FOR ELECTION?
There are lots of different qualifications to allow you to stand for election:

- **You are a registered local government elector for the parish** – and will continue to be for the duration of your term of office – from the day you are nominated
- **You have occupied (as owner or as a tenant) any land or other premises in the parish area** a full year before the day you’re nominated and polling day
- **Your main or only place of work** for the full year before the day that you’re nominated, and polling day, has been in the parish area
- **You have lived in the parish area – or within three miles of it** – for a full year before the day the day that you’re nominated and polling day.

You will need to submit your nomination papers in person roughly a month before polling day – specific dates will be available closer to the time but the deadline is likely to be 7 April 2020.

FURTHER INFORMATION
The Electoral Commission offer lots of really good resources for candidates on their website:

[www.electoralcommission.org.uk](http://www.electoralcommission.org.uk)