

POINTS OF LIGHT 2021 | YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUTH SERVICES

Billericay Town Council, Essex

Electorate: 22,730
Precept: £300,556
Expenditure: £322,250

Hosts Billericay Youth Town Council. The youth council consists of twenty young councillors who are elected for a two year term of office. Councillors meet on the first and third Tuesdays of the month during term time at the council's offices. Benefits of membership include experiencing democracy at work from the inside, being able to present the youth view to the main council and gaining experience working in a team for the benefit of the community. Activities undertaken by the council since its inception in 1998 include organising the Urban Games, holding sales events to fundraise for local charities and organising an annual music night to showcase the talent of young people in the town. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the music showcase was held virtually, giving the young people of Billericay something to achieve during lockdown.

Cholsey Parish Council, Oxfordshire

Electorate: 3,201
Precept: £135,421
Expenditure: £293,742

Employs a family support worker to support parents/carers and young people aged 0-18. The family support worker can offer free support in several ways, including talking, listening, offering practical help, referring and signposting to local services, advocacy and befriending. The family support worker is also the administrator for Cholsey Autism and ADHD support page and private group.

Great Dawley Town Council, Shropshire

Electorate: 8,545
Precept: £579,861
Expenditure: £734,957

Provided free breakfast packs for families with children on free school meals. Parents of children living in the Dawley and Aqueduct Borough Ward and Mainslee and Dawley Bank Borough Ward and in receipt of certain benefits, could

arrange to collect the packs from Dawley Bank Baptist Church or Dawley House. Each pack included a box of cereals, loaf of bread, butter, yoghurts, baked beans, spaghetti, jam and milk.

Keynsham Town Council, Avon

Electorate: 14,743
Precept: £628,364
Expenditure: £560,578

Employs a youth services team who provide activities for young people aged 11-19. During the COVID-19 pandemic, the team ran a range of online activities, including regular quizzes, cooking and music sessions, as well as providing one to one support where required. Prior to the pandemic, the team ran two types of sessions. Time Out Centre Youth Sessions were an open drop in sessions taking place twice a week. Entry was 50p, which covered the cost of activities including cooking sessions, music studio recording, filming projects, pool, CV workshops and job searches and arts and crafts. Time Out Detached Sessions took place in the local community, to meet the needs of young people and promote positive activities. Detached youth work followed on from Outreach, with projects created in the areas young people requested. The council hopes to be able to resume offering the Time Out Centre youth sessions, Detached sessions and Outreach sessions in September 2021.

Kirton in Lindsey Town Council, ERNLLCA

Electorate: 2,582
Precept: £103,488
Expenditure: £103,488

Worked with the Positive Activities Team at North Lincolnshire Council and Clixby Active Pro Sports to organise summer sports sessions for children in school year's three to eight. Sessions took place outdoors most Thursday's from 3 June to 30 September and cost £2 to attend. Sports on offer included dodgeball, cricket, poison ball, football and rocket ball, with children invited to request sports they wanted to play by suggesting them to the coach. After such a difficult last two years, the sports proved very popular with young residents and provided a welcome source of outside activities and social interaction. Funding for the purchase of sports equipment and the coach's fees came from the Positive Activities team, with Kirton in Lindsay Town Council committing funding to top this up.

Middlewich Town Council, Cheshire

Electorate: 11,370
Precept: £374,300
Expenditure: £465,866

Worked with Middlewich Vision to organise a programme of summer activities for children and young people. Activities on offer in 2021 included swimming, archery, crazy golf, drumming, arts and crafts, storytelling and willow weaving. There was also a demonstration of bees making honey, an opportunity to meet the owls and falcons belonging to Cheshire Falconry and the chance to watch the Mobile Bike Events BMX team in action. The council teamed up with Middlewich and District Foodbank to offer a free picnic pack for families struggling in the current circumstances so that they could enjoy the activities and have refreshments without worry.

Nailsworth Town Council, Gloucestershire

Electorate: 4,603
Precept: £350,726
Expenditure: £331,373

Funds Nailsworth Youth Club. The youth club is open to all young people aged 8-19 in Nailsworth and surrounding areas and offers activities including sports, arts and crafts, cooking trips, residential weekends and volunteering opportunities. The youth club also provides young people with information, support and guidance on issues that affect them. Anyone interested in supporting the youth club is invited to volunteer their time, make a donation or enter the Lucky Severn Lottery and name Nailsworth Youth Club as their supported organisation.

Newport Town Council, Shropshire

Electorate: 9,541
Precept: £480,250
Expenditure: £420,143

Runs an annual Christmas card competition. Children aged between 3 and 11 (from nursery up to school year six) and who are educated or live within the parish of Newport are invited to post their designs to the council. All designs must be on an A5 card folded in half to be no bigger than 10.5cm by 15cm. Categories are nursery (over 3), reception and year one, school years two and three and school years four, five and six. In 2021 the winner in each category will receive family

pantomime tickets, with the overall winner being invited to turn on the Newport Christmas lights.

Ripley Town Council, Derbyshire

Electorate: 16,615
Precept: £342,000
Expenditure: £332,600

Provides a programme of activities for young people in Ripley. The Youth Hub is open every Wednesday for 11 to 18-year-olds to attend free of charge. Each week there is an interactive, healthy lifestyle programme with a focus on developing skills and knowledge through practical activities, including art, craft, cooking and interactive games. The programme is staffed by two youth workers from the Blend Project Team who have appropriate training in key areas such as safeguarding, food hygiene and sexual health. Funding for this initiative comes from the Derbyshire Police and Crime Commissioner.

Werrington Parish Council, Staffordshire

Electorate: 4,603
Precept: £100,005
Expenditure: £147,588

Held a competition to design a new council logo. Local school children were invited to sketch, draw, paint or design a logo incorporating the Werrington Windmill and email the design to the council. Categories included Key Stage One, Key Stage Two and Key Stage Three and prizes were awarded to the winner in each category, with the overall winner receiving a framed copy of their logo design. The winning design was drawn by two brothers at a local primary school and incorporated the memorial stone, union flag, the well and Staffordshire knot.

Belper Town Council, Derbyshire

Belper Town Council provides a range of youth services, delivered through an SLA agreement with Blend Youth Project (run by Valley CiDS). The youth engagement project delivers weekly sessions covering physical activities, sexual health, wellbeing, staying safe and promoting community values. In August 2021, the Blend Youth Project hosted a summer sports festival, taking place over two weeks, for 50 children aged between 8-14 years old.

Additionally, Belper Town Council set up a Youth Council in 2019. Comprised of 13 young people from surrounding schools and youth organisations, they run their

own website, hold their own meetings and set their own agenda. The Youth Council is focused on improving the status of young people through engagement and representation, supporting town activities relevant to young people and liaising with local youth groups© NALC 2022