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## **FOREWARD**

*Points of Light* is a collection of case studies highlighting the work that local (parish and town) councils are undertaking to support their communities. Each case study features a summary of the work carried out alongside electorate, precept and expenditure figures of the local councils involved.

The case studies have been compiled to promote good practice and raise awareness of the work local councils are undertaking. Facilitating summer activity sessions for local children, running an award winning sports and community facility, carrying out town centre improvements, funding a community agent post and supporting a cost of living day are just some of the examples of activity contained in this edition.

Research for *Points of Light* has come from a range of sources, including direct submissions by local councils, entries to NALC's Star Council Awards and local news stories.

NALC hopes this guide inspires all local councils to take that extra step to support their community and aides understanding of what they do.

## **ART, CULTURE AND HERITAGE**

### **Lichfield City Council, Staffordshire**

Electorate: 25,004

Precept: £835,450

Expenditure: £1,170,023

Manages the Samuel Johnson Birthplace Museum in its capacity as sole trustee of Dr Johnson's Birthplace Trust. The museum holds a collection of over 8,000 items relating to Johnson, his circle and 18<sup>th</sup> century Lichfield. There is also a significant manuscript collection, including signature letters from Johnson and his family and other important figures such as Boswell, Anna Seward, Hester Piozzi, Joshua Reynolds and Sarah Siddons.

For schools, the museum has tailored primary, secondary and outreach programmes. The primary programme offers children in Key Stage One and Key Stage Two the opportunity to find out how the Johnson family lived through acting, storytelling and interacting with costumed characters. For secondary pupils the museum runs a Key Stage Five Dictionary Workshop. As well as offering sessions onsite, the museum can also provide materials for the classroom, including inks, rollers and safeprint tiles for printing and bookmaking and alphabet tiles, objects and letter vests for creating a large class alphabet.

Young visitors to the museum can also enjoy a cat trail, dressing up and colouring in activities, as well as attending the fortnightly Birthplace Bookworms sessions, where they can read aloud and take part in fun craft activities.

### **Trowbridge Town Council, Wiltshire**

Electorate: 27,408

Precept: £2,349,843

Expenditure: £2,903,370

Manages Trowbridge Museum. The museum allows visitors to discover 1,000 years of the town's history through diverse and varied collections, including textile machinery, cloth samples, tools and materials, photographs, paintings, and costumes. For schools, the museum has a range of engaging, challenging and cross curricular workshops for early years through to Key Stage Two and can put together tailored workshops for Key Stage Three and above. These cover periods of history from the Romans to the twentieth century, historic toys and games, local history, heritage and culture, science and technology in the woollen industry and various arts and crafts, including textiles and weaving, printmaking and printing. During the summer holidays the museum offered a wealth of activities for children of all ages, including a Summer Junk Heap Challenge, Pocket Holiday

Journal, Seashell Print Postcards, Tie-Dye T-Shirts and Commonwealth Games Sports Mobiles, many of which were free to take part in.

### **Weymouth Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 41,092

Precept: £3,223,970

Expenditure: £4,353,952

Launched an exciting new mural trail in August 2022. The council, working in partnership with 'We Are Weymouth' (Weymouth Business Improvement District), commissioned artists to produce a ten location street art trail across the town. To support the artworks, each mural has a QR plaque which can be scanned to reveal information about the image and the artist that painted it, as well as a map showing the locations of all the murals. It is hoped the trail will attract a wide range of residents and visitors to explore and enjoy outdoor artworks inspired by the history and culture of the town, enhance the visual aesthetics of existing buildings and increase the footfall and economic benefit for local businesses.

Weymouth Town Council also unveiled a new sculpture to mark ten years since Weymouth took centre stage for the Olympic and Paralympic sailing events at London 2012. An artist was commissioned by the council to make a commemorative sculpture inspired by the local events and successes of Team GB. This was unveiled at a community event at Nothe Gardens, near the spot where spectators gathered in their droves a decade earlier to enjoy the competitive sailing races.

### **Whitchurch Town Council, Shropshire**

Electorate: 8,007

Precept: £512,163

Expenditure: £512,163

Owns and funds Whitchurch Heritage Centre. The heritage centre is run by Whitchurch Museum and Archives Volunteers and contains a range of artifacts dating from Roman times to the present. The main exhibition hall also heralds the work of Whitchurch firm J.B. Joyce who produced tower clocks until recently, while the Caldecott Gallery houses a collection of artwork and memorabilia relating to Randolph Caldecott and the Whitchurch born musician Edward German. Many of the exhibits are geared towards children, including a Roman 'dig' where finds can be uncovered, a brass rubbing table for budding artists to create their own masterpieces and a giant jigsaw with a Randolph Caldecott style picture to complete.

## **CIVIC PRIDE**

### **Biddulph Town Council, Staffordshire**

Electorate: 15,869

Precept: £381,194

Expenditure: £506,719

Launched a scheme to encourage residents to come back to the high street. The scheme, undertaken in conjunction with the #ReOpening the High Street Safely/Welcome Back funding from the government, was the first of many events the council planned with the aim of increasing footfall, celebrating the High Street and boosting the area's economy. Residents were asked to complete a contact slip found in participating businesses and drop it into the box in the shop to enter a prize draw. Two winners received a Biddulph High Street Voucher which could be spent in the participating business of their choice. Participating businesses included Biddulph Fish Bar, Darwin's Pet Supplies, Foxtail Florist, The Wool Shop and WAGS Hair Salon.

### **Bishop's Castle Town Council, Shropshire**

Electorate: 1,506

Precept: £165,000

Expenditure: £150,817

Worked in partnership with other local organisations and individual members of Bishop's Castle Community Partnership on the delivery of a community led plan. The plan brings together existing statutory and voluntary organisations and local volunteers to run projects and form working groups to tackle specific issues. It has six themes designed to address the issues identified by the Bishop's Castle community: town centre, community and services, economy, sustainability, infrastructure and development.

Actions carried out since the plan was developed include: declaration of a climate emergency by Bishop's Castle Town Council, subsequent development of a climate and ecological action plan by the Sustainability Working Group, securing of £4.3 million in funding for the expansion of Bishop's Castle business park, securing of £5,000 from Shropshire Council Covid-19 Small Market Towns Marches Investment Fund to expand the town trail and make it a major tourist attraction and work towards making Bishop's Castle dementia friendly, including visits by members of the steering group to shops and businesses to raise awareness of the needs of people living with dementia and conversations with Bishop's Castle Medical Practice resulting in improved signage and accessibility. The plan was initially scheduled to run from 2017 to 2021, however, with agreement from Bishop's Castle Town Council, the decision was made to extend it

until 2022 as the community plans how best to rebuild the local economy, facilities and social life following the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Churchill and Langford Parish Council, Avon**

Electorate: 1,913

Precept: £82,565

Expenditure: £92,217

Employs a parish orderly to keep the parish clean and tidy. The orderly empties bins in lay bys on Stock Lane and Dinghurst Road and in the Burial Ground, keeps footpaths clear (particularly behind the Stag and Hounds), removes fly posting and cleans and disinfects bus shelters. The orderly also clears litter on a four weekly cycle, or more often if the need arises. Funding for the orderly's salary comes from a small grant from North Somerset Council, with Churchill Parish Council paying the remainder of it.

### **Cramlington Town Council, Northumberland**

Electorate: 23,429

Precept: £1,019,000

Expenditure: £1,204,519

Encourages everyone to make Cramlington an even better place to live in, work and relax through the Clean Cramlington campaign. As part of this, the council asks residents, schools, the community and businesses to work with them and take collective responsibility for keeping the town clean and tidy and having an environmentally friendly outlook. To help, the council has made a number of resources available on its website, including a step by step guide to planning a community litter pick, advice on how to dispose of dog mess, an invitation to residents to join Northumberland County Council's Green Dog Walkers Scheme, advice on what can be recycled, links to information about local recycling points and garden waste collections and details of how to report an issue at any of the playgrounds, bus shelters, allotments, bonfires and with graffiti. Cramlington Town Council has also developed the Cramlington Code, a voluntary code to tackle litter which local businesses are encouraged to sign.

### **Kenilworth Town Council, Warwickshire and West Midlands**

Electorate: 17,990

Precept: £204,280

Expenditure: £251,744

Sponsors a group membership with Shakespeare's England to showcase local hospitality and business. Any businesses that are tourist facing, including hospitality, food, accommodation, services, specialist shops and transport, can

complete and return an attractions template to be featured and promoted by Shakespeare's England. Benefits of doing so include wider publicity nationally and internationally, representation at trade shows, social media postings and invitations to tourism forums. This has been driven by Kenilworth Town Council's tourism working group, who are now focussing on organising day itineraries to include Kenilworth's hidden nature trails, natural wonders, heritage and cultural experiences which will then be published on Shakespeare's England and the town council Visit Kenilworth website.

### **Ramsgate Town Council, Kent**

Electorate: 29,770

Precept: £960,212

Expenditure: £755,674

Is a member of Ramsgate Coastal Community Team. The team aims to ensure that Ramsgate becomes a prosperous maritime town combining outstanding heritage and architecture with new investment and development that supports sustainable growth. Other members include Ramsgate Neighbourhood Plan Group, Ramsgate Regeneration Alliance, The Ramsgate Society and Ramsgate Town Team. Thanet District Council provides support and information.

### **Redbourn Parish Council, Hertfordshire**

Electorate: 4,194

Precept: £247,694

Expenditure: £290,676

Supports a group of local litter pickers by providing them with equipment. The litter pickers, all volunteers, have adopted an area in the village known as a litter hotspot which they tidy up once or twice a week. This is done with litter pickers, a blue circular holder that allows the bin bags to stay open and high vis jackets supplied by Redbourn Parish Council, who obtained the equipment from St Albans City and District Council. The difference, particularly in the High Street and Cumberland Garden, is marked.

### **Stanley Town Council, County Durham**

Electorate: 24,070

Precept: £818,813

Expenditure: £982,689

Received a Silver Gilt award from Northumbria in Bloom in 2021. After initially entering the awards in 2019 with the help of Durham County Council officers, in 2021 Stanley Town Council played an instrumental role in coordinating efforts. The seconded neighbourhood wardens and environmental caretaker became more

involved in helping residents with their projects and promoting Northumbria in Bloom. Stanley Town Council also provided funding to the Stanley in Bloom group, a partnership of local organisations and people whose aim is to make Stanley look beautiful all year round. Projects carried out by members of the partnership include litter picking events in and around the Stanley Town Council area, tree planting in St Joseph's School, planting of all year round foliage and shrubs at South Causey Inn Hotel, planting of spring bedding in the beer garden at The Ball Alley Public House and the installation of six gateway features at various locations around Stanley, featuring whiskey barrels, spring bulbs and spring and summer bedding. The council hopes to go one further and win the gold award in 2022.

### **Stratford upon Avon Town Council, Warwickshire and West Midlands**

Electorate: 23,313

Precept: £556,242

Expenditure: £1,000,556

Is a member of Stratford Town Centre Strategic Partnership. The partnership aims to make the town as attractive as possible for residents, business and tourists. It is made up of key representatives from all the key organisations in Stratford Upon Avon, including Accessible Stratford, Stratforward Business Improvement District, Shakespeare Birthplace Trust, Royal Shakespeare Company, Shakespeare's England, Stratford Society, Stratford-on-Avon District Council, Stratford-upon-Avon Town Council, the Town Transport Group, Stratford Town Trust and Warwickshire County Council. One of the first major projects the partnership acted on was the planned improvements to Bridge Street and the High Street. This was done by bringing together all members of the partnership to discuss the merits of particular ideas to improve the two streets before instructing consultants PJA to draw up an initial design. The design was then used as a basis for Warwickshire County Council, who sit on the Strategic Partnership, to put in a bid for Levelling Up funding from the government to help fund the transformation of the streets.

### **Shavington-cum-Gresty Parish Council, Cheshire**

Electorate: 4,914

Precept: £161,154

Expenditure: £148,352

Organised a successful 'One Identity Campaign.' The campaign was themed around Shavington-cum-Gresty having 'One Parish. One Community. One Identity.' It was launched in 2021 following a community governance review by Cheshire East Council which included proposals for a thousand homes to be moved from Shavington-cum-Gresty into neighbouring parishes including Crewe and Wybunbury, destroying the identity of the community. As part of the

campaign, local residents were encouraged to respond to the consultation, which over 900 did, the vast majority of whom disagreed with Cheshire East Council's draft recommendations. Those disagreeing with the recommendations gave reasons including local identity and interest, impact on the green belt and environment and current governance arrangements working well. A number also stated that they valued the active and supportive nature of Shavington-cum-Gresty Parish Council and felt it was effective in engaging with residents. As a result, the outcome of the Community Governance Review was that the parish would be remaining largely as it is, with only minor changes made.

### **Wem Town Council, Shropshire**

Electorate: 4,774

Precept: £344,197

Expenditure: £367,153

Made several improvements to the town centre that have benefitted residents and visitors. Actions taken by the council include deep cleaning the high street and Drawwel Walk, providing Christmas Lights, purchasing a new events noticeboard, repainting the bins, bollards and benches in the town centre and purchasing gazebos and a storage unit for use at Wem Markets and events. Funding for these improvements came from the Welcome Back Fund, a European Regional Development Fund designed to support a safe return to the high streets and help build back better following the pandemic.

### **Weymouth Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 41,092

Precept: £3,223,970

Expenditure: £4,353,952

Unveiled a plaque commemorating 80 years to the day since the No 4 (Army) Commando unit, formed in Weymouth in July 1940, carried out a daring raid in Dieppe. The plaque idea was inspired by local residents, and the council were proud to be able to honour their troops in this way. The plaque will serve as an important reminder of the coastline's history as well as acknowledge the vital role played by No 4 (Army) Commando. Representatives from veterans' associations, and councillors from Weymouth Town Council attended the unveiling, along with family members of Arthur Robinson, a survivor of No 4 (Army) Commando unit who still lives in Weymouth, aged 98.

## **COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

### **Dereham Town Council, Norfolk**

Electorate: 15,060

Precept: £1,021,907

Expenditure: £1,646,258

Operates a community car scheme. Dereham residents who would otherwise be unable to make an essential journey can contact the scheme coordinator and arrange a lift with a volunteer driver. Essential journeys are classified as trips to hospital, doctors' surgeries/health centres, dentists, opticians and the chiropodist. The most frequent journeys are charged at a fixed rate, ranging from £1.80 for a return journey within Dereham to £48.00 to go to Moorfields Eye Hospital in London and back. Any journey not on the standard fare list is charged at 20p per mile subject to a minimum fare of £2.00. Fares cover half the cost of the scheme, with the other half covered by Dereham Town Council and Breckland Council.

### **Norton-juxta-Kempsey Parish Council, Worcestershire**

Electorate: 1,933

Precept: £59,733

Expenditure: £194,248

Operates the Norton Connector Community Minibus Service in partnership with Worcester Wheels. The service is aimed at those who find it difficult or impossible to access other forms of transport. A 16-seater minibus runs four times each way from Monday to Friday to locations including Tesco's, Worcestershire Parkway Station and Littleworth Parish Hall. On Monday, Wednesday and Friday the service also makes stops at Harefield Surgery, Worcestershire Royal Hospital, Asda and Lidl. Passengers are required to be members of Worcester Wheels and prebook journeys in advance.

### **Sawbridgeworth Town Council, Hertfordshire**

Electorate: 6,793

Precept: £384,325

Expenditure: £396,841

Launched the Sawbobus to replace the axed SW1, 2 and 3 services. The service has three routes that run during the day Monday to Friday and on Saturday mornings. The service is funded through grants from East Herts District Council, some councils in Essex and commercial sponsorship, including from Budgens, Oakridge Nursery and HD Racing. Sawbridgeworth Town Council also has a mini

bus available for self drive hire by local community groups and clubs, subject to the driver holding a category D1 entitlement on their driving licence.

## **COST OF LIVING**

### **Central Swindon North Parish Council**

Electorate: 24,663

Precept: £1,418,349

Expenditure: £1,418,349

Supported the organisation of a cost of living day. The event, an initiative from two councillors, gave residents the opportunity to come along to the Western Community Centre and find out about the help available from local charities and businesses for those struggling with the rising cost of living. Other supporters included Nationwide Building Society, Citizens Advice, Christians Against Poverty, the Nursery of Narnia and the local police constabulary.

### **Helmdon Parish Council, Northamptonshire**

Electorate: 705

Precept: £28,000

Expenditure: £24,860

Supported a group of local residents, collectively known as Warm Helmdon, in issuing a survey about the cost of living crisis. The survey aimed to find out how residents felt about the huge increases in electricity and heating oil costs, whether they would be able to cope with the price rises and whether the price rises would impact their comfort and safety over the winter. In total, thirty seven responses were received, with one in twelve respondents stating that they were very concerned and didn't think they would be able to cope, half saying they would welcome advice on grants and benefits and on insulation options to reduce their need for energy, two in five were wanting to have someone visit them and talk about the options relevant to their house and one in five wanted someone who could visit and deal with drafts. As a next step, Helmdon Parish Council will now help Warm Helmdon respond to the messages received.

### **Pilsley Parish Council, Derbyshire (North East Derbyshire)**

Electorate: 2,784

Precept: £110,303

Expenditure: £101,930

Set up a working group in response to the cost of living crisis. The group, including, St Mary's Church, the local Citizens Advice Bureau and local residents, aims to look at practical action that can be taken to support residents struggling with rising food and fuel costs. As a starting point a webpage has been put together highlighting support that is already available, including from Citizens Advice and Derbyshire County Council.

## **Weymouth Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 41,092

Precept: £3,223,970

Expenditure: £4,353,952

Donates fruit and vegetables to two social supermarkets in Weymouth. The fruit and vegetables, including onions, courgettes, tomatoes and beetroot, are picked at Weymouth Town Council's Tumbledown Community Farm by volunteers, including adults with learning difficulties and physical restrictions. The social supermarkets offer free and/or reduced cost groceries to local families and individuals receiving benefits.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL IMPROVEMENT**

### **Weymouth Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 41,092

Precept: £3,223,970

Expenditure: £4,353,952

Worked with Litter Free Dorset to hold a pop up community engagement event on the promenade. The event saw the launch of the council's first Beach Toy Library crate, to help reuse and recycle plastic beach toys. The initiative will enable the public to borrow toys for free and discard unwanted toys at the end of the day, all of which will be recycled at the end of the summer. The council also had display boards up promoting the wider climate, ecological and emergency work of the council to enable further conversations about carbon footprint etc. The project supports the council's single use plastic policy that was agreed this year.

Weymouth Town Council also provides free loan of litter pick kits to local groups and schools. Two kits are available to borrow, containing items such as litter picking sticks, high-vis vests, bags, and gloves. The council also provides free equipment to a volunteer junior park warden and local litter pick legend who is just five years old. Most recently a group of conscientious litter pickers from Westfield Arts College carried out two litter picks in Littlemoor where they collected around six bin bags of litter each time. They plan to do follow up events every Tuesday in term time.

## **FLOOD MANAGEMENT**

### **Weymouth Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 41,092

Precept: £3,223,970

Expenditure: £4,353,952

Works in partnership with Dorset Coast Forum to deliver a Building Resilience in Flood Disadvantaged Communities (BRIC) programme. The programme, targeting Melcombe Regis in Weymouth, is designed to build networks between individuals, communities, non-profit organisations and public authorities to find better ways to tackle flooding and test flood risk management. It includes awareness raising and education through a specific leaflet designed for that community as well as a digital screen (supplied by programme partners OgoXe) displaying information mounted on the beach office building. The council also hosts a new community sandbag store. Additionally, new volunteer community networks will develop flood champions trained in safety measures and incident reporting.

## **LIBRARIES**

### **East Cowes Town Council, Isle of Wight**

Electorate: 6,283

Precept: £355,283

Expenditure: £668,116

Employs a library coordinator to oversee East Cowes Library along with a host of volunteers. The library is located at The East Side Curve, an airy and multi purpose space. It is open six days a week and offers a range of facilities and services, including easy chairs and café style seating, newspapers, board games, a free to use public laptop, free Wi-Fi, bus pass applications, printing and copying and help with enquiries, information and onward support. A variety of local community groups meet at the library, including a monthly reading group and creative writing group for adults, while for children rhyme time and school holiday story time activities for children also take place there.

### **Haddenham Parish Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**

Electorate: 2,693

Precept: £112,539

Expenditure: £130,990

Supports Haddenham Community Managed Library by paying the annual lease for the building. The library is open four days a week and offers a range of facilities and services, including free computer and internet access, printing and photocopying and information on local events. The library also plays host to a reading group and joins the annual Summer Reading Challenge in association with the Reading Agency and Cambridgeshire County Council.

## **LONELINESS**

### **Ashingdon Parish Council, Essex**

Electorate: 2,861

Precept: £110,074

Expenditure: £57,462

Awarded a £300 grant to the Memory Lane Café. The café was set up when a need for a meeting place for people with Alzheimer's, Dementia and their carers was identified. Visitors to the café can enjoy a few hours of companionship and meet with other carers and their loved ones in a friendly and relaxing environment. It is held on the first Saturday of the month from 14:00-16:00pm at the Hockley and Hawkwell Day Centre, where tea, coffee and refreshments are provided. There is also a programme of entertainment for attendees, which in the past has included bell ringers, a magician, chair aerobics and bingo.

### **Biggleswade Town Council, Bedfordshire**

Electorate: 16,232

Precept: £1,424,171

Expenditure: £1,591,213

Funds a community agent post in Biggleswade. The postholder is employed by Bedfordshire Rural Communities Charity and was appointed to help residents access information and services, particularly those struggling with an issue or who are socially isolated. The service is free and confidential and includes offering advice to statutory and voluntary organisations and community groups. Advice and support can be received over the phone and by email.

### **Peterlee Town Council, County Durham**

Electorate: 14,813

Precept: £1,401,425

Expenditure: £1,954,228

Runs the Taste Buddies project. The project is aimed at residents who are at risk of social isolation, including the elderly, carers and single parents. Project sessions take place every Friday, when a two-course lunch is served and optional arts and crafts activities are available in the council owned Sports and Community Centre. External funding for the project means that residents only pay £4.50 to attend each session. On average 12 to 15 residents attend each week.

## **Warwick Town Council, Warwickshire and West Midlands**

Electorate: 23,948

Precept: £561,187

Expenditure: £569,731

Established The Ballroom Social group. The group's monthly events are open to all and feature tea and cake, a talk, a quiz and time to chat in the elegant surroundings of Warwick's Regency Hall. Upcoming talks include Warwick ghost stories and the Scottish Treasure Island, with Christmas celebrations taking place in December. The events cost £3 to attend and are supported by the Heritage Lottery Awards For All Funding, The King Henry VIII Endowed Trust and The Court House's Unlocking Warwick Volunteers. Prospective attendees are invited to reserve their place in advance by calling or emailing Warwick Town Council. In addition, the council takes bookings for the monthly Tea and Dance lessons which are also supported by the Heritage Lottery Awards For All Funding, The King Henry VIII Endowed Trust and The Court House's Unlocking Warwick Volunteers.

## **Withyham Parish Council, East Sussex**

Electorate: 2,259

Precept: £163,253

Expenditure: £707,172

Set up a community café at Groombridge Village Hall. The café is open monthly, except in August, and provides an opportunity for residents to meet up over a cup of tea or coffee and home made cakes. Entrance is free and the prices of drinks and cakes are kept set to ensure the cafe remains accessible to all. Local clubs and societies take turns to host, raising money either for themselves or a charity of their choice. Withyham Parish Council charges a nominal fee to host, covering the cost of tea, coffee and a few other bits such as a cafetiere. The group covers the cost of hiring the village hall from the takings. Upcoming cafes are due to be hosted by the Brownies and Guides, Macmillan, the Horticultural Society and the Pre School Café and Fair.

## **MARKETS**

### **Kinver Parish Council, Staffordshire**

Electorate: 5,88

Precept: £153,975

Expenditure: £153,975

Operates Kinver Market. The market takes place monthly, except for January and December. Typically, over twenty stalls can be found, selling a range of items

including jewellery, crafts, cakes, hardware, plants, pet supplies and local drinks. The market also frequently plays host to not for profit organisations such as Mary Stevens Hospice and the local Neighbourhood Plan public consultation on a no cost basis, and encourages local music groups such as the Ukes on the Edge and the Folk Singers to attend by offering them a place to perform.

The council applies a number of principles in its operation of the market, including aiming to support the high street by encouraging visitors, avoiding direct competition between market stalls and high street traders, prioritising offering local businesses the chance to showcase their products and running it on a not for profit basis. Pitch hire fees and equipment fees are £10 each, with any money raised invested in equipment and to pay helping hands to set up the market.

### **Nantwich Town Council, Cheshire**

Electorate: 11,439

Precept: £816,067

Expenditure: £1,253,925

Operates three markets in Nantwich. Nantwich Traditional Market is open on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays and stocks an array of goods including fresh produce and household items. The market has both an inside and outside area, with room for 20 fixed stalls as well as 20 pitches inside and 20 pitches outside. Since taking over management of the market from Cheshire East Council, Nantwich Town Council has committed to supporting it for the benefit of the community and traders alike, making improvements such as long overdue repairs to the inside area and installing lighting and CCTV.

Nantwich Farmers Market operates between 9am-3pm on the last Saturday of each month, except December when it takes place on the 17. It attracts farmers, growers and producers from all over Cheshire, with most of the produce on sale having been grown, reared, brewed, pickled, baked, smoked or processed by the stall holder. Nantwich Artisan Markets take place occasionally in the town square, including Spring, Summer and Autumn Markets, alongside festival Christmas Markets. They feature 35+ stalls with an array of seasonal produce, bespoke and handcrafted gifts and treats.

### **Westbury Town Council, Wiltshire**

Electorate: 11,963

Precept: £1,209,722

Expenditure: £793,722

Operates Westbury Market. The market takes place in the high street every Wednesday between 8:00am-14:00pm. Several stalls can be found selling local produce and wares including plants and flowers, freshly baked sourdough, quiche

and cakes, fresh fruit and vegetables, cheeses, chutneys, olives, trousers, tops, dresses, handbags, jewellery, treats for pets, art and soy candles. The council encourages customers at the market to also visit the local shops.

## **PARKS AND OPEN SPACES**

### **Bolton Parish Council, Cumbria**

Electorate: 389

Precept: £8,200

Expenditure: £78,209

Manages Bolton Pump Track. The track, which is designed for adults and children of all skill levels, can be used by any type of bicycle, skateboard, scooter, roller blades and wheelchair. Riding surfaces and edges are low to the ground, so riders are not at risk of falling from a high point and helmets are required to be worn at all times. Funding for the Pump Track was obtained through grants from Cumbria County Council, British Cycling and the Hadfield Trust, alongside donations from individuals and local communities and funds raised by the community. Substantial services and goods were also donated by Aggregate Industries (asphalt), Metcalfe plant hire Penrith (Heras fencing, excavators, a welfare cabin and an RC compactor), and Waiting (drainage pipework and filter stone).

### **Christchurch Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 24,571

Precept: £526,937

Expenditure: £251,199

Owns Christchurch Quay. The Quay, a Green Flag winning open space, is located just a short walk from the town centre and hugs the banks of the River Stour. The wide range of facilities there include a splash park, play area, grade II\* listed bandstand, café restaurants at the Boathouse and Old Mill Tea Rooms, Art Gallery at Mill Place, boat hire, ferry trips, novelty golf and seating and shelters. A rowing club and the sea cadets are also based at the Quay.

Access to the Quay is easy. Several recently improved pedestrian access points are located around the perimeter and pedestrian signage directs people from the town centre to the Quay and to facilities within the site. Visitors coming by bike can make use of the traffic free cycle route running from Wick Lane to Sopers Lane and the cycle stands at either end of the quay. For those travelling by bus, buses from Poole, Bournemouth, Christchurch, Burton, Lymington and New Milton stop within a five minute walk. There is also ample parking across three car parks, including disabled parking bays.

### **Dartmouth Town Council, Devon**

Electorate: 4,012

Precept: £490,000

Expenditure: £918,095

Manages Coronation Park. The park, overlooking the river, is the ideal place for a picnic or to enjoy some park games. Facilities at the park include an enclosed children's play park and sandpit featuring climbing frames, swings, slides and picnic benches. A café next door serves snacks, drinks and hot meals. Within the park there are several tennis courts that are available for hire, two of which are floodlit. The park itself is also available for hire for day events throughout the year.

### **Doxey Parish Council, Staffordshire**

Electorate: 2,254

Precept: £21,797

Expenditure: £34,973

Took over Castle View Park in 2018 following unresolved disputes between Redrow and Stafford Borough Council which had left it unmaintained for six years. Today Streetscene conduct weekly equipment checks on behalf of Doxey Parish Council, along with quarterly and annual equipment inspections, weekly litterpicking and emptying of bins. Equipment at the park includes five swings, one of which is a baby swing, a hill slide, springer, somersault bars, a box climber, roundabout with bench, shelter, multi use games area and a revamped BMX track. In 2019, following consultation with local residents, a zip wire, basket swing and echo multiplay were added, enabling a wider range of children to have fun in the park. Funding for the new equipment came in part from Tesco Bags for Help, who donated £4,000 after the project came first in a vote.

### **Hatton Parish Council, Derbyshire**

Electorate: 2,224

Precept: £59,917

Expenditure: £110,959

Installed a new skatepark in Hatton. The decision to install a skatepark was taken following a survey of young people in the area, carried out with the help of a local parent. Following the outcome of the survey, Hatton Parish Council approached residents living near the proposed site for the skatepark and wider residents, who were supportive of the plans. The skatepark was funded with £39,000 of Section 106 money and £25,000 that Hatton Parish Council had set aside.

## **Keswick Town Council, Cumbria**

Electorate: 3,808

Precept: £307,054

Expenditure: £325,725

Sole trustee of Keswick's two main parks, Hope Park and Fitz Park. Both parks are held in trust for 'recreation and enjoyment for the inhabitants of and visitors to the town of Keswick and its neighbourhood'. As part of this the council has responsibility for the parks' management, maintenance, and development. Visitors to Hope Park can enjoy magnificent floral displays, putting, pitch and putt, boules and obstacle golf, visit the bird viewing area or have a drink or snack at Café Hope. Fitz Park is split into two areas covering 28 acres and is home to the local football, cricket, athletics, tennis and bowling clubs. At Upper Fitz, public tennis, bowling and putting is available, together with refreshments during the summer season, while Lower Fitz contains a floodlit multi use games area with pitches for 5 and 7 a side football, tennis courts and a basketball area. It is available to members of the public on a first come first served basis at a charge of £3 per hour for lighting. Lower Fitz also contains an award winning destination play area providing equipment for different age ranges in three distinct 'zones.'

Keswick Town Council has taken a number of steps to address climate change in its management and maintenance of the parks, including declaring a climate emergency, using only peat free compost, using only glyphosate free weed killer, gradually introducing more bee friendly plants and changing to 100% renewable energy suppliers.

## **Purton Parish Council, Wiltshire**

Electorate: 4,948

Precept: £339,576

Expenditure: £238,882

Agreed to council owned land being used as a manageable space for outdoor learning. The Paddock, an open space next to the village hall, now offers the opportunity for young children to learn and grow in the great outdoors in a controlled, supervised environment. Large tyres are filled with seeds to demonstrate to young children the principles and understanding of where their food and plants/flowers come from. A trial session saw eight children delight in watering plants, sowing seeds, finding bugs, playing games and making garden crowns and flags.

## **Rushden Town Council, Northamptonshire**

Electorate: 23,745

Precept: £1,172,924

Expenditure: £1,101,067

Manages the award winning Hall Park. The park, which won a prestigious Green Flag award for the fourth time in 2022, is set over 34 acres and has many distinctive features. These include the 14th century Rushden Hall, a large variety of mature trees, a Victorian watercourse, walled garden and grade 2\* listed boundary walls. There are also woodland walks, formal gardens and planting, informal meadow grass planting and a teenage and infant play area. The park plays host to a range of events and entertainment, including dog shows, music and Party in the Park, with a permanent stage located in the Walled Garden. Most recently the council celebrated Love Parks week by opening a new sensory garden in Hall Park, with footpaths and subtle stone walls constructed together with an Elizabethan snail shell herb garden.

## **Shildon Town Council, County Durham**

Electorate: 7,235

Precept: £698,750

Expenditure: £994,986

Owns Hackworth Park. The park, located off Central Parade, Shildon, offers a number facilities for visitors to enjoy. These include a full sized football pitch and football pavilion, Parkletics outside gym equipment, older children's play area, including a skate park, natural play area for under 11's with outside gym equipment, enclosed accessible under fives/toddler play area, two tennis courts and a bowling green. A number of established groups meet at the park, including an over 40's football team, Hackworth Parkrun, a social tennis group and Shildon Bowling Club. Since 2021 the park has also hosted ParkPlay sessions every Saturday morning, offering free games and activities for children and adults.

For nature lovers the park has a wide variety of mature trees, including an avenue lined with lime trees, a community orchard, spring bulbs, plants and shrubs. A new native wildflower meadow area has encouraged more bees, butterflies and insects into the park and an apple orchard was developed with the help of local school children. Both the wildflower meadow area and the apple orchard were funded with It's Your Neighbourhood Funding, delivered through Northumbria in Bloom and Durham County Council. Shildon Town Council has also secured free hedging packs from the Woodland Trust to develop new hedgerows in the park, together with funding from the National Tree Week for specimen trees.

## **Silloth-on-Solway Town Council, Cumbria**

Electorate: 2,301

Precept: £172,995

Expenditure: £236,526

Manages the award winning Silloth Green. The green, which won a prestigious Green Flag award for the tenth time in 2022, is one of the largest village greens in the North of England, boasting spectacular views over the Solway Firth to Criffel and the Caerlaverock Hills in the North, and the Lake District to the South. Made up of three separate parks, it boasts a number of features for younger visitors, including a modern water splash play area, woodland adventure play area, BMX track and a pirate ship play area for children aged nought to five years. Other facilities include the 'Big Fella' sculpture created by artist Ray Lonsdale, oak picnic tables and benches, accessible footpaths, Victorian style lighting, refurbished Edwardian toilets and Victorian pagoda. A Community Garden provides a vibrant entrance to Silloth Green and a pleasant place to watch the world go by, while the Heritage Rose and Bee Garden contains a bee hotel in the middle of a striking display of rose bushes, plants and shrubs. The green also plays host to a number of popular events, which this year have included Spring into Silloth, a Platinum Jubilee event, Silloth Pride and the Solway Coast Cycling Festival.

Silloth-on-Solway Town Council is constantly making improvements to the park. In 2021/2 the council secured funding from Cumbria County Council to improve access to the carpark on Skinburness Road. Other improvements made at the time included installation of additional picnic tables, resurfacing an area of the Community Garden and planting of a Platinum Jubilee bed with new trees as part of the Queen's Green Canopy, with help from the Friends of Silloth Green, local brownies, rainbows and guides. Next up the council intends to install a new modular Changing Places facility, following a successful bid for funding by Allerdale Borough Council, with some additional funding coming from the Lottery Awards for All and the Hellrigg Community Benefit Fund.

## **Stotfold Town Council, Bedfordshire**

Electorate: 6,747

Precept: £638,610

Expenditure: £634,972

Owns several parks and play areas. Riverside Recreation Ground features a wide play area, football field, multi use games area, skate park and children's play equipment. The Green is a long established open space, used by fairs, circuses and for football, together with general public use. It also has an enclosed public play area for younger children. Facilities at Hitchin Road Recreation Ground include accessible play equipment, a football field and changing rooms. The football field can be hired for casual games at a cost of £45 for an adult game or £25 for a

junior game. The multi use games area at Riverside Recreation Ground is an open facility available free of charge, with no advance booking required. Pix Brook Play Area contains a fenced play area for children of all ages, with an open, free to use multi use games area. The Green, Hitchin Road Recreation Ground, Riverside Recreation Ground can all be hired for commercial use for £10 a session.

### **Sturminster Newton Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 3,351

Precept: £354,307

Expenditure: £333,830

Owns and manages two recreation grounds in Sturminster. Rixon Recreation Ground has play equipment for toddlers and older children. It also contains a large skate bowl and an area of open space for general games, as well as picnic benches and bins. Facilities at Ricketts Lane Recreation Ground include play equipment for younger and older children, a football pitch and goals and changing rooms. It is also home to the council's grounds workshop and the Scout HQ. Both recreation grounds are available for hire and the football pitch and changing rooms are used by several local teams.

### **Tollesbury Parish Council, Essex**

Electorate: 2,194

Precept: £92,600

Expenditure: £102,605

Owns Tollesbury Recreation Ground. Facilities at the ground include a children's play area, multi-use games area (essentially used as a basketball court), a football pitch, skate park and WW1 memorial. Three football teams are based at the grounds, Tollesbury Juniors Tollesbury Football Club and Tollesbury Athletic and during the summer months several events take place there, including a fete.

### **Weymouth Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 41,092

Precept: £3,223,970

Expenditure: £4,353,952

Oversaw development of a new skatepark and parkour facility. The £358,000 park was built by local skatepark company Maverick, who worked with the community and local skaters to design the facilities. It includes a wide variety of features that provide opportunities for skaters, BMXers and scooter riders to practise their skills in a space that they have helped design. Alongside the skatepark is a separate bespoke parkour area, for the local free running community. Funding for the facility came from Community Infrastructure Levy funds.

## **PLAYGROUNDS**

### **Cold Norton Parish Council, Essex**

Electorate: 929

Precept: £38,749

Expenditure: £68,138

Oversaw construction of a new play area in Cold Norton. The play equipment was selected following consultation with local residents and funded with council reserves, public fundraising, a grant from Essex County Council Community Initiatives Fund, and a public works loan of up to £40,000. At the grand opening ceremony over 30 residents and a similar number of children attended for a chance to play on the new equipment and have coffee and cake. The council aims to make the new play area a welcoming and attractive place for residents to bring their children and grandchildren and has various ideas for landscaping, planting trees and gardens.

### **Winford Parish Council, Avon**

Electorate: 1,853

Precept: £28,500

Expenditure: £61,864

Owns and manages a play area at Vee Lane. The play area provides a range of resources for people across the parish of Winford and surrounding areas. This includes play and adult fitness equipment, BMX track, skateboard park, an area for ball games, a chair swing and picnic tables and seating.

## **SPORTS AND LEISURE**

### **Blandford Forum Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 7,949

Precept: £803,241

Expenditure: £798,872

Worked with Blandford Group Practice and Public Health Dorset to develop two new orienteering courses in Blandford. The courses are 2km and 5km in length and have been designed to encourage residents to increase physical activity and embed the use of green spaces for activity and recreation. Each course is laid with two letter codes on plaques at various points and can be navigated using the MapRun6 app or a waterproof map. Maps can be borrowed from the Library, the Information Centre, Whitecliff Surgery and the Black Cactus Café opposite Morrisons or printed from Wimborne Orienteers website. Support for the development of the orienteering courses also came from partners Wessex

Orienteering, Wimborne Orienteers, Dorset Council Rangers and David Cowgill, a local orienteering resident.

### **Boldre Parish Council, Hampshire**

Electorate: 1,611

Precept: £29,320

Expenditure: £29,283

Maintains a large sports field with two football pitches and a pavilion. The sports fields are often used for community events and are regularly used by the Boldre Royals football team. They are also available to hire for events such as fireworks, fetes and other sports matches.

### **Burton upon Stather Parish Council, ERNLCCA**

Electorate: 2,247

Precept: £72,951

Expenditure: £111,764

Owns Burton Pavilion and Playing Fields. The facility has recently benefitted from a large amount of investment from North Lincolnshire Council and now features a quarter pipe in the skate park, outdoor gym equipment, a tarmac and multi use games area, new bowls pavilion, extended and upgraded pavilion and zip wire. Other facilities available at the site include a meeting room with capacity for up to 50 people, two changing rooms, showers, a referee's room, large playing field with two football pitches and a carpark with space for over 40 vehicles.

### **Calne Town Council, Wiltshire**

Electorate: 14,182

Precept: £1,331,656

Expenditure: £1,814,764

Runs the award winning Beaversbrook Sports and Community Facility. The facility, set over 94 acres, is designed to be environmentally friendly, with a low carbon footprint. Indoor facilities include a pavilion and hall, suitable for community events and functions. The hall is also an official badminton court size, with sprung loaded wooden flooring and high ceiling, enabling it to be used for a range of sports and activities. Outside facilities include fourteen football pitches, a ten wicket cricket square, an artificial cricket wicket and buildings, tennis courts, two all weather pitches, a small sided court and full size 3G facility with professional standard floodlighting that can be used in all weathers to host up to one 11v11 football pitch, one 9v9 or three 7v7s football pitches. A full programme of activities takes place at the facility, including chair aerobics, badminton, indoor bowls, pilates, football, walking football and badminton. The facility is also home

to a number of sports teams, including FC Calne (for under 18's), Mini Kickers, Derry Hill (for under 11's to under 16's), Chippenham Town Academy (under 18's, under 19's and under 23's), Total Pro Soccer and St Mary's Lacrosse team.

### **Cambourne Town Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**

Electorate: 7,741

Precept: £582,895

Expenditure: £754,274

Has several football pitches available for hire. Cambourne 3G, a floodlit third generation artificial grass pitch, can accommodate a full size all weather pitch including markings for two 9v9, two 7v7 and four 5v5 football pitches, as well as a supporter viewing point. The pitch contains LED floodlights that were installed with a wind turbine to reduce the carbon footprint of the floodlights and the running costs. The council also has an additional 13 grass pitches that can be booked for matches and a multi use games area which is used by groups for football and bootcamp exercises.

### **Duston Parish Council, Northamptonshire**

Electorate: 12,629

Precept: £531,239

Expenditure: £752,239

Owns Duston Sports Centre. The centre, run by Northants Leisure Trust, has a fully equipped gym and holds a range of classes for all ages and abilities. Staff at the centre also work closely with Northamptonshire Public Health teams, delivering programmes on falls prevention, adult weight management, workplace wellbeing and an activity on referral (AOR) programme, which helps improve people's health and mental wellbeing with a tailored programme on referral from a doctor. Early years measurement checks, parent programmes and after school holiday clubs also take place at the sports centre. Away from the sports centre, staff run a series of health walks from various parts of Duston and Upton and have a street sports programme running until 2023. Local residents can get preferential rates on gym membership by supplying proof of their postcode.

### **Haxey Parish Council, ERNLCCA**

Electorate: 3,710

Precept: £39,222

Expenditure: £81,824

Supported Westwoodside Playing Fields Association in the redevelopment of the local playing fields. The site was previously little more than a field with unused pavilion and rusty, unsafe, play equipment. Now it is home to a well used, modern, play area, a floodlit multi sports court that can be used to play football, basketball,

tennis, hockey, netball and short cricket and a pavilion with large meeting room, toilet and kitchen facilities. Funding for the work came from the National Lottery, North Lincolnshire Council, Northern Lincolnshire LEADER programme and Haxey Parish Council. Funding for the floodlighting on the multi sports court came in part from Axholme Lions.

### **Hemingford Abbots Parish Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough**

Electorate: 502

Precept: £26,000

Expenditure: £25,722

Worked with Huntingdonshire District Council and neighbouring Hemingford Grey Parish Council to sponsor and help facilitate a series of weekly free summer sports sessions for local children aged between five and fifteen. The sessions, held at the local sports pavilion and adjoining field, were varied, giving children the chance to learn skills in a range of sports including football, javelin, cricket and rugby. Benefits for the children included encouraging them to play outdoors, participate in healthy activities and make new friends locally, while offering parents a short window to complete other tasks. Feedback from the sessions was positive, with everyone welcoming the opportunity for children to participate in sports they wouldn't necessarily take part in at school and at no cost to families.

### **Kingsbridge Town Council, Devon**

Electorate: 4,435

Precept: £193,920

Expenditure: £282,454

Developed a ten year Open Space, Sport and Recreation Plan. The plan sets out the council's priorities and ambitions for the ten year period 2018 to 2028 for open space, sport and recreation facilities within Kingsbridge. It was produced after an assessment of current provision, identification of gaps and deficiencies was carried out, along with a consultation with existing clubs, community organisations and members of the public to ascertain their future needs and aspirations. Requirements have also been considered in the context of South Hams district wide strategic plans and policy frameworks. Actions carried out since the plan was adopted by the Kingsbridge Parks and Open Spaces Committee in 2018 include refurbishment of the young children's play area, adding stepping pods and a balance beam to the Teen Zone, securing £7,000 in grants to part fund upgrades in the gymnasium and undertaking a lottery funded feasibility study into replacing the bowling green's recreation ground cottage with a modern, new build facility.

### **Puddletown Area Parish Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 23,948

Precept: £45,967

Expenditure: £73,499

Owns and manages Puddletown Recreation Ground. Facilities at the recreation ground include a football pitch and cricket wicket, as well as space for friends and family, schools, childcare settings, church groups, Guides and Scouts to meet on an ad hoc basis. There is also a park with sports pavilion and Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) which the parish council leases to Puddletown Rec Improvement and Development. The sports pavilion can be hired for meetings, children's parties, football and cricket matches, as well as by youth groups. The MUGA can be floodlit and can be hired for various team games. Local residents can get a discount on the cost of hiring both the sports pavilion and MUGA.

### **Ruddington Parish Council, Nottinghamshire**

Electorate: 5,860

Precept: £329,130

Expenditure: £385,089

Maintains two clubhouses in Ruddington. The Jubilee Club House was opened in 2008 as a joint venture between Ruddington Parish Council and Ruddington Colts Football Club. It is dedicated to youth sport, particularly football and cricket and is used for that purpose most evenings and weekends. The social area of the clubhouse is available for hire Monday to Friday daytimes for corporate conferences, meetings, training days and classes, with a maximum capacity of 80. Facilities include a modern social area with carpet tiled floor, large kitchen with cooker, fridge, microwave and water boiler along with cups, saucers and other sundry kitchen utensils, a serving hatch to the social area, male, female and disabled toilet, shower facilities and a large free carpark. The Elms Park Pavilion is also predominantly used for sports such as football and cricket most evenings and weekends, with a social area accommodating 40 people that is available for hire.

### **West End Parish Council, Hampshire**

Electorate: 9,486

Precept: £115,136

Expenditure: £624,184

Has two full sized football pitches available for hire. The pitches are suitable for senior and junior teams and come with facilities including separate changing rooms for teams, referees and officials, showers, a community room, small kitchen and toilets. The cost of hiring the pitches is £24 for a junior match (15 and under), £36.00 for a youth match (16-18) and £73.00 for a senior match. For informal

football matches the council advertises two locations. Barnsland Recreation Ground has 5 Aside football posts, while matches can also be played at Moorgreen Recreation Ground.

### **Weymouth Town Council, Dorset**

Electorate: 41,092

Precept: £3,223,970

Expenditure: £4,353,952

Hosted a Beach Sports Festival a decade on from Weymouth hosting Olympic and Paralympic sailing events. The festival was designed to recapture the Olympic spirit and encourage more people to get active. Activities were free to take part in and included football skills, Rugbytots, volleyball, Zumba, dance aerobics, Latin dance, seated stretch along exercises, beach bootcamp and yoga. In addition, there were fun relay races, hula hooping, throwing games, and face painting. As part of the day, there were also opportunities to learn more about Weymouth Town Council projects including work to tackle climate change, the Neighbourhood Plan and Tumbledown community farm and learning space.

### **Whiston Town Council, Merseyside**

Electorate: 10,419

Precept: £327,549

Expenditure: £293,145

Owns a Multi Use Games Area (MUGA). The MUGA has an Astro Turf surfaced pitch and is popular with local sports groups, who can block book it between 17:00 and 22:00. Ad hoc bookings are also considered subject to availability. During the school holidays the MUGA is made available to children free of charge between 09:00 and 16:00 on weekdays.

### **Wotton Under Edge Town Council, Gloucestershire**

Electorate: 4,536

Precept: £421,348

Expenditure: £358,775

Represented on the board of trustees of the Wotton Community Sports Foundation. The foundation is a charity whose objective is to provide sports and recreational facilities for the community in and around Wotton-under-Edge. The sports foundation has recently teamed up with Katherine Lady Berkeley's School to manage extensive sports facilities across two sites under a new company known as Sport Wotton Ltd. This includes a full sized indoor sports hall, squash court, dance studio, fitness suite, gymnasium, outdoor tennis courts, full size astro pitch, 60x40 floodlit 3G pitch, parking and changing facilities. Within the grounds,

outdoor events such as archery competitions and athletic events can also be catered for. Other trustees on the board of Wotton Community Sports Foundation include representatives from various local clubs.

### **Waverton Parish Council, Cheshire**

Electorate: 1,296

Precept: £42,735

Expenditure: £92,930

Secured grant funding to develop a new BMX Pump Track for Waverton. The track, which offers scope for beginners and experts, is designed for BMX bikes, BMX cruisers, mountain bikes, skateboards, micro scooters and rollerblades. Prior to opening it passed the ROSPA safety test, with the inspector commending the 'very good design and installation.' Safety instructions are located at the entrance, including a visual illustration of the personal safety equipment all track users should be wearing.

Principle funding for the pump track came from FCC Communities Foundation, with additional contributions from local organisations including Grosvenor Westminster Foundation, The Crocky Trail and its local customers. Gethin from Stiwdio Owens helped with applying for funding and carrying out the tender for the works.

## **YOUNG PEOPLE AND YOUTH SERVICES**

### **Bishop Cleeve Parish Council, Gloucestershire**

Electorate: 10,422

Precept: £433,171

Expenditure: £415,224

Presents a Young People's Award annually. The award is designed to highlight the achievements of young people in Bishop Cleeve and the valuable role they play in the community. This can include volunteering, fundraising, being a carer, overcoming a barrier including illness and disability or helping others. The award has five categories: six to thirteen year olds, fourteen to nineteen year olds, nineteen to twenty five year olds, groups and special recognition. The winner in each category receives a £100 voucher of their choice, with the runner up receiving a £50 voucher. Both winner and runner up also receive a medal and a certificate.

## **Bletchley and Fenny Stratford Town Council, Buckinghamshire and Milton Keynes**

Electorate: 14,013

Precept: £963,259

Expenditure: £1,396,088

Funds four local youth clubs. Newton Leys Junior Youth Club is open every Tuesday between 17:00-18:30 for young people aged seven to twelve. Attendance costs 50p per session and activities on offer include cooking, arts and crafts, sports, pool table, table tennis and Xbox with games. The Warren Junior Youth Club also offers cooking, arts and crafts, sports, pool, table tennis and games for young people aged seven to twelve on a Wednesday between 17:00 and 18:30. The Warren Senior Youth Club is open every Wednesday between 19:00 and 21:00 for young people aged twelve plus and the Compass Club Community Football Project is open to young people aged eleven plus on Friday's between 16:30 and 18:00.

## **Breaston Parish Council, Derbyshire**

Electorate: 3,629

Precept: £51,840

Expenditure: £133,136

Assisted in delivery of the Insight Summer Camp 2022. Activities including sports, DJing, baking, arts and team games took place in a pavilion and park provided by Breaston Parish Council. The summer camp was aimed at children in years seven to eleven, with free places available for those on free school meals. Breaston Parish Council also hired a climbing wall for children to use every Monday for the first four weeks of the summer holidays.

## **Bridlington Town Council, ERNLCCA**

Electorate: 27,280

Precept: £282,185

Expenditure: £235,528.00

Provided free skateboarding lessons for children aged five and over. The lessons took place every Friday during the summer months at Gasworx Skatepark and aimed to encourage young people to learn to take turns, share a space, face new challenges publicly, and pick themselves (or others up) after a fall. The lessons were delivered in two sessions, the first, running from 16:00 to 17:00 for beginners and the second, running from 17:00 to 18:00, for intermediate skateboarders.

### **Daventry Town Council, Northamptonshire**

Electorate: 19,888

Precept: £1,467,404

Expenditure: £1,400,147

Appointed a professional provider to run free summer activity sessions. The sessions focused on mental health matters and the benefit of enjoying the outdoors on positive mental health. Activities on offer included forest school sessions for the under 5's and their adults, special educational needs forest school sessions for children aged 5 to 11, adult and family mindfulness sessions amongst the trees in Lang Farm, skateboard and scooter coaching for the under 7's and children aged 8 plus, bushcraft and survival skills sessions for children aged 6 and over, circus and balance skills workshops for children aged 5 to 13, drumming and Tai Chi movement for children aged 10 and over and street theatre and open air performances for all ages. All sessions received positive feedback and many attendees commented they would not have been able to give their children these opportunities had they not been available free of charge.

### **Great Aycliffe Town Council, County Durham**

Electorate: 19,590

Precept: £1,746,869

Expenditure: £2,801,468

Organised and funded summer fun in the park sessions. The sessions, which were free to attend, varied by location. They included Mr Twister, magicians, face painters, a ferris wheel, teacups, bumpy carz, inflatable playbed and slide, bungee trampolines, climbing wall and Paw Patrol characters in the town centre park. At Moore Lane Park the sessions were circus themed, with a flea circus, face painter, big bubbles, two small fairground rides, bungee trampolines and a clown around inflatable, while Oak Leaf Sports Complex hosted an animal themed session featuring racing giraffes, a llama, goats, pony's and donkeys, alongside Mr Twister, two small fairground rides and Mickey and Minnie Mouse.

### **Fernwood Parish Council, Nottinghamshire**

Electorate: 2,043

Precept: £80,949

Expenditure: £131,070

Commissioned Newark and Sherwood Community Hub to deliver play sessions over the summer holidays. The sessions, held on Wednesday afternoons in August, were free to attend and featured art, crafts, a bouncy castle, games and sport. Fernwood Parish Council also recently commissioned a youth offer in partnership with Nottinghamshire County Council and Newark and Sherwood District Council. The resulting youth club, delivered by Nottinghamshire County

Council's Young People's Service on behalf of the partnership, is open on Friday evenings from 19:30 to 21:30 for school children in years six to eleven. Alongside activities such as tennis and themed sessions for Halloween, Remembrance Day and Christmas, outside agencies come in to deliver talks on topics such as healthy relationships and staying safe around bonfire night. Places need to be booked in advance by completing and returning a membership form. Each session costs 50p to attend, with all money raised going to buy resources for the club.

### **Market Drayton Town Council, Shropshire**

Electorate: 9,133

Precept: £518,018

Expenditure: £501,830

Manages Market Drayton Skatepark. The skatepark is designed for all ages and abilities and features bowls, transition rails, banks and ledges. It officially opened in 2017, replacing and expanding the original timber skatepark.

### **Paddock Wood Town Council, Kent**

Electorate: 6,257

Precept: £500,977

Expenditure: £865,244

Supports Paddock Wood Youth Town Council. The youth council meets once a month, except in August and has a number of aims, including: to identify issues affecting young people around the town and work on finding solutions, to give people a voice on issues such as local facilities for young people, the community centre, neighbourhood plan and other developments, to make links with Kent Youth County Council to share ideas and make young people aware of youth activities across the county and to advertise the range of youth activities with Paddock Wood. The leader works with a town councillor to agree the items on the agenda. A town councillor also provides support with meeting notes and other activities. Activities undertaken by the youth council so far include voting for facilities they would most like to see in Paddock Wood and judging the entries for the Paddock Wood Young Person of the Year award.

### **South Normanton Parish Council, Derbyshire**

Electorate: 7,745

Precept: £370,000

Expenditure: £381,347

Facilitated and paid for summer activity sessions at Pleasley Vale Activity Centre. The sessions, which ran from 28 July to 2 September were aimed at children 8+

and were free to attend, with 15 places available each day. Activities on offer included canoeing and climbing walls.