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News and Features from Harborough District Council - March 2019

Harborough *District News*



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Foreword from the Leader

We have another exciting month ahead of us as preparations get underway for projects, initiatives and events to help boost tourism and our economy - as well as attract further business investment into our fantastic district.

I am pleased that the Council's budget has been approved with no rise to the District Council's share of the Council tax bill - plus significant investment in a number of key projects. We have listened to feedback from our residents, through our recent budget consultation and last year's residents' survey and responded by investing in those services you said were important to you.

I'd like to thank those residents who continue to take the time to provide feedback; your voice and your input is valuable to our considerations.

Councillor Neil Bannister

Budget 'puts residents first'

Harborough District Council has approved its budget – with no rise to its share of the Council Tax – which



the Council says puts residents' priorities first.

On 25 February 2019, Harborough District Council approved its budget for 2019/20 with plans for significant investment – more than £57 million over the next three years – in a number of services which residents and businesses said were important to them.

The Grow on Space hub for expanding businesses – set to bring £20million into the local economy – will be completed this year, as well as investment into parks, open spaces and play areas.

Major investment is also planned into leisure opportunities and outreach activities, as well as community facilities, CCTV, voluntary services, affordable homes to help those people struggling to find a home, and disabled facilities (home improvement) grants to help those with mobility issues remain in their own homes.

[Read full details about the budget here](#)

Voting in District and Parish Elections

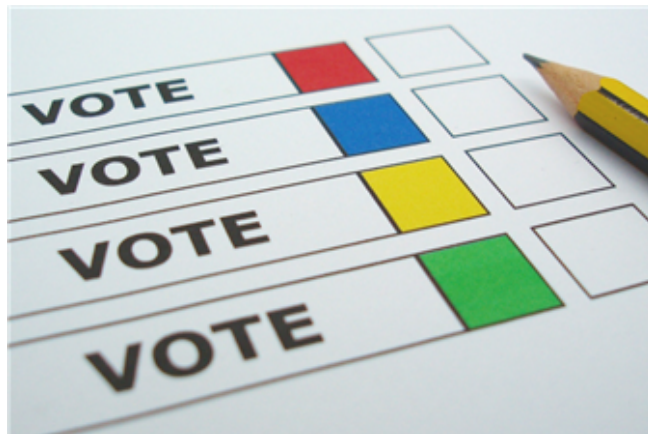
Elections to decide who will represent you as a District Councillor will be held on **Thursday 2 May 2019**; parish council elections will be held at the same time. There are 34 District Council seats across 19 wards within Harborough District.

Changes to ward boundaries - The Local Government Boundary Committee for England have carried out a review of the arrangements within Harborough District and have reduced the amount of wards and councillors. These changes will be in place for the May elections. Information regarding these changes can be found [on our website](#).

Voting in the elections - You must be included on the electoral register to vote in these elections. If you are not already registered, or have recently moved house, you can either register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote or you can contact the elections team by emailing e.services@harborough.gov.uk or calling 01858 821372.

The closing date to be registered to vote in these elections is Friday 12 April 2019.

[Read how to stand as a candidate or vote by post or proxy here](#)



Have you got your green bin sticker?

If you haven't already, you can subscribe to have your garden waste collected fortnightly for an annual fee of £40 per bin. Our garden waste collection service is provided for nine months of the financial year; with

Day in the life of our Armed Forces Officer

When the Council signed up to the Armed Forces Covenant in 2014 we made a commitment to providing all the help we can to our forces, and their families. Last year an Armed Forces Officer was appointed to deliver a

Go 'paper free' for bills, rates & benefits

Residents and businesses are being encouraged to go 'paper free' for their council tax bills, business rates and benefits. Similar to internet banking, going 'paper free' is not only good for the environment, it offers greater

collections from April to November and the following March of that financial year. Residents are also choosing to sign up by direct debit. [Subscribe to have your garden waste collected here](#)

range of initiatives to provide support and strengthen ties between the armed forces and communities. [Read a day in the life of our Armed Forces Officer Michelle Woolman-Lane.](#)

flexibility and reduces the amount of paper and post you will get. You can log in at any time with no need to phone or visit the Council. Find out how easy it is to go paper free at www.harborough.gov.uk/paperfree



You can save on your energy bills

More than 500 homes in the Harborough district have benefited from [measures to save money](#) on their energy bills in the last two years and more householders are being encouraged get support. Harborough District Council is working in partnership with Harborough Energy to help residents in the Harborough district keep their homes warm and save money on their household bills.

If you have received a letter from Harborough Energy – and meet the criteria – you may be entitled to free loft and cavity wall insulation.

More than 300 homes in the Harborough district have had energy-saving measures installed, since April 2018, thanks to the initiative. That is on top of approximately 200 properties which had measures installed the previous year.

Time to 'Invest in Harborough District'

A major initiative [has been launched](#) to showcase the Harborough District as a key location for businesses to invest, expand and prosper.

'Invest in Harborough District' aims to build positive relationships with influential people and organisations in the business community to help attract investment to maintain a strong and vibrant economy. It also looks to connect businesses with the excellent support, training and funding opportunities currently available.

View the ['Invest in Harborough District' website](#) and [watch a specially-commissioned promotional video](#) to showcase the District, raise its profile and encourage businesses to invest or relocate to the District.



Getting healthy and fit the fun way!

If you're keen to improve your health, get fitter or just have some fun with other like-minded people, **Harborough District Council** has a range of sports and physical activities to offer.

Activity sessions not only provide a great way to improve fitness and manage your weight, they can be fun and a great way to meet new friends and boost your mental well-being.

Choose from a range of diverse activities including dodgeball, spinning, pilates, boxercise, walking and new age kurling.

Follow Active Harborough District on [Facebook](#) and



[@SportinHarb](#) on Twitter following the hashtag [#HeathlyHarborough](#) – or visit www.harboroughsport.org.uk for a full list of activities and how to get involved.



Vintage vehicles call for Car Show

It's back and set to be bigger than ever! Market Harborough's hugely popular Classic Car Show returns this year and car enthusiasts are being encouraged to register their vintage vehicles.

Last year the event, organised by **Harborough District Council**, attracted more than 26,000 people to the event with over 200 retro and vintage vehicles lining the streets.

Registrations are now open for this year's event, being held on **Sunday 7 July 2019 from 10am to 4pm**, which is set to be bigger and better than ever.

It is free to exhibit your classic vehicle, but you **must register beforehand** at www.harborough.gov.uk/classiccarshow

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