

Annual Financial Update

It's that time of year when the Town Council sets the amount of money that all households pay towards the running of town services, known as the Precept. The Council is very mindful of the fact that the next few months will be challenging for many, as we all cope with dramatic increases in heating, food and travel costs.

The budget for the year ahead balances the Council's income and expenditure. It requires a small increase to the contribution from all households. This averages 5p per week per household, based on a band D property. This equates to a total of £85.37 for the year to Southwell Town Council which is distributed via Newark & Sherwood District Council.

The chart shows how this compares with previous years:

Southwell Town Council D Band Tax [in real £ to 2022]



In addition, the Town Council has agreed to draw about £20,000 from reserves for projects to improve amenities in the town as well as supporting environmental initiatives.

The total budget to run the Town Council for 2022 – 2023 is £332,086. This is comprised of the Town Council's precept of £256,028 from residents as part of your tax bill, plus income amounting to £76,058 from car parking and market charges, as well as rent for letting offices at The Old Courthouse.



Southwell's Market Makeover

Over the past few months, Southwell's Saturday market has had a makeover. Southwell Town Council has tidied up the Market Square, put up new bunting and encouraged new market traders to join our loyal existing stallholders. The next step was the purchase of new canopies and sides. The canopies have arrived and are being used. Over the next few weeks, matching backs and sides will be added. This will brighten up our market as we move into the spring.

Southwell is a great place to shop. Our Saturday market, along with our shops and businesses, keeps trade local, helping you to shop sustainably, and lower your food miles. **Shop local, shop Southwell!**

The Old Courthouse
Burgage, Southwell
NG25 0EP

01636 816103

www.southwellcouncil.com
admin@southwell-tc.gov.uk

Opening Times
Mon – Fri 10.00am – 12.30pm

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Take A Seat On Our New Benches

Over the past year the Town Council has started to repair benches across the town. Thanks go to our ground staff who are working at this. Many of the benches and seats in the town, installed by previous councils, have fallen into disrepair over the years. Some have rotted so badly they have had to be removed.

We plan to continue repairing and to install new benches in the town. If you would like to sponsor a new bench or restore an existing one, please get in touch with the Council using the phone or email above.



Restored benches on the Burgage and at Riverside



The Queen's Platinum Jubilee

The Town Council is working with various organisations in the town to develop a programme of events to celebrate Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in June. Celebrations will be held across the land from Thursday 2nd to Sunday 5th June, over an extended bank holiday weekend.

The Council will plant an oak tree at the War Memorial Recreation Ground later this year to mark the occasion and has committed £1000 to provide additional trees across the town as part of The Queen's Green Canopy project. We will be encouraging residents and landowners to join the 'Plant a Tree for the Jubilee' project.

Other plans include a late-night shopping event with a street food market, town crier, piper, choir and musicians on Thursday 2nd June, with a road closure to give the event more space.

Residents will be invited to bring their own picnic to the Big Jubilee Lunch in the grounds of Southwell Minster on Sunday 5th June.

Of course, there will be red, white and blue decorations galore and it should be a glorious event to remember.



Update On Saturday Closure Of King Street

The Clerk and Vice-Chair met with representatives from Nottinghamshire County Council to look at options to make King Street safer for pedestrians on Saturdays, during the busy shopping period.

Having been advised that a regular Saturday closure was not possible, the Town Council began to explore the idea of turning King Street into a shared street. Initial responses from residents were not favourable.

The Council is delighted that NCC has changed its view and now will support the town in a regular Saturday closure if residents are in agreement. The Town Council will be consulting with you over the next few weeks and months.

Neighbourhood Plan Consultant Appointed

A Committee was formed in 2021 to update the town's Neighbourhood Plan, which identifies key issues such as suitable housing development areas. Chaired by Cllr Peter Scorer and supported by a number of residents and councillors, a grant has been obtained to fund Consultant Steve Kemp from Open Plan to advise the committee.

Climate Change

The Council's Climate Change Working Group, which is made up of residents and councillors, is taking action to reduce the town's carbon footprint. It is keen to encourage us all to make a personal contribution by supporting initiatives to improve our natural environment, adopt healthy lifestyles and reduce carbon dioxide emissions. One such initiative is MEAT FREE MONDAYS when one day a week we could all avoid eating a meat diet.

Keep Our Town Free Of HGVs

There is a 7.5 tonne weight restriction on all the town's roads. If you see a suspiciously large HGV in the town and believe it may not have the appropriate authority to be here, note the registration, location, time and date. Report this to Nottinghamshire County Council on 0300 500 8080 or www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/transport/lorries/report-misuse. NCC has undertaken to follow up all properly completed reports, so it is worth doing.

FORTHCOMING COUNCIL MEETINGS

Full Council

Wednesday 16 March, 7pm

Wednesday 20 April, 7pm

Planning Committee

Wednesday 2 March, 7pm

Wednesday 6 April, 7pm

Wednesday 4 May, 7pm

Town Environment Committee

Wednesday 9 March, 7pm

Governance & Finance Committee

Monday 25 April, 7pm

Skatepark News

The Council has committed £13,000 to improve the Skatepark. The



halfpipe has already been removed as it was unsafe and beyond repair. Grants are being sought to make the park a much better place to learn to skate and board.

A user and parent group is advising the Council on what equipment it would like to see. The Council will take this opportunity to make additional improvements to the area surrounding the park.

CONTACT A COUNCILLOR

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County Councillor

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