

Issue 53 Summer 2020



contacts



Coronavirus
Our response and
recovery

We are open!
Information on all reopened
council services inside

Cover image, Civic Centre at Amot Hill Park, lit blue to thank our NHS, carers and key workers

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Gedling 
Borough Council

Serving people **Improving lives**

Leader's column

Welcome to this edition of Contacts. The coronavirus pandemic has been the most challenging situation we have ever faced as a council. We plan for emergencies all of the time but nothing like this. Since the lockdown restrictions came into force in March, we have been working around the clock to support our residents and businesses.

We immediately set up the Giving for Gedling network raising £25,000 for food banks and galvanising 500 volunteers in just a few days. We also administered grants and loans to support our local businesses, charities and enterprises.

We saw the very best of society as residents clapped for our key workers who made sure our essential services such as waste collection continued to run.

We are now facing a new challenge. The virus is still here and we have had to adapt how we run our services and find a way to plug the big financial gap caused from the loss of income due to the closures and restrictions.

I am incredibly proud of the way our staff have embodied our ethos of serving people, improving lives through this pandemic. We will continue to help our most vulnerable residents and we will get through this together. Thank you to all of you for the amazing and inspirational community spirit you've shown.



Councillor John Clarke is the Leader of Gedling Borough Council. You can contact him in writing at the Civic Centre, Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 6LU or by emailing cllr.john.clarke@gedling.gov.uk

*Please note all information in this issue was correct at the time of writing but may be subject to change

Cabinet Members



Cllr John Clarke
Leader of the Council



Cllr Michael Payne
Deputy Leader Responsible for Resources and Reputation



Cllr David Ellis
Responsible for Public Protection



Cllr Jenny Hollingsworth
Responsible for Growth and Regeneration



Cllr Henry Wheeler
Responsible for Housing, Health and Well-being



Cllr Peter Barnes
Responsible for Environment



Cllr Gary Gregory
Responsible for Community Development



Cllr Viv McCrossen
Responsible for Young People and Equalities

For a full list of the Cabinet's responsibilities visit www.gedling.gov.uk/councillorsmeetings

Gedling Borough Council appoints new Chief Executive

Mike Hill, who had been the Acting Chief Executive since March 2020, was officially appointed as our permanent Chief Executive at Full Council in July.

Mike began working for Gedling Borough Council in July 2016 as the Deputy Chief Executive. As Acting Chief Executive, he played a key role in guiding the council through the ongoing coronavirus pandemic.

Mike received unanimous support for his appointment from councillors at the last Full Council meeting.

Chief Executive, Mike Hill said:

“I’m proud to have been appointed as Chief Executive of Gedling Borough Council. It is the realisation of a career dream. I know that the job ahead is a tough one, particularly in the current climate, but there are many opportunities to be realised too for our local communities and I am very grateful for the opportunity to lead this fantastic work force and deliver the council’s vision for its residents and businesses.”

Our new Chief Executive, Mike Hill



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communications@gedling.gov.uk
 if you need it in large print,
 audio or another format.

Coronavirus - our response

Giving for Gedling



Almost immediately following the lockdown, the council launched a local emergency response and the Giving for Gedling network. It was set up to help co-ordinate and facilitate a host of volunteers and support offers from the local community.

All 41 Gedling Borough Councillors agreed to pledge £250 each to kick start the Mayor's appeal to support local foodbanks. Within 24 hours the appeal hit the £20,000 target and went on to raise £25,000 a week later. Over 500 residents signed up to volunteer to help distribute food, deliver parcels and medicines as part of the Giving for Gedling scheme.

The Leader and Deputy Leader of the council wrote to the major supermarkets to purchase essential items that would be distributed from our humanitarian centre.

Giving for Gedling Humanitarian Centre

One of our council leisure centres was transformed into a humanitarian centre and has helped over **800** families in need during the coronavirus outbreak. The most common requests have included assistance with shopping or collecting prescriptions for those unable to leave their home.



The Richard Herrod Centre,
Carlton, normally an indoor bowls

and conference centre, was turned into the main headquarters for the council's humanitarian response to the coronavirus outbreak. The centre became a super foodbank as part of the council's efforts to support vulnerable residents affected by the virus.

Since the foodbank opened in March, it has delivered **1,230** food parcels to residents. Over **93%** of recipients are in the government's vulnerable category classification with over **50%** being elderly residents aged over 70. In total, the council has so far assisted **861** households who have contacted them for help.



Giving for Gedling Humanitarian Centre

We created a crowdfunding campaign that raised £20,000 for food banks in 24 hours



Government funding of £499,000 in hardship relief has been provided to 1,739 council tax payers

We have sent 50 email news updates to residents during the outbreak

We have donated £2,000 to every foodbank and sharewear operator in the borough

We have collected an extra 1,000 tonnes of glass, recycling and waste every month

We have awarded over £15.6m in government grants to 1,327 local businesses



Since mid-March our Customer Services team have answered 99% of all calls received

We received 861 requests for help and 97% were helped within 2 days



We have helped 64 families who have presented themselves to the council as homeless



We wrote to 11,000 residents aged over 70 offering support

We have mobilised over 500 volunteers to help as part of our Giving for Gedling campaign

We have delivered 1,230 food parcels to some of our most vulnerable residents





Supporting vulnerable residents

In April, we wrote to 11,000 residents who were identified as possibly needing support due to the coronavirus outbreak. The letter contained information about the council's humanitarian centre, how they could get support with wellbeing, financial assistance, medicine collections and even offers of dog walking. The letters were sent as part of the council's plan to contact as many residents as possible to make sure they were aware of the support available to them.

A hardship fund was set up to help our most vulnerable families. We wrote to over 3,800 households who needed financial support and advised them about the help they could receive to reduce their council tax payments.

Our response

£15.6 million grants for businesses

Businesses in Gedling Borough received £15.6 million of grants as part of the government's financial support package following national restrictions imposed to reduce the spread of coronavirus.

In March, we began the work to issue the grants to over 1,300 businesses in Gedling.

Local market traders, charities and small and micro businesses in shared offices, were also supported through a government funded Discretionary Business Grant Scheme administered by Gedling Borough Council.

Since the end of July, 1,327 businesses in the borough received £15.6 million in grants administered by the council. We also launched a 'Business Bounce Back' plan in July which you can read more about on pages 14 and 15.



Our staff on the front line



A new way of working

As one of the largest employers in the borough, with over 500 staff, the lockdown restrictions created a large-scale emergency for the council. Almost overnight, work began to allow for the 300 desk based staff, who had been classed as key workers by the government, to work from home. The council has already started work on its agile working strategy but it wasn't a priority at the time. Within one week, over 80% of desk based staff were working from home.

An emergency Incident Management Team, chaired by a member of the council's Senior Leadership Team was quickly set up and regular emergency planning meetings were held to co-ordinate the council's response to the outbreak, including daily meetings between the Leader, Deputy Leader and Chief Executive.

Many of our staff were working on the front line during the peak of the pandemic and continue to do so now as we begin the recovery phase.

Our bin crews continued to collect residual and recycling waste despite the pandemic spreading quickly throughout the country. Measures were put in place to protect staff and reduce the virus spreading. Staff with underlying health conditions were shielding and the crews worked in smaller teams.

While out collecting the 55,000 household bins, our crews were welcomed on the streets from residents, clapping as they collected their bins. Children drew posters saying 'thank you', which were placed

on the side of the lorries and they quickly became a symbol of gratitude and they were hugely motivating for the staff working in difficult circumstances.

We redeployed many of our staff from our leisure services, which were all temporarily closed down due to the virus. Many of them joined the bin crews, cemeteries teams and our parks and street care teams to help ensure our critical services continued.

We are very grateful for the hard work and dedication of all our staff during the coronavirus outbreak and we are also grateful for our residents' understanding and patience as we tried to deliver our essential services.



Our bin crews received support from residents

How we move forward



We have been working hard to respond to the coronavirus outbreak and now we are starting to focus on the borough's recovery. We have set out a plan to help our economy bounce back, support our businesses, residents and communities and to support the council to improve its service.

We are not expecting things to go back to 'normal' but we are taking the opportunity to help shape the culture of the council and plan for the borough's future.

Our 'reset' strategy identifies the key areas that we need to focus on. This will not replace our existing plan, known as the Gedling Plan. Instead, we have reviewed the existing plan and prioritised certain actions based on the need of our residents and businesses after the coronavirus.

Our three main focuses will be:

Businesses

- Create thriving and vibrant town centres and provide more homes
- Drive business growth, workforce development and job opportunities

Residents and communities

- Promote and encourage pride, good citizenship and participation
- Reduce poverty and inequality and provide support to our most vulnerable residents
- Improve health and wellbeing and reduce health inequalities

Council

- Improve the customer experience with the council
- Provide efficient and effective services
- Maintain a positive and supportive working environment and strong employee morale
- Improve use of digital technologies
- Promote and protect the environment by minimising pollution and waste and becoming carbon neutral

**For more information about
our priorities, visit
www.gedling.gov.uk and
search Gedling Plan.**

**Our
recovery**



**Open for
Business**

Café 1899 is now open at Gedling Country Park

We have reopened all of our parks, skate parks and ball courts across the borough following the government's announcements in June that sites could reopen.

We are responsible for 40 children's play areas, ball parks, skate parks and outdoor gym facilities.

In preparation for reopening, the council's Parks and Street Care Team deep cleaned all of these locations, including sterilising equipment such as children's play facilities, gates, benches and bins and following the reopening equipment at all appropriate locations will be cleaned on a daily basis.

Each site has had a risk assessment carried out to ensure they are safe to reopen and new signage is also being installed at every location with clear guidance for visitors, reminding them to maintain social distancing and encouraging good hygiene before, during and after using facilities.

Café 1899 and play area at Gedling Country Park

The council owned café at Gedling Country Park and play area reopened in July with social distancing measures in place to ensure the safety of the customers and staff. Customers of the café can book a table in advance by calling 0115 926 1388 or by walk up, subject to availability. The park toilets are also open and are being regularly cleaned. There is also a takeaway option at the café, using the hatch at the side of the building so you don't have to go indoors unless you want to.

**Please note the ease of restrictions were in place at the time of writing and subject to change if government guidance changes.*

**Our
recovery**

**Our
recovery**

Gyms, pools and classes are back

We have reopened our leisure centres, including gyms, group exercise classes and some of our swimming pools.

Carlton Forum, Redhill, Calverton and Arnold Leisure Centres reopened in July, following the government's announcement to relax the lockdown measures.

Leisure centres across the country closed in March, as part of the national response to the coronavirus pandemic.

The leisure centres were deep cleaned during the closure and the leisure team worked hard getting ready to re-open. They have introduced

new safety measures, including spreading out gym equipment to enable social distancing, safety signage, a one way system and additional cleaning sessions. There are cleaning stations in all areas with hand sanitisers and all equipment is cleaned between sessions.

As well as the classes, gym sessions and public swim sessions restarting, the pools at Arnold and Carlton Forum Leisure Centres timetabled children's swimming lessons over the summer holidays. Calverton's pool remains closed initially, while the changing rooms are being refurbished.

Richard Herrod Centre is open

We are pleased to announce that we have reopened the main bar at the Richard Herrod Centre.

Customers will notice some changes when you return, to meet government guidelines and to keep everyone safe.

Extra cleaning measures are in place, hand sanitisers are available, there are floor markings throughout and all tables have been set out to ensure they are in line with social distancing measures.

We are looking forward to welcoming you back to the bar and enjoying a drink and some socialising (from a distance). You don't need to book a table in advance but you will be required to give your name and number for track and trace purposes.

For more information about the changes and opening hours of the Richard Herrod Centre, visit www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure or call 0115 961 2949.

All classes, gym and pool sessions now have to be pre-booked, to limit the number of people in the centres at any time and enable social distancing and to meet government test and trace requirements. Gym, swim sessions and classes are bookable through the leisure app, online and by calling the relevant leisure centre.

Customers will need to have a DNA membership (now without a contract) or Gedling Leisure Card, which is free to order at www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure

Sign up for leisure emails to keep up to date at www.gedling.gov.uk/keepmeposted



BONINGTON
Entrance



The Bonington reopens

The Bonington Theatre and Cinema has reopened for film screenings, with a new look seating plan and reduced capacity.

The cinema seating has been completely revamped with a reduced number of seats to accommodate customers so they can keep two metres apart.

Sofas, armchairs and tables have replaced the usual cascading seats and there are a number of measures in place to ensure people are safe.



Capacity will be reduced to just 24 seats per screening to allow people to have enough space. Tickets must be booked in advance through the Bonington website or by

telephone. No tickets are available to buy from the box office. The venue has been thoroughly cleaned during the closure and there are hand-sanitising stations available and extra cleaning will take place between each screening.

A one-way system has also been introduced to reduce contact with others with signage throughout the cinema to give people clear directions about where to go.

Find full details about the upcoming films and safety measures in place at www.boningtontheatre.co.uk

Sign up for emails to be notified of our latest programme and news at www.gedling.gov.uk/keepmeposted

Support with style

A hair and beauty salon in Calverton has praised the council for the support they received during the coronavirus outbreak.

Debbie Johnson, Director of Creame Hair Design in Calverton received help and advice from the council's Economic Development team when making an application for the government's business support grants. Our team were able to guide Debbie through the application and ensure she received the funding she needed to prevent her business from closing.

We spoke to Debbie at the salon about how the council helped her and how the community came together to help each other to get them through the lockdown.

"At first we thought we would have to let people go and I was worried that we would go under but thanks to the government grant and the support from Gedling Borough Council, I have been able to keep going and we're now reopen and actually enjoying this more relaxed new experience.

I am not brilliant with technology and I received some great help from the staff at Gedling Borough Council to help guide me through the application process and that money has saved my business. I have even been able to hire more staff to meet the new demand from customers wanting to book an appointment.

The community spirit has been fantastic, we've had some incredible support from local businesses who have helped us to get the shop reopened. We've had help from local builders to knock down walls, local plumbers to create new kitchen space, we've had new signage installed and it's all been provided by businesses in Calverton. We've also helped some local hairdressers and barbers to get them ready to open so there's been a real comradery between us and it has been quite an emotional experience for us and we are so happy to be open again."

Creame Hair Design received help from our Economic Development team to get them back open. If you are a local business who needs some support contact us at ecdev@gedling.gov.uk and we can arrange a meeting with one of our business advisors.



Debbie Johnson,
Director of Creame
Hair Design



The salon is back
open thanks to
support from the
council



The salon has hired
more staff to meet
demand since reopening



Photo taken pre Covid-19

Helping our town centres bounce back

We're supporting local businesses and the wider economy through our economic bounce back plan.

The plan aims to support local businesses and to encourage residents to shop locally and support their local businesses.

We have been working hard to make the town centres safe by introducing safety measures such as floor markings and one-way systems to help make it easier for people to shop safely. A number of 'deep cleans' have taken place in the town centres and we have increased street cleansing rotas to cover the cleansing and disinfecting of benches, seats and surfaces as well as providing the normal street cleansing services.

We have also applied for funding from the government to help support our high streets. We will have access to the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) Reopening High Streets Safety Fund that is specifically being allocated to help businesses reopen safely.



Meet Hev and Hana

Two new advisor roles, one for small businesses and one for retail businesses, have been created to offer guidance and advice for businesses about what help and support they can access and how the council can help them.

Hev Bingley and Hana Glover were both appointed in July and they have already begun work on making contact with local businesses to discuss ways in which the council can help them recover from the coronavirus outbreak.

The new roles are part of the council's strategy to help businesses bounce back, while also focusing on promoting the local economy to residents. As well as providing tailored advice to help local businesses, the council's Economic Development Team are also working on ways that residents can 'rediscover' their local shops and high streets.



Hev Bingley, Small Business Advisor

As part of the business bounce back plan, Gedling Borough Council will continue work on revitalising the borough's town centres to help support the local economy. This includes looking at ways to improve the infrastructure in the borough for example, improving Wi-Fi, creating more electric car points and regenerating Arnold Market Place through a multi-million pound transformation which you can read more about on pages 16 and 17.

If you operate a business in the borough and would like to speak with either Hev or Hana please get in touch by emailing: ECDEV@gedling.gov.uk



Hana Glover, Retail Business Advisor





New plans for Arnold Market Place have been revealed showing more details about what the site could look like.

Subject to budget approval and planning permission, Arnold Market Place will receive the most significant investment it has ever had with up to £4 million allocated to the project as part of the council's plan to revitalise the centre. If agreed, the project will create a new space that will help boost visitors to the town centre and support local businesses.

The proposals include the construction of a new landmark building, between the existing Methodist Church and King George V Park. A two-storey building will frame the new market place as well

as create a new eastern gateway into Arnold Town Centre. A new public space will be created as a central focal point for the market. The new building will provide seven small outlets for local independent businesses with flexible space above, which could be used for a variety of commercial options. There will be space for a minimum of 24 market stalls in the area.

Funding

Councillors will be asked to fund this project from the council's capital programme budget, boosted by a successful bid for £1.25 million from the D2N2 Local Enterprise Partnership's Local Growth Fund that supports town centre improvements.

The project will create around 40 new jobs through business employment and through the construction of the new buildings.

The council has hired Maber Architects, who specialise in landscape and master planning services, to design the initial concepts and they are working with architect students from Nottingham Trent University to help bring the ideas to life.

Consultation results

In February, we consulted on the plans with over 50 businesses and 1,500 members of the public. Over 76% of people we spoke to supported the plans for the improvement, with the majority of people asking that we provide accommodation for local independent businesses in the new buildings.

We asked people what would encourage them to visit the new market place and 75% of people said weekly markets and almost 40% said public events and performances.

Take a virtual walk around the market place

The designers of the new market place have created a video showing what it will look like including footage of inside the building. You can view the video in full by visiting the Arnold Market Place page on the council website

www.gedling.gov.uk/arnoldmarket





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When the time comes to say goodbye to your pet, we will be there for you.

Find out more,
call 0115 901 3713

www.gedlingpetcremations.co.uk



Final scheme for improvement works at Carlton Square approved

The plans to improve Carlton Square have been finalised following consultation with local residents, businesses and the shopping precinct owners.

Working in partnership with the owners of the shopping centre, there will be a number of improvements made including to the car park and to the shop fronts.

The scheme will be funded by grants from Nottinghamshire Pre Development fund and, subject to an application, £350,000 from the D2N2 N2 Town Centre Fund. Gedling Borough Council will match fund up to £100,000 towards the project.

Works will include a new entrance to the car park from Burton Road, a new car parking layout, including identified spaces for electric vehicle points, and improved disabled parking spaces in the southern car

park. There will also be new planting and boundary treatments, new paving and improved access between the car park and shopping area and a revised siting of payment machines and lighting. All of the proposals are subject to planning permission being approved.

Consultation on the plans took place last year and 97% of people who responded to the survey agreed that it was important to improve the town centre. The council also held a number of events in the centre to show shoppers and businesses the proposals.

The project is part of a wider regeneration programme for Carlton and it will contribute towards one of the council's main priorities to regenerate its town centres.

For more information about the Carlton Town Centre redevelopment visit www.gedling.gov.uk

£100,000 refurb for children's play area in Woodthorpe



Catherine Honey, the Chair of Friends of Breck Hill Park , Portfolio Holder for Environment, Councillor Peter Barnes, The Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Sandra Barnes, Cheryl Raynor, FCC Communities Foundation Local Grant Manager

A popular play area in Woodthorpe will have a £100,000 refurbishment thanks to external funding.

The Breck Hill Park in Woodthorpe will be improved thanks to funding from FCC Communities Foundation, a not-for-profit business that awards grants for community, conservation and heritage projects from funds donated by waste and resource management company FCC Environment through the Landfill Communities Fund. FCC Communities Foundation will be providing a grant total of £100,000.

The funding bid was made jointly by Gedling Borough Council and the Friends of Breck Hill Park, a local residents' community group who undertook community consultation and identified a strong community need for the project. Work on the park is expected to start in October and it should be open by December.

Don't lose your voice

Local residents are being warned not to lose their voice on decisions that affect them by making sure their electoral registration details are up to date. In July, we issued our annual canvass communication to all households asking them to check their details are correct.

With local elections taking place in Nottinghamshire in May 2021, this is an important opportunity for residents to make sure they can take part.

People who have moved recently are particularly encouraged to look out for the voter registration messages and check the details. In a slight change to the normal process, we contacted many households by email and text instead of sending a letter. This has saved money and reduced the amount of door-to-door visits required when households do not respond.

Any residents who have any questions can contact our elections team at elections@gedling.gov.uk or call 0115 901 3917.



Planning a better future in Nottinghamshire

A new joint partnership with several councils has been set up to help shape the future developments in Nottinghamshire.

The Greater Nottingham Strategic Planning Partnership is Gedling Borough Council, Broxtowe Borough Council, Rushcliffe Borough Council and Nottingham City Council. We are working together to create a strategic plan that will support housing and economic growth in the region for the next 20 years.

The Greater Nottingham Strategic Plan will help shape the number of new homes and the type of new homes in the region. It will help create vibrant and sustainable town centres and provide the right conditions for economic development to generate jobs and create healthier and safer communities.

The plan will also consider other planning issues such as climate change and how the plan can help achieve each council's ambition to become carbon neutral.

Consultation on the plan started in July and is open until 14 September. To find out more and to take part in the consultation visit www.gnplan.org.uk

Greater Nottingham
Planning Partnership 



Gedling Lotto first draw

The first Gedling Lotto draw will take place on Saturday 26 September.

60p from every £1 ticket will go to charities, voluntary organisations and other good causes that work in the community.

Players of the lotto can win a £25,000 jackpot, plus smaller prizes.

In January, we launched our good cause event at the Richard Herrod Centre. Dozens of good causes attended the event and signed up to become beneficiaries of the lotto.

We now have 26 local charities, schools, clubs and good causes signed up to our lotto. If you are a good cause, charity or school, visit our website to find out how you could benefit from the Gedling Lotto.

To purchase tickets before the first draw on Saturday 26 September visit www.gedlinglotto.co.uk





The £1M Community Fund

Supporting communities through the coronavirus outbreak

Apply now!

The £1 million Nottinghamshire COVID-19 Community Fund, set up by Nottinghamshire County Council to support organisations helping communities during the coronavirus pandemic, is calling for good causes to apply for funding, including those in Gedling Borough.

Charities, voluntary groups and parish and town councils working hard to support vulnerable residents impacted by COVID-19, can still apply for funding to help with extra costs incurred from helping vulnerable people during the crisis.

The fund, which launched in March, has already allocated more than £605,000 to over 200 groups across the county.

These fast-tracked grants are already helping with the additional costs of delivering essential local support to those most affected by this public health emergency.

The Netherfield Forum are one of the groups in Gedling Borough who successfully applied for funding, being awarded £5,000 to provide the community with daytime hot lunches, freshly cooked by a small team of staff and trustees and delivered by local volunteers. The Forum are also providing emergency 'rescue packs' to those in need, such as food, toiletries and other essentials.

Eligible groups that are helping vulnerable Nottinghamshire residents can apply for up to £10,000. To check the eligibility criteria and apply for funding, please visit www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/communityfund

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
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#HonourOurHeroes

The council has launched a new #HonourOurHeroes campaign to pay tribute to our NHS, carers and key workers and we want your ideas.

The campaign, launched by The Leader of the Council, Councillor John Clarke and Deputy Leader of the Council, Councillor Michael Payne, plans to create a permanent fixture, sculpture or installation in a prominent area of the borough to honour the sacrifices, bravery and courage made in response to the Coronavirus outbreak and to remember every single person who has tragically lost their life to this terrible virus.

We are calling for residents to submit their ideas, concepts, drawings and illustrations, which will be used as part of the process to select an appropriate tribute.

Inspiration and themes can be based on the symbols and icons of hope that have come about from the

outbreak such as the rainbow symbol, the clapping for the NHS or the colours of the Union Flag, red, white and blue, but ideas from residents don't have to include these elements.

The council will allocate funding to kick-start the project and will also be working with community groups, including local Rotary clubs, to look at ways to fund the project, which could include a potential crowdfunding option once the plans have been finalised.

More information about the campaign can be found at www.gedling.gov.uk/heroes Residents can submit their ideas by emailing them to communications@gedling.gov.uk or by sending paper copies to:

**Honour Our Heroes,
Communications Department,
Gedling Borough Council, Civic Centre,
Arnot Hill Park, Arnold, Nottingham, NG5 6LU.**

KEEP ME
POSTED



Get a free weekly email reminder the night before your green, black, brown or glass bin is due to be collected.

We will also notify you about any service disruption near you or changes to your collection so you'll never miss out.

Sign up for reminders at
[www.gedling.gov.uk/
reminder](http://www.gedling.gov.uk/reminder)

Get free bin collection reminders



To sign up visit www.gedling.gov.uk/reminder

Gedling
Borough Council 

Points with a view



Photo taken by Philip Orme

Lincoln Cathedral, St Mary Magdalene Church in Newark, Gunthorpe Lock, and Belvoir Castle are just some of the sights visitors will be able to see from two new viewing platforms at Gedling Country Park.

The two platforms were officially opened by the Mayor of Gedling in July and they offer visitors views as far as Lincolnshire and Leicestershire. The platforms also feature interpretation panels displaying information about some of the sights.

The platforms, facing to the North and South of the park, both feature wheelchair and pushchair accessible ramps to ensure that they are as accessible to as many visitors as possible.

The Gedling Country Park Viewpoints project was funded through the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development who provide grants specifically for projects which help promote growth, jobs and tourism in rural areas.

Visit www.gedling.gov.uk/gedlingcountrypark for more information.

More spaces at Gedling Country Park

A new 100 space car park has also been completed next to the existing car park at the Spring Lane entrance. The extra spaces will double the car parking capacity to allow more visitors to park onsite at peak times and hopefully help to reduce parking on nearby lanes and roads.



Mayor's News



I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped during this coronavirus outbreak. It has been one of the most difficult years for us all and I have been touched by the heroic efforts of our NHS staff, carers and key workers who have worked so hard to keep us as safe as possible.

I would normally be talking about the many events and openings I have attended but the last few months have been very different for me. I chaired our very first virtual Full Council meeting in July and we are all adapting to a new way of working. I also attended the opening of the new viewing platforms at Gedling Country Park, which was a very welcomed step out into the beautiful park on our doorstep. The platforms were funded by the EU Rural Payments Agency and we are very grateful. Both the platforms are stunning with some spectacular views of our beautiful borough. I highly recommend you going to see them.

Councillors have agreed that I will continue as Mayor for the next year, an honour that I do not take for granted and I will be ready to support our businesses and residents in any way I can as we begin to pick up the pieces following this ongoing pandemic.

I am delighted to inform you that I have raised £10,318.59 for my chosen charity, the Nottingham Hospital Charity. The money will be used to provide vital diagnostic equipment for the respiratory department at Nottingham City Hospital.

My chosen charity for my next term will aim to raise as much money as possible for the Coronavirus response fund for Nottingham's hospitals. I know that things will be very different this year and we may not be able to organise the usual fundraising activities but we will do our very best to try and help this important cause.

I wish you all the very best and please stay safe.

Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Sandra Barnes



**THANK
YOU**

**NHS
CARE WORKERS
KEY WORKERS
AND THANK YOU TO ALL OF YOU**