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**Councillor Lynda
Pearson**
Portfolio Communities
and Place

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

Leader's column

Welcome to the spring edition of contacts magazine. I was very pleased to be part of the annual Pride of Gedling Awards, which took place in November. We had a huge number of nominations, the most we have ever had, and the people, businesses and community leaders who were shortlisted should all be extremely proud. The awards were a great event that showcased the very best of our borough and I was delighted to see that Lauren Cope took home the overall Pride of Gedling Award. Her work in the Netherfield community to support some of our most vulnerable people is incredible and she is a worthy winner.

It feels like a bit of a broken record now but, once again, we have not been awarded any Levelling Up funding, making us one of the only councils in the region to have missed out. On this occasion, we were not even able to submit a new application, the government awarded it without that opportunity. This means that our ambitious plans for improving our borough will need to be looked at again. We have carried out a very comprehensive leisure review, which you can read about in this magazine, which tells us what facilities we need for our borough but until we can receive some investment, our options are limited.



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if you need it in large print,
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Councillor John Clarke MBE 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



Deputy Leader, Cllr Michael Payne and Leader, Cllr John Clarke MBE

Council disappointment at latest Levelling Up funding rejection

Gedling Borough Councillors have expressed their disappointment at Gedling communities not being awarded a single penny in the latest round of Levelling Up funding, announced by central Government. The Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities announced a further £1.1 billion as part of its 'Round 3' but we were not included in the list of 55 new projects.

In the previous round, we received feedback from the Government that the bid was ambitious but needed more up-to-date data. Following this, we invested in a comprehensive strategic review of

our leisure sites, playing pitches and community centres, as well as purchasing empty business units. Additionally, a new Arnold Town Centre masterplan has been announced, all to support a future Levelling Up bid. Despite this, the Government has allocated funding in round 3 with no consideration of the council's further work.

The Leader, Councillor John Clarke MBE and Deputy Leader, Councillor Michael Payne have written to the Chancellor and Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing, and Communities asking why Gedling Borough Council has not received any Levelling Up

funding, yet many neighbouring authorities have received millions. The Leader and Deputy Leader have also asked for a fairer funding review, as Gedling is currently the 7th worst-affected council in the country, in terms of the reduction in funding for day-to-day services.

This news means that our plans for a £50 million investment in Arnold will now need to be reviewed. However, we remain ambitious about revitalising the town centres and will now look at other possible options to finance the schemes.

Our plans to help residents to be more active, more often

We have published the first findings from an ongoing review of our current leisure provision across the borough.

A strategic leisure review of our community facilities, including our five leisure centres, playing pitches and parks and open spaces has produced the first phase of a report that aims to create a new understanding of how the council and its partners can provide a sustainable delivery of local play, physical activity, leisure, sport, wellbeing and community services for our residents. Our ambition is to help residents be more active, more often, targeting resources for those who need support the most.

As part of the review, a number of consultation events took place with residents, national bodies, schools and sports clubs, and their feedback has been used to help shape the report. The ongoing review will continue to assess options to improve the council's current leisure

provision to meet the needs of a growing population.

It's the most comprehensive review that the council has run on its leisure provision. It will not only help shape what residents need to take part in healthy activities, it will also help shape how the council can support the wider communities and partners to help people to be healthier in general.

We will be keeping residents informed of the work we are doing over the next few months, as we start to make plans to improve our leisure provision.

At this stage, any future changes would be subject to external funding. We have previously applied but not received any of the government's Levelling Up funding. We are awaiting more information about further funding opportunities.



Find out more about our plans by visiting www.gedling.gov.uk and search Leisure Strategic Review



Building homes success



More new, affordable homes are being built in Gedling; the highest number being built since the end of World War II.

Gedling Borough Council is actively addressing the housing needs of the community, with a focus on creating sustainable neighbourhoods. The success of our housing strategy is evident in key projects that are reshaping the borough's landscape, creating much needed new homes and boosting the local economy.

Affordable housing is a priority for the council, and stringent measures are in place to ensure that house builders prioritise the provision of affordable homes

within their projects. Collaborative efforts with developers are shaping an inclusive housing landscape that caters to the diverse needs of residents.

Gedling Borough Council's housing strategy reflects a commitment to fostering sustainable growth and vibrant communities. As we continue to implement our strategy, residents are invited to be part of this process, ensuring that the homes created today stand as a legacy for generations to come.

You can find out more about our housing plans at www.gedling.gov.uk/housing

Key sites



Chase Farm

Number of homes to be built:

1,050

Chase Farm in Gedling is one of the largest housing sites in the borough. The development of this site also allowed for the creation of Colliery Way, the new access relief road which has reduced traffic going through Gedling Village.

Top Wighay Farm

Number of homes to be built:

800

At Top Wighay Farm near Linby, over 800 new homes are being constructed. The site will include a new primary school and 140 of the new homes are affordable, which means there will be homes for sale or rent for people whose needs are not met by the private market.

Teal Close

Number of homes to be built:

800

Teal Close in Netherfield is another one of the largest housing developments in the borough. The site has also seen nearby business development, boosting economic growth with the provision of a new Sainsbury's nearby, one of the biggest employers in the area.

Gedling residents urged to register to vote in upcoming elections

Gedling residents will be heading to the polls on Thursday 2 May to take part in Combined County Mayoral Authority and Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

Residents across Derby, Derbyshire, Nottingham and Nottinghamshire will get the chance to vote for the first-ever elected East Midlands Mayor in May, after councils gave the go-ahead to devolution for the region.

Residents will also be able to vote for who should be the next Nottinghamshire Police and Crime Commissioner; the commissioner is responsible for policing across the county, ensuring the delivery of an effective and efficient police service.

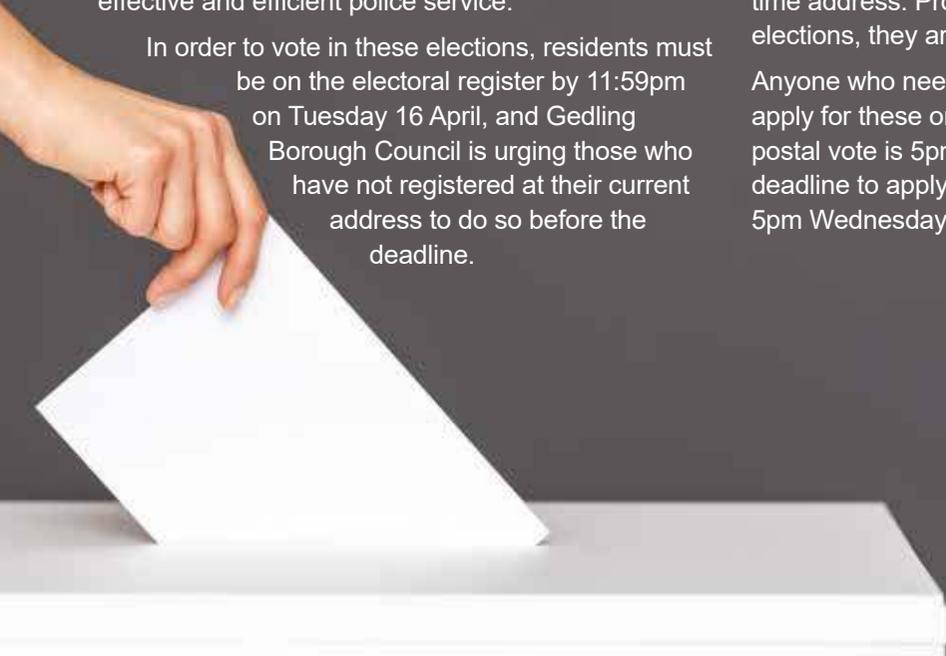
In order to vote in these elections, residents must be on the electoral register by 11:59pm on Tuesday 16 April, and Gedling Borough Council is urging those who have not registered at their current address to do so before the deadline.

Anyone over 16 can register online, although you must be 18 to vote in elections. The process takes just five minutes and all you will need is your National Insurance number. It is particularly important that people who have recently moved home check they are registered and take action if not.

Registering to vote gives people the opportunity to exercise their democratic right and shape policies locally and nationally. Being registered to vote can also improve your credit score, making it easier to secure loans or a home.

Students are also reminded that they are able to register at both their home address and term time address. Providing both areas are in different elections, they are also able to vote in both.

Anyone who needs a Postal or Proxy vote can now apply for these online. The deadline for applying for a postal vote is 5pm Wednesday 17 April 2024, and the deadline to apply for a proxy to vote on your behalf is 5pm Wednesday 24 April 2024.



**REGISTER
TO VOTE**

Everything you need to know about voter ID at the upcoming elections

All voters will need to show an accepted form of photo ID at the polls in the upcoming Combined County Mayoral Authority and Police and Crime Commissioner elections.

In April 2022, the Government passed the Elections Act 2022 which requires all voters to show ID at polling stations. This means that if you're planning to vote in person, you'll need to bring an accepted form of photo ID with you. If you turn up at the polling station without any accepted ID or a Voter Authority Certificate, you won't be allowed to vote.

Most voters will already have an accepted form of photo ID that they can use, but it's important that you double check the list of eligible forms of ID in advance to make sure that you don't miss out on your chance to vote.

All accepted forms of ID must include your photo and be suitably secure, such as a passport, driving licence or blue badge. If you have an accepted form of ID but the date has expired, you'll still be able to use it if the photo is still a good likeness.



Don't have anything which is on the list of eligible ID?

Don't worry, you can apply for a Voter Authority Certificate. This is a temporary form of ID issued by the local authority which will allow you to vote in the 2024 Combined County Mayoral Authority and Police and Crime Commissioner Elections.

It's free and easy to apply either on the Government website or by contacting the helpline on 01332 640837 by 5pm on Wednesday 24 April. You should only apply if you don't already have an accepted form of ID.

Still have questions? There's lots of information at www.gedling.gov.uk/elections.

Councils give green light to £4 billion East Midlands devolution deal

Residents of Gedling, as well as Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham will get the chance to vote for the first-ever East Midlands Mayor next May, after councils gave the go-ahead to devolution for the region.

Derbyshire County Council, Nottinghamshire County Council, Derby City Council and Nottingham City Council have each approved plans to create the East Midlands Combined County Authority (EMCCA), which will come into existence this Spring.

Plans for East Midlands devolution are similar to those already in place in other mayoral regions, like the West Midlands and Greater Manchester.

The East Midlands devolution deal, agreed with Government ministers last summer, would see Derbyshire, Nottinghamshire, Derby and Nottingham benefit from a £1.14 billion investment fund. Other areas with devolution deals have been able to make their funding go even further and have greater impact by leveraging significant private sector investment.

A public consultation on East Midlands devolution, carried out between November 2022 and January 2023, showed strong support for the plans among local residents, businesses and community groups.



In October, the Government announced around £1.5 billion in transport funding for the East Midlands Mayor.

Thanks to devolution plans, the East Midlands has also been invited to establish an 'Investment Zone', which will attract £160 million of support over ten years, with tax incentives for businesses that will help boost economic growth right across the region.

Further investment for the region would also be provided through annual Whitehall budgets and spending reviews.

All four councils have now agreed to the creation of the East Midlands Combined County Authority and the legal regulations around creating this new authority.

The inaugural election for the East Midlands Mayor will take place on 2 May 2024.

For more information visit

www.eastmidlandsdevolution.co.uk





Deputy Leader, Councillor Michael Payne and Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Julie Najuk

New B&M opens creating local jobs

The discount retailer has taken possession of the Arnold store that was previously Wilko, which has undergone a comprehensive internal and external refurbishment programme. The launch of the new store has created more than 35 jobs for local people, many of them previously Wilko employees. Gedling Borough Council worked with the Department for Work and Pensions to facilitate the training, induction and employment meetings for the new store as part of our work to support local people and the local economy.

B&M nominated a local charity, Bags of Blessing, to open the store alongside the Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Julie Najuk and the Deputy Leader, Councillor Michael Payne.

Bags of Blessings are a local charity who distribute donated gifts to deprived young people in the

Nottingham area. The donations include small toys, stationery and books which are then sorted into age groups, gift wrapped and are distributed to young people aged 0-16 via food banks, homeless and refugee charities and organisations that support disadvantaged children. Through the support of donations and volunteers, Bags of Blessings have grown from creating toy sacks for Christmas in 2018 to now creating Easter packs, summer holiday packs and hygiene packs throughout the year.

The charity will also receive £250 worth of B&M vouchers, which will go towards helping them to continue doing the great work they do.





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HOMES BUILT TO FUTURE
HOMES STANDARDS



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Pride of Gedling Awards 2023

The Pride of Gedling Awards are an opportunity for us to shine a light on the incredible achievements of residents, businesses and community groups across the borough, making a big difference to peoples' lives. Last November, we received over 230 nominations across the six categories, all of which were of a very high standard and we would like to thank everyone who nominated a friend, colleague, neighbour, local community or business for an award.

The categories were incredibly difficult to judge and to be shortlisted was a remarkable achievement so congratulations to all of the winners and runners up,

who are fine representatives of our borough and really are the pride of Gedling.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank our sponsors as, without them, we could not make this brilliant event happen every year. We really hope you enjoy reading about the winners over the next few pages and if you think there's someone in your community who deserves recognition, make sure you nominate them later this year.

You can find out more about the awards at www.prideofgedling.co.uk

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Business in the Community

Winner

Connect @ Netherfield

This award celebrates the brilliant businesses which play a big part in supporting their community in the borough of Gedling.

Nina, the dynamic force behind Connect Cafe, is a true community champion. Her cafe isn't just a place to grab a meal, it's a hub of community support and acceptance. Nina passionately supports local artists, craftspeople and significant local events like Netherfest and Netherfield Pride.

She creates a safe space for everyone, including the LGBTQ+ community. With unwavering dedication, she promotes diversity through craft clubs and photoshoots, revitalising Netherfield and its surroundings.

Runners up - Coppice Lodge Care Home, The Pit @ Newstead, Gedling Inn



Community Heroes Award

Winner

Lauren Cope

This award recognises inspirational individuals or groups, from any walk of life, who have gone that extra mile, or above and beyond their role, to help others or to make life better in their community.

Lauren is a true community champion. She's been a lifeline for local schools, providing vital donations and even handing out fruit to families and children at the school gate. As a dedicated Community Champion for Morrisons, she's worked closely with Nottinghamshire County Council's Day Service for people with disabilities, offering support and collaboration on activities.

Lauren's passion for community and fundraising is boundless. Over the past two years, she's been a tireless and fierce fundraiser, always seeking support for her latest projects. Her role as a Community Champion truly shines through in her unwavering commitment.

Runners up - Gilly Hagen, Sasha Karimjee, Matthew Akers



Dylan Barker Young Person of the Year

Winner

Matilda Handy

This award celebrates young people who make an outstanding contribution to their communities.

This very special award is named in honour of a previous winner, Dylan Barker, who sadly died after a long illness with cancer. His courage, optimism and drive to help others, lives on through this award.

Matilda's innovation is truly exceptional. She conceived the beautiful idea of a "postbox to heaven" in crematoriums, providing a channel for grieving individuals to send letters to their departed loved ones.

Matilda's initiative has transformed the lives of those grieving. The postbox scheme, known as "Letters to Heaven," has been embraced by countless people and has transcended borders, as the initiative has gained international recognition. Postboxes similar to Matilda's have appeared not only in the UK, but also in the USA and Australia.

Runners up - Emily Arsali, Sophia and Isabella Benedek



**The Environmental
Hero Award
Winner**

Chrysy Chadbourne

This award celebrates any individual, group, school, club, organisation or business in the borough that have made a positive impact on conservation, the environment or community spaces.

Chrysy is a remarkable individual whose dedication to nature and tenacity in the face of adversity deserves recognition. Chrysy's unwavering commitment shines through. She walks from Calverton to the woods known as Oxton bogs, carrying heavy bags filled with bird seed for the numerous feeding stations she maintains in the wood. She also litter picks as she walks.

Chrysy serves as a role model of the best in human nature. Her love for and care of nature are qualities that both young and old can aspire to emulate. Chrysy's dedication to the environment is truly inspirational.

Runners up - Jess Limbrick, Gedling Play Forum, Exdi Furniture



**Inspirational
Healthy Lifestyle
Winner**

BKS Martial Arts

This award celebrates any individual, group, school, club, organisation or business that have made a positive impact on health and/or wellbeing in the borough.

BKS Martial Arts, based in Arnold, is a deserving nominee for this award. This community operates like a tight-knit family, fostering a friendly and welcoming environment. Warren Bennett's exceptional dedication to each child's individual needs is truly remarkable. Their hard work has not only equipped children with self-defence skills but has also significantly boosted confidence and self-esteem. The commitment to inspiring others and building self-esteem is evident through their work in schools, making them a true inspiration in promoting healthy lifestyles.

Runners up - Charlotte Pitten, Sally Hilton, Sara Davies



Outstanding Community Project Winner

Digging Deep Heritage Project

For this award, we were looking for all those brilliant projects and groups which help their local community and improve the lives of those living in them.

Norma Gregory is a remarkable local historian whose 'Digging Deep' project has left an enduring legacy. As part of the 75th anniversary of Windrush last year, Norma's community event made a significant impact in Gedling, a mining town with a rich heritage.

Norma has consistently championed heritage often overlooked by society, showcasing her dedication to lifelong learning. Over the past 8+ years, she has led the 'Digging Deep' project, fostering diversity education in former local industrial sectors. Norma's invaluable contributions have fostered a positive change in Gedling and beyond.

Runners up - Carlton Community Hub (Michael Singh),
Calverton Core Centre, St Paul's Church

Pride of
Gedling
Awards 2023

Jigsaw Homes Midlands

Supporting Our Communities

Jigsaw Homes Midlands has helped hundreds of local residents with cost of living events, energy advice, employment and skills and health and wellbeing support.

Our Jigsaw Foundation fund provided £45,000 to help community groups. Applications will open again in April.
<https://foundation.jigsawhomes.org.uk/>

Web: midlands.jigsawhomes.org.uk

Facebook: Jigsaw Homes Midlands

X @JigsawMidlands

Creating homes. Building lives.



Overall Pride of Gedling Winner

Lauren Cope



This year's overall Pride of Gedling Award winner is Lauren Cope. The winner of this prestigious award is chosen from the winners of each category on the night. Lauren's work in Netherfield to support her local community was a standout success. She received a high number of nominations from residents in her local community and the judges felt that she was a worthy winner of the overall award. As well as receiving a special Pride of Gedling award, Lauren's name is now etched in gold leaf in the civic centre's council chamber alongside the names of previous winners. Lauren was also invited to speak to Notts TV on their daily news programme to talk about winning the award and how it felt to be part of the big event. Congratulations to Lauren and to all of this year's winners.

Lifetime Achievement Winner

The winner of this year's Lifetime Achievement Award was Trevor Clower. Trevor is the founder and organiser of the Caring Roadshows, a series of events that provide information and support to unpaid carers across Nottinghamshire and beyond. He is also an unpaid carer for his son with learning difficulties and started the Caring Roadshows in 2013 after retiring. He wanted to help other carers who faced similar challenges and frustrations as he did. The Caring Roadshows have grown from a small initiative to a large-scale project that has reached over 18,000 people and involved over 90 different support agencies.

Trevor has worked with councils and the NHS to share feedback and insights from the carers who attended the events, helping them improve their services and policies. Trevor's dedication and passion for helping unpaid carers has earned him the recognition and admiration of many, and Leader of Gedling Borough Council, Councillor John Clarke MBE presented an emotional Trevor with his award.





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We want your views on funding local infrastructure projects

When certain types of development are constructed within the borough they are required to pay a financial contribution known as the Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) to the council. We then use this money to pay for infrastructure such as roads, footpaths, parks and community buildings, to improve the borough.

A portion of the funding has to be spent in areas where the new developments have occurred, this is called the neighbourhood portion. In areas without a parish or town council we can decide how to use the neighbourhood portion, in consultation with local residents.

Several projects have been nominated and we would like you to tell us what you think of them. These include a new footpath and improvements at

some of our sports grounds, as well as community areas for our younger residents.

Do you agree with the projects that have been put forward? Do you have any other ideas for things we could use the neighbourhood portion for? Please tell us your views by taking part in our public consultation. The consultation runs from Monday 18 March to Monday 15 April.

You can find more information, view the proposed projects and take part in the consultation by visiting www.gedling.gov.uk/cil or by emailing CIL@gedling.gov.uk



Our progress towards achieving net zero carbon



We have made some significant strides towards our commitment to achieving carbon neutrality by 2030. In the past few months, we have implemented several initiatives as part of our Carbon Management Action Plan that have directly contributed to our goal of becoming net zero carbon.

A report from The Association for Public Service Excellence (APSE) has found that Gedling Borough Council reported a commendable 22% reduction in carbon emissions, saving 371 tonnes of CO₂ since 2020. This positions the council as one of the region's highest-rated authorities by APSE. This is largely down to our move from diesel to bio-fuel in all of our fleet vehicles, reducing our emissions by 90%.

The Council Chamber hosted its inaugural climate

change debate, chaired by the Mayor. 60 children took part in a discussion on fossil fuels, emphasising our commitment to involving younger generations in environmental dialogues and raising awareness of the issues that affect young people in the borough.

In December, we supported the first Climate and Nature Convention, organised by the Gedling Climate Change Group. This event brought together diverse voices to address environmental challenges. A report was produced that outlines some of the actions the group will take to tackle climate change in the borough.

A collaborative effort with several local councils, including Gedling Borough Council, has secured £277,671 in government funding from the Net Zero Living: Fast Followers competition. The initiative, supported by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero and Innovate UK, aims to accelerate progress towards local climate goals. The partnership, involving Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire, will use the Fast Followers funding to foster a united approach in achieving net-zero targets.

More information about the work being done to tackle Climate Change in Gedling can be found at www.gedling.gov.uk/climate-change



Excuse the weeds, they feed the bees: Bee friendly mowing in Gedling

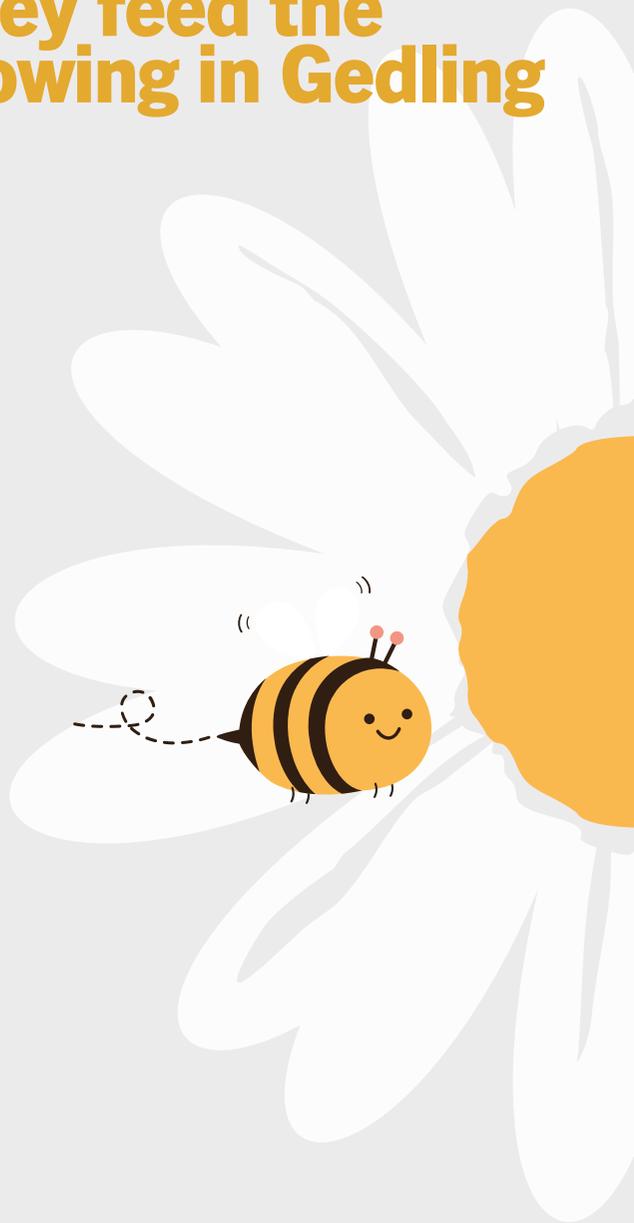
We have identified a number of sites around the borough where we can encourage the growth of wildflowers, weeds and grasslands. The areas will be left unmown throughout the growing season, as part of our commitment to the protection and enhancement of our natural environment, including habitats and wildlife.

The wildflowers and weeds are vital food for pollinators like butterflies, bees and invertebrates. Bees are an essential part of our eco-system contributing to the production of many of the foods that we grow and eat. One of the key factors in the decline of bee numbers has been a lack of wildflower meadows. This is why here at Gedling Borough Council we are keen to help to stop the decline and promote the growth of wildflowers in the borough. This in turn will encourage and conserve more of our native wildlife.

The areas identified in Gedling span approximately 5.5 acres and include space at our Green Flag Awarded parks. They will be left unmown until September increasing biodiversity and importantly helping to save the bees and other pollinators.

What can you do to help?

You can do more simply by doing less. Leaving some areas of your garden to grow means there will be potential nesting sites for different species of bee. You can also plant wildflower seeds and enjoy the native wildlife this will attract in your gardens. Even the smallest green space can deliver enormous gains for nature, communities and the climate.





What's on at The Bonington

Cinema

Despicable Me 4
Furiosa
Garfield
Ghostbusters: Frozen Empire
Inside Out 2



Kingdom of the Planet of the Apes
Kung-Fu Panda 4

Event Cinema

Royal Opera House Live: Macmillan Celebrated (Ballet)
Tuesday 9 April, 7.15pm
Sunday 14 April, 2pm
£15 | £12.50



An American in Paris (Musical)
Thursday 18 April, 7pm
Saturday 4 May, 1.30pm
£12.50 | £10

Royal Opera House Live: Swan Lake (Ballet)
Sunday 28 April, 2pm
£15 | £12.50

Exhibition on Screen: John Singer Sargent
Monday 29 April, 7.30pm
Tuesday 30 April, 4.30pm
£12.50 | £10

Royal Opera House Live: Carmen (Opera)
Wednesday 1 May, 6.45pm
Sunday 5 May, 2pm
£15 | £12.50

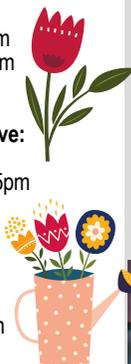
42nd Street
Thursday 16 May, 7pm
Sunday 19 May, 1.30pm
£12.50 | £10

Royal Opera House Live: The Winter's Tale (Ballet)
Wednesday 22 May, 7.15pm
£15 | £12.50



Royal Opera House Live: Message in a Bottle (Ballet)
Sunday 2 June, 2pm
£15 | £12.50

Royal Opera House Live: Andrea Chermier (Opera)
Tuesday 11 June, 7.15pm
Sunday 16 June, 2pm
£15 | £12.50



Theatre

Live & Local: Rhubarb Theatre, Finding Chester
Friday 5 April, 2pm
£12.50 | £10

Comedy Hotspot
Thursday 11 April, 8pm
£15

Royal Shakespeare Company: First Encounters, Romeo & Juliet
Tuesday 16 and Wednesday 17 April, 7pm
£12.50 | £10 | £8



The Bonington Players... Home, I'm Darling
Wednesday 24 – Saturday 27 April, 7.30pm
£9

Live & Local: Behold Ye Ramblers!
Friday 10 May, 7pm
£12.50 | £10

Comedy Hotspot
Thursday 20 June, 8pm
£15



Live Music

Jazz in the Bar
Third Sunday of each month, 7.30pm (unless otherwise stated)
£8



Nottingham Organ Society
First Monday of each month, 7.30pm (unless otherwise stated)
£8 | £7

Jazz Steps: Basil Hodge Jazz Africa
Thursday 4 April, 7.30pm
£15



Jazz Steps: Huw Warren Choro Choro!
Thursday 2 May, 7.30pm
£15

Buddy's Winter Dance Party
Sunday 12 May, 7.30pm
£20

Jazz Steps: Art Themen Organ Trio
Thursday 30 May, 7.30pm
£15



Ultimate Night at the Disco
Saturday 1 June, 7.30pm
£20

A Night of the Stars
Thursday 6 June, 7.30pm
£15



Word Up! 80s Night
Friday 21 June, 7.30pm
£20

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Mental health support in Gedling

The health and wellbeing of our residents is important to us and we want to make sure you are aware of some of the local groups and support services available to you here in Gedling.

There are a range of regular services and events at venues near you. Whether it be the chance to meet new people, talk and make friends, or gain the support you need to help you through a difficult or challenging time. Here are some of the opportunities we provide.

In this feature we are focusing on some of the mental health support available in the borough. We have highlighted three initiatives that offer different kinds of mental health support.

Carlton Community Hub – Carlton

**Tuesdays and Fridays
12pm - 2.30pm**

Supported by a wonderful team of volunteers, the hub offers refreshments and home-made light snacks such as scones and hot soup. The cafe does not charge, the focus is on providing a safe space for the local community which offers befriending and signposting. A Gedling Borough Council Advisor is available on Tuesdays to support local residents.

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Talking Therapies

To self-refer into the service, call 03331 881060 or visit www.notts-talk.co.uk

Nottingham and Nottinghamshire Talking Therapies is a free, confidential NHS service designed to help with common mental health problems such as stress, anxiety and depression. Anyone aged 18 years or over and registered with a GP can access support, though a GP referral is not necessary, as you can self-refer.

Men in Sheds – Daybrook and Carlton

**Mon - Weds, 9am – 12pm & 12.30pm - 3.30pm
Mixed sessions for men & women available
Thursday 9am – 3.30pm**

Men in Sheds is a ground-breaking project for older men run by Age UK Notts. They have sheds in Daybrook and Carlton and where can take part in woodworking, skill sharing and socialising. It also supports older men who are isolated or disengaged from their community, or are experiencing major changes in life.

For listings of mental health and other support, visit www.gedling.gov.uk/support-in-gedling



Gedling Leisure news

Bike lockers at Redhill

Six new secure bicycle lockers are now available at Redhill Leisure Centre for customers to use for free.

Cycling to the leisure centre is a great way to warm up before a workout and it's both cheaper and more environmentally friendly than travelling by car.

Customers exchange their Gedling Leisure or Membership Card for a cycle locker key at reception. The cards are held at reception while the keys are used to lock bikes away and to retrieve them after a workout.

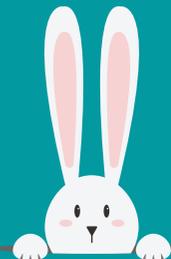


www.gedling.gov.uk/leisure

Easter holiday activities

Are you looking for ways to entertain the children during the school holidays? There's lots to keep them active at the leisure centres, from giant inflatables to badminton and fun family swimming sessions.

Find out more at
www.gedling.gov.uk/holiday-activities
or call the leisure centres.



New treadmills at Calverton gym

Three new treadmills have been installed in the gym at Calverton Leisure Centre.

Users can track their walking or running session on an easy-to-use touch screen, with calories burned, duration, distance and more displayed. They can listen to music, watch TV and use the internet on the machine to keep their mind busy while exercising.



Arnold
0115 901 3690

Calverton
0115 901 3800

Carlton Forum
0115 901 3660

Redhill
0115 901 3630

Gedling
Leisure

Learn to swim.



Swimming lessons with qualified
instructors, **for all ages and abilities.**

It's never too early or too late to learn.
Book a free swim assessment today.

Find out more at the leisure centres or visit
www.gedling.gov.uk/swimming-lessons



Arnold
0115 901 3690

Calverton
0115 901 3800

Carlton
0115 901 3660



Scheme launched to increase recycling

Gedling Borough Council has launched a new pilot scheme to help increase recycling rates and reduce the amount of recyclable materials going to the incinerator because of the wrong items being placed in the recycling bins. According to data provided by Nottinghamshire County Council, who is the lead authority on recycling, some areas in the borough have up to 25% of their recycling contaminated and turned away from the recycling centre.

The initiative is being trialled in Mapperley, Lambley and Burton Joyce, due to the level of contaminated recycling waste in these areas. A tag will be placed on bins which have been put out but contain items that cannot be recycled. The label has a QR code and web address that takes the person to a form, which they can fill out, advising them which items to remove and then the bin will be emptied as quickly as possible, rather than them waiting two weeks for their next collection.

The idea behind the scheme is to let residents know when their bin is contaminated and that certain items can't go in recycling bins, such as plastic bags, nappies and pizza boxes.

If a refuse lorry carrying a full load of recycling to the recycling centre is found to have just 5% of contaminated items in it when inspected, the entire load is rejected and taken to an incinerator, reducing recycling rates and increasing the cost of waste disposal.

Recycling workshops to raise awareness of climate change

Pupils from several schools across the borough have taken part in paper-making workshops with our Climate Change Officer, as part of National Recycling Week.

The sessions aimed at highlighting the importance of recycling paper and the impact it has on our environment and ultimately the links with climate change.

Students from Parkdale Primary School in Carlton are pictured taking part in the workshops at the end of last year. As well as showing them ways to save paper, the workshop also focused on how we should be recycling more, to reduce waste going to landfill.

As part of our strategy to become net zero carbon by 2030, we have organised several events with school children on different themes all linked to climate change.

If you would be interested in our Climate Change Officer visiting your local school, please email sim.duhra@gedling.gov.uk. For more information about the work we are doing to tackle climate change, visit www.gedling.gov.uk/climate-change



Special markets announced for town centre

A host of special markets have been announced at the AMP in Arnold over the next year.

Markets will be held once a month, organised by AMP Live, an organisation formed by some of the AMP businesses. They will include trader's markets, artisan stalls and handmade goods.

The aim of the markets is to get more people shopping locally and to increase footfall in the town centre, to support local businesses and the local economy. The AMP is a new business area, based on Front Street Arnold, set up as part of the council's

plans to revitalise town centres. There are 7 small businesses based there, ranging from a café to a boutique pet store. There are also regular, weekly markets at the nearby Eagle Square on Front Street.

If you would be interested in having a stall at one of the events, please contact the event organisers at info@amp-live.co.uk

For more information about the market events, visit www.gedling.gov.uk/events



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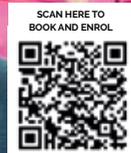
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10 years of empowering young voices

This year we are celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Gedling Youth Council. Over the past decade, this platform has empowered over 130 young people with democratic experience, media exposure, and leadership roles, fostering positive change.

Four successive Youth Councils, each serving two-to-three-year terms, have been the influential voice of young people across the borough. Through quarterly meetings, members actively shaped policies, engaged in consultations, and championed health and safety campaigns.

Notably, four Gedling Youth Mayors, selected by their peers, have not only supported the Mayor of Gedling but have also taken the stage at events like the annual Remembrance and Christmas lights ceremonies.

In June 2020, the Gedling Youth Council received commendation from the Lord Lieutenant of Nottinghamshire, Sir John Peace. Members

were honoured with the Lord Lieutenant's Young Volunteering Award, a testament to their impactful contributions.

Reflecting on a decade of achievements, Gedling Borough Council takes pride in the Gedling Youth Council's legacy as a beacon of youth empowerment. They are by no means finished, work is now ongoing for the next term of office on a range of issues of concern to Gedling Young People including climate change, safety of young people, out of school activities, young people's mental health, life chances, training and employment, mental health and wellbeing, equality and diversity.

To find out more and apply, email communities@gedling.gov.uk





The Mayor meets a young attendee at the apprenticeship and recruitment event

Mayor's News

Over the last few months, the Mayor of Gedling, Councillor Julie Najuk has attended several events and functions in her role as the First Citizen of the borough. In December, the Mayor attended several Christmas light switch ons, organised by residents, community groups and the council. She switched the lights on at the Christmas in Arnold event, which was attended by hundreds of local residents and school children, to celebrate the start of the Christmas festivities.

As well as attending events, the Mayor is also the Chair of all Full Council meetings held at Gedling Borough Council. As the Mayor, she ensures that all of the meetings are kept in order and that matters are dealt with in accordance with the council's constitution. Every year, the Mayor chooses someone

to attend the meetings, alongside them and Mayor Najuk has chosen Canon Philipp Ziomek, who is the priest at Councillor Najuk's church, the Good Shepherd Church, to attend and provide words of wisdom at the start of each meeting.

The Mayor attended the Pride of Gedling Awards in November and was asked to present the overall Pride of Gedling Award to Lauren Cope, who received the award for her work in the Netherfield community.

Mayor Najuk also attended the Apprenticeship Fair in February, held at the Civic Centre. Hundreds of local people attended the event to speak with local businesses looking to recruit in the area.

Throughout the year, the Mayor is also fundraising for her chosen charity, Anthony Nolan. You can find out more and donate at www.anthonynolan.org.

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Garden Waste Scheme



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Order your bin at www.gedling.gov.uk/gardenwaste or by calling 0115 901 3621

£40
per year

additional bins cost
£20 per year



www.gedling.gov.uk/gardenwaste

Gedling 
Borough Council