To vote in the 2019 Erewash borough and parish elections you must register by Friday 12 April.

Register now online at [www.gov.uk/register-to-vote](http://www.gov.uk/register-to-vote)
Welcome to the spring issue of EBC today, your local community magazine packed with the latest news, features and events for people in Erewash.

At the time of going to print, the council was set to consider an increase to council tax of 2.99%, in future years of £5.42 or 11p per week on a Band D property.

We believe that this modest increase has been necessary for us to continue to deliver first class services that residents rightfully expect and deserve, and to help offset a number of ongoing financial pressures that all councils are currently facing.

The council has already delivered considerable efficiencies this year including the outsourcing of leisure services which will see £1.3m invested into the centres at the same time saving over £600k per year.

Work never stops in our drive to find efficiency savings and delivering first class services. This year, we continued to invest in and develop leisure centres, whilst at the same time we have frozen again this year to encourage people to support our retailers and shop in our town centres.

In a busy year we have continued to invest in the community with 70 plus local voluntary groups and organisations receiving funding of over £80k through the council’s popular grant schemes.

The council has also provided a cash boost of over £50k to the Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust for the Sandiacre Lock project and £100k of external funding has been secured for a new play area at Barling Drive, Ilkeston.

Council Tax

A recommendation that Erewash Borough Council raises its share of council tax for 2019/20 by 2.99% was due to be discussed at the council’s budget setting meeting at the time of going to print.

The increase – which works out at £5.42 per annum or 11p a week – would mean that the council’s charge for a Band D property in Erewash will rise to £186.59 per annum.

Only 11% of the total council tax bill goes towards paying for the Borough Council services. Council tax payers also have to pay an amount for Derbyshire County Council, the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner, Derbyshire Fire and Rescue and Parish Councils – Erewash has no control over the charges set by these organisations.

The proposed increase comes at a time when local authorities continue to face financially challenging times with continuing reductions in government funding.

The council has worked to achieve significant savings over the last few years and the outsourcing of its leisure services this year will bring direct savings of over £800,000 per annum together with anticipated back office administrative savings of approximately £300,000 per annum.

The council is working towards further savings in the region of £1.2m to enable balanced budgets to be set in future years.

Councillor Wayne Major, Deputy Leader and Lead Member for Resources, says: “We have worked very hard over the last five years to balance our budgets against the backdrop of continuing financial pressures. Going forward, we are under no illusion that the challenge remains a tough one – but we can assure residents that they remain at the centre of everything we do. We have done everything in our power to maintain and protect frontline services and that remains at the forefront of our work as we strive to meet the challenges ahead.”

New era for leisure

Parkwood is now managing leisure services at Victoria Park Leisure Centre, Rutland Sports Park and Pewt Golf Course in Ilkeston, as well as West Park Leisure Centre in Long Eaton and Sandiacre Friesland Sports Centre.

As part of the agreement, approximately £1.3 million is expected to be invested to improve facilities for residents, including the expansion of gym facilities and equipment, improvements to customer retail and vending facilities and the introduction of a number of new activities.

The council has retained ownership of the buildings, meaning Parkwood is leasing the facilities and in place to manage and deliver a leisure service on behalf of the council.

Councillor Mike Wallis, Lead Member for Culture and Leisure, says:

“We see working in partnership with Parkwood as an innovative decision that will bring significant savings for us but – most importantly – it will mean a better deal for our residents and leisure users. It is an exciting time and we know Parkwood have ambitious plans to invest in and develop the facilities on offer.”

The move will save the council around £8 million over 10 years, substantial savings at a time when local authorities continue to face financially challenging times.

Residents are being warned about a scam that appears to offer a number of council tax services in order to obtain payment details.

Fraudsters have been using HMRC and GovDelivery branding in their emails and telling people they can claim a council tax refund, apply for their council tax banding to be lowered or pay an outstanding payment.

If you receive an email, phone call, text or letter which you think is suspicious, please do not hesitate to contact the council’s revenues team on 0115 907 1000.
Waste scheme success

The most popular sites for people dropping off bulky waste items and electrical items have been West Park in Long Eaton; Sawley, Sandiacre and Cockbrook.

The pilot scheme runs until 23 March with the next collection on 16 March at Critchley Street flats, Ilkeston and Beaunale Drive car park, Colmanhay. Teams will then be at the Village Hall in Stanley Village and Kirk Hallam shops on 23 March.

The scheme is for small bulky waste items such as kettles, old clothes, bedding and toys. A full list of items can be found at www.erewash.gov.uk

Councillor Garry Hickton, Lead Member for Environment, says: “The pilot scheme has been a success and people who came to the community waste collection points said they thought it was a good idea. We would encourage residents to make use of the final collections for any small bulky waste items that they want to dispose of.”

Litter fines

Erewash Borough Council has successfully prosecuted a number of litter bugs.

More than 20 people have now been fined for dropping litter in the borough.

In the latest case, Joanne Derry, 41, of Abbot Road, Ilkeston was charged with littering under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

Ms Derry threw a parking ticket on to East Street, Ilkeston and drove away. She was issued with a Fixed Penalty Notice which she failed to pay and was left with a court bill totalling £627.50.

Jack Greenough, 20, of Wirksworth Road, Ilkeston, was found guilty of leaving a cigarette packet on Bath Street. Susan Osborne, 68, of Beresford Drive, Colmanhay, left a cigarette end on Bath Street, and Tracey Riley, 44, of Collingwood Road. Long Eaton, threw down a cigarette end at the Cross Street Retail Park.

All three were found guilty of a littering offence. The fine of £220 added to the court costs left each of them with a total bill of £377.50.

Staff thanked for saving Mick’s life

A man has thanked lifeguards at Ilkeston’s Victoria Park Leisure Centre for saving his life.

Mick Elks, 62, had a cardiac arrest in the pool on 18 December during his lunchtime swim. He said: “I swam about six lengths and stopped for a breather. I can’t remember anything else.”

Seeing that Mr Elks was in trouble, lifeguards Fraser Grant and Liam Cooper jumped in to save him and started CPR, using the poolside defibrillator. Also on duty and helping with the situation were Adam White, Andrew Gill and manager Stuart Bailey.

Mick started breathing and was taken by Air Ambulance to the Derby Royal Hospital. He was found to have a blockage on both sides of his heart and underwent a triple heart bypass at Nottingham City Hospital. Mick, and his wife Maggie, visited the centre to thank the team who saved his life.

He said: “How do you thank someone for saving your life? There is no gesture big enough.

“If it had happened at home or when I was walking the dogs I might not have been so lucky. I was at the right place at the right time. They are a tremendous team, without them I wouldn’t be standing here now.”

Councillor Mike Wallis, Lead Member for Culture and Leisure, says: “This was a team effort and all staff on the day played their part, from greeting the emergency crews to looking after other members of the public.”

£3.9m for business

A new business rates discount scheme to help small and medium sized retailers for the next two years was expected to be approved by Erewash Borough Council at the time of going to print.

The move follows the Chancellor’s autumn budget announcement that eligible retailers with a rateable value below £51,000 will receive a one-third discount on their business rates bills in 2019/20 and in the following year. Local authorities are following national guidance to draw up how their discount schemes will work.

Eligible businesses in Erewash for 2019/20 will be identified and the discounts applied automatically to their bills. The council will be reimbursed for the discounts.

The council granted a total of £3.9 million in Small Business Rate Relief to help 1,777 businesses in 2018/19.

For more information visit www.erewash.gov.uk or log on to My Erewash.
Landlord fined for hazards

The landlord of a house in Ilkeston has been prosecuted by Erewash Borough Council for failing to rectify safety issues at the property.

Adrian Dilenardo, 49, from Leeds was charged with failing to comply with an Improvement Notice.

The case was heard at Southern Derbyshire Magistrates’ Court where he was ordered to pay £6,484.

Three ‘category two’ hazards were found at the property in Orchard Street during a visit by officers from the council’s Housing Renewals Team. These included damp and mould on the kitchen wall of the property, which was occupied by a family with a young child.

Outside the house there was a risk of falls due to dangerous, rotting timber steps that led to a raised decked garden.

Dilenardo, who did not attend court, was fined £5,000 by District Judge Jonathan Taaffe and was ordered to pay a victim surcharge of £170 and to landlords to keep their properties in order. The council works closely with local landlords to maintain standards in homes in the borough.”

Home improvements

The finishing touches have now been put in place, including heating pipes, plant benches, the installation of footpaths and a water system.

Now Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust is using the funding towards its £91,000 plan to excavate and repair the Bottom Lock chamber that is next to the Lock Lane canal bridge and to clear and manage the canal corridor from there to the edge of the conservation area near to the Waterside Close houses.

A helping hand...

Bennerley Viaduct for equipment for volunteers carrying out conservation and improvement work at the site.

Another 32 groups have been helped through the Members’ Grant Scheme, which sees all councillors able to give £500 to causes in their own ward.

In the parish areas, funding has helped with projects through the Rural Community Grants Scheme.

This has included grants of £3,600 for Risley Cricket Club towards the cost of a new pavilion roof; £4,000 towards the cost of roof repairs and maintenance at Ashbrook Community Centre in Borrowash; and £8,590 towards extension work at West Hallam Village Hall, including improved access for people with disabilities.

• See page 22 for the latest Rural Grants awarded.

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Price freeze

Legacy Leisure, the company which has taken over the running of the council’s four leisure centres and Pewit Golf Course in Erewash, has confirmed that prices will not change in 2019. It has also been agreed that any child on swimming lessons payable by Direct Debit will now get unlimited free swimming during general swim sessions. www.leisurecentre.com

Sponsor a basket

Erewash residents, businesses, parish councils and groups can sponsor flower baskets for their community. The baskets will be attached to lamp columns in villages across the borough. Sponsorship is £35 per year (based on a three year contract) and covers the basket, plants, watering, maintenance and an optional sponsorship plaque. Email parks@erewash.gov.uk for an application form by 12 April.

Charity Sleep Out

This year’s overnight charity Sleep Out, organised by the Long Eaton-based Canaan Trust to raise funds for its work in supporting and caring for those who are homeless, takes place on Friday 26 April. The event runs from 8pm to 7am the next morning. To register to take part call 0115 946 4903 or email office@canaan-trust.co.uk

Planting tribute

Two floral display beds in Erewash will this summer celebrate two local organisations. The carpet bed at Victoria Park in Ilkeston will feature a display paying tribute to Erewash Dementia Action Alliance, while in Long Eaton the bed outside the town hall will mark the centenary of Long Eaton and District Horticultural Society.

New greenhouses

The new nursery complex is due to open this month when plant production begins.

Thousands of plants are grown at West Park nursery by the council’s park teams every year for displays across the borough, including the flowers that formed the popular Union Flag displays in Ilkeston and Long Eaton last summer.

Councillor Mike Wallis, Lead Member for Culture and Leisure, says: “The greenhouses are essential as this is where the colourful plants and flowers are grown that brighten up the borough.

“The upgrade project has been a great success and these new glass houses will save us money on maintenance and heating costs. We would like to again thank residents for their understanding while the work took place.”

A major improvement project to restore part of the Derby and Sandiacre Canal that runs through the Sandiacre Lock Conservation Area has been given a £54,000 boost by Erewash Borough Council.

The money was obtained by the council as part of a planning agreement for the Waterside Close housing development in Sandiacre, with the condition that the money would go towards the Sandiacre Lock improvements nearby.

Erewash Borough Council continues to give its support to a wide range of community organisations and local groups through its grant schemes, with nearly £80,000 shared between 76 worthy causes this year.

The Community Grants Scheme has seen 37 community and voluntary organisations helped thanks to winning a slice of £40,000 of funding. Recipients included Erewash Canal Preservation and Development Association towards improvements to the interior of Sandiacre Lock Cottage and The Friends of Springfield Pre-school, Sandiacre received a £1,000 grant towards new flooring.

Erewash Borough Council, stated that Dilenardo had been aware of the issues at the property since January 2017 and the council had provided him with plenty of opportunities to resolve the issues before it started legal proceedings.

Councillor Gerri Hickton, Lead Member for Community Engagement, says: “We hope this serves as a warning to landlords to keep their properties in order. The council works closely with local landlords to maintain standards in homes in the borough.”

Danielle Hughes, prosecuting for Erewash Borough Council, stated that Dilenardo had been aware of the issues at the property since January 2017 and the council had provided him with plenty of opportunities to resolve the issues before it started legal proceedings.

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Joint working

Erewash Borough Council’s joint building control service is to expand further – by taking on the responsibilities for Mansfield District Council.

The Erewash team has been providing a building control service for neighbouring Broxtowe Borough Council since 2015, a move which has delivered better value-for-money services for council tax payers.

Now Erewash will take on the building control functions for Mansfield from 1 April this year.

Councillor Michael Powell, Lead Member for Regeneration and Planning, says: “This is a great example of proactive partnership working, with local authorities able to improve services provided. It is an excellent customer service approach, a very efficient way of working.”

Canal cash boost

A helping hand...

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• See page 22 for the latest Rural Grants awarded.
New play area for Ilkeston

An exciting new play area at Barling Drive in Ilkeston has been given the go-ahead and should be in place later this year.

The major £100,000 project will enhance the look of the current site and significantly increase the number of play facilities on offer for children.

Erewash Borough Council worked in partnership with ‘Ilkeston Parents for Play’ to secure £100,000 of funding from WREN (Waste Recycling Environment Ltd), the not-for-profit business that awards grants for community projects.

Councillor Mike Wallis, Lead Member for Culture and Leisure, says: “We are delighted that this substantial grant will now enable us to provide an up-to-date and bigger play area.

“We thank members of Ilkeston Parents for Play for their important role in raising funds for the project, it will make a massive difference to families in the Shipley View community.”

The grant means there is very little financial cost to the council and officers will shortly begin working with local residents to discuss possible designs for the facility.

Want to play an active role in conserving and enhancing trees and woodlands in your area? Then why not join our team of Erewash Tree Wardens.

Tree Wardens work to improve areas of natural beauty across the borough, with recent projects including Stoney Clouds in Sandiacre and Pioneer Meadows Local Nature Reserve in Kirk Hallam.

No only do volunteers plant and care for trees, they also carry out woodland management, set up tree nurseries using locally collected seeds, survey trees and provide early warnings of disease or vandalism.

They also encourage other residents, schools, youth and community groups to work together to improve the natural environment.

Councillor Mike Wallis, Lead Member for Culture and Leisure, says: “Our volunteers play a vital role in protecting trees in our borough and helping provide more for generations to come. Volunteering as a Tree Warden is a great opportunity - so if trees matter to you, then please get in touch.”

Anyone interested can contact the council’s Tree Officer jaimey.richards@erewash.gov.uk or call her on 0115 907 2244.

Footpath has been extended

A footpath in the Larklands area of Ilkeston has been extended to improve pedestrian access to the facilities at Gordon Street Playing Fields.

The footpath, adjacent to the football pitch, has been extended by 30 metres to link the playing fields with the public footpath, owned by Derbyshire County Council.

The work was carried out by Parkin Contractors Ltd over four days and was completed on 16 February.

It involved the excavation of the grass area between the two footpaths, installation of wooden edging boards and the laying of tarmac.

It is hoped that by extending the footpath it will enable people in the Larklands area to walk to the lower parts of Ilkeston, particularly the retail park. It is also aimed at encouraging greater physical activity by creating a large circular walk around the town.

More tree wardens wanted

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The gallery - Mayor’s awards

Mayor honours caring citizens

Seven community-minded residents and representatives from eight local groups have been honoured for their contribution to society at this year’s Mayor’s Awards.

Nominations were made by local residents and an Erewash Borough Council judging panel looked for evidence of special qualities and service beyond being a ‘good neighbour’ when picking out the winners.

The Mayor, Councillor Chris Corbett, presented the awards.

Hugo Harvey, aged 9, of Long Eaton
Hugo made up hampers of food and toys to give to people in need. He also donated 250 chocolate bars to two homeless charities and spent a day singing to residents in various care homes.

Borrowash in Bloom
This community group has been involved in a variety of projects to improve the local environment for residents and visitors.

Friends of Victoria Park, Ilkeston
Last year members transformed the park into a memorial to mark the centenary of the end of WW1 with thousands of knitted poppies. The day raised over £7,000 for the Royal British Legion.

Ilkeston Parents for Play
Formed to help improve children’s play areas in the Ilkeston area, members have made a significant contribution to several projects.

Mr Philip Lees, Long Eaton
Since the age of eight, Philip has been involved in the scouting movement and has served as District Commissioner for the Long Eaton district.

Mr Ray Jepson, Breaston
Ray has been a volunteer with the Erewash Volunteers Centre for 15 years and also Treetops Hospice, the Long Eaton Talking Newspaper and the Nottingham Buddy Association.

Ilkeston Winter Shelter
A shelter set up for local homeless people, primarily over the cold festive season. A plea on social media attracted numerous volunteers to help meet the needs of vulnerable people.

1st Sawley (Pegasus) Cub Pack
Four long-standing leaders who run weekly meetings and additional events such as camps, water sport activities and visiting local places of interest.

Action4Cotmanhay
Members worked to get the old Bennerley School building open again for community use. It is now called the Vernon Community Suite.

Borrowash in Bloom
This community group has been involved in a variety of projects to improve the local environment for residents and visitors.

Friends of Forbes Hole LNR, Long Eaton
The group has organised volunteer work parties to improve and transform the site.

Mrs Wyn Townsend, Long Eaton
Wyn is 85 years old, has a young spirit and is often older than those she visits on behalf of the Erewash Volunteers Centre.

Mr Brian Moon, Ilkeston
Brian volunteers at Erewash Museum and helps out with a variety of tasks – including helping to set up Erewash Beach, which attracts thousands of visitors every summer.

CCTV volunteers of Ilkeston and Long Eaton
Volunteers monitor the borough’s CCTV cameras. This group give up their time to help protect visitors and businesses in the towns.

Mrs Sylvia Woodhouse, Long Eaton
Sylvia has run the weekly family morning at Long Eaton’s Trinity Methodist Church for 25 years.

Mrs Elaine Chapman, Draycott
Elaine is involved with the Draycott in Bloom group and is an organiser of ‘Tea with Friends’, a monthly get together for single people who live alone.
YOUR ELECTION GUIDE 2019

Thursday 2 May
Polling stations will be open from 7am to 10pm

Register to vote
Are you able to vote in the Erewash Borough Council and Parish Council elections this May?

If you are not on the electoral register you will not be able to vote for who you want to represent you in Erewash. The council carries out an annual canvass every year to ensure the electoral register is up-to-date and that all residents who are eligible to vote are properly registered.

87,500 people are currently on the electoral register in Erewash. If you think you still need to register to vote, you must contact Erewash Borough Council’s elections team ahead of the Friday 12 April deadline. The contact details can be found below.

Poll cards
Poll cards will be hand-delivered to all registered voters at the end of March.

These poll cards will confirm where your polling station is, the name of your ward and your elector number. For those who have asked for a postal vote, your poll card will also confirm these details.

You can only vote at your designated polling station, so if you lose your poll card and need to check where your station is please contact our elections team on 0115 907 1190 or email electreg@erewash.gov.uk

The polling stations used for these elections were reviewed by Erewash Borough Council earlier this year to ensure that the venues are as convenient as possible for all electors.

On the day
Polling stations will be open from 7am-10pm and will be manned by a presiding officer and at least one poll clerk who will issue you with your ballot papers.

You will be given a ballot paper for the Erewash Borough Council election - but if you live in a Parish Council area and the Parish election is contested, you will also be given a second ballot paper for that election.

Polling station staff will be there to help and to explain the ballot papers and how to vote.

It is helpful to take your poll card with you when you go to vote - but don’t worry if you forget or you have lost it, you WILL still be able to vote.

A change in legislation in 2013 means that any registered eligible voter who arrives at their designated polling station before 10pm and is still waiting to vote at 10pm will be able to do so.

Election background
Residents will elect 47 councillors in total and those elected will represent a total of 19 wards across the borough.

The 19 wards and the number of councillors to be elected in each are:

**North of the borough**
- Apsley Road (2); Cotmanhay (2); Hallam Fields (2); Kirk Hallam and Stanton by Dale (3); Larklands (3); Little Eaton and Stanley (2); Little Hallam (2); Shipley View (2); West Hallam and Dale Abbey (3).

**South of the borough**
- Breaston (2); Derby Road East (2); Derby Road West (3); Draycott and Risley (2); Long Eaton Central (3); Nottinghurg Road (2); Ockbrook and Borrowash (3); Sandiacre (3); Sawley (3); Wilthorpe (3).

The candidates for the election are due to be announced on Thursday 4 April. Visit www.erewash.gov.uk

Can you vote?
You will be able to vote in the Erewash Borough Council and Parish Council elections on Thursday 2 May if you are on the electoral register and are:

- Aged 18 or over on 2 May
- A British citizen
- A qualifying Commonwealth citizen
- A citizen of the Irish Republic
- A citizen of another European Union member state

Ways of voting
In person - everyone on the Register of Electors and eligible to vote is able to do so at their designated polling station, which is shown on your poll card.

By post - if you have requested a postal vote, your voting papers will be posted out to you with a return envelope provided. If you leave it too late to post back, you can drop it off at a polling station within the electoral area in which you are voting before the close of polls.

By proxy - you can appoint someone you trust to act as a ‘proxy’ for you. They can cast your vote at the designated polling station or you can appoint them as a postal proxy, for which the process is the same as those voting by post.

Key dates
Here’s a quick guide to important deadlines as the countdown continues to the 2 May elections.

For any enquiries or to apply for postal or proxy votes, contact Erewash Borough Council’s elections team by email electreg@erewash.gov.uk or telephone 0115 907 1190.

Do you need to register to vote?
The deadline is Friday 12 April

Are you on holiday or working away on 2 May?
You can apply for a postal vote. The deadline is 5pm on Monday 15 April.

Do you want someone to vote on your behalf by post?
The deadline for applications for postal proxy applications is 5pm on Monday 15 April

Would you like someone to go to the polling station to vote on your behalf?
You can apply for a proxy vote. The deadline is 5pm on Wednesday 24 April.

Parish elections
Some residents will be voting to elect their local parish councillors at the 2 May elections.

Erewash has 13 Parish Councils - Breadsall; Breaston; Dale Abbey; Draycott; Little Eaton; Morley; Ockbrook and Borrowash; Risley with Hopwell; Sandiacre; Sawley and Stanton Common; Stanton by Dale; and West Hallam.

While elections could take place in all the parishes, it is possible that some may be uncontested in which case an election will not be necessary.

Count on us
The count for the borough and parish elections will take place at Rutland Tennis Centre in Ilkeston on Friday 3 May.

Follow us on Twitter @ErewashBC where updates will be posted as the results come in. The full results and voting figures will be published at the end of the count.

www.erewash.gov.uk

EBC elections team:
0115 907 1190 or email: electreg@erewash.gov.uk

www.gov.uk/register-to-vote
Activities at Victoria Park

Debbie Stayte is the new community ranger for Ilkeston’s Victoria Park and brings new activities for all ages.

These include:
- A well-being group meets fortnightly on Wednesdays from 10.30am-12.30pm. The activity takes place in the bowls pavilion with the next one on March 20.
- A poetry group meet on the third Thursday of each month in the bowls pavilion from 6pm-8pm. March 21 is World Poetry Day and anyone wanting to attend the group is welcome.
- March 30 is ‘Take A Walk in the Park Day’ when Debbie will be in the pavilion from 1pm-3pm encouraging people to use the tree trail guide.

There will be an Easter Fun afternoon from 1pm-3pm on April 20, including the chance to win an Easter treat by finding bunnies hidden around the park.

The history of the park will be explored on May 18, as part of International Museum Day, from 2pm-4pm with ‘Our Tales of Victoria Park’ in the pavilion, building. Plus Victorian games.

A Nature in Photography Day on June 15.

Councillor Mike Wallis, Lead Member for Culture and Leisure, says: “Debbie has lots of brilliant ideas to further develop the activities on offer at Victoria Park, all thanks to the major Heritage Lottery-funded restoration project.”

Recycle right at Victoria Park

The new recycling bins, located close to the children’s play area and refreshment kiosk, mean visitors to the park will be able to put recyclable waste, such as plastic bottles, cans and cardboard, into the right side of the bin.

Pride in Erewash co-ordinator, Richard Windsor, taught the children some recycling facts and asked them questions. Community ranger Debbie Stayte then gave the children recycling based activities to do around the park.

Similar bins were installed at West Park in Long Eaton last year and have proved popular.

Floral boost for Ilkeston shops

Business leaders and residents were recently asked by Erewash Borough Council for their thoughts on what would help improve and boost Ilkeston town centre.

Extra benches around the town and more floral arrangements were popular suggestions and now the council’s economic development team has put both those ideas into action.

Floral features

The summer vibe at Long Eaton’s West Park will have added bloom appeal this year thanks to the installation of eight new flower basket ‘trees’ by Erewash Borough Council.

The ‘trees’ – which will each hold two basket displays – will be around West Perk Café, the splashpad and playpark to give extra colour to the areas that are especially popular with families.

Others areas of the 127-acre park will be planted as usual to provide a great summer feel for visitors and those using the wide range of sporting activities on offer.

Charity’s call for more volunteers

Councillor Chris Corbett supports Long Eaton based Erewash Voluntary Action which provides vital direct services for older and disabled people across the borough in the form of befrienders, shoppers, drivers and sitters who allow carers to have a break.

Linda Brown, volunteer manager, Lee Trye, facilities officer and Clare Salmons, project support worker, have been volunteering in Ilkeston and Little Eaton.

“Let’s give a high five to all those who have worked so hard and give a hearty welcome to those who have never volunteered before. Thanks everyone.”

Flora and fauna

Erewash Borough Council’s Pride in Erewash team will host ‘bloom stalls’ between 10am and 1pm at:
• Long Eaton High Street. Wednesday 24 April.
• Bath Street, Ilkeston. Thursday 25 April.

Residents will be able to find out more about all the categories available in the competition.

Preparations are now well underway for this year’s summer planting scheme when Ilkeston and Long Eaton town centres are transformed into a sea of colour.

Erewash Borough Council’s flower displays always prove popular with residents and visitors alike, providing a stunning and colourful welcome to the towns.

Once again, roundabouts will feature summer blooms and the hanging baskets and railing baskets will add to the spectacle.

This year’s theme will centre on hot and vibrant colours, with oranges and reds providing the heat. Plants will include marigolds, geraniums, begonias and dahlias.

It follows last year’s remembrance theme when flowers created stunning Union Flags in roundabouts and red, white and blue hanging baskets were used to commemorate the centenary of the end of the First World War.

Town centre blooms

One of the Mayor of Erewash’s chosen charities for 2018/19 is in need of more volunteers.

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**Community Safety**

Erewash Borough Council

Under New Management

**Canal Vue**
Awsworth Road, Ilkeston, Derby, DE7 8JF

Rooms available now!

Award winning Home open for:

- Residential & dementia care, convalescent & respite care
- A unique feature of Canal Vue is its picturesque location with water-side views and canal life. The building is positioned and designed to maximise the scenic aspect of the Erewash Canal.
- Single spacious en-suite rooms tastefully decorated.
- Flat screen TV and Wi-Fi access.
- Links with local GP, chiropodist, optician, dentist, hairdresser, minister,
- Daily scheduled activities.
- Comfortable welcoming lounges with fabulous canal-side views.
- An established local company with decades of caring experience.

Great staff with a lovely caring attitude. The new manager makes the home feel welcoming, always with a smile and very caring. Thank you to all of the staff who are making my mother’s days as pleasurable as possible, it is nice to know she is safe.

To discuss your requirements contact:
managercanalvue@eastgatecare.co.uk / Telephone: 0115 979 1234 option 5

Eastgate Care Homes
Alexandra House | Belle Vue | Canal Vue | Melbourne House | Park House

www.eastgatecare.co.uk

@Eastgatecare

**County’s a top safety spot**

Derbyshire is one of the safest counties in England and Wales, new figures have revealed.

With 48.4 victim-based crimes per 1,000 people in the county in the year up to last June, Derbyshire ranks 40th in a list of 42 counties, making it one of the safest areas in the country.

The Home Office findings – which sees West Yorkshire at number one in the list with 101.7 victim-based crimes per 1,000 people – are proportional to the amount of people living in each police force’s area.

Councillor Gerri Hickton, Lead Member for Community Engagement, says:

“This is very welcome news for residents across the county and reflects the hard work put in by Derbyshire Constabulary to tackle and prevent crime.

“However, we know that police forces everywhere face constant challenges, especially with the changing face of crime that includes cyber crime.”

**Free bike marking**

Erewash Community Safety team and Derbyshire Constabulary carried out free bike security marking in Ilkeston and Long Eaton.

Two events were held, one in Victoria Park, and one in West Park. Bikes were marked with a code which is then registered with the national cycle database Bike Register.

More than 50 people took advantage of the scheme and also received free seat covers.

Police Community Support Officer David Higgins, from the Ilkeston Safer Neighbourhood Team, and Chris Brawn from the Community Safety team were on hand to offer advice.

The Community Safety team and Derbyshire Constabulary are looking at organising more events this year, including at weekends. These may also include some mobile events for rural areas in the borough.

Keep an eye out for future events on the Safer Erewash Facebook page at www.facebook.com/safererewash/

**Protecting the public**

The safety of residents was at the forefront of Erewash Borough Council’s decision to reject calls for taxi drivers to be allowed to have fully tinted windows in their cars.

It means the council’s policy remains in place – that all Hackney and private hire vehicles in the borough must have windscreens that allow at least 75 per cent of light to pass through and 70 per cent through all other windows.

@SaferErewash

Project Support

www.facebook.com/safererewash/

Projectsupport@sdcvs.org.uk

CSP

Safer Communities

Do you want peace of mind that your home is secure? Do you live in Erewash and are concerned about becoming a victim of crime?

- Have you been a victim of crime?
- Do you live alone?
- Are you aged over 55?
- Do you have a disability?
- Do you have a long term illness?

If so, you could benefit from a completely FREE service through the Safer Homes scheme.

This includes a security check of your home and garden to identify any potential weaknesses. If any are found you could receive some additional security items and have them fitted free of charge.

To arrange a visit contact South Derbyshire CVS.

Contact

01283 219761

projectsupport@sdcvs.org.uk

Erewash

Safer homes

Protection of the public
Improvements include

SANDIACRE FRIESLAND
- Full redecoration of the fitness gym
- Replacement of 10 x Star Trac 5 Spin Bikes
- Full redecoration of the fitness gym
- Improved branding throughout the centre including Welcome signage
- Access to online bookings, rewards and much more on the Leisure Centre app

WEST PARK
- Upgrade to Precor P65 Cardiovascular equipment with Integrated TV and Internet Capabilities
- 60 New Stations of fitness equipment, all with a full 5 year warranty
- Additional free weight space, Watt Bike, Step Mills and dedicated lifting platforms
- Queenax functional training rig
- Functional fitness equipment including Kettlebells, medicine balls and a dedicated stretch area
- Full redecoration of the fitness gym
- Branding throughout the centre including Welcome signage
- Access to online bookings, rewards and much more on the Leisure Centre app
- Installation of Sky Trail Climbing Course*
- Installation of a new soft play and children’s play area
- New dedicated Spin studio. Replacement of all spin bikes to Star Trac 7

*Subject to Partnering

RUTLAND
- Upgrade to Precor P65 Cardiovascular equipment with Integrated TV and Internet Capabilities
- 75 New Stations of fitness equipment, all with a full 5 year warranty
- Additional free weight space, Watt Bikes and much more
- Functional fitness training area with specialist equipment including Kettlebells, medicine balls and a Queenax functional rig
- Replacement of all spin bikes to Star Trac 7
- Full redecoration of the fitness gym and floor refurbishment
- Branding throughout the centre including Welcome signage
- Deep cleaning and refurbishment of the Athletics Track
- Reconfiguration of male and female ground floor changing areas
- Access to online bookings, rewards and much more on the Leisure Centre app

Panel vacancy

We are seeking to appoint a new member to the Independent Remuneration Panel to review the Members’ Allowances Scheme at Erewash Borough Council. This Independent Panel generally meets annually, or when required and will also undertake a major review of the scheme within its four year tenure. The panel will be supported by council officers during reviews to gather evidence and submit its recommendations to Council.

The new Panel member will have a term of office ending on 5 November 2021 and will be paid an allowance of £500 per annum plus reasonable travel and subsistence costs.

This is an opportunity for a conscientious person to influence the way in which elected members are reimbursed for their public service. Political impartiality is essential for this role and a knowledge or experience of finance or local government would also be helpful.

Please note that there are restrictions on who is eligible to apply and if you have any further queries or would like an application pack please contact Angelika Kauthold, Committee, Scrutiny and Civic Affairs Manager angelika.kauthold@erewash.gov.uk or call 0115 907 1116.

Closing date for applications is Friday 29 March 2019.

Honour for Bert

A Long Eaton war veteran who served with the Royal Navy during World War Two - laying smoke trails to hide boats from the enemy’s sight - has been awarded France’s highest honour, the Legion D’Honneur.

Herbert Thorpe, 95, joined the navy at 18. He was part of a crew of 21 on board Motor Torpedo Boat V 696 which laid a smoke path so the Germans couldn’t see vessels approaching French shores.

Mr Thorpe, known as Bert, served four years with the coastal forces and was part of Operation Overlord. He said: “There were five boats in total, we more or less took the armada across on D-Day. We protected the Minesweepers, which turned back half way and left us to it. I mainly served on torpedoes - we were called the pirates of the navy.

“The skipper would start counting to ten and all of a sudden the two battle wagons opened up. Our job was to protect the fleet. I could fire every gun, every torpedo, every thing.”

The Legion D’Honneur Medal is the highest French order of merit for military and civil merits.

He was presented with the honour by Monsieur Jean-Claude Lafontaine, the Honorary Consul for the East Midlands, at a ceremony at Long Eaton Town Hall.

Councillor Chris Corbett, Mayor of Erewash, said: “Mr Thorpe received the medal in the post. Councillor John Sewell is a friend of Mr Thorpe's and when he found out he had received the medal he organised a presentation to recognise his bravery and the role he played in the liberation of France.

After the war Mr Thorpe went on to work for a gas company and was also a professional dancer with his late wife, Irene.

Landmark anniversary

Long Eaton and District Horticultural Society celebrates its centenary this year and to mark the occasion Erewash Borough Council will create a floral display in the carpet bed outside Long Eaton Town Hall.

The Society has worked with the council for many years, including providing judging expertise for Erewash in Bloom and meeting with the East Midlands in Bloom judges to support Long Eaton in the competition.

As well as meetings and outings the Society organises three public shows.

For more details visit www.longeonathorticulturalsociety.co.uk

Armed forces

Erewash Borough Council will once again join other local authorities to sign the Derbyshire Armed Forces Covenant which pledges our support and guidance to members of the Armed Forces.

Leader of the Council, Councillor Carol Hart, will sign the agreement, along with the Armed Forces Member Champion, Councillor John Sewell, at a formal ceremony to be held at County Hall in Matlock this month.

The council first signed the Armed Forces Community Covenant in June 2012 and later that year signed a joint agreement with all local authorities, which has now been updated.

Councillor Carol Hart says: “We are showing our commitment to helping all Armed Forces personnel, veterans and their families. We will work together to make sure they are fully supported in their communities.”

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New local nature reserve

Long Eaton beauty spot Trent Meadows has been granted Local Nature Reserve (LNR) status. Erewash Borough Council worked closely with Derbyshire Wildlife Trust on the drive to grant LNR status, with the area being a valuable open space for the local community, visitors and nature conservation.

Trent Meadows is in a wildlife rich area alongside the River Trent, Attenborough Nature Reserve and a number of local wildlife sites, and making it a LNR will help protect the site for wildlife, nature and for the recreational enjoyment of visitors for years to come.

The council now manages 10 Local Nature Reserves across the borough. For details of their locations and other beauty spots in the borough visit www.erewash.gov.uk

Free 12 week GP Referral Scheme

Live Life Better Derbyshire exercise by Referral Scheme in Erewash

Support and advice given throughout the programme by a trained member of staff

Must be referred through a medical professional

For more details email sportsdevelopment@erewash.gov.uk

EREWASH CAN

Erewash Can is a new initiative to encourage local residents to commit to physical activity and to leading more active lifestyles.

Alongside the brand, a mobile app has been developed which will allow residents to pledge to change and to sign up to a challenge.

Participants can take part in various challenges that will be set in the app as well as being able to track their own physical activity levels.

The council’s Sports and Health Development team, along with partners, will run events throughout the year to promote the ‘Erewash Can’ brand and app.

These events will provide fun activities and opportunities to win prizes. For more details email sportsdevelopment@erewash.gov.uk

www.erewash.gov.uk
Know your Councillors

Supporting rural communities

Three rural community groups in Erewash have been awarded a total of £12,550 in grants from the final round of Erewash Borough Council’s Rural Community Grants Scheme.

The scheme was launched in 2015 to help fund projects that benefit the local community in rural areas of the borough. The scheme comes to an end this month, but over the last four years it has supported a wide range of projects.

Parish Councils in Erewash applied for grants on behalf of local groups and organisations in their area.

The latest grants are:

- £4,830 to allow the Draycott Millennium Green Trust to create a circular pathway on the village open space.
- £2,140 for Risley Hall Management Committee to replace the village hall floor.
- £5,580 for Derby and Sandiacre Canal Trust. The grant will go towards materials, equipment and village hall hire to accommodate volunteers involved in the groundwork and restoration of the Borrowash lock chamber.

Councillor Carol Hart, Leader of the Council, says: “We are delighted to have been able to grant funds to so many worthy projects over the past four years that will benefit communities and residents for years to come.”

Council Executive

Civic Office

Deputy Leader of the Council
Wayne Major
07590 453 355

Leader of the Council
Carol Hart
07590 453 330

Deputy Mayor
Rory Gavaghan
07590 453 351

Mayor
Chris Corbett
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Workplace
Garry Hickton
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Culture & Leisure
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Planning
Oliver Goddard
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Sue Bernsley
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West Hallam & Dale Abbey
Carole Haswell
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Civic Office

Workplace
Melanie Kewer
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Little Hallam
Sue Bernsley
07590 453 412

West Hallam & Dale Abbey
Carole Haswell
07590 453 417
a cheaper way to
East Midlands Airport

come fly my £5
adult single

Ilkeston
Stapleford
Sandiacre
Long Eaton
Old Sawley
Castle Donington
East Midlands Airport

every hour

Shaun
David
Leeann

99% of customers ranked our drivers good or really good