

# DRONFIELD TOWN COUNCIL MONTHLY UPDATE

## CRIME / INCIDENT UPDATE AS AT :

	<u>Dec-22</u>	<u>Jan-23</u>
VIOLENT CRIME AGAINST PERSON	26	18
THEFT	24	27
CRIMINAL DAMAGE	15	5
PUBLIC DISORDER	7	7
Drugs	2	0
Other crimes	4	9
	<u>78</u>	<u>66</u>
	<u>2022</u>	<u>2023</u>
Comparison to same month last year	71	66
Parking letters Issued this month		49

Speeding checks conducted this month 3  
 Prosecution 1

## ENGAGEMENT COMMUNITY STRATEGY

### Additional upcoming planned events

Sat 18th Feb Cuppa with a Copper - Dronfield Barn  
 Tue 21st Feb Speedwatch Training -6pm Dronfield PS  
 Sat 25th Feb Cuppa with a Copper - Bake Café - Dronfield

## ASB HOTSPOTS

Pentland Road shopping precinct
Civic Centre
Dronfield Barn

## CURRENT PRIORITIES

### LOCATION

Various locations
Dronfield
Civic Centre / Pentland shops
Cliffe Park
Burglary Reassurance
Crime prevention events
Target Hardening event

## NATIONAL POLICE CHIEFS' COUNCIL PRIORITIES

Dwelling Burglaries

01/02/2023

01/01/2023 -31/01/2023

8 Down on last month  
 3 Up on last month  
 10 Up on last month  
 0 Same as last month  
 2 Down on last month  
 5 Up on last month

5 Crimes down on previous year

## Locations

Bowshaw
Gosforth Lane
Northern Common

Promote Derbyshire Alert
Promote Dronfield Safer Neighbourhood
Local Speedwatch
ASB Patrols
Parking /School patrols
Local Area patrols, plain clothed and uniformed
Social Media Promotion

Groups of youths gathering nearby shops,
Youths gathering in car park and entering surrounding buildings causing ASB/nuisance.
Additional patrols following a few youth related incidents

## ISSUE

Road Safety Concerns
Drug supply intelligence development
Groups of youths gathering o/s shops and also causing nuisance
Groups of youths gathering on park causing nuisance to care takers
High number of local burglaries. Plain clothed patrols & increased police presence.

Officer to attend all dwelling burglaries



**DRONFIELD TOWN COUNCIL**  
**SUPPLEMENTARY SCHEDULE OF PLANNING APPLICATIONS**  
**SUBMITTED TO COUNCIL ON MONDAY 6<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 2023**

No	Reference	Applicant	Location	Details
1	22/01180/FLH	Mr And Mrs Robjohns	57 Firthwood Road Coal Aston Dronfield S18 3BX	Demolition of garage, construction of two storey side and rear extension
2	22/01208/FLH	Mr Charles Tompkin	56 Gosforth Lane Dronfield S18 1PR	Application for first floor side extension above existing garage
3	23/00038/FLH	Mrs Katie West	4 Balmoral Crescent Dronfield Woodhouse Dronfield S18 8ZY	Single storey front extension, two storey and single storey side extensions and alterations to openings



## **Town Clerk's Supplementary Report**

### **Council Meeting to be held on 6<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

#### **Items for Decision**

#### **Items for Information**

**20's Plenty Workshop for Derbyshire** - online one hour interactive workshop on Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> February for Parish Councillors delivered by Rod King MBE founder and Campaign Director of the national 20's Plenty Campaign. To register please visit [https://actionnetwork.org/events/why-20s-plenty-is-enough-for-derbyshire-villages-a-briefing-for-derbyshire-parish-councillors?clear\\_id=true](https://actionnetwork.org/events/why-20s-plenty-is-enough-for-derbyshire-villages-a-briefing-for-derbyshire-parish-councillors?clear_id=true)

**Derbyshire County Council** – pothole update

#### **Correspondence Received**

DALC February Newsletter – distributed electronically to councillors.



## Town Clerk

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**Subject:** FW: 20's Plenty Workshop for Derbyshire

Dear Councillor

🗣️ There is [still time to register](#) for our brief on-line 1 hour interactive workshop for Parish Councillors delivered by Rod King MBE founder and Campaign Director of the national 20's Plenty Campaign. This follows on from a similar successful meeting we held last year and we especially hope that those who were not able to come to that will come to this one.

The aims of the briefing are:

- To inform Parish Councillors of the latest evidence and national context where 20 mph speed limits are becoming the norm and how this could benefit us in the context of Derbyshire
- To explore the evidence which points to the effectiveness of 20mph limits
- To highlight the benefits to our villages in terms of prioritising people and place and the value of a community perspective, especially benefits for children, elderly, community cohesion/liveability.
- To advise Parish Councils on next steps
- To answer any questions that Parish Councillors may have

To register for the briefing, please RSVP using [this form](#).

We look forward to seeing you there

Marianne and Charlotte







### Pothole Update

At this time of the year, we start to get more and more reports of potholes on our roads. We recognise that unfilled potholes are a particular concern and frustration for our residents. So, we thought an update on where we are, what we are doing and how you can help the highways service would be useful.

The busiest time for our reactive maintenance gangs is in the winter months, especially when we have prolonged periods of wet and cold weather.

Every year we can fix around 100,000 potholes across the county.

Currently we have just over 2,000 defects – which includes potholes - across Derbyshire waiting to be fixed.

We normally have 18 dedicated reactive maintenance gangs that work from our depots, and we have increased this to **31 gangs** currently.

We have moved roadworkers from other jobs into reactive maintenance so we can get on top of the outstanding jobs. We've also taken on contractors to help us.

Our gangs are working **extended** hours each day and are working **weekends** to fix as many potholes as possible. Some planned maintenance jobs are being delayed as a result.

To address the current rise in pothole numbers we have also hired **three Jetpatcher machines** which will help us reduce the numbers through the winter.

Currently we are fixing around 650 defects a week, this number will increase with the amount of extra resource we have put in.

Potholes that are large and on main roads will be risk assessed as needing fixing within 32 hours of them being reported, those that are smaller or on more rural or residential roads will either be categorised as needing mending within 9 days or 28 days.

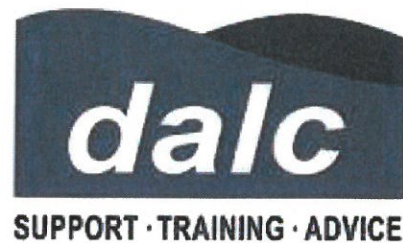
### How you can help highways

**Please report any potholes or defects online at [derbyshire.gov.uk/reportit](https://derbyshire.gov.uk/reportit).**

By using the online reporting system then all the information the team need to fix the issue is gathered, and it goes straight to the right person. However, at this time there may be a delay in providing updates on progress – so please bear with us.

**Please help us to help you!**





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**1 – 'Going Big' for the Coronation**

A 'Big Lunch' and 'The Big Help Out' will be key parts of the Coronation weekend, Buckingham Palace has announced. In addition to the Coronation ceremony itself, the Palace has revealed plans for community get-togethers and a celebratory concert, plus the aim of creating a volunteering legacy from the three-day weekend in May. After the coronation at Westminster Abbey on May 6<sup>th</sup>, a 'Big Lunch' will happen nationwide on May 7<sup>th</sup>, and 'The Big Help Out' on May 8<sup>th</sup>. The Palace's [full plans for the weekend can be found here.](#)

**2 – Belper youth scoop project place**

Ever-inspiring, Belper's Youth Council has once again shown its commitment to tackling the climate emergency by scooping a prestigious national project place. Just five groups secured involvement with the Centre for Sustainable Energy's PLACE (Planning Locally to Address the Climate Emergency)

initiative, which includes six days of support from CSE in a bid to raise awareness of how the planning system can directly influence climate change via a local project. Belper clerk Deb Townsend said: “This is a really great opportunity for our Youth Council - it’s an exciting project and quite an achievement to be part of, especially as we’re the only youth group taking part.”

### **3 – Photo ID at May elections**

As election day nears, voters have been reminded of the new legal requirement to show photo ID at polling stations. The Electoral Commission has created [a document](#) outlining all the relevant info, including how voters without photo ID can apply for a free [Voter Authority Certificate](#).

### **4 – NALC teams up with Internal Audit Forum**

A new partnership between NALC and the Internal Audit Forum has been announced, seeking to further develop levels of professionalism in this crucial part of the local government sector. As an existing member of the Forum, DALC continues to offer a full internal audit service to all DALC member councils – including areas such as governance arrangements to ensure compliance with legislation. Please contact Brenda at [admin@derbyshirealc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@derbyshirealc.gov.uk) for more information and a quote.

### **5 – Mapping at your fingertips**

Village greens, common land, boundaries and footpaths are among the features viewable on a freely available Derbyshire mapping portal. Simply tap into the search box to bring up your town or parish, then use the ‘layers’ symbol to search for individual options. [The portal can be accessed here.](#)

### **6– No VAT on sports facilities**

HMRC conceded last week that charges for local authority sports facilities are a non-business activity and outside the scope of VAT. Affected councils may be able to reclaim additional VAT relating to the last 4 years. For more information please refer to the [updated guidance](#) on our website.

### **7 – Contracts finder threshold extended**

The Government has increased the £25,000 threshold for Contracts Finder to £30,000 from 21 December 2022. This puts us back to the position where it is effectively contracts over £25,000 plus VAT (rather than £25,000 including VAT) that are advertised. For more information please refer to the [updated guidance](#) on our website.

### **8 – Parish.uk advice**

NALC has advised councils against submitting information to new website Parish.uk. Questions have been raised by the Government’s digital service about the website’s design, and repeated attempts to clarify concerns have gone unanswered. A NALC spokesperson said: “They have no links to the Government and there is no obligation for councils to respond to their communication.”

### **9 – Rural grants – latest list**

Ranging from fishing clubs to village hall upgrades, allotments to hospices, there are grants available for a wide variety of organisations and activities in the [latest Rural Funding Digest](#). The list, published by the Rural Services Network, is well worth a read – you’ll be surprised at the range of offers and support available!



## **10 – Reminder – DALC Police Forum, 10<sup>th</sup> Feb**

Supt. Rebecca Webster of Derbyshire Police will be attending February's chair/clerk forum – due to take place at 1pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> February. [The meeting can be accessed via this link.](#)

## **11 – Ashbourne Reborn gets levelled up!**

Congratulations to Ashbourne Town Council who played a key part in securing a £15million 'Levelling Up' grant to transform the town. Work on the project will start this year, and includes significant 'transformation' works to the town's Market Place, Victoria Square, Millenium Square and Shrovetide Walk. More [news about the successful bid can be found here](#), including the bid document itself.

## **12 – Need fibre? Help offered...**

Need more fibre in your broadband diet? If so, Derwent & Hope Woodlands PC has very kindly agreed to share its two-year journey to getting an Open Reach community grant. The process has resulted in the whole parish having fibre optic broadband installed, and involved "many hoops to be jumped through and many hours of work," admitted clerk Jill Gascoigne. She added: "We were lucky to have a tenacious parishioner to take this on for us, and they'd be happy to give advice to any other PC going through, or thinking about, the process of applying."

If you'd like more info or support in applying, please contact us at [admin@derbyshirealc.gov.uk](mailto:admin@derbyshirealc.gov.uk) and we'll put you in touch.

## **13 – DALC portal roll-out begins**

As revealed in our January newsletter, we are very pleased that the roll-out of the new DALC portal has started, with a predicted completion date of April 1<sup>st</sup> 2023. Using the portal, members will be able to easily raise a query with the team at DALC, as well as being able to view and book all training. It will also be the place to access all the supporting resources needed to make informed decisions, as well as find templates and DALC specific documents. The rollout version has been kept simple with limited functions allowing time to get used to its functionality. Enhancements will follow in the coming months bringing even more resources, with "How to" guides accompanying your invitation to join the portal. Of course, we'll be on hand to deal with any issues you may come across, and would appreciate feedback on any improvements you feel we could make to enhance your experience.

## **14 – National Planning Policy changes – new prospectus**

The Government's long-awaited prospectus on revisions to the National Planning Policy Framework has finally been published. Forming part of the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill, the [prospectus can be viewed here](#), with comments sought by March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

## **15 – Upcoming training**

**Elections training for Clerks and Councillors** – Highly recommended, especially if this is your first experience of the election process, these are being well attended by Clerks in particular. We have spaces available for clerks on 15<sup>th</sup> February and 9<sup>th</sup> March and for Councillors on 22<sup>nd</sup> February and 15<sup>th</sup> March.

**Tree Survey and Inspection** - 1<sup>st</sup> March 2023 – This course is a must-have for town and parish council who have responsibility for individual trees or woodland areas in their communities. This is even more important if these trees border public footpaths or roads. Undertaking this course will enable you to state the legal and safety implications of, as well as recognise and deal with hazardous trees appropriately in a safe and appropriate manner. A hands-on course, this also includes a practical session identifying hazardous trees in the local area.

**Law and Good Practice of Local Council Meetings** - 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2023 – If you thought you knew all there was to know about running your council meetings legally and efficiently think again! With expert Alan Fairchild, this session will cover the reasons why the legislation exists and what it should look like in practice. Whether it's annual, ordinary or extraordinary, agendas, reports or minutes, this seminar has it all! With plenty of time to ask questions and share experiences this is a great chance to gain expert knowledge of the intricacies of the sector.

## **16 – Cancelled – DALC roadshows**

We've reluctantly cancelled the scheduled DALC roadshows after poor take-up of places. However, to support the launch of the DALC portal, a series of 'How To' guides will be circulated along with invitations to log-on to the new system. These invitations will be sent out in batches in the coming weeks.

Best regards

Wendy Amis