

What is a Town Council?

There are over 8,700 Parish and Town Councils representing around 16 million people across England. They form the most local level of government and cover many rural and urban areas.

What's the difference between a Parish council and a Town Council?

They both have the same powers and can provide the same services. A Town Council serves a wider and more urban area. It also has a Mayor who carries out civic functions in addition to the provision of standard parish services.

What services can it provide?

A parish or Town Council has an overall responsibility for the well-being of its local community. Its work falls into three main categories:

- representing the local community
- delivering services to meet local needs
- striving to improve quality of life in the town

Daventry Town Council provides the following:

- Management and maintenance of parks and open spaces, trees and verges.
- Management and maintenance of public realm (street furniture).
- Burial Authority and
- Management and maintenance of Welton Road Cemetery
- Maintenance of the Holy Cross closed churchyard.
- Community Safety, through management and maintenance of CCTV cameras and system, monitored CCTV control room, Community Ranger and sponsored PCSO.
- Management of twice weekly market.
- Accredited museum
- Community transport
- Allotments
- Town and civic events
- Christmas lights
- Town floral displays
- Consultee on matters relating to Daventry Town (Planning Applications)
- Community grants
- Custodian of the War memorial
- Organisation of the Remembrance Day Parade

It also works with West Northamptonshire Council and other community organisations to provide:

- Community support
- Community safety
- Town Events
- Town Planning

Where does it get its money from?

Each year a sum of money called a 'precept' is collected through the council tax. This money is used by the Town Council to improve facilities and services for local people. The Town Council can also apply for grants and loans and has previously been awarded funding from the Sita Trust and Heritage Lottery Fund.

How are parish or Town Councillors elected?

Town Councillors are elected, every four years, to represent a geographical area known as a ward and are elected by people who live in the designated area. The next election for Daventry Town Council is May 2025. Daventry Town Council is made up of 16 councillors, representing four wards.

How does it make decisions?

Acting as a corporate body it is responsible to the people it represents – the local community. Members meet regularly to make decisions on the work and direction of the council.

What do Town Councillors do?

Councillors have three main areas of work:

1. Decision-making: through attending meetings and committees with other elected members, councillors decide which activities to support, where money should be spent, what services should be delivered and what policies should be implemented;
2. Monitoring: councillors make sure that their decisions lead to efficient and effective services by keeping an eye on how well things are working;
3. Getting involved locally: as local representatives, councillors have responsibilities towards their parishioners and local organisations. This often depends on what the councillor wants to achieve and how much time is available.

What is the role of officers?

Officers fulfil the operational needs of the Council and carry out the decisions made by the Council.

About Daventry Town Council



Attending a council meeting is the best way to find out what it does. Go to the Town Council website www.daventrytowncouncil.gov.uk/council-meetings.html for further information.