

Your Council

Councillors

- There are 11 Town Councillors, elected for a four year term
- A vacancy occurred in March 2017 and will be filled at a by-election on 4th May
- The next full election will be in 2020
- Council meets twice a month
- Council business is worked on in detail by Committees and Working Parties, and then agreed at Full Council
- Whilst some councillors are Party Members we are apolitical

You!

- What matters most to you in your town?
- However small your contribution, your town will benefit
- Would you be interested in being a councillor?
- Would you be interested in helping with specific projects/Working Parties?
- What expertise could you bring to the council or the town?
- Would you join a Friends group, such as for King George V Playing Field?

Questions?

If you have any questions or comments about the Town Council please ask us

Staff

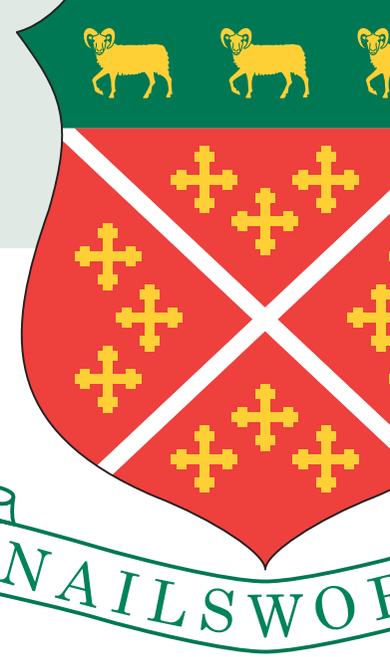
- A full time Clerk, managing the staff, the budget and advising Council on legalities
- A part time Deputy Clerk who stands in for the Clerk and focuses on finance
- A part time Administrator who carries out office admin and takes bookings for community rooms
- A full time Groundsman who looks after the town-owned green spaces

Projects

These Working Parties shows the range of projects NTC is currently working on:

- Flood Risk (responding to the increased likelihood of serious flooding in town)
- Neighbourhood Plan (should we have one for the town)
- Civic Centre (moving Council to the Library complex)
- Asset Transfer (considering the offer of land passing from the District Council to NTC)
- KGV Buildings (a new pavilion and storeroom)
- Market Street (improving the environment and looking at the future of the town centre)

Nailsworth Town Council Annual Report 2017



What does your Town Council do?

NTC is responsible for:

Green spaces in our town

- King George V playing field
- Miles Marling Field
- Shortwood Green
- Bunting Hill nature reserve
- Mortimer Garden
- Clocktower and gardens
- War Memorial
- Norton Wood
- Market Street Garden

Our buildings

- Town Hall
- Mortimer Room
- Town Information Centre
- Council is the Sole Trustee body for the Arkell Community Centre Charity

NTC also supports the following services and town initiatives

- Extra hours for our Library
- Youth service for Nailsworth
- Dunkirk Mill Museum
- Gloucestershire Play Rangers
- Neighbourhood Warden
- Citizens Advice
- Credit Union
- Children's Centre provision
- Community Land Trust
- Fairtrade Town

What do your other councils do?

Your District Council

housing, planning, parking, benefits, sport and leisure, rubbish and recycling collections

Your County Council

education, social care, children's services, waste disposal, fire service, libraries, roads, archives, employment

Nailsworth Town Council

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What has Nailsworth Town Council achieved in the last year?

We've had a major revamp of staffing and administration

- Office equipment and practices updated to reflect new technology
- Computerised booking and invoicing introduced, handling over 1,400 bookings
- Finance system updated and now fully computerised
- Online mapping system introduced

We've been making Council more accessible

- Council Chamber reorganised to be more welcoming
- Mayors Reception and Annual Town Meeting combined into one event open to all Nailsworth residents
- Reports introduced for agenda items so that councillors are better informed before meetings

We've overhauled our finances

- Review of finance systems and budgeting
- Precept last year (16/17) - **£300,783**
- Precept next year (17/18) - **£300,768**

We've Granted

- £5,117 of grants to small groups in 2016/17
- New, simple grants policy drawn up

We've Campaigned

- Pushed the police and others to tackle anti-social behaviour
- Negotiated new Children's Centre provision for Forest Green
- Driven for a 20mph Zone in the Parish of Nailsworth

We've Assisted

- The relaunch of the Chamber of Trade and Nailsworth Noel
- The Dementia Friendly Town Initiative
- The Youth Partnership Forum

We've Celebrated

- Our Town Crier's 25th year of crying
- Pete Reed's third Olympic Gold

We've Commented

- On hundreds of planning applications
- Particularly Pike Lane, Aldi (Stroud), FGR, Tanner's Piece/Ringfield redevelopment
- Involved in getting the best for the town
- Introduced 'Section 106' wishlist, to claim maximum benefit for the town from developers

Recreation & Amenities

- Grant for tennis court refurbishment, outdoor table tennis, outdoor gym equipment, seating, changing room refurbishment (KGV90 £45k)
- KGV Extension Field design out to tender, on website and consultation at Annual Meeting
- Multi Use Games Area at Nailsworth Primary School, legal agreements signed and work being planned to start soon

Sub Committee work

Environment

- 'Plan Bee' a 3 year Bee Friendly Town plan drawn up. Year one actions achieved, e.g. Nailsworth Festival Bee weekend
- 400 Bee Garden certificates given out and plans for up to 600 in 2017/18; collaborating with Horsley
- Recycling introduced to Town Hall offices in line with increased recycling by the District Council

Personnel

- First staff review revealed gross under-staffing (57hrs per week compared to average 91hrs per week for same-sized councils)
- Part time Deputy Clerk appointed bringing staffing level up to 77hrs per week, still under the average
- New Groundsman appointed in April 2016
- Groundsman's bungalow refurbished and addressed longstanding maintenance problems
- Initiated full review of Policies and Contracts

Attendance

- Councillors have attended 40 formal meetings since May last year
- with an average attendance rate of 85%
- meetings average (ideally!) 2 hours

Councillors also give significant time up for Working Parties, briefings and other meetings

Volunteers

- Nelson Trust (workdays on green spaces since October 2016) 59.5 hours
- Town Archives (hours recorded since January 2017) 144.5 hours
- Town Information Centre 2,132 hours per year
- Total: 2,336 volunteer hours

At a nominal minimum wage of £7.50 per hour that's nearly £20k these volunteers give to the town.