**District Councillors Annual Report 2017**

To the Parish Clerks, for the Annual Parish Meeting.

Over the course of the past 12 months Daventry District Council has initiated or progressed several projects of important strategic value to the local area.

• Construction of the Daventry Development Link Road continues on schedule and is due for completion in the summer of 2018. DDC part funded the operation despite not having jurisdiction over highways because local infrastructure capacity is crucial to fulfilling the local housing supply around Daventry and allowing the town to continue its economic development

• Daventry District Councillors approved in principle that the authority should enter into a joint venture with Norse Commercial Services Ltd to deliver environmental services when the current contract with Amey/Enterprise ends on 3 June, 2018. It follows the decision last year to replace the present system of waste and recycling collections with a ‘1-2-3’ scheme once the current contract ends. Councillors also agreed to allocate £2.5m to enhance the depot and transfer station, to bring it up to modern standards and improve its efficiency.

• Plans to launch a community lottery in Daventry District were approved. The Daventry District Council (DDC) scheme will see tickets sold online for £1, with a top prize of £25,000 for matching six numbers, down to £5 for matching two numbers. For every £1 ticket sold, 40p will go to the purchaser’s chosen community group and a further 10p will go to supplementing DDC’s Community Grant budget for distribution to local good causes.  Of the rest, 30p will go in the prize fund, 17p will go to the lottery operator and the remaining 3p is the VAT on the operator’s charge, which will be recovered by DDC and used to cover the cost of running the scheme. Based on community lotteries operating in other districts, the Council estimates it could make 50,000 annual ticket sales each year, which would net £25,000 for local good causes.

• Daventry District Council set its 2017/18 budget at the Full Council meeting of Thursday, February 23, 2017.  Spending of £14.993 million was agreed and, after the use of reserves, balances and central government support was taken into account, DDC’s portion of the Council Tax bill was increased by about £4.69. This is £137.62 for an average Band D property - about £2.65 a week which ensures that DDC remains one of the lowest tax councils in the country.

If you need our help, then feel free to contact us on:

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It has been a pleasure working with the Parish Councils and Parish Meetings through the year and we look forward to working together in the future.

David, Johnnie and Adam

District Councillors – Weedon Ward