

Buzz

The Beeston Express

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Beeston Express is independent of any organisation, commercial or political. Our policy is to provide readers with news and information that is fair, accurate and balanced.

We try hard to avoid mistakes, but some may inevitably slip through. If you have any comments to make about the paper, or any complaint, please contact us. We will, as far as possible, try to put things right when the error has been ours.

NEXT ISSUE

Friday, November 22, 2013

Deadline for Adverts
Monday, November 18

ADVERTISING in The Beeston Express

Classified - Mono
£3.50 per single column
centimetre (scm).
Minimum: 3 cm.

Notice Board (8cm x 8cm Box)

Mono: £45
Colour: £60

Display Price on Application

Meeting People Column
Subscription:

£36 per annum (24 issues)
Private subscriptions: £24

www.beestonexpress.co.uk

Useful telephone numbers

Police
0115 943 0999
NHS Direct Line (24 hours)
0845 46 47
Queens Medical Centre
0115 924 9924
City Hospital
0115 969 1169
Broxtowe Borough Council
0115 917 7777
Citizens Advice Bureau
0844 499 1193
Beeston Library
0115 925 5168
Train Timetable Enquiries
08457 48 49 50

County Council says it has no plans to close libraries as more service cuts are announced

THERE are no plans to close any of Nottinghamshire's network of 60 libraries, despite the huge government budget cuts facing the county council over the next three years.

Nottinghamshire County Council says it can achieve £1 million in savings for the authority, partly through an innovative plan to preserve smaller libraries through a community partnership approach. It intends to consult communities on this proposal.

The plans would protect core library services, whilst enabling smaller local libraries to continue to be at the heart of communities. To support this approach a one-off investment to support community partnership libraries will be made from the library capital refurbishment programme.

The county council has three tiers of libraries in the county. 'Tier One' libraries (Beeston is a 'Tier One' library) are its largest libraries whilst 'Tier Three' libraries, such as Toton, are the smallest libraries. It is expected that the libraries most suitable for community partnership approaches would be the smaller libraries, although the council would be open to proposals from all communities. Stapleford is a 'Tier Two' library.

The core library service, which includes larger libraries, is expected to serve at least 95 percent of current visits and 93 percent of active library members across the county. There are no planned changes to the current mobile library service.

Nottinghamshire County Council is being forced to save £154 million as a result of government cuts. The scale of the cuts is unprecedented and will only be achieved by fundamentally changing the way it delivers services.

Cllr John Knight, Committee Chairman for Culture at Nottinghamshire County Council said: "We have been left with a monumental task of making savings in this hugely challenging budget but at the same time we are totally committed to our libraries and are working tirelessly to find ways of preserving our service to the public.

"We are passionate that we do everything in our power to keep our libraries open. In the current climate of unprecedented cuts nationally, we are having to look for increasingly creative and innovative ways to run our services. We are keen to work with communities to help provide the library services they want and we also want a fairer deal for library

users so hope that these proposals can help.

"We will ensure we will work with interested groups to design the best solution for each community. We will be setting aside a small amount of one off investment funding to support the best local solutions. It won't be a 'one size fits all' approach."

If the proposals are approved, details of the consultation for the community partnership libraries would be announced in due course.

The county council is also looking at establishing a libraries and archives trust/social enterprise. The Council's statutory duties for libraries provision would continue to be met. Moving the delivery of the library service to an organisation at arms' length is a way of reducing costs in the future and at the same time freeing the service to be more enterprising. However, the county council would maintain the duty to provide a library service and control what the service provided through a legal agreement / contract.

Help Broxtowe to balance its own budget

RESIDENTS have less than two weeks left to have their say on Broxtowe Borough Council's own budget consultation before it closes on Friday, November 15.

The government recently announced that funding to Broxtowe is set to decrease by more than 27 percent over the next two years and the council needs to look at how it can continue to provide high quality services with this funding reduction in mind.

The YouChoose online budget simulator at <https://youchoose>.

yougov.com/BroxtoweBC aims to put residents at the heart of helping to set the Council's budget. With it, enabling them to decide how much or little frontline services should receive and tell the council what your priorities would be as you balance the budget.

Using an up and down slider, residents can allocate the budget and see the consequences to the service and the wider community of having more or less budget.

There is also an opportunity to give feedback on where additional

savings could be made and how additional income could be generated.

Leader of Broxtowe Borough Council, Cllr Milan Radulovic said: "Resident's views are extremely important to us and we are keen to hear from as many local people as possible.

"In these tough economic times, it has never been more important for them to have their say about where we can save money."

News in Brief

Don't lose your right to vote in 2014

RESIDENTS of Broxtowe who have not yet returned their electoral registration forms are being urged to do so – or risk being unable to vote in next year's European Election and any other elections which might be held in 2014.

Broxtowe Borough Council is currently preparing the latest electoral register and reminders have been issued to around 20,000 households who have not yet returned a form.

Registering to vote is easy. Simply update the annual canvass form with the details of everyone in your household who is eligible to vote and return it as soon as possible. If your details haven't changed you can also reply by text, phone or internet.

Anyone wishing to confirm that their details remain unchanged can do so by:

- Logging on to www.elecreg.co.uk/broxtowe
- Sending a text message to 07786 209 357, including the two-part security number included on the electoral registration form
- Calling freephone 0808 284 1457, 24 hours a day
- Returning the signed electoral registration form using the pre-paid envelope provided

For more information to see whether you're registered, contact the council on tel: (0115) 917 3295 or email: elections@broxtowe.gov.uk

Correction and apology to Mindset

We would like to apologise to the Mindset group at the Day Centre on Middle Street for a misunderstanding by *The Beeston Express* as to where exactly Broxtowe Day Services were based.

We said that "one or two of the groups (organised by Broxtowe Day Services) were based at Sunnyside Road, Chilwell", whereas they are ALL based at Sunnyside Road, and it is the centre on Middle Street that is the 'outreach' centre.

The Beeston Express would like to apologise for any distress and confusion caused by our misunderstanding.