

# 260203 – Item 13 – Correspondence

13.1: Correspondence received 9/01/26

Dear Moretonhampstead Parish Council

As you are aware, the council currently empty litter and dog waste bins for Moretonhampstead Parish Council, and you pay for this service. I would like to confirm the costs for the emptying of the bins for the 2026-27 financial year. The cost per empty for a litter or dog waste bin will be £15.00.

We empty 2 litter bins and 1 dog bin in The Sentry weekly. The total cost for the next financial year is £2,340.00 plus a £34.00 administration fee.

We currently invoice Moretonhampstead Parish Council in arrears and so we will send the invoice for the 2026-27 financial year in March 2027.

If you no longer wish to use this service, please let me know by 13<sup>th</sup> March and I will cancel the collections, and no further invoices will be sent.

Kind Regards

**Anna Lang**  
**Technical Team Leader**

**Environmental Services**

Clerks note: The current cost per empty for a litter or dog waste bin is £14.50. The total cost for this financial year is £2,262.00 plus a £33.00 administration fee.

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13.3: Correspondence received 14/01/26

[Citizens Advice Q3 report](#)

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13.4: Correspondence received 19/01/26

We would like to invite Clerks, Mayors and all interested Town and Parish Councillors to a Local Leaders update we are holding online via Microsoft Teams at 6pm on the 26<sup>th</sup> February. Please use the link below to access.

The flyer attached gives some additional information on the content – if you have any questions please do contact us, and we look forward to speaking with you there.

**Microsoft Teams meeting**

**Join:** <https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/35591550751036?p=DCoFVOH7vLbs0k8mNz>

Meeting ID: 355 915 507 510 36

Passcode: RN6ry9i4

Kind regards,

Tom Pearce  
**Principal Strategy and Policy Officer**

13.5: Correspondence received 19/01/26

### **Royal Garden Party 2026**

There are tickets available for a Garden Party at Buckingham Palace and we are welcoming nominations from our member councils for who should have one of these limited tickets.

Our National Association (NALC) is in receipt of tickets to three Garden Parties at Buckingham Palace this year, and Devon has been allocated 6 tickets (3 pairs) for the Garden Party on Friday 8th May 2026.

We are **welcoming nominations from our member councils** as to who should have one of these limited tickets. [Read our website](#) for details of the rules around the nomination process, and information about how to make a nomination.

Please note that the theme selected for Garden Parties this year is diversity and the message we have been sent says:

*When making nominations, you should consider diversity in all its forms, including geographical spread across England, where appropriate, and protected characteristics. You should recognise front-line contributions, honouring the dedication, resilience and quiet heroism of those who serve their nation, often without public recognition. We would suggest nominating key grassroots individuals within an organisation rather than those in senior positions. We would define frontline workers as individuals whose roles involve direct or essential service to the public, often in challenging or high-pressure environments. By shining a light on selfless efforts, we hope the Garden Parties will inspire future generations to uphold the principles of duty and care that strengthen the fabric of our society.*

*Nominated guests should be drawn from a diverse range of individuals and organisations. They should recognise excellent contributions in their field, and in public service, voluntary or community work. We recommend you consult with your policy teams to identify outstanding individuals or organisations they have come into contact with over the past year, who are deserving of recognition.*

Please note - as always, there is a tight deadline for submitting nominations. The deadline to make a nomination is **9am on Wednesday 11th February**. Nominations made after this deadline will not be accepted.

Due to the timescales involved, incorrect or inaccurate nominations will not be accepted, so please ensure you have read the guidance prior to submitting your nomination.

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13.6: Correspondence received 22/01/2026

Dear Town and Parish Council Members

I am writing to encourage you to please take part in Devon County Council's consultation on the future statutory opening hours of our library service.

We know how important libraries are to our communities. They provide safe, welcoming spaces, support learning and wellbeing, and offer access to vital resources. However, like many services, libraries are facing financial pressures, and we need to make sure the service remains sustainable for the long term.

This consultation is your opportunity to help shape the future of your local library. Your insight into the needs and priorities of your community is invaluable. We particularly want to understand:

- How your community uses the library

- What local needs or challenges should be considered
- Any ideas you may have for how your local library could work differently in the future

The purpose of this consultation is to gather as many views as possible so we can understand the full picture which will allow greater flexibility and help to develop a long-term strategy for our libraries across Devon. At this stage, the most important thing is ensuring strong engagement from local councils and communities.

The consultation, including a children's survey, is available online: [Have Your Say Today - Shaping Devon's Library Service - Commonplace](#)

Paper copies are also available in every library for those who need them.

The consultation ends 22nd February

Thank you for everything you do for your communities. By taking part in this consultation, you can help ensure that Devon's libraries continue to serve local residents in the best possible way.

If you would like to discuss anything further, please do get in touch.

Best wishes

Cllr Cheryl Cottle-Hunkin

Cabinet Member for Rural Affairs (including responsibility for libraries)

Garden Party - nominate a guest!