



LOGAN & TOWN CENTRE NEIGHBOURHOOD FORUM

1. Stronger Local Leadership

Over the past three years, Neighbourhood Forums have worked closely with residents to develop Neighbourhood Plans. There is growing support for a locally focused, democratic body to lead and represent Market Harborough.

2. A Stronger Voice

Currently, decisions affecting the town are made at district level by councillors representing the whole district, meaning there is no single body focused solely on Market Harborough.

3. A Town Council could look after our:

Parks, open spaces and play areas.

Community facilities (leisure centre, theatre, museum, community centres).

Markets and town centre events.

Cemeteries, allotments and car parks.

Youth services and street services.

4. A town council would:

Act as a statutory consultee on planning applications.

Oversee Neighbourhood Plans.

Access funding and grants for local improvements.

5. Market Harborough has been “unparished” since 1974.

While we have District Councillors, they make decisions for the entire district, not just the town.

There is currently no body solely with the interests of the town as its focus.

6. Town councils have more freedom and flexibility

to work with their communities and partners to find local solutions to local issues.

7. Most town and parish councils do not serve as representatives of a political party –

they are local residents with local issues at heart.

8. Establishing a town council should not increase bureaucracy.

Councils at the first level of local government tend to be less bureaucratic than those at higher levels. They are often more democratic, more accountable, and closer to communities.

9. Setting up a town council is estimated to cost an additional £14.50 per year for an average household.

It would replace the existing 'Special Expenses' already paid through council tax.

Future costs would be set by a town council.

In the long term, a town council could be cost neutral.

10. Nearly 1,800 of you signed a petition to look at whether Market Harborough should have its own Town Council.

Let's make sure we use the opportunity to shape the future of our town

For more information go to:

<https://harbouroughtownhub.org/2026/03/23/town-council-cgr-consultation/>