

NORTH WEST LEICESTERSHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

**COALVILLE SPECIAL EXPENSES WORKING PARTY –
TUESDAY, 7 OCTOBER 2025**



Title of Report	EVENTS UPDATE 2025/26
Presented by	Paul Wheatley Head of Property and Regeneration
Background Papers	None
Financial Implications	All proposals are within the 2025/26 events budget. The draft 2026/27 events programme is subject to confirmation of the 2026/27 Coalville Special Expenses approved budget.
	Signed off by the Section 151 Officer: Yes
Legal Implications	The holding of events in Coalville is a discretionary service. The Coalville Special Expenses Working Party (CSEWP) recommends to Cabinet the events it wishes to run in the year using its available budget.
	Signed off by the Deputy Monitoring Officer: Yes
Staffing and Corporate Implications	Staff resources are used to manage and deliver the agreed events programme with the associated costs charged to the Special Expenses budget.
	Signed off by the Head of Paid Service: Yes
Purpose of Report	To present an update of the 2025/26 Events and Christmas Lights Programme and the 2026/27 Draft Events Programme to the Coalville Special Expenses Working Party.
Recommendations	THAT THE WORKING PARTY: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) NOTES THE PROGRESS MADE AGAINST THE 2025/26 EVENTS AND CHRISTMAS LIGHTS PROGRAMME 2) NOTES THE 2026/27 DRAFT EVENTS PROGRAMME

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The following Events and Christmas Lights Programme is scheduled for delivery in 2025/26 supported by the Coalville Special Expenses budget.
- 1.2 Music and Picnic in the Park has been delivered on time and within budget. Planning is underway for the Christmas in Coalville event and Christmas Lights Programme for 2025/26.
- 1.3 Planning for the 2026/27 events programme is also underway. No increase or decrease in budget or officer capacity is assumed at this stage.

2.0 2025/26 EVENTS PROGRAMME

The 2025/26 events programme is set out as below:

Date	Event	Description	Allocated budget	Target income	Status
5 and 6 July 2025	Music and Picnic in the Park	A weekend of family focused entertainment and activities in Coalville Park. An evening of song, music, performance and entertainment (Saturday) A family fun day in Coalville Park, featuring a main stage, music, performances, entertainment, activities, workshops, stalls, food and drink (Sunday)	£20,000	£2,000	Delivered
29 Nov 2025	Christmas in Coalville	A day of Christmas festivities in Coalville town centre	£14,600	£1,000	Advanced planning
29 Nov 2025 to 4 Jan 2026	Coalville Christmas Decorations	Town centre Christmas decorations, comprising of lamp post mounted decorations (where permitted), bespoke decorations on Memorial Clock Tower, pea lights in trees (High Street and Memorial Square) and one large Christmas tree in Memorial Square (Nordmann variety as 2024)	£30,000	NIL	Advanced planning – installation contract agreed until January 2027

- 2.1 **Music and Picnic in the Park, 5 and 6 July** – The event had good weather resulting in very good attendance on both days, with no incidents or accidents reported. The event was delivered on budget and the income target was exceeded.
- 2.2 **Christmas lights** – Decorations this year include: a Nordmann Christmas tree in Memorial Square, decorations on the four faces of Memorial Clock Tower, pea

lights in permanent trees in Memorial Square and High Street and pole mounted decorations on lamp posts in Memorial Square, Ashby Road, Hotel Street, Marlborough Square and Jackson Street.

- 2.2.1 The town centre decorations will also include the 22 artificial trees (Marlborough Square) and nine boa wraps (Belvoir Road), which were introduced to the decoration schedule in 2024 and a Nordmann Christmas tree for Marlborough Square, made possible by funding from the UKSPF grant. The maintenance, installation and take down of these decorations is funded by the Council's general fund (Economic Regeneration budget) as they relate to the Council's Coalville Regeneration Framework initiatives.

- 2.3 **Christmas in Coalville** will take place on Saturday 29 November. The event is scheduled for delivery based on the event that was planned in 2024, after the event programme was unfortunately reduced due to Storm Bert.

2.3.1 Event planning is well underway. It should be noted:

- a) That a significant amount of the budget is already committed (stage, satellite stage, public address (pa) system, performances, street entertainers and attractions).
- b) The use of the preferred venues of Belvoir Shopping Centre (BSC) and Needham's Walk car park are subject to receiving formal written permission from Gylo. This has been requested.
- c) It is proposed that the following locations will be used:
 - i. **Marlborough Square** – main stage, street performers and entertainment (the majority of the square will remain available creating a safe space to accommodate the audience). The road closure arrangements are in place.
 - ii. **Belvoir Shopping Centre** – satellite stage (recorded music and small performances), street performances and food, drink and craft stalls.
 - iii. **Needham's Walk car park** – small funfair rides and side stalls.
 - iv. **Market Hall car park** – to be used as a car park.
- d) Christmas window competitions – it is proposed that the two competitions: Best Dressed Window and Best Illuminated Business are organised again this year.
- e) Christmas Trail – a new Christmas Trail will also be launched, in liaison with local businesses, which will run throughout December to encourage footfall and visitors to shop locally throughout the town centre over the festive period.

2.4 **Draft Events Programme 2026/2027**

- 2.4.1 In preparation for the 2026/27 budget setting process, the following draft events programme is presented for consideration. The draft has been set against the 2025/26 budget and officer resource available to deliver the work. The estimated cost is included for guidance at this stage and may alter as part of the budget setting process.

Date	Event	Description	Estimated budget
4 and 5 July 2026	Music and Picnic in the Park	A free family event in Coalville Park, featuring a main stage, live music, craft and food stalls, on field activities and entertainment and local charity stalls.	£20,000
28 Nov 2026	Christmas in Coalville	A day of Christmas festivities in Coalville town centre.	£14,600
28 Nov 2026 - 3 Jan 2027	Coalville Christmas Decorations	Town centre Christmas decorations, comprising of lamp post mounted decorations (where permitted), bespoke decorations on Memorial Clock Tower, pea lights in trees (High Street and Memorial Square) and two large Christmas trees.	£30,000

- 2.5.2 It is proposed that the summer event in Coalville Park in 2026/27 is delivered over two days (Saturday evening and Sunday afternoon) on 4 and 5 July 2026. Setting a date is required to secure infrastructure such as the main stage.
- 2.5.3 The officer time costs required to deliver the above draft programme will be included in the budget setting process. If the draft programme is subject to change this could impact on the officer time allocated to deliver the programme, this will be considered as part of the budget setting process.

Policies and other considerations, as appropriate	
Council Priorities:	Planning and regeneration
Policy Considerations:	None
Safeguarding:	None
Equalities/Diversity:	None
Customer Impact:	The provision of events and festive lighting create pride in the district's town centres.
Economic and Social Impact:	Additional expenditure generated within a defined area, as a direct consequence of staging events. Access for all to local free and affordable events.
Environment, Climate Change and Zero Carbon	Supporting the Zero Carbon agenda through the delivery of local events and renewing Christmas lighting stock to reduce energy consumption.
Consultation/Community/Tenant Engagement:	None
Risks:	None identified
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