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Brown bin day is **January 31** – put it in your diary

Spring bulbs are already pushing their green shoots through the soil, so days spent in the garden will soon come around. Brown bin season will soon be upon us, so make sure you sign up for Boston Borough Council's garden waste collection service.

The choices? Loading grass cuttings, leaves, hedge trimmings, weeds together with those unwanted passengers you find later (slugs, spiders, earwigs) into your car to take to the tip or, with a quick online click, signing up for someone to come and take your garden waste away for you for proper disposal.

It couldn't be easier – www.boston.gov.uk/gardenwaste is the online address to use from **Wednesday, January 31**, to book your fortnightly kerbside brown bin collection. No queuing, no waiting, no journey out into the cold and wet. There has been no price increase from last year - it will still be £30 for the collection of a single bin and £15 for each additional bin. Still great value for money at just £1.50 per collection. New customers will have to pay £25 for the purchase and delivery of their brown bin.

You could even get the coming season's service for free – all existing online direct debit customers continuing with the service, and new online customers signing up by direct



debit, can enter a prize draw and ten lucky winners will receive the 2018/19 garden waste collection service for FREE, to the value of £30. All those eligible will receive notification.

Collections for the new 2018/19 growing season will start in April. Existing customers who signed up last year will receive the last of the current growing season's collection until the end of March. Those who signed up online AND made a direct debit payment arrangement AND want to continue in April need do nothing more. Those who signed up online but did not make a direct debit payment arrangement need to go to www.boston.gov.uk/gardenwaste from **Wednesday, January 31**, to sign up and pay again.

Read more at <http://bit.ly/2DwEF9S>

ASB vacancy: Your questions answered

A vacancy for an anti-social behaviour case officer at Boston Borough Council has generated a lot of interest and questions about essential language skills, qualifications and experience. The final drop-in session for anyone interested, so they can meet the council's community safety manager and anti-social behaviour case officers who can answer their questions, will be held at Municipal Buildings from 1pm to 3pm on Thursday, January 25. Just turn up in reception and announce your interest to the staff there.

Need to get somewhere?

Call Boston Community Transport

Boston Community Transport is a small, registered charity offering a community transport scheme to more vulnerable and isolated people or for those who do not have access to, or cannot afford, public transport or a taxi. It offers an essential, affordable local transport service for residents within the Borough of Boston and surrounding villages. *Read more at <http://bit.ly/2E3li8A>*

Boston's next Mayor

Boston's 484th Mayor will be Cllr Judith Skinner. She has accepted the nomination to become Mayor Elect and will take over from the current Mayor, Cllr Bernard Rush in May. Her deputy will be Cllr Yvonne Stevens. The Mayor's charities for 2018/19 will be announced at a later date.



Three-spades start for Barrier

It's definitely coming – spades went into the soil to officially mark the beginning of construction of the Boston Barrier on Monday. The Floods Minister Therese Coffey, Boston MP Matt Warman and Toby Willison, from the Environment Agency, counted to three and drove three spades into The Haven bank.

Go to <http://bit.ly/2G9ANxq>



South Forty Foot consultation

Consultation is being held into proposed changes of some main river sections so that Black Sluice Internal Drainage Board and not the Environment Agency has responsibility for them. The proposal would redesignate five tributaries of the South Forty Foot Drain measuring about 16.8 kilometres so they would become ordinary watercourses instead of "main river".

Read more at <http://bit.ly/2rxvwwr>

Council tax support scheme agreed

A scheme to support those in need to pay their council tax has been approved by Boston Borough Council. The scheme is reviewed every year and options go out for consultation with the public. A majority of those who commented agreed the current scheme should continue, was fair and provided support to the vulnerable. There will be assistance for working-age residents who need help to pay their council tax. Those who are eligible can claim a discount of up to 75 per cent – pensioners and war widows of all ages qualify for up to 100 per cent. Those who are self employed must meet a minimum income level and there will be a maximum one-month backdate period for working-age claims.



Week 40 winner – Read more at <http://bit.ly/2ngHd3i>

