

COOKIE POLICY

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COOKIE POLICY

To make our website work properly, we sometimes place small data files called a 'cookie' on your device. Almost all websites do this for a variety of reasons.

What are cookies?

To make our website work properly, we sometimes place small data files called a 'cookie' on your device. Almost all websites do this for a variety of reasons.

A cookie is a small text file that a website saves on your computer or mobile device when you visit a website. It enables the website to remember your actions and preferences (such as storing login details, language or translations, font-sizes and other display preferences), so you don't have to keep re-entering these preferences whenever you come back to the site or browse from one page to another.

Cookies often ask for permission to be placed on your computer or devices internal storage medium. Once you agree, the file is added to your device.

Cookies allow web applications (such as a website) to respond to your browser based on your individual requirements. The web application can therefore tailor its operations to your needs, likes and dislikes by remembering information about your preferences using data stored in these cookies.

Your device may store several different cookies from the same website, each of which may perform a different purpose. Some websites will search for cookies saved by other websites to determine or obtain additional information about your historic search activity, preferences or interests.

You can often choose to accept or decline cookies on a pop-up which appears on first accessing a website although not all websites have this popup. Most modern web browsers will automatically accept cookies by default, however you can modify your browser settings to automatically decline all cookies or specific cookie types if you wish, for increased privacy.

Declining cookies may prevent you from accessing certain aspects or functionality of a given website if cookies are required for a provided service or activity within the code creating the website. Not all websites will use cookies in an ethical manner and you should be aware of this whilst accessing any websites online.

How we use cookies

We use "traffic logging" cookies to identify which pages on our website are being accessed by users. This helps us analyse data about web page traffic and improve our website in order to create a better experience for all website users.

The other cookies used by our website which are defined as “optional” cookies are used for access and navigation or to remember any customisation you make to the display of the website such as activating accessibility features such as high contrast view or enlarged text. These choices are stored in a cookie for future use, if permitted by the user, these are termed as “functionality cookies”.

We only use information collected via cookies for statistical analysis purposes and do not permit, nor use the cookies to personally identify any individual user of the website. We do not scan your device for cookies created by other websites and do not attempt to collect any data contained in those cookies.

The cookies on our website in no way provide access to your computer or any personal information about you.

Overall, we only use cookies help us provide you with a better website, by enabling us to monitor which pages users find useful and which they do not.

We may use cookies for the following purposes:

- To anonymously recognise a device when it is used to visit the website.
- To anonymously track navigation of the website.
- To enable the use of any e-commerce, survey or communication facilities if strictly necessary.
- To improve the website’s usability and accessibility.
- To analyse the usage of the information provided through the website.
- In the administration of the website.

Your use of our website is taken as consent to the placing of cookies on your system. If you disagree, please take the following actions:

- Close the tab or window containing the website.
- Delete the cache & cookies stored by your web browser.

To prevent future cookies, you can then choose to disallow cookies from this website via your web browser settings.

If you continue without changing your settings, we will assume that you are happy to receive cookies from our website as outlined above.

How to control cookies

There are a number of different options to control the cookies on your device which you can manage through the privacy features of your web browser. Where this is done will depend on the web browser you are using and should be outlined in the help and support files for the browser. Typically you will be able to make one or more actions relating to either a specific website or as general rule(s) for cookies which may include:

- Choosing to allow all cookies.
- Choosing to block all cookies.
- Choosing to block only “third-party” cookies. (These are cookies set by online services other than the one you are visiting, typically these are “advertising or “cross-site” cookies).
- Choosing to instantly delete all currently saved cookies from your browser.
- Choosing to delete all cookies automatically when you close the browser.
- Choose to open a “private browsing” / “incognito” window or tab, which allows you to browse the internet without recording or exposing your current or past browsing history to this or any other website and preventing the storing of new cookies or data - you should however be aware that doing so may place limitations on the availability of features on this and other

websites despite the increased privacy provided by this feature. Users should note that this “private browsing” / “incognito” function does not mask internet activity from the internet provider (ISP) and that the users ISP will likely still log user activity.

Useful information.

This policy document cannot be exhaustive therefore we encourage users who wish to learn more about cookies to visit one of these websites for more detailed information:

- [aboutCookies.org](https://aboutcookies.org)
- allAboutCookies.org

The European Interactive Digital Advertising Alliance website Your Online Choices allows you to install opt-out cookies across different advertising networks from your browser.

- youronlinechoices.com/uk

Google has developed a browser add-on to allow users to opt-out of Google Analytics which is available for Google Chrome, Mozilla Firefox, Apple Safari and Microsoft Edge. It should be noted that since this was developed the modern Google Analytics GA4 service, used by website developers, collects a greatly reduced amount of user data and no longer provides data which could directly identify individual users in the way that the service had in the past.

- tools.google.com/dlpage/gaoptout

Some browsers include a feature known as ‘Do Not Track’ or DNT. This allows you to indicate a preference that websites should not track you. However, whilst DNT is available in many browsers, websites are not required to recognise its request. For more information on how DNT or private / incognito browsing works as well as its limitations, please visit the support pages for your browser.

Users may wish to consider Installing an add-ons or plugins that extend their web browsers functionality. These are often referred to as ‘ad-blockers’. These attempt to block cookies and other tracking methods used by websites although it should be noted that some web browser developers (typically those provided free of charge to the user) are currently actively disabling some “ad-blocker” software functionality as these tools can impact on their commercial activity in providing adverts in exchange for free internet search tools.

Changes to this policy

We keep this Cookie Policy under regular review and we will place any updates on our website.

Your Personal Information

We will not sell, distribute or lease your personal information to third parties unless required by law to do so.

If you have previously agreed to us using your personal information for direct marketing purposes, you may change your mind at any time by emailing or writing to us to let us know.

If you believe that any information, we are holding on you is incorrect or incomplete, please email or write to us as soon as possible. We will promptly correct any information found to be incorrect.

You may request details of personal information which we hold about you under the Data Protection Act.

If you would like a copy of the information held on you, or if you have any questions about this Privacy Notice, the personal data we hold about you or to exercise relevant rights, queries or complaints please contact us using one of these methods:

Post: The Data Controller, Neston Town Council, Neston, CH64 9TR.

Email: council@nestontowncouncil.org.uk

Telephone: 0151 336 3840

The Council's Data Protection Officer is: JDH Services Ltd

Post: Carreg Lwyd, Cefn Bychan Road Pantymwyn, Flintshire, CH7 5EW.

Email: john@jdhbs.co.uk

Telephone: 01352 754 807

Information Commissioners Office (ICO)

You can contact the Information Commissioners Office via:

Post: Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Email: <https://ico.org.uk/global/contact-us/>

Telephone: 0303 123 1113