

8th June 2020

AGENDA

Dear Councillor,

You are invited to a meeting of the:

Environmental Service Committee **to be held on Monday 15th June 2020 at 5.30pm**

Membership:

Cllr Jeffries (Copheap)	Cllr Nicklin (West)
Cllr Fraser (West) Chairman	Cllr Ridout (West)
Cllr Fryer (Broadway) Vice-Chairman	Cllr Spender (Broadway)
Cllr Macfarlane (West)	

Copied to all other members for information.

Normally, the Council would meet in person and provide an opportunity for members of the public to attend. However, during the current emergency, this is not possible, and the Government have put in place Regulations that allow 'Virtual' committees to be convened and held to conduct local authority business.

The Council has adopted appropriate procedures to ensure the smooth administration of such virtual meetings.

If you wish to attend the meeting and raise an matter in public participation please contact admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk at least a day prior to the meeting to enable this to be facilitated. If you wish to view the meeting please see the link on the Warminster Town Council Website www.warminster-tc.gov.uk in the meetings diary

Yours sincerely



Fiona Fox BA (Hons) MCIPD FSLCC
Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

1. **Apologies for absence**
To receive and accept apologies, including reason for absence, from those unable to attend.
2. **Declarations of Interest**
To receive any declarations of interest under Warminster Town Council's (WTC) Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.
3. **Chairman's Announcements**
To note any announcements made by the chairman.

***Standing Orders will be suspended
to allow for public participation.***

4. **Public Participation**
To enable members of the public to address the committee with an allowance of three minutes per person regarding any item on the agenda and **to receive** any petitions and deputations.

***Standing Orders will be reinstated
following public participation.***

5. **Reports from Unitary Authority Members**
To note reports provided which are relevant to this committee
6. **Co-option**
Under its terms of Reference, the Committee may co-opt advisors as appropriate.
Members to nominate and agree on the co-option of anyone they wish to have on the Committee. It is suggested no more than 2 co-optees be appointed.
7. **Sweeper Update**
Members will be aware that Full Council supported reaching an agreement with FS Gibbs for use of their wash down area and for a skip to be located on the Gibbs site. Members further approved the acquisition of a depot. A suitable depot has been found at the Swan Business centre. Negotiations for both for both of these are proceeding well.

A Scarab road sweeper is due to be delivered week commencing 22nd June. A driver has been recruited.

The Council is currently running a competition on social media to allow the residents of Warminster to name the sweeper. Members of the environmental services committee drew up a shortlist of 3 names from the 44 names submitted by the public. These are: Shaun the sweep, Basil brushes and Sergeant sweep. Officers will provide an update at the meeting of the public to vote on these three names.

Members are asked to note the report (attached) about provisional sweeping frequency and to endorse the public choice of name for the sweeper.

8. Blue Campaign

The Council has received several requests to consider supporting the Blue Campaign. (**Letter attached**) Details of the campaign can be found at <https://bluecampaignhub.com/>

The BLUE campaign was conceived in 2014 in response to a report which highlighted the dramatic decline in biodiversity and biomass across the UK.

The campaign promotes the rewilding of our gardens, parks, road verges and school grounds. It suggests that a part of this ground is set aside and left to grow through the summer.

A blue heart symbol, made out of recycled materials, is staked in the ground over the area being rewilded. This communicates to neighbours and friends that rewilding is in process (and that it is not just the owner or council being lazy!)

It is Recommended that members refer the matter to the working group proposed in item 9.

9. Working Groups

It is recommended by officers that the committee should set a working group to draft policies for services that will fall under the remit of the Environmental Service Committee, for example: grass cutting and litter bins replacement.

Members are asked to agree to set up a working group and appoint members to it.

10. Communications

10.1 The members to decide on items requiring a press release.

10.2 The members to confirm their spokesperson for any item listed on the agenda to report on the Council's decision if required.

The date of the next Environmental Services Committee will be Monday 13th July 2020 at 5.30pm

Minutes from this meeting will be available to all members of the public either from our website www.warminster-tc.gov.uk or by contacting us at Warminster Civic Centre.

Provisonal Sweeper Frequency

Location	Frequency
Town Centre	3 x per week
Arterial routes	1 x per week
Outer areas (Estates)	6 x per year
Car parks	2 x per week
Footpaths	1 day / month

This is indicative of what is to be expected and may be subject to change dependant in ground conditions and other operational considerations.

29th May 2020

Re: Blue Campaign on Council owned land

Dear Warminster Town Councillors,

We are writing to you as a residents of Warminster to highlight our concerns about the lack of wild spaces within our area.

A recent study by the Wildlife Trust suggests that 90% of lowland grassland has been lost in the 20th century, with fewer areas than ever supporting insects, wildlife and grassland species. These areas form an essential part of the UK's ecological infrastructure.

Luckily, combatting this loss is one which is easy and cost effective for Councils. As a resident I would urge you to allocate areas of land which you manage to wildflower meadow. This would mean an annual cut-and-collect followed by little or no maintenance, reducing your costs and carbon footprint, whilst encouraging wildlife to re-inhabit the area. To mitigate any complaints regarding neglect of such areas, an initiative called the Blue Campaign has begun which encourages people to erect a blue heart on a wooden post to alert members of the public to the project. Many Councils have begun to sign up to the campaign with more doing so each week. More information can be found at <https://bluecampaignhub.com/>

We would urge you to please consider bringing this to the attention of other Councillors and anyone who manages green or open spaces within the Council. It is cost-effective, enhances our environment and shows that the Council is forward looking and committed to its ecological responsibilities.

Yours sincerely,