

Warminster Civic Centre Sambourne Road Warminster Wiltshire BA12 8LB Town Clerk: Fiona Fox Tel: 01985 214847 Email: admin@warminster-te.gov.uk www.warminster-te.gov.uk

11th November 2020

## **AGENDA**

Dear Councillor
You are summoned to the:

## Meeting of Warminster Town Council on Monday 16<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at 7pm to be held online

## Membership:

Cllr Batchelor (Broadway)	Cllr Macfarlane (West)
Cllr Brett (East)	Cllr Nicklin (West)
Cllr Davis (East)	Cllr Pitcher (Broadway)
Cllr Doyle (East)	Cllr Ridout (West)
Cllr Fraser (West)	Cllr Robbins (East)
	Chairman of the Council and Mayor
Cllr Fryer (Broadway)	Cllr Spender (Broadway)
Cllr Jeffries (Copheap)	
Vice Chairman of the Council and	
Deputy Mayor	

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' council and committee meetings 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 address members in public participation via a written submisison please contact <a href="mailto:admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk">admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk</a> 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 <a href="https://www.warminster-tc.gov.uk">www.warminster-tc.gov.uk</a> in the meetings diary.

Yours sincerely

Jarajos

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 Code of Conduct issued in accordance with the Localism Act 2011.

## 3. Minutes

- 3.1 To approve (and sign later), as a correct record, the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020; copies of these minutes have been circulated and Standing Order 12.1 provides that they may therefore be taken as read.
- 3.2 To note any matters arising from the minutes of the Full Council meeting held on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020.

## 4. Chairman's Announcements

- **4.1** Announcements.
- **4.2** Mayoral Engagements Virtual Remembrance Day Service, shown on YouTube, social media and broadcast on Warminster Community Radio, Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> November 2020.

## 5. Correspondence Circulated

Members to note the list of all correspondence circulated since the last meeting. (See attached).

#### 6. Questions

To receive questions from members of the council submitted in advance to the Clerk.

## 7. Execution and Sealing of Legal Deeds

Following council's resolution to enter into a lease agreement in relation to Unit W2 The Swan Business Centre, Stephens Way Warminster the lease has now been executed as a deed.

Members to note and resolve accordingly.

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

## 8. Public Participation

**To enable** members of the public to address the Council with a written submission, an allowance of three minutes per person regarding any item on the agenda and **to receive** any petitions and deputations. The Mayor will read any statements submitted

## Standing Orders will be reinstated following public participation.

## 9. Reports from Unitary Authority Members and the Police

To note any reports provided which are relevant to the Full Council.



## 10. Proceedings of Committee

**To receive** minutes with recommendations from committees, already circulated, and to consider any questions arising from them.

- **10.1** Finance and Audit Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> September; questions to Cllr Ridout, Chairman of the committee.
- **10.2 Planning Advisory Committee** meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2020 and 12<sup>th</sup> October 2020 respectively, questions to Cllr Nicklin, Chairman of the committee.
- **10.3** Parks and Recreation Committee meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2020; questions to Cllr Brett, Chairman of committee.
- **10.4** Town Development Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> June 2020; questions to Cllr Macfarlane, Chairman of committee
- **10.5 HR Committee** meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> July 2020; questions to Cllr Robbins, Chairman of committee

## 11. Treasury Management Policy 2020 - 2021

**FA/20/055 refers:** Members agreed to receive and adopt the Treasury Management Policy 2020 – 2021, and recommended it be sent to Full Council for approval. (See attached.)

Members are requested to adopt the Treasury Management Policy 2020-2021.

## 12. Splash pad

(See attached.)

See also <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=Jqi-3WhWEHk">https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=youtu.be&v=Jqi-3WhWEHk</a>

Members of the working group will report to members.

Members are requested to approve the design choice so that final costings can be confirmed. The entire project will be presented to members for decision in early December 2020.

## 13. Draft Climate Change Strategy

At their 21<sup>st</sup> September 2020 meeting, Full Council noted the Draft Climate Change Strategy and approved a month-long public consultation. The Consultation closed on October 23<sup>rd</sup> 2020. All the comments received were broadly in support of the Draft Strategy.

The Climate Change Working Group reviewed all the comments received and has modified the Draft Climate Change Strategy in the light of these and other discussions. (attached). All the modifications are in line with the original draft.



The Climate Change Working Group is now developing an Action Plan to implement the Climate Change Strategy. They intend to present this to the Full Council meeting in January.

## Members are requested to:

- 1. Approve the Draft Climate Change Strategy.
- 2. Agree that the option of employing a member of staff, whose principle role is to deliver the Climate Change Action Plan, is part of the discussions on the budget between now and January 2021.
- 3. Agree that the Climate Change Declaration, previously adopted, is converted into a professional leaflet with pictures, for distribution to local residents.

## 14. Communications

The members to decide on items requiring a press release and to nominate a speaker for any item on the agenda if required.

Confidential session pursuant to Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies Admission to Meetings) Act 1960; the Council, by resolution, may exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings.

## 15. <u>Civic Award 2020</u>

The Civic Award is traditionally a surprise for the recipient; therefore, members consider the nominees under closed session.

Minutes from this meeting will be available to all members of the public either from our website <a href="https://www.warminster.uk.com">www.warminster.uk.com</a> or by contacting us at Warminster Civic Centre.



Date	Name	Item/Response	Action Taken
18.09.20	Andrew Sawyer Wiltshire Council	Urgent Closure Princecroft Lane, Warminster	Email
21.09.20	Wiltshire Council	Latest news and events from Warminster Our Community Matters for 09/18/2020	Email
22.09.20	Mayor of Warminster	Cllr Chris J Robbins Mayor Notes 14	Email
23.09.20	Wiltshire Council	COVID-19 UPDATE –22 September - on behalf of Cllr Whitehead	Email
23.09.20	Wiltshire Council	Area Board Boundary Review Briefing Note No. 20- 30	Email
25.09.20	Wiltshire Council	New premises licence application - 9-10 George Street, Warminster, Wiltshire, BA12 8QA	Email
25.09.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Neighbour of the Year Award 2020 Now Open 24/09/2020	Email
28.09.20	Wiltshire Council	Latest news and events from Warminster Our Community Matters for 09/25/2020	Email
29.09.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Police and Crime Commissioner and Tidworth Town Council Join Forces For New Community Civic Centre 29/09/2020	Email
30.09.20	Great Western Railway	Great Western Railway Performance	Email
01.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Briefing Note Number 20-31 - Proposals for reform of the planning system	Email
02.10.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Neighbourhood Watch October Our News Newsletter Is Here 01/10/2020	Email
02.10.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Warminster Community Area - Local Impactive Crimes - September 2020	Email
05.10.20	Wiltshire Council	WILTSHIRE COUNCIL UPDATE – Friday 2 October on behalf of Cllr Whitehead	Email
05.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Latest news and events from Warminster Our Community Matters for 10/02/2020	Email
05.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Minutes for Warminster Area Board, Wednesday 23 September 2020, 6.00 pm	Email
06.10.20	St Giles, Imber	St Giles Church, Imber - Newsletter No 135 - EVENTS CANCELLED	Email
07.10.20	Katie Fielding WALC	Remote finance training with the Parkinson Partnership	Email

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07.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Urgent Closure Folly Lane, Warminster	Email
08.10.20	Neighbourhood Watch Network	Fantastic Home Security Offer from Our Partner Era 07/10/2020	Email
08.10.20	Neighbourhood Watch Network	Corrected Link 08/10/2020	Email
08.10.20	Katie Fielding WALC	Remote finance training with the Parkinson Partnership	Email
09.10.20	Police Communications Officer	Public Encouraged To Protect Themselves Online As Reports of Romance Fraud Rise 26 Percent In A Year	Email
09.10.20	Simon Price – Senior Engineer, Wiltshire Council	Wiltshire Resurfacing Works - SO0734 Station Road, Warminster	Email
12.10.20	Wiltshire Council	COVID-19 update – Friday 9 October 2020	Email
12.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Latest news and events from Warminster Our Community Matters for 10/09/2020	Email
12.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Urgent closure A350 Westbury 15/10	Email
13.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Temporary closure of Copheap Lane Warminster	Email
13.10.20	Wiltshire Police	Speed Checks Conducted on the A350 Near Warminster 13/10/2020	Email
13.10.20	Katie Fielding – WALC	WALC newsletter - October	Email
14.10.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Get Safe Online Back To Basics 13/10/2020	Email
15.10.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Wiltshire School Childrens Creative Take on Staying Safe Online	Email
15.10.20	Warminster Town Council	Warminster Pledge – response required	Email
17.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Wiltshire Council Update For Town And Parish Councils – Friday 16 October on behalf of Cllr Whitehead	Email
19.10.20	St Giles Church Imber	St Giles Church, Imber - Newsletter No 136 -OPEN DAYS CANCELLED!!	Email
20.10.20	Wiltshire Police	Warminster Community Area - Local Impactive Crimes -1st to 18th October 2020	Email
20.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Agenda for Western Area Planning Committee, Wednesday 28 October 2020, 3.00 pm	Email

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20.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Notification of Western Area Planning Committee - 28th October 2020 - 19/07647/REM - Land North West Of Boreham Mill, Warminster	Email
20.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Briefing Note 20-33 - Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO)	Email
21.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Please see the attached TTRN for Imber Road, Warminster 13th November This supersedes the original Notice distributed with the original works date of 02nd November.	Email
26.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Wiltshire Council Update – Friday 23 October on behalf of Cllr Whitehead	Email
26.10.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Refurbishment Begins on New Warminster Police Station 23/10/2020	Email
26.10.20	Wiltshire Police	Refurbishment of new Warminster Police Station communications	Email
26.10.20	Wiltshire Police	Witness Appeal To Serious Collision on A36 26/10/2020	Email
26.10.20	Warminster Town Council	Mayors Notes 17-18	Email
26.10.20	Wiltshire Council	Urgent Closure Princecroft Lane, Warminster	Email
27.10.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Extra Police Patrols This Halloween As We Urge People To Ensure They Are Following Covid-19 Restrictions	Email
03.11.20	Wiltshire Council	Briefing Note 20-34 - Return to Streamlined Overview and Scrutiny	Email
03.11.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Local Impactive Crimes 19th October - 31st October 2020 03/11/2020	Email
04.11.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Neighbourhood Watch Our news November E- Newsletter 04/11/2020	Email
04.11.20	Great Western Railway	GWR services during lockdown	Email
06.11.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Scam Warning - Fake Paypal Emails 06/11/2020	Email
09.11.20	Defence Infrastructure Organisation (DIO) Forestry Team	Update on Ash Dieback works on MOD land bordering the A345	Email
09.11.20	Wiltshire Council	Wiltshire Council: Residents can access support from Wiltshire Wellbeing Hub	Email
09.11.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Specials Recruitment Is Open 09/11/2020	Email

09.11.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Protect Your Passw0rd National Campaign Launched By Neighbourhood Watch 09/11/2020	Email
09.11.20	Neighbourhood Alert	Wiltshire Police Is Raising Awareness about Knife Crime As Part of National Campaign 09/11/2020	Email
09.11.20	Wiltshire Council	Planning decisions for September and October	Email



# Treasury Management Policy 2020-2021

#### 1. Overview

- 1.1 This document gives guidance on borrowing and investments by the Town Council and highlights that the Council is committed to treasury management to ensure that:
  - Capital expenditure plans are affordable;
  - All external borrowing and other long-term liabilities are within prudent and sustainable levels;
  - Treasury management decisions are taken in accordance with good professional practice.

### 2. Introduction

2.1 The Town Council currently has, at March 2020, £720,000 of General and Earmarked reserves spread across its current and instant access accounts, of which £373,000 is currently in CCLA's PSDF Account. In summary the reserves break down as follows:

General Reserve	£209,950
Capital Projects (incl CIL)	£348,900
Devolved Services	£ 37,600
CCTV	£ 13,850
Other Earmarked Funds	£113,700

2.2 Leaving these funds in the normal day-to-day bank accounts achieves a poor rate of return and the Council acknowledges the importance of prudently investing the temporarily surplus funds held on behalf of the community.

## 3. Investment Objectives

- 3.1 The Council's investment priorities are the security of reserves and liquidity of its investments.
- 3.2 The Council will aim to achieve the optimum return on its investments commensurate with proper levels of security and liquidity.
- 3.3 All investments will be made in sterling.
- 3.4 The Department for Communities and Local Government maintains that borrowing of monies purely to invest, or to lend and make a return, is unlawful and this Council will not engage in such activity.

## 4. Specified Investments

- 4.1 Specified investments are those offering high security and high liquidity, made in sterling and with a maturing of no more than one year.
- 4.2 For the prudent management of its treasury balances, maintaining sufficient levels of security and liquidity, the Council will use:
  - Deposits with banks, building societies, local authorities or other public authorities. Churches, Charities and Local Authorities Investment Management Ltd (CCLA) in 'The Public Sector Deposit Fund'.

## 5. Non-Specified Investments

5.1 Non-specified investments have greater potential risks – examples include investment in the money market, stocks and shares. The Council will not use this type of investment.

## 6. Liquidity of investments

- 6.1 The Responsible Financial Officer will determine the maximum period for which funds may prudently be committed so as not to compromise liquidity.
- 6.2 Investments will be regarded as commencing on the date the commitment to invest is entered into, rather than the date on which the dues are paid over to the counterparty.

## 7. Long-Term Investments

7.1 It is not anticipated that the Council will enter into long-term investments beyond one year without advice from its accountants.

## 8. Investment Reports

- 8.1 Interest income is identified in the monthly management accounts and reported monthly and year to date.
- 8.2 The CCLA 'Public Sector Deposit Fund' is an instant access account, with funds returned to the Council's current account on the same day if the request is sent by 11am.
- 8.2 Investment programme recommendations:
  - (a) Approximately 6 weeks Gross Expenditure to be held in the Council's Instant Access Bank Account (currently with HSBC). (Currently appr. £150,000).
  - (b) Balance of all Funds to be held in CCLA PSDF.
  - (c) Precept when received invest each instalment in CCLA PSDF.
  - (d) Draw down 1 month's Net Expenditure from PSDF to Instant Access Account. (Currently appr. £100,000).

## 9. Approval and Mechanism

9.1 The outline figures in (a) and (b) above are commended to the Council for approval and once approved the Town Clerk will carry out all transactions in the normal way. Investigation will be made to improve the rate from CCLA the but will consider other institutions and take into account high street presence, accessibility of funds, service level, bank charges and ethical credentials.

## 10. Earmarked Reserves

- 10.1 The Council will maintain reserves for the following reasons:
  - (a) A sum equivalent to a minimum of three months net revenue expenditure is held in the General Reserve in line with good practice. The amount currently required is a minimum of £275,000.
  - (b) The Capital Reserve has been built up to meet any needs identified in the Strategic and Service Delivery Plan or for unexpected expenditure or emergencies.
  - (c) Other reserves held have been identified for specific purposes or future development, to meet commitments and will be maintained as necessary.

## 11. External Borrowing Strategy

- 11.1 The Council acknowledges the importance of borrowing funds and the financial impact on the authority.
- 11.2 During the 2018-2019 financial year it is not anticipated that the Council will have any need to borrow funds for any of its projects. However, for any borrowing the Council would use the Public Works Loan Board which has strict guidelines on applications and the normal processes would be followed.
- 11.3 For the existing borrowing in place, provision is made in the revenue budget to repay the borrowing within the planned period.

This policy will be reviewed by Council at the Annual Meeting of the Council, May 2021.

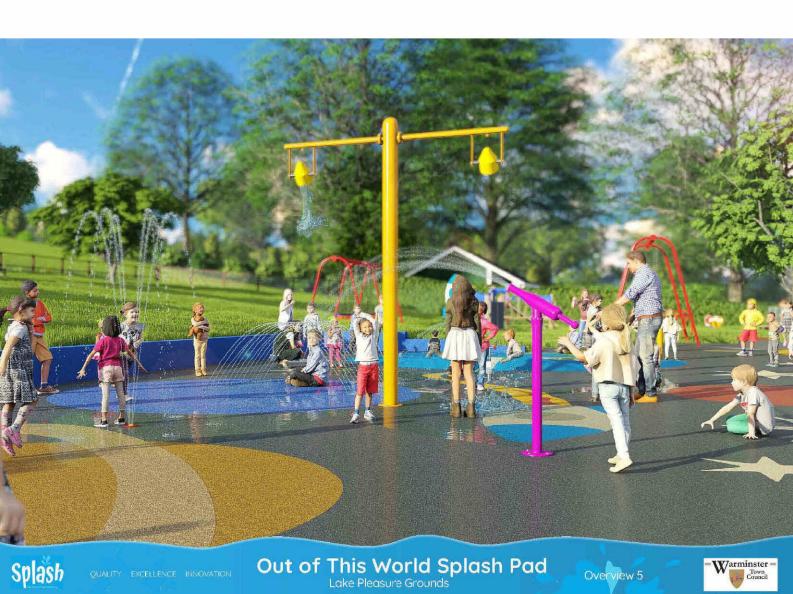


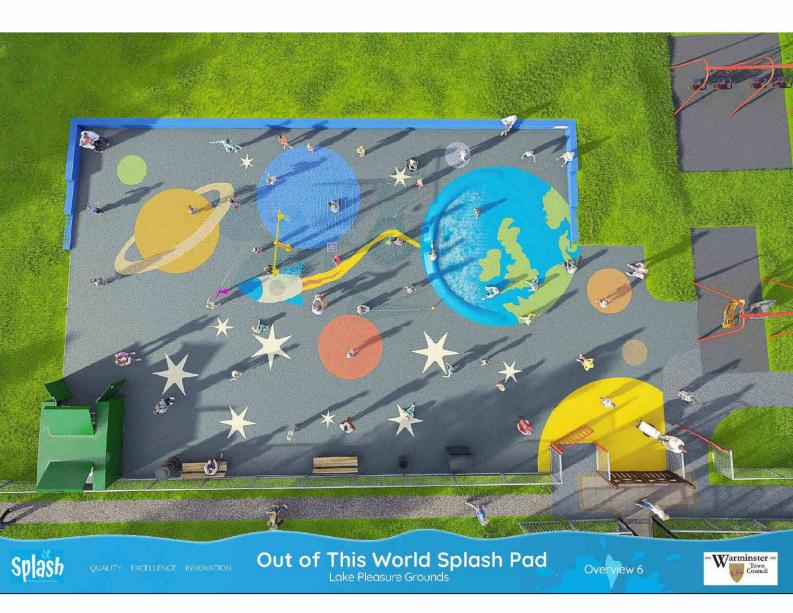




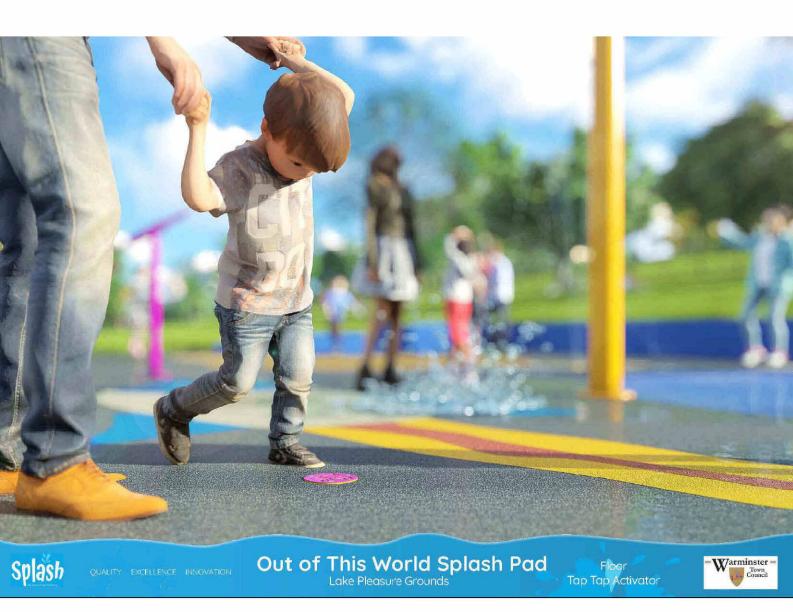






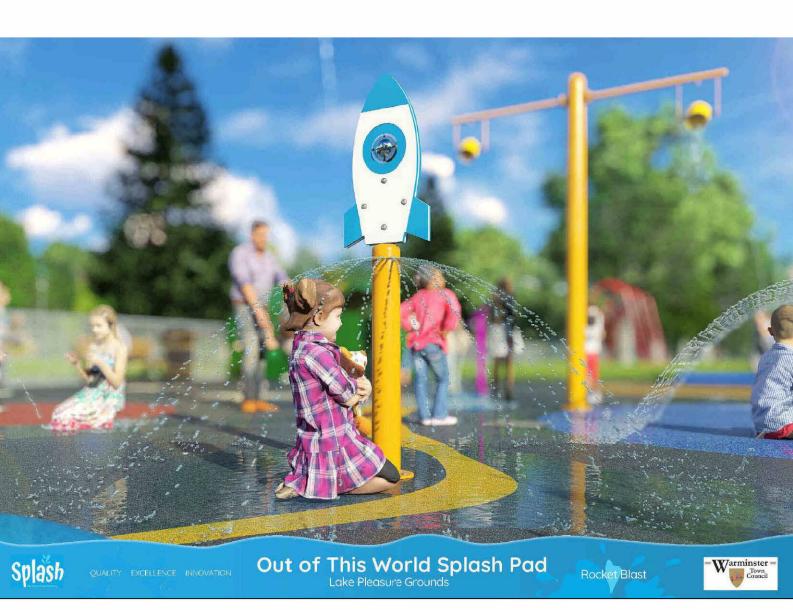




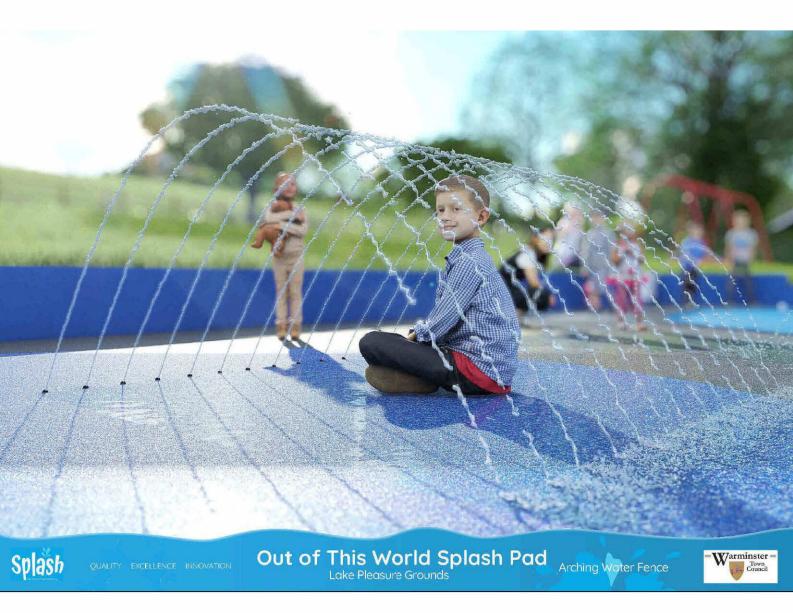








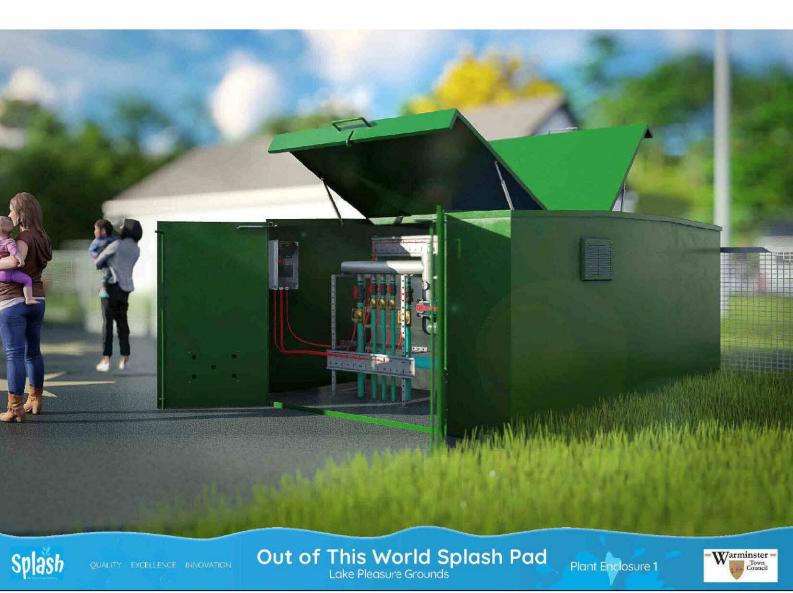




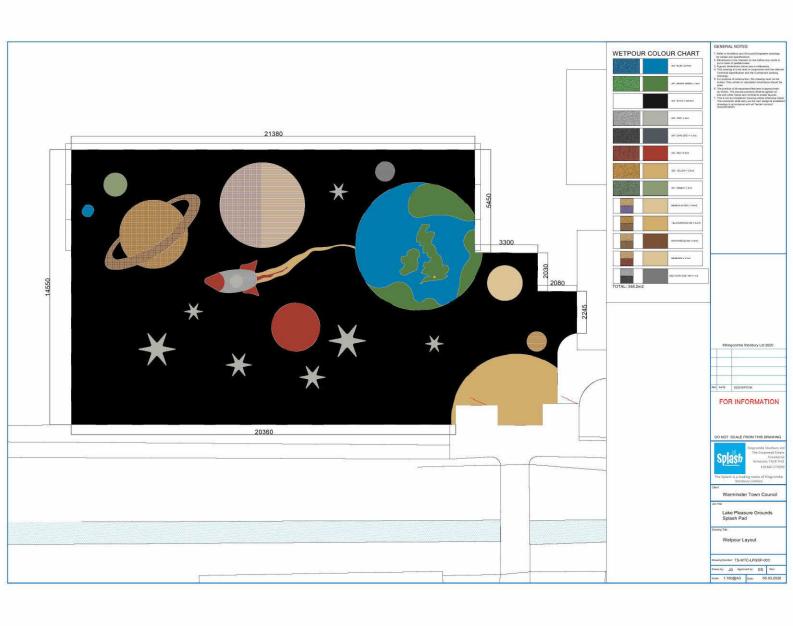


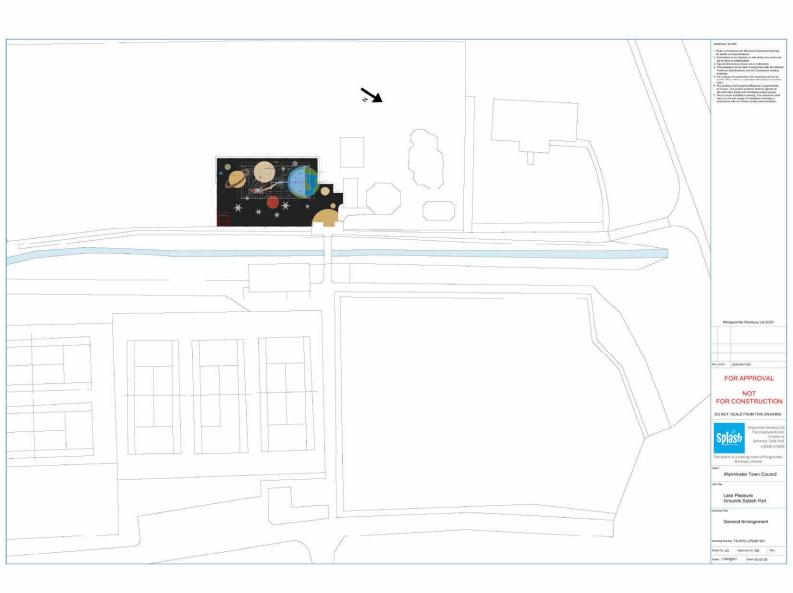


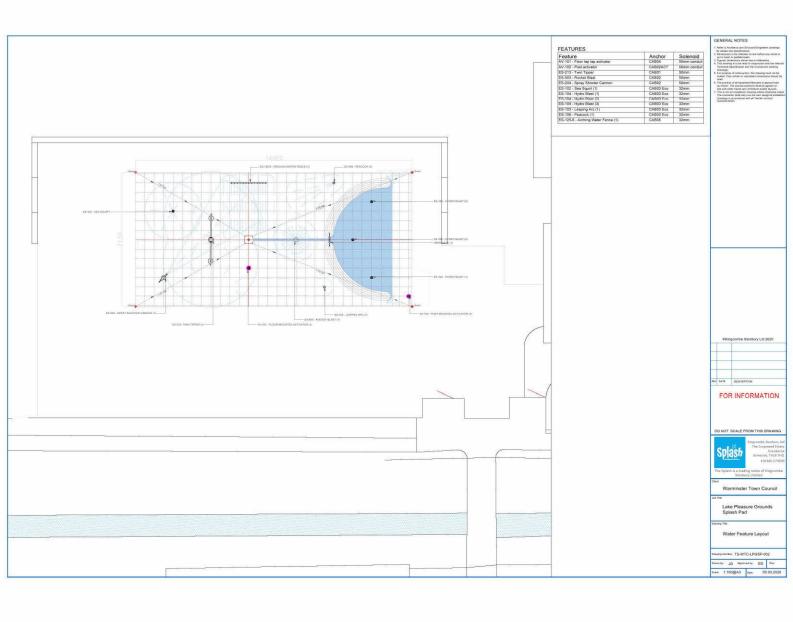












## Warminster Town Council – Climate and Ecological Emergency Strategy

Many town councils up and down the country have declared a 'climate and ecological emergency' and have produced strategy and action plans to reduce carbon emissions to combat climate change and to protect wildlife and habitats at a local level.

Warminster Town Council (WTC) acknowledges the climate and ecological emergency, and we are committed to action. We acknowledge the global biodiversity crisis, described by the UN as the 6th Mass Extinction, and we recognise we all have the responsibility to act now to halt the decline of our wildlife.

As any town council, with limited resources, and without environmental experts within our ranks, we will not boast that we alone can solve every issue al. We have asked ourselves, and will continue to ask ourselves, what do the people of Warminster need from their town council in the face of the climate crisis?

At present, our policy, focus and commitment is to encourage, assist and empower our local residents, schools and businesses to take individual and collective responsibility to reduce carbon emissions and create a better and more sustainable environment here in Warminster for both human health and our local wildlife.

We will listen to and support the town in its endeavors and try wherever we can to lead by example in our day to day activities as the town council. We have made a pledge and invite you as residents of Warminster to make your own pledge, so that together we can make a real and measurable difference. We will consider the environmental, social and financial impacts on all our activities.

#### **Our Commitment**

As the town council we know that we must lead by example, by looking at our own activities, and we must make changes to our own day to day business to reduce our carbon emissions. And we will record our progress, with a commitment to net zero emissions by 2030.

But we are just a small part of the jigsaw, or course. More important, is that we pledge to look beyond our own activities, and to support, encourage and (where possible) influence other stakeholder groups within the town to combat the climate and ecological emergency. So, as well as our net zero emissions target by 2030, we will implement the following Climate Change Strategy.

## Warminster Town Council's Climate Change Strategy

1. To the residents of Warminster.

In coordination with community groups within the town such as Sustainable Warminster, Wiltshire Wildlife Trust and Incredible Edible Community Garden, we pledge to encourage and assist residents in their attempts to reduce carbon emissions in their day-to-day lives. We will do this by supporting and endorsing a series of initiatives, schemes and groups within the town, all focused to help residents make meaningful changes in their day-to-day activities, and which will - collectively - have a dramatic impact on reducing carbon emissions within the town.

We will facilitate not for profit community groups with environmental initiatives, such as a 'repair shop', sustainability workshops, a 'community fridge' scheme, an allotment/garden surplus scheme to reduce food waste, or a borrowing library for electrical items or seldom used power tools.

For households, we will support schemes to enable more local homeowners generate renewable energy and make our homes more energy efficient.

We will also look to capitalise on the funding and lead from central government in greatly extending and improving the town's cycling path infrastructure - implementing the schemes laid out in the local Neighbourhood Plan (2012) improving signage of existing routes.

We will also look to capitalise on the funding from central government in greatly extending and improving the town's cycling path infrastructure. We will also use other funding approaches such as CATG and the Path Improvement Grant Scheme (PIGS) 3.

We will aim to improve signage on existing cycle routes, implement the schemes laid out in the Warminster Neighbourhood Plan (2015) and develop further cycle tracks including new permissive cycle routes created by discussion with landowners.

We will encourage walking to school, to work, to shops and for leisure by promoting footpaths and pedestrian safety. We will support measures by Wiltshire Council and Operators to improve public transport to reduce car traffic.

We will ask you as residents to take your own Warminster Pledge and councillors will do the same. The town council will use its website and social media to collect pledges, and we will provide information and support to residents to make this a worthwhile and positive experience for us all.

## 2. To Businesses within Warminster

We will endeavour to work with businesses, both large and small, within Warminster to improve both the carbon footprint of individual businesses, as well as exploring what they can do to assist local residents in being more carbon efficient and environmentally friendly. We will endeavour to attract new businesses which bring environmentally beneficial industry and 'green recovery' to the town.

We will implement a 2021 local 'Green Award' for independent businesses within the town who lead the way in carbon emission reduction.

We have a number of national supermarkets within the town which (together) account for the majority of food and household purchases in the town. We will look to these stores to reduce single use plastic, stock some locally produced food, reduce food waste, support the food bank, provide water filling stations, provide battery and other recycling facilities, and encourage paper bags and reusable string bags. We will also look at potential cross-over schemes between shops and residents/town council such as recycling cardboard or coffee grounds within composting schemes.

We will develop our relationship with the Borehill Biodigester operators, Malaby Biogas, and explore ways of working with them to champion low carbon gas and electricity generation and

fertiliser production from anaerobic digestion. We will encourage business opportunities for collecting domestic and commercial food waste in the Warminster area.

#### To Schools

We acknowledge that there is a great deal of interest and appetite amongst the numerous schools within the Warminster area to encourage children in green initiatives, and to take additional measures within schools to reduce their own waste and carbon footprint.

Warminster Town Council pledges to support joined up initiatives between primary and secondary schools and to direct (wherever possible) grant donations to schools in support of their green agendas. It is acknowledged that reducing food waste within schools and educating children about the serious consequences on the environment caused by food waste, is a major aim. Reducing paper and single use plastics within schools, school travel plans, and energy consumption in school buildings are also major considerations.

We would hope that all our schools will take an active interest in the Warminster Pledge, and that the children will help us develop and evolve the pledge to benefit their futures.

## 4. In respect of Warminster's green spaces

As an historic rural town, we acknowledge our additional responsibility to oversee the management of our green spaces and wildlife areas – in association with other stakeholders and landowners such as Wiltshire Wildlife Trust, who manage the town's Smallbrook Meadows nature reserve.

With the wonderful Lake Pleasure Grounds and Smallbrook Reserve at the heart of Warminster, and flanked on each side by the Longleat Forest, Copheap, Hensford Marsh, Cotley Hill and Grovelands, we are ideally placed. We must also consider our position amongst the mosaic of habitats in the wider landscape, including the ecologically sensitive areas such as the Wylye Valley (Special Area of Conservation) and Salisbury plain (the biggest expanse of chalk grass land in Europe). Dedicated joined up thinking is required to create and preserve as many wildlife corridors and fully functioning green spaces as is possible within the town. As part of this initiative, the town council will conduct a review of areas of green verge and public land within the town and shall re-evaluate management of these areas in the best interests of wildlife, as well as amenity.

This will include an allocation of protected conservation areas of grasses and wildflowers, which will be left to 're-wild'. This will not only provide ground cover and shelter for birds, insects, reptiles and small mammals, but will also reduce fossil fuel use through mechanical grass cutting. We will also commit to phasing out the use of glyphosate weed killers and reducing use of all other herbicides and pesticides, to assist pollinators and return health to the soil.

We will also identify areas for the planting of trees or shrubs and hedgerows. The town council will work with local residents and interest groups to allocate areas in the town which can be safely replanted, in a way most beneficial to wildlife and carbon sequestration. Where possible the town council will seek guidance from groups such as Wiltshire Wildlife, Sustainable Warminster and Longleat Estate in making such decisions. We will also sign up to the Woodland Trust's *Tree Charter*.

In Smallbrook Nature Reserve and the surrounding land, we pledge to continue the work of local wildlife groups in protecting our native wildlife, trees and plants, including habitat protection for our thriving populations of amphibians, bats, otters and water voles in the Smallbrook area. We will continue to look at schemes to reduce road traffic and the impact of lighting around the most sensitive areas.

We will protect the water quality and habitats of the chalk stream watercourses which rise from Cley Hill and flow through the town, park and nature reserve to form the Were/Swan and Wylye rivers.

## 5. In respect of our dealings with Wiltshire Council

Warminster Town Council pledges to join with other like-minded neighbouring parish and town councils to keep the climate and ecological emergency agenda in the forefront of all our dealings with Wiltshire Council, and we pledge to report to the people of Warminster on joint actions at county and area board level designed to directly support climate change mitigation.

We acknowledge that the residents of Warminster will be looking to their town council to implement and display demonstrable changes in this regard.

This will include green initiatives and climate sensitive considerations in all local planning discussions at town council level. We will protect our local trees wherever possible as part of our climate pledge and will have our Climate Emergency Strategy at the forefront of our decisions involving any planning applications for tree or hedgerow removal, or reductions. We will report to the residents of Warminster at regular intervals on all such measures taken by them.

It will also involve the inclusion in the next Neighbourhood Plan (or any subsequent forms of public consultation by Government) and Town Plan of explicit environmental considerations, including green spaces, water courses, wildlife corridors, trees and hedgerows as well as renewable energy generation and higher environmental standards for building extensions and new development.

\*: