

16th October 2023

# **AGENDA**

Dear Councillor,

You are summoned to a meeting of the:

# Parks and Estate Committee on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023 at 7.00pm, to be held at the Civic Centre, Sambourne Road, Warminster, BA12 8LB

# Membership:

Cllr Allensby (West)	Cllr Macfarlane (West)
Cllr Brett (East)	Cllr Parks (North)
Cllr Fraser (West) Chairman	Vacancy (Broadway)
CIIr Jones (East) Vice Chairman	Mr Peter Hewitt (Advisor)

Copied to all other members for information.

Members of the public are welcome to attend meetings of the council and committees, unless excluded due to the confidential nature of the business.

If you wish to contribute during public participation, please contact <a href="mailto:admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk">admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk</a> prior to the meeting to enable this to be facilitated. If you do not wish to attend in person, the chairman may read out your contribution.

Yours sincerely

**Tom Dommett (CiLCA)** 

**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. Minutes

- **3.1 To approve and sign** as a correct record, the minutes of the Parks and Estates Committee meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023; 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 Parks and Estates Committee meeting held on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2023.

# 4. Chairman's Announcements

**To note** any announcements made by the chairman.

Standing Orders will be suspended to allow for public participation.

# 5. <u>Public Participation</u>

**To enable** members of the public to address the committee 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 chairperson will read any statements submitted in advance.

Standing Orders will be reinstated following public participation.

#### 6. Reports from Unitary Authority Members

To note reports provided which are relevant to this committee.

#### 7. Parks and Estate Manager's report

**Report** attached for members information. (See attached) Members to Note.

#### 8. Accounts

**Members to note** the accounts for the Parks and Estates Committee up to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023. **(See attached).** 

#### 9. Ashley Coombe Open Space tree planting

At the Parks and Estate Committee meeting on 13<sup>th</sup> March 2023 members debated the planting of trees at Ashley Coombe. *PE/22/080* 

Members resolved to engage with the community to ascertain their interest in this project and to ask Cllr Syme for clarification of the type of trees requested. Members considered installation of one bench and requested that it be passed onto CiL for the funding.

A consultation letter was duly sent out to the residents. Of the 50 letters sent out five responses were received, four in favour and one opposed to any further planting. The letter in opposition to further planting was concerned the view would be spoiled.



The Parks and Estate Manager feels that planting a small number of low growing, older standard native trees e.g., Acer Campestre (Field maple) would be preferable at a cost of around £200 per tree.

**Members to resolve** whether to proceed with the planting.

#### 11. Street Weed Treatment

**Members to resolve** to carry out the recommended programme of weed control. (See attached).

# 12. Play Area Works Plan 2023

**Members to resolve** to endorse the report and schedule of work prepared by the Parks and Estate Manager and recommend the inclusion of the figures in the draft budget to be presented to Full Council. **(See attached).** 

# 13. **Draft Budget 2024/25**

The Clerk is working on the Draft budget for the Council which will be presented to Full Council on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Members are requested to recommend any budget proposals relevant to this committee that they wish to be considered as part of the budget setting process.

# 14. Memorial Bench

After the sad passing of Councillor Rob Fryer, **members to decide** whether they wish to place a bench in his memory in the Lake Pleasure Grounds.

# 15. Communications

**Members to** decide on items requiring a press release and to confirm a spokesperson if required.

The date of the next Parks and Estate Committee will be Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January 2024 at 7.00pm.

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.



#### Parks and Estate Manager's Report: Parks and Estates Committee 23/10/2023

## **Lake Pleasure Grounds**

- 1 Lake: Officers have begun looking at options to replace the sheet piling around the lake and have had a meeting with Wiltshire Wildlife Trust. A report will be presented to committee in due course.
- **Pavilion Café:** Continues to perform strongly despite changeable weather over the summer.
- 3 Play area: Weekly inspections continue to be carried out.
- **Skatepark:** Is open and being well used, the Skatepark Jam will go ahead next year after being cancelled due to bad weather.
- 5 Lake Pleasure Grounds public conveniences: The temporary toilet has been a resounding success. These have now been closed for the winter.
- **Splash Pad**: The splash pad has had a very good year despite the weather. This has now been closed and winterised.
- 7 Elizabeth Collyns Garden: Open and being well used.
- **8** Flower Beds: The flowers will be taken out as soon as they are looking poor.
- **9 Boats on the lake:** Now closed after the most successful year to date despite the poor summer.
- **MUGA area:** now refurbished and in use.
- **Boat House:** work has been instructed to replace the 4 hand wash basins. The contractor has yet to confirm a date.
- **12** Putting green: Is now closed.
- **Tennis Courts:** The courts have been well used over the summer with pay to play and membership bookings on target for the year.
- **14** Tree works: Any required works will take place over the winter.
- **Scout hut**: The working group continues to discus the possible replacement.

#### **Outside Services**

- **16** Play Areas: Weekly inspections continue.
- 17 Public Toilets: Central Car Park public conveniences: All toilets are open.
  Officers will look for alternatives to the hand wash facilities once the new lease has been signed with Wiltshire Council.
- **18** War Memorial: Nothing to report.
- **19** Closed churchyards: Nothing to report.
- **Hanging baskets and Tubs:** Have struggled with the extreme heat at the beginning of September and have now been taken down.
- **Sweeper (Basil Brushes):** Officers continue speaking with local landowners to look at the possibility of having a nearby secure, compliant waste tip site.
- 22 Street Furniture: Nothing to report

Stuart Legg 10.10.2023

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# Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
208	Town Park Splashpad								
4012	Water Rates	891	4,468	10,000	5,532		5,532	44.7%	
4014	Electricity and Gas	2,388	5,912	5,000	(912)		(912)	118.2%	
4020	Consumables & Other Expenses	62	963	1,500	537		537	64.2%	
4022	Postage & Telephone	0	38	200	162		162	19.2%	
4036	Repairs and Renewals	1,253	2,381	5,000	2,619		2,619	47.6%	
4037	Maintenance Contracts	0	28	7,500	7,472		7,472	0.4%	
4040	Equipment/Furniture	0	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
To	wn Park Splashpad :- Indirect Expenditure	4,594	13,791	29,700	15,909	0	15,909	46.4%	0
	Net Expenditure	(4,594)	(13,791)	(29,700)	(15,909)				

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# Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
209	Outside Services								
1193	Miscellaneous Income	0	1,536	0	(1,536)			0.0%	
	Outside Services :- Income		1,536		(1,536)				
4001	Salaries	19,468	98,398	263,138	164,740		164,740	37.4%	v
4003		69	69	0	(69)		(69)	0.0%	
	Uniform	0	305	1,500	1,195		1,195	20.3%	
	Training	0	195	3,500	3,305		3,305	5.6%	
	Rent	0	650	573	(77)		(77)	113.4%	
4020		3	1,791	2,500	709		709	71.6%	
	Postage & Telephone	154	785	2,400	1,615		1,615	32.7%	
	IT (Website & Email)	97	485	3,000	2,516		2,516	16.1%	
	Insurance	0	874	950	2,516 76		2,516 76	92.0%	
		-			7.000			0.0%	
		0	0	7,000	,		7,000		
	Repairs and Renewals	0	85	5,000	4,915		4,915	1.7%	
4037	Maintenance Contracts	0	288	0	(288)		(288)	0.0%	
4038	Grounds Maintenance	0	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%	
4040	Equipment/Furniture	0	3,787	5,500	1,713		1,713	68.8%	
4041	Equipment Hire	333	863	5,000	4,137		4,137	17.3%	
4042	Vehicle Costs	2,461	13,576	30,000	16,424		16,424	45.3%	
4044	Tree Works	0	425	6,000	5,575		5,575	7.1%	
4045	Flood Wardens	0	0	200	200		200	0.0%	
4803	Baskets & Tubs	3,363	3,363	3,500	137		137	96.1%	
	Outside Services :- Indirect Expenditure	25,948	125,937	340,761	214,824	0	214,824	37.0%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	(25,948)	(124,401)	(340,761)	(216,360)				

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# Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
210	Town Park								
1006	Rent - 23 Weymouth St	385	1,926	3,980	2,054			48.4%	
1020	Town Park Events Income	0	3,803	3,000	(803)			126.8%	
1550	Boats Income	370	4,808	7,000	2,192			68.7%	
	Town Park :- Income	755	10,536	13,980	3,444			75.4%	
4001	Salaries	1,532	4,482	13,523	9,041		9,041	33.1%	_
4012	Water Rates	1,182	5,650	7,000	1,350		1,350	80.7%	
4014	Electricity and Gas	309	1,454	3,000	1,546		1,546	48.5%	
4020	Consumables & Other Expenses	0	591	5,000	4,409		4,409	11.8%	
4028	Insurance	0	1,288	1,400	112		112	92.0%	
4035	Refuse Collection\Bin Emptying	1,087	3,904	0	(3,904)		(3,904)	0.0%	
4036	Repairs and Renewals	0	2,704	10,000	7,296		7,296	27.0%	
4037	Maintenance Contracts	0	28	1,500	1,472		1,472	1.9%	
4040	Equipment/Furniture	74	3,675	4,000	325		325	91.9%	
4041	Equipment Hire	0	782	1,000	218		218	78.2%	
4085	Town Park Events	1,032	9,939	10,000	61		61	99.4%	
5359	Tfr from EMR Market Towns	(285)	(4,078)	0	4,078		4,078	0.0%	
	Town Park :- Indirect Expenditure	4,932	30,419	56,423	26,004	0	26,004	53.9%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	(4,177)	(19,883)	(42,443)	(22,560)				

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## Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
212	Cemetery and Churchyard								
1212	Burial Fees	0	142	1,000	858			14.2%	
	Cemetery and Churchyard :- Income	0	142	1,000	858			14.2%	0
4011	Rates	31	159	290	131		131	55.0%	
4028	Insurance	0	1,012	1,100	88		88	92.0%	
Cemete	ery and Churchyard :- Indirect Expenditure	31	1,171	1,390	219	0	219	84.3%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	(31)	(1,029)	(390)	639				

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# Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
214	Public Conveniences (TP & CCP)								
4012	Water Rates	348	2,574	2,500	(74)		(74)	102.9%	
4014	Electricity and Gas	718	3,374	3,000	(374)		(374)	112.5%	
4016	Cleaning	0	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%	
4020	Consumables & Other Expenses	197	939	1,500	561		561	62.6%	
4028	Insurance	0	184	200	16		16	92.0%	
4036	Repairs and Renewals	1,247	8,089	3,000	(5,089)		(5,089)	269.6%	
4040	Equipment/Furniture	0	75	0	(75)		(75)	0.0%	
Р	ublic Conveniences (TP & CCP) :- Indirect Expenditure	2,510	15,234	11,200	(4,034)	0	(4,034)	136.0%	0
	Net Expenditure	(2,510)	(15,234)	(11,200)	4.034				

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## Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
216	Pavilion Cafe								
1600	Pavillion Cafe Sales	25,202	77,668	80,000	2,332			97.1%	
	Pavilion Cafe :- Income	25,202	77,668	80,000	2,332			97.1%	0
3540	Pavilion Purchases	8,352	28,690	28,000	(690)		(690)	102.5%	
	Pavilion Cafe :- Direct Expenditure	8,352	28,690	28,000	(690)	0	(690)	102.5%	
4001	Salaries	4,532	20,306	40,217	19,911		19,911	50.5%	
4007	Uniform	0	18	150	132		132	11.8%	
4008	Training	0	0	250	250		250	0.0%	
4010	Health & Safety	0	0	100	100		100	0.0%	
4011	Rates	279	1,400	2,950	1,550		1,550	47.5%	
4014	Electricity and Gas	796	2,752	2,500	(252)		(252)	110.1%	
4020	Consumables & Other Expenses	630	2,331	3,000	669		669	77.7%	
4022	Postage & Telephone	28	141	300	159		159	46.9%	
4023	Printing & Stationery	0	0	100	100		100	0.0%	
4025	IT (Website & Email)	12	83	100	17		17	83.0%	
4035	Refuse Collection\Bin Emptying	0	226	0	(226)		(226)	0.0%	
4036	Repairs and Renewals	0	2,430	2,000	(430)		(430)	121.5%	
4037	Maintenance Contracts	0	0	200	200		200	0.0%	
4040	Equipment/Furniture	0	91	500	409		409	18.2%	
4055	Stocktaking Fees	0	0	240	240		240	0.0%	
4061	Streamline Charges	404	959	1,400	441		441	68.5%	
	Pavilion Cafe :- Indirect Expenditure	6,681	30,736	54,007	23,271	0	23,271	56.9%	0
	Net Income over Expenditure	10,169	18,242	(2,007)	(20,249)				

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# Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
217	Play Areas								
4010	Health & Safety	0	0	500	500		500	0.0%	
4020	Consumables & Other Expenses	16	49	500	451		451	9.7%	
4036	Repairs and Renewals	0	3,155	10,000	6,845		6,845	31.6%	
4040	Equipment/Furniture	0	1,059	1,000	(59)		(59)	105.9%	
5338	Tfr from EMR Play Area	0	(618)	0	618		618	0.0%	
	Play Areas :- Indirect Expenditure	16	3,645	12,000	8,355	0	8,355	30.4%	0
	Net Expenditure	(16)	(3,645)	(12,000)	(8,355)				

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# Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
219	Sweeper								
4007	Uniform	0	0	50	50		50	0.0%	
4036	Repairs and Renewals	773	1,056	2,000	944		944	52.8%	
4090	Sweeper Leasing	2,056	10,281	24,675	14,394		14,394	41.7%	
4091	Sweeper Consumables	0	228	2,500	2,272		2,272	9.1%	
4092	Sweeper Fuel	327	2,807	9,000	6,193		6,193	31.2%	
4093	Sweeper Waste Disposal	930	6,948	20,000	13,052		13,052	34.7%	
	Sweeper :- Indirect Expenditure	4,086	21,320	58,225	36,905	0	36,905	36.6%	0
	Net Expenditure	(4,086)	(21,320)	(58,225)	(36,905)				

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## Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
220	Depot								
4011	Rates	375	1,881	3,950	2,069		2,069	47.6%	
4014	Electricity and Gas	84	373	750	377		377	49.8%	
4018	Rent	3,971	11,679	16,000	4,321		4,321	73.0%	
4025	IT (Website & Email)	57	284	500	216		216	56.8%	
4036	Repairs and Renewals	0	0	1,000	1,000		1,000	0.0%	
4037	Maintenance Contracts	0	57	1,000	943		943	5.7%	
4040	Equipment/Furniture	0	528	100	(428)		(428)	527.7%	
	Depot :- Indirect Expenditure	4,486	14,802	23,300	8,498	0	8,498	63.5%	0
	Net Expenditure	(4,486)	(14,802)	(23,300)	(8,498)				

## **Warminster Town Council**

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## Detailed Income & Expenditure by Budget Heading 31/08/2023

Month No: 5

		Actual Current Mth	Actual Year To Date	Current Annual Bud	Variance Annual Total	Committed Expenditure	Funds Available	% Spent	Transfer to/from EMR
221	Tennis Courts								
1602	Tennis Court Income	912	2,925	0	(2,925)			0.0%	
	Tennis Courts :- Income	912	2,925		(2,925)				0
4040	Equipment/Furniture	0	320	0	(320)		(320)	0.0%	
4062	Stripe Fees	57	147	0	(147)		(147)	0.0%	
4063	Go Cardless Fees	6	30	0	(30)		(30)	0.0%	
6323	Tfr to Tennis Courts	849	2,428	0	(2,428)		(2,428)	0.0%	
	Tennis Courts :- Indirect Expenditure	912	2,925	0	(2,925)	0	(2,925)		0
	Net Income over Expenditure	0	0	0	0				

#### REPORT FOR DECISION

# Parks and Estates Committee meeting 23rd October 2023

#### **Street Weed Treatment**

#### Recommendation

# **Purpose of the Report**

- 1) To update members regarding the current situation with weed control.
- 2) To present a solution to improve the weed control in Warminster.

#### **Background**

In the recent strategic planning priorities list members choose spraying of roadside weeds as one of their top priorities. Officers have therefore compiled this report to present members with a solution.

In previous years Wiltshire Council through the contractor have carried out a programme of weed control for all roads within the town. Due to pressure on budgets Wiltshire council are no longer providing this service.







#### **Findings**

This year weed growth was rapid given the favourable conditions of warm, wet weather. As the weeds are no longer being controlled many of the streets are looking untidy with the town council receiving many complaints about weed growth on roads and pavements.

The road sweeper manages to keep on top of the weeds on the main arterial roads and the town centre as these are swept regularly. However, the sweeper cannot keep on top of the weeds on pavements or in residential estates where the visit frequency is reduced.

The barrow man does hoe weeds on pavements, but this is very labour intensive, and he cannot cover the whole town in the required time.

#### **Summary and recommendation**

Officers believe that in order to ensure the weed growth is controlled in the future, the Town Council will need to carry out a programme of weed control.

This will involve weeds on all streets and pavements through the town being treated once per year with any specific areas re treated as required.

Officers have spoken to Wiltshire Council and agreement will be needed from them before work can go ahead.

(Officers have looked at alternatives to spraying. These would cost significantly more and are likely to be less effective.)

Officers recommend members resolve to carry out the programme of weed control.

#### **Financial and Resource Implications**

The estimated total cost is £3500 and can be added to the budget for 2023/24.

#### **Legal Implications and Legislative Powers**

The Council will need to gain the permission of Wiltshire council to carry out this work. Wiltshire Council have suggested that this could be carried out under licence.

## **Environmental Implications**

Spaying onto hard services.

#### **Risk Assessment**

Risk assessments will be carried out prior to any work being undertaken,

#### **Crime and Disorder**

Officers are not aware of any issues the council should consider under the Crime and Disorder Act.

## Parks and Estate Committee meeting 23rd October 2023

#### Play area works plan

#### Recommendation

That the committee endorse the report and the schedule of work, and these figures are used for the drafting of the budget to be presented to Full Council.

#### Purpose of the Report

Following the annual audit of the nine play areas maintained by Warminster Town Council (WTC), officers wish to alert members to the likely financial commitment over the coming years, and the effect this will have on future budgets and precepts. Quotes for replacement equipment will be presented to the committee for authorisation at the appropriate time.

#### **Background**

The council has been responsible for the play area in the Lake Pleasure Grounds since 2016. In 2020 leases were signed on a further eight play areas around the town. Since taking on these play areas, the council has spent money bringing them up to an acceptable level. This has included replacing safety surfaces, painting equipment, and ensuring the areas comply with all relevant health and safety standards. Members will be aware that weekly play area inspections continue to be conducted as does the annual RoSPA inspection. This year work will be carried out in the next few months in line with decisions taken by the committee.

# **Findings**

The Parks and Estate Manager and Park and Open Spaces Supervisor carried out the annual audit of play area equipment. The officers considered which items would need replacing within the next three to four years. These were then listed with approximate replacement costs. See table.

Play area	Equipment	Work to be completed	<b>Budget Cost</b>	Year
The Heathlands	Multiplay	Replace	£15,000.00	3
Fore Street	Timber Trail	Replace removed trail	£10,000.00	2
Pound street	Chainlink fencing	Replace	£3,000.00	2
		Removed, replace with		
The Dene	Rocker	climber	£7,000.00	2
Queensway	A and B	Replace	£15,000.00	1
	Gate	Replace	£2,000.00	1
Lake Pleasure Grounds	Tube slide	Replace	£15,000.00	2
	Tyre Swing	Replace	£10,000.00	1
	Red climber	replace	£12,000.00	3

Officers used this information to draw together a proposed programme of works for the next three years. Summarised below.

Year 1	
Tyre Swing	£10,000.00
A and B Climber	£15,000.00
Gate	£2,000.00

Year 2	
Timber trail	£10,000.00
Chainlink fence	£3,000.00
Climber	£7,000.00
Tube slide	£15,000.00

Year 3	
Multiplay	£15,000.00
climber	£12,000.00

This will help the council to budget and precept for play area improvements going forward.

# **Financial and Resource Implications**

The ongoing upgrading of play areas will need to be budgeted and precepted for annually.

# **Legal Implications and Legislative Powers**

The Council has the power to provide this service under the General Power of Competence.

## **Environmental Implications**

Officers are not aware of any issues the council should consider but will take into account the council's policies.

#### **Risk Assessment**

A risk assessment will be carried out before any work is carried out.

#### **Crime and Disorder**

Officers are not aware of any issues the council should consider under the Crime and Disorder Act.