



Delivering a brighter, greener future for all

**Welcome to the Warminster Town Council Newsletter:
January 2023**

Happy New Year

Warminster Town Council 0% increase in council tax

Warminster Town Council freezes its part of Council Tax.

Warminster Town Council has voted to freeze its part of Council Tax for 2023/24. For a band D property this is £212.82. That doesn't mean Council Tax overall is frozen, as Council Tax also goes to Wiltshire Council, the Police and Crime Commissioner and the Fire and Rescue Authority.

The Mayor of Warminster, Councillor Chris Robbins said:

"All councillors are very conscious of the financial problems facing most people after three of the most turbulent years in modern times. An inflation rate increase would have added another £22 or so onto people's bills, so we have protected them from that. The Council remains in a strong financial position to continue with delivering its existing services and activities."

Councillor Robbins added: "We have been fortunate to have received money from the Community Infrastructure Levy, from grants and from the Dewey Trust that has enabled us to deliver some projects at minimal cost to the Council Tax Payer. In 2022 the major example was the splash pad, a huge success and a great asset for the town. It has also boosted sales at the Pavilion Café."

"We are fortunate that the Council has been protected by having long term fixed rates deals on its energy supplies. We will continue to seek out value for money and provide quality services in the year ahead."

Christmas 2022 Wrapped-Up

It was wonderful to see families walking through the town admiring the Christmas windows and searching for Santa in the Spot the Santa Trail. Thank you to everyone for supporting these events and taking part.

People were invited to vote for their favourite Christmas window on the Warminster Town Council Facebook page. The Mayor of Warminster, Cllr. Robbins went along to award the prizes. The winners of the Christmas Window Competition were 1st Place: David Wiltshire Photography, 2nd Place: MS Charity Shop, Joint 3rd Place: Love Hair and Nails and G&B Griffin Jewellers. Congratulations!

The mayor's charity raffle at the Warminster Civic Centre Christmas Market raised over £1100 for the mayors' chosen charities. This year the mayor is supporting the Wessex MS Therapy Centre and Alzheimer's Support. Thank you to everyone who donated a prize or bought a raffle ticket.

Warminster Town Council and local businesses launched a Spot the Santa Trail hiding 20 Santa's in shop windows throughout the town. Families were invited to find all 20 Santa's making a list of shops where they were spotted. The winners of the Spot the Santa Trail were pulled from Santa's sack by the mayor and Father Christmas. Emily and Isabel Allison received a £50 voucher from The Works.

Ukrainian nationals being sponsored by families in Warminster hosted a bake sale in Warminster Civic Centre to raise funds for sleeping bags and essential items for people back home. Everyone was very generous and over £600 was raised.

Civic Award Winners

The Civic Award winners were honoured at a reception hosted by the Mayor of Warminster, Cllr Robbins. The Civic Award winners are nominated by the public and voted for by Warminster Town Councillors. The awards are given to highlight examples of community spirit, those who have 'gone the extra mile', those motivating others to act positively as well as for individual efforts.

The Civic Award Winners are:

Junior Civic Award 2022 - Jessica Williams who raised thousands of pounds for charity.

Green Civic Award 2022 - John Walpole & Clive Thomas, Volunteer Wardens for Wiltshire Wildlife Trust for more than 10 years managing and caring for Smallbrook Meadow Nature Reserve.

Civic Award 2022 - Michael Coleman a volunteer for over 16 years in the Warminster CCTV control room.

The Mayor of Warminster, Councillor Chris Robbins said, "I would like to congratulate all the winners and thank them on behalf of the people of Warminster for the contribution they make to our town. It is a delight and an inspiration to meet with this year's winners. We should never underestimate just how much a strong voluntary sector contributes to making Warminster such a wonderful place to live."



Michael Coleman, Civic Award Winner

Just some of the things the Town Council is responsible for:

- The Lake Pleasure Grounds
- The Pavilion Café
- 9 Play Areas
- Hanging baskets
- Street sweeper – 'Basil Brushes'
- Public Toilets in central car park
- The Obelisk and War Memorial
- Yeates Meadow
- CCTV for Warminster and Westbury

Volunteer Flood Warden

We are looking for a volunteer Flood Warden for the town centre.

Flood Wardens can help by:

- Reporting blocked drains, ditches and streams.
- Making notes when heavy rain occurs so better preventative measures can be put in place.
- Supporting residents in a designated area by directing them to where they can get advice.

Full training is provided along with protective clothing, equipment and support.
Please contact Warminster Town Council if you are interested in this role.



Warminster Town Crier

Mr Town Crier, as Warminster's new Town Crier, Rick Johnstone, would prefer to be anonymously known, has harboured a desire to get dressed up, put-on his stockings, don the tricorne (his hat!) and cry around town for some time! So, when the opportunity to audition for the honorary role arose in September '22, Rick grabbed it with both hands (avec bell, gloves and scroll!).

Rick sees his Town Crier's role as the perfect opportunity to become involved with the local community and to get to know people in the town, plus use his role to support local charitable causes when required. He recently in December cried for the Multiple Sclerosis Christmas Tombola – and he'd love to do lots more events like this! For him, it's also the perfect opportunity for the expression of the

communication principles he has been applying in various teaching settings for many years.

'Mr Town Crier' can be contacted for cries for all charitable organisations, openings and events at warminstertowncrier@gmail.com



Spring in the Park Sunday 7th May

The date is set for Spring in the Park 2023 and the planning for a spectacular weekend has begun. With the Coronation of King Charles III on Saturday 6th May we will be coming together on Sunday 7th May to celebrate this momentous occasion.

Save the date in your diaries and bring your family and friends to a day of fun and entertainment in the Warminster Lake Pleasure Grounds.

More information will be revealed on our Facebook page as plans are confirmed.

Upcoming Events

- Film Shows - third Wednesday of every month, doors open 1.30pm, Warminster Civic Centre, please see our website for film listing.
- Spring in the Park, Sunday 7th May, Warminster Park
- Spring Market, Saturday 18th March, Warminster Civic Centre
- Skate Jam, Saturday 5th August, Warminster Park
- Ice Cream & Bubbles Festival, Saturday 5th August, Warminster Park

Pavilion Café

The Pavilion Café winter opening hours are 9.30am – 3.30pm, Thursday to Sunday. Enjoy delicious snacks, sausage rolls, cakes, ice creams and hot and cold drinks.



Warminster Neighbourhood Plan

Warminster Neighbourhood Plan - Update

The Warminster Neighbourhood Plan gives you the opportunity to proactively shape a vision for Warminster. The Neighbourhood Plan also helps to guide the future development of the town and meet local needs and aspirations. We want to ensure the Neighbourhood Plan reflects your views. Over the coming months, we will be asking for your input and feedback as the draft Plan continues to take shape.

Find out more and how to get involved:

Sign up for the mailing list: admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk

Visit the website: www.warminsterplan.com

Follow the Town Council Facebook page: Warminster Civic Centre and Town Council

Provide feedback via surveys and future consultation events – further details to follow

WARMINSTER PARKING PARTNERSHIP

The Warminster Parking Partnership reimburses customers for up to 2 hours of parking.

Shoppers can obtain a refund by handing in the voucher portion of their parking tickets to a participating retailer:

Al Summers Music Studio	Marks News
Baber Animal Feeds	Nicks Cobblers & Keys
C. J. Robbins Butchers	S. L. Corden & Sons
Coates & Parker Ltd	Stitches 4 U
Cornmarket Café Bistro	Warminster Community Hub
David Wiltshire Photography	

Retailers who are taking part in the scheme display this ID sticker:



www.warminster-tc.gov.uk

Warminster Parking Partnership

The Warminster Parking Partnership reimburse customers for **up to 2 hours** of parking.

Shoppers can obtain a refund by handing in the voucher portion of their parking tickets to a participating retailer. The retailer will issue a refund and claim the money back from Warminster Town Council. This voucher can be redeemed in a participating business on the same day of parking. Look out for shops displaying the Parking Partnership logo.