February 2025



>>>> BUSINESS UPDATE <<<

WARMINSTER TOWN CENTRE



SEASONAL MARKETS BOOST LOCAL ECONOMY

Last year marked the successful launch of the Seasonal Markets, which brought an injection of vibrancy to the town centre, attracting both locals and visitors from further afield. These events have quickly become a highlight in Warminster's annual calendar.

Warminster Business Network (WBN), who have partnered with the council to establish these events, estimates that the markets have collectively contributed an impressive £750,000 to the local economy. This achievement highlights the vital role these events play in revitalising the town centre and supporting local businesses.

Together with other events held throughout the year, they have helped raise Warminster's profile by showcasing what the town has to offer, encouraging visitors to return again.

WARMINSTER ON THE RISE

Thanks to community efforts and local initiatives, Warminster continues to attract locals and visitors back to the town centre. The Tidy-up Smarten-up campaign has enabled businesses to refresh their shopfronts, while Vibrant Wiltshire Vacant Unit Grants from the Wiltshire Towns Programme have attracted new enterprises. Empty properties are being revitalised and the removal of the eyesore at #3 High Street has further improved the town's appeal.

While economic challenges remain, many businesses in Warminster are holding steady and showing resilience. With visible progress and growing momentum, the town is becoming a more attractive and prosperous place for all.

FREE ENERGY EFFICIENCY SERVICES AVAILABLE





Funded by Wiltshire Council as part of their Wiltshire Towns Programme, free energy efficiency surveys are being offered to small and micro businesses (up to 50 employees) operating in the retail, hospitality and leisure sectors.

The energy survey report will identify a range of no-, low- and capital-cost measures to improve the energy efficiency of your business and open the opportunity for you to apply for 100% grant funding, up to a value of £6,000, for installation measures (no match funding required). The goal is to help decarbonise your business and save money on your energy bills.

Find out more and apply – severnwye.org.uk/wiltstowns

WILTSHIRE





IMBERBUS EVENT

This summer the highly anticipated Imberbus event returns, attracting 4,000 to 5,000 people from across the country to the town. With its unique appeal, vintage and modern buses from London and beyond will once again provide a special service to the abandoned village of Imber on Salisbury Plain.

This is a great opportunity for local businesses to reach a large audience by advertising in the event's promotional brochure. Adverting rates are highly competitive, making it a cost-effective way to promote your business.



To secure a space or to find out more, please contact admin@warminstertc.gov.uk.

2025 EVENTS 19th & 20th March - StarFest

- 23rd March Spring Seasonal Market
- 4th May Spring in the Park
- 7th & 8th June Warminster Book Festival
- 29th June Summer Seasonal Market
- 6th July Inspire Music Festival
- 26th & 27th July RBL 80th Anniversary of WWII
- 2nd August Ice Cream and Bubbles Festival
- 16th August Imberbus
- 31st August Autumn Seasonal Market
- 25th October Warminster Carnival
- 29th October Pumpkins in the Park
- 29th November Christmas Market & Lights Switch-On

For further details visit www.warminster-tc.gov.uk

WII 80TH ANNIVERSARY EVENT

This July, Warminster will step back in time with an exciting two-day event at the town's park, commemorating the 80th Anniversary of the end of World War II. With an action-packed programme featuring re-enactment battles, weaponry displays and wartime entertainment, the event is expected to attract significant visitor numbers to Warminster and increase footfall to the town. For further details contact: Standuphistorian@gmail.com

REUSABLE CUP SCHEME TO BE LAUNCHED

The town council has teamed-up with the local independent cafés and eateries to launch a reusable cup scheme. This initiative aims to encourage the community to reduce waste by ditching single-use cups and embracing reusable ones. With a staggering seven million single-use paper cups a day getting thrown away in the UK, the town is taking a proactive step to promote sustainability and support eco-conscious businesses. Further details will be shared soon - follow us

on Facebook/Instagram for updates.



REPORT IT!

Recent successes, including the arrests of shop lifters made with the help of CCTV, demonstrate the power of reporting incidents. The police have also launched dedicated anti-social behaviour prevention patrols to support local businesses. If you experience crime or anti-social behaviour, businesses are urged to report it to the police or CCTV. Only when incidents are reported and recorded can additional resources be secured to protect the community.

Police: 999 in an emergency or 101 CCTV: 01985 217604

INTERESTED IN BECOMING A COUNCILLOR?

Passionate about your community? Want to make a difference? Consider becoming a Warminster Town Councillor.

This May, all 14 seats on Warminster Town Council are up for re-election. Being a councillor is rewarding and allows you to bring your skills, whether from business, volunteering, or life experience, to benefit the town. To succeed, you'll need to be a team player, persuasive, and patient. Key skills include confident communication, basic IT skills, listening, and attention to detail. Councillors attend meetings, review reports, and respond to emails or calls, typically committing five or more hours weekly. Formal meetings are held on Monday evenings at 7pm. Support includes training, an induction programme and assistance from council staff and fellow councillors.

Interested? Visit the event at the Civic Centre on 1st March 2025, 10 am–12 noon, or email admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk for more information.

JOIN THE LOCAL BUSINESS Community

WBN Warminster Business Network

Looking to connect with other local businesses to exchange ideas, gain support, and access valuable training opportunities? The Warminster Business Network (WBN) is here to help you grow, collaborate, and thrive within the community.

As a member of WBN, you'll benefit from connections with the town council and Wiltshire Council, as well as opportunities to voice your ideas and concerns to the local MP and national institutions. Together, we can shape a brighter future for Warminster.

To learn more or join, please contact Matt Towl, Chair of WBN - chair@warminsterbusinessnetwork.co.uk

TOWN CENTRE Flood Warden Needed

Are you interested in supporting the community? A volunteer flood warden position for the town centre has recently become available. The role primarily involves observing and reporting flood risks, such as blocked drains and providing up-to-date information to the relevant authorities.

If you would like further details, please contact admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk or 01985 214847.

STAY CONNECTED

Keep up with the latest news and events from Warminster Town Council by following us on Facebook at 'Warminster Town Council and Civic Centre' or on Instagram @warminstertowncouncil. You can also visit our website at <u>www.warminster-tc.gov.uk</u>.

Have a topic you'd like us to feature in an upcoming newsletter or a positive story to share? We'd love to hear from you. Contact us at <u>admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk</u>