

»»» BUSINESS UPDATE «««

WARMINSTER TOWN CENTRE

CALL FOR TOWN CENTRE SUPPORT

The town council's regeneration working group recently welcomed Andrew Murrison MP to meet with members and discuss the support available for local businesses particularly around the issue of business rates. Whilst rates are determined by government, meaning his direct influence is limited, Dr Murrison expressed his commitment to doing what he can to represent the concerns of businesses at a national level.

Continuing their efforts, the working group will be meeting with the Leader of Wiltshire Council, Cllr. Ian Thorn, in November to explore potential funding opportunities and initiatives that could contribute to the ongoing regeneration of the town centre.

We look forward to sharing further updates as discussions progress. In the meantime, if you would like to share your thoughts or suggestions, please email the town council.

20PMH ZONE CONSIDERED FOR TOWN CENTRE

The town council is in the early stages of exploring the introduction of a 20mph speed limit in parts of the town centre to include Emwell Street, George Street, Silver Street, Sambourne Road and Market Place. Public consultation will be undertaken before any changes are implemented.

If approved, the new limit aims to improve road safety, making the town centre more pedestrian friendly and creating a more pleasant environment for shoppers, visitors and local businesses.

WBN BREAKFAST GETS OFF TO A GREAT START

Warminster Business Network (WBN) has successfully launched their new networking initiative, with the first network breakfast held on Wednesday 24th September at The Old Bell Hotel.

The event was well attended by a diverse mix of local businesses including accountants, estate agents, high street retailers, members of the local media, start-ups and those running businesses from home. The variety of participants led to lively discussion across a broad range of topics.

Attendees praised Warminster Independent Markets, noting their positive impact on the town's image and community spirit. There was general agreement that Warminster remains a proactive and supportive environment for local enterprise.

Some concern was expressed about the condition of certain town centre buildings, particularly the old Town Hall, with attendees keen to see improvements that would enhance the town's overall appearance.

Those working from home also raised the idea of having a shared workspace in the town centre, something that received support from those in the hospitality industry, who noted that they already offer welcoming spaces for informal meetings and remote working.

The next network event will be a relaxed evening get together on **Wednesday 22nd October**, 6.30pm at The Old Bell Hotel. There's no need to book, simply come along, meet fellow business owners and be part of Warminster's growing business community.

Further details available from:
info@warminsterbusinessnetwork.org

EXCITING DEVELOPMENTS IN TOWN CENTRE

After a decade long wait, there's exciting news for the town centre - the former Town Pets retail unit on Market Place has been purchased by developers and is now undergoing refurbishment.

It's understood that the building will be divided into three new retail units, creating new opportunities for businesses to join the high street. With other vacant properties recently acquired, there's real momentum building in the town centre and it's hoped these units will be quickly let, further enhancing the local shopping experience.



GET READY FOR THE CHRISTMAS WINDOW COMPETITION

The festive season is just around the corner, which means it's time to add some sparkle to the town centre with our annual Christmas Window Competition. Once again, the town council is inviting businesses to dress their windows in festive style and join in the fun. Shoppers and visitors will be encouraged to stroll through town, admire the displays and cast their votes for their favourites.

Not signed up yet? There's still time. Simply scan the QR code to register by **Wednesday 26th November**. This year, there's no set theme so let your creativity shine & decorate your window however you like. From traditional and twinkly to bold and bright, we can't wait to see what you come up with.

There are some fantastic prizes to be won for the best entries, along with the all important prestige of being crowned a winner. To be part of the competition, make sure your display is ready by **Friday 28th November**, just in time for the Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On on **Saturday 29th November**. Once registered, you'll receive full details about the voting process and how everything works.

CHRISTMAS EVENT ROAD CLOSURES

Preparations are well underway for the much anticipated Christmas Market and Lights Switch-On, taking place on **Saturday 29th November**. With a full day of festive shopping, food and entertainment planned, the event promises to be a real highlight of the town's Christmas calendar.

To ensure stallholders, caterers and performers have plenty of time to set up, Market Place, High Street, The Close, North Road and Weymouth Street will be closed from 7am on the day. The market will officially open at 10am, with activities continuing throughout the afternoon and the Light Switch-On taking place at 5.30pm. The roads will officially re-open at 8pm.

We kindly remind businesses to plan ahead and arrange any deliveries outside of the closure times. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated and will help the day run smoothly for everyone involved.

For more information contact: events@warminster-tc.gov.uk

LIGHT UP THE TOWN WITH A CHRISTMAS TREE

As part of this year's festive celebrations, all shops with a Christmas tree holder should by now have received a letter inviting them to sign up for a five-foot Christmas tree with lights, which will be installed outside their premises. The cost is just £40 per tree, helping to create an attractive, coordinated display across the town centre.

If you haven't yet completed and returned your form, please do so by **Monday 3rd November** to secure your tree. Payment can be made by BACS, cheque, cash, or card for your convenience. For more information, or if you need another copy of the form, simply pop into the Civic Centre or give us a call on 01985 214847.

2026 EVENTS

- 29th March - Spring Independent Market
- 3rd May - Spring in the Park
- 28th June - Summer Independent Market
- 5th July - Inspire Music Festival
- 1st August - Ice Cream & Bubbles Festival
- 15th August - Imberbus
- 30th August - Autumn Independent Market
- 28th October - Pumpkins in the Park
- 27th November - Christmas Lights Switch On
- 28th November - Christmas Shopping
- 29th November - Christmas Market

STAY IN TOUCH

Don't miss out on the latest news, events and updates from Warminster Town Council. Follow us on Facebook (Warminster Town Council and Civic Centre) and Instagram (@warminstertowncouncil) to stay connected with what's happening in and around the town.

You can also find more information, meeting details and community news on our website: www.warminster-tc.gov.uk.

Have a story or update you'd like to share in a future newsletter or would you like a specific topic to be covered? We'd love to hear from you, just drop us an email at: admin@warminster-tc.gov.uk.

Welcome to
Warminster