



BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

To: All Town Councillors
Members of the Public & Press

Dorset Council Councillors

Dear Member

TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

You are summoned to attend a meeting of the Town Council which will be held in the **Corn Exchange**, Market Place, Blandford Forum on **Monday 25th July 2022 at 7.00 pm** to consider the following items. This meeting will also be available to view online using Microsoft Teams [using this link](#).

Linda Scott-Giles
Town Clerk
18th July 2022

A G E N D A

Prior to consideration of the following Agenda, there will be a democratic quarter of an hour, which may be extended at the discretion of the Council, during which time members of the public may speak. During the course of the meeting, members of the public and our elected representatives from the Dorset Council may indicate they wish to speak, and, at the discretion of the Chairman, and with the approval of the Members, they may be allowed to do so on points of information only. The Council may on occasion invite members of the public to comment on specific issues where points of information or their particular knowledge on a subject might prove of benefit to the Council.

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, religion, belief or disability), Crime & Disorder, Health and Safety and Human Rights. Disabled access is available.

All in attendance should be aware that filming, recording, photography or otherwise may occur during the meeting.

1. Public Session
 - 1.1 Graham Stanley, Senior Ranger (North), Dorset Council
2. Report from Dorset Council Councillors
3. Apologies
4. To receive any Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations
5. [Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on 27th June 2022](#)
6. [Town Clerk's Report & Correspondence](#)

7. [To consider contributing to a Dorset Council project to increase land for public access and biodiversity](#)
8. Planning Matters
 - 8.1 [Appendix A – New Planning Applications](#) (includes Deer Park Farm)
 - 8.2 [To consider responding to a new Tree Preservation Order for the former Priory Hospital, Fairfield Bungalows](#)
 - 8.3 [To consider a proposal to widen the footway at the bottom of Salisbury Street](#)
9. Civic Report
10. Recommendations and Receipt of Minutes
 - 10.2 Town & General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 4th July 2022
 - 10.2.1 Recommendations (none)
 - 10.2.2 [To RECEIVE the Minutes](#)
11. To receive an update and consider any requests from the:
 - 11.1 [Neighbourhood Plan – Blandford + Monitoring Group](#)
 - 11.2 BFTC Commemoration Group
 - 11.3 Climate Change & Biodiversity
 - 11.3.1 [To receive an update and adopt a Motion for the Ocean](#)
 - 11.4 Dorset Council Grant to support the Market Area Enhancement Project
12. [To consider becoming a sponsor of the Blandford Business Awards 2022](#)
13. To receive an update on Strategic Plan projects (distributed by email)
14. Reports from Community and Local Organisations (Councillors are requested to advise the Chairman of Council or the Town Clerk if they wish to make a report under this heading)

DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

5 th September	Planning Meeting
12 th September	Recreation & Amenities
19 th September	Finance & Staffing Committee
26 th September	Town Council

Minutes of the Town Council and Committee meetings are available from the Town Clerk's Office and online at www.blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk

Twinned with Preetz, Germany



Town Clerk's Office
Church Lane, Blandford Forum
Dorset DT11 7AD



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Town Clerk's Report & Correspondence

DAPTC Training – The DAPTC has written to congratulate the council on continuing to support the development and training of both elected members and employees... *Your commitment to training through DAPTC has propelled you into our 'Triple Star Award' category and a select group of parish and town councils – well done!*

Cllr Bray missed this training as she only became a councillor in January 2022, and she has therefore been booked onto the New Councillor and Code of Conduct sessions taking place online next week.

Pride Month – The lighting of the façade for the first time for Pride month on 1st June was very well received on Facebook. However, on 5th July an email was received that the Town Council didn't do enough considering it was the 50th anniversary, only lit the façade for one day, comparing it to Bryanston School's lighting scheme, asking for a flag to be purchased and for the Town Council to 'do better next year'. The Town Clerk responded, after some consultation, explaining that the photos didn't do the lighting justice and there were many other dates to mark in June, hence why 1st June was selected as the most significant, with it being the start of Pride month. The email thread was shared with the Chair and Vice Chair of Council.

Life Education Wessex & Thames Valley – John Clements has written to thank the council... *'so much for your wonderful donation of £300. Please accept this letter as our official receipt. Life Education Wessex aim to give every primary aged child in Somerset, Dorset, Devon, Hampshire and Thames Valley the opportunity to benefit from our programme of health and drug prevention education and equip them with the knowledge, skills and confidence to make healthy choices and to lead healthier lives. Your contribution will help us to continue this valuable work. With many thanks once again for your kind donation and valued support'*.

Skatefest Parking – Dorset Council has agreed to the closure of the Stour Meadows car park – at no charge – on Sunday 21st August for the Skatefest and has also changed the free parking day of Sunday 28th to Saturday 27th August 2022.

Card from Nan Dennett – A thank you card has been received from Nan Dennett, she writes, *'Thank you so very much for such a lovely afternoon. I enjoyed it and it was far more than I expected. The choir, band and trumpeter were such a surprise. Everyone said they enjoyed themselves and I was made to feel like a queen! Please pass my thanks to everyone involved and special thanks to you for organising it so well. The cake from Bethelbridge was beautiful and again please pass on my thanks to them for their kindness. It truly was a wonderful afternoon, Nan Dennett.'*

After the event, the Town Clerk wrote to the Blandford St Mary Clerk to thank her for Cllr Whitlock's attendance as Nan is a Blandford St Mary resident. Mrs Dennett turns 109 on 27th July 2022, which makes her the county's oldest resident!

Blandford, Massachusetts – The video message for The Blandford Historical Society in Blandford, Massachusetts is currently being compiled and the gifts – two framed pictures (right) – have been posted to Andrew Stokoe (in Connecticut) who will be attending the event in September and speaking on behalf of the Town Council. Cllr Stevens has also sent a letter for Mr Stokoe to include in his speech.



Tour of Britain – After the council meeting held on 18th July, the Chairman and Town Clerk discussed this event coming through town on 10th September. Banners have been ordered, with images of well-known racers through the decades, to attach to the barriers that will be positioned around the market area, providing a safe space for spectators to stand. The stallholders were consulted, and they have decided not to attend that day, so the market has been cancelled. Mayors of other towns will be invited and refreshments will be available in the Corn Exchange.

To consider contributing to a Dorset Council project to increase land for public access and biodiversity

On behalf of the Dorset Council (DC), Graham Stanley, Senior Ranger (North) has explained that the council has been able to purchase part of an arable field and woodland adjacent to the Milldown Nature Reserve (see blue shaded area on the map, and photo, below).

Funding for the project has been forthcoming from developer contributions (that were specifically given to DC for the enhancement of habitat for the Greater Horseshoe Bat Colony at Bryanston), and an application to the Cranborne Chase AONB 'Farming in Protected Landscapes' (FiPL) fund. The funding secured is to improve the habitat for the bats, recreate chalk downland wildflower meadow and increase the area of land available for public access for the inhabitants of the town, with links off the North Dorset Trailway and the Nature Reserve.

Unfortunately, the money from the FiPL fund is not enough to support all the elements of the project because the decision panel would not fund fencing, wildflower seed, hedge and tree planting and a portion for making access improvements as they believed that they should be funded from other sources. Mr Stanley has therefore approached the Town Council to determine if it is supportive of the project and willing to contribute to any of the outstanding items that have been priced as follows:

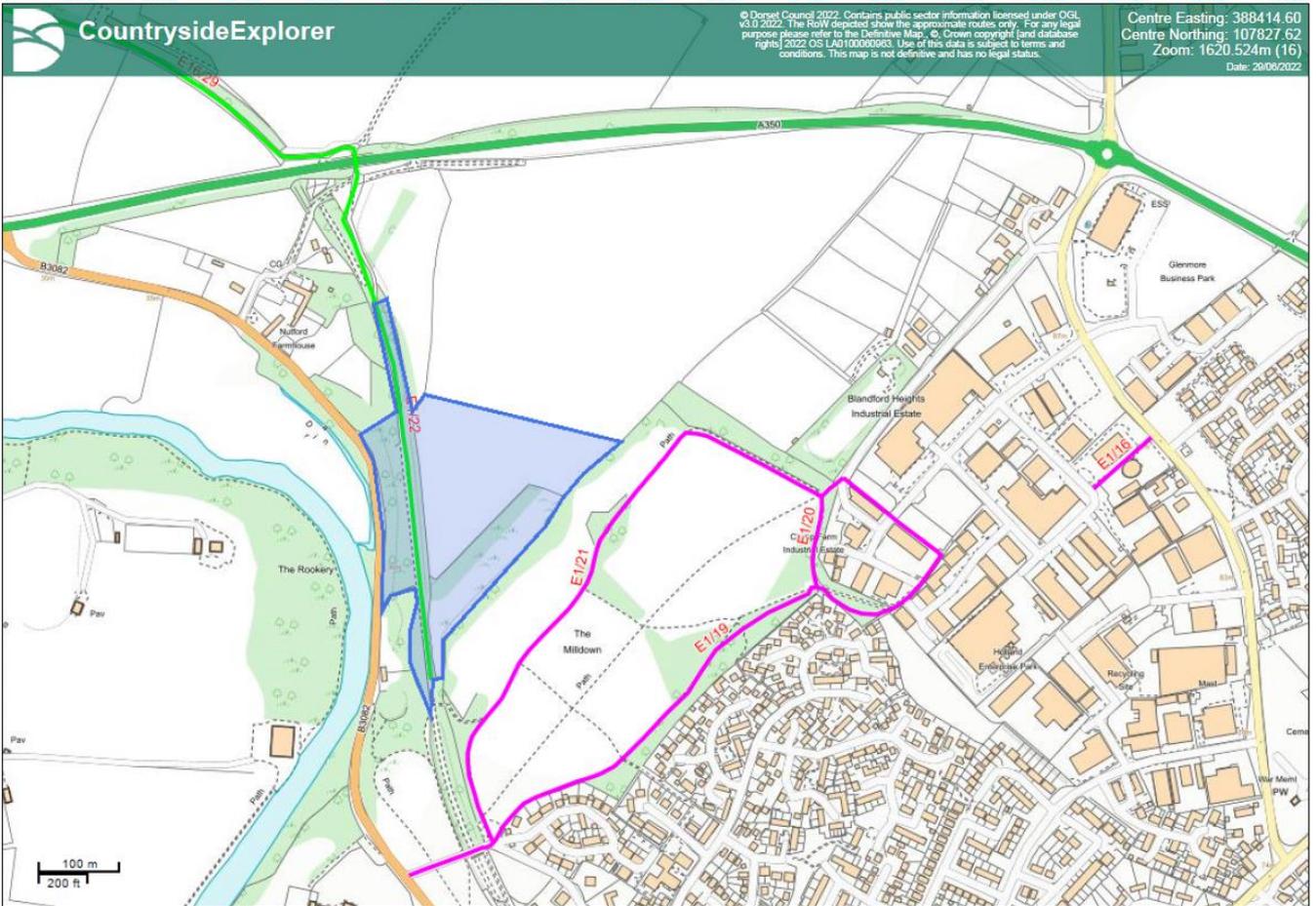
- wildflower seed at £2,840
- hedge planting at £11,600
- fencing at £2,950

Mr Stanley will be present at the meeting to provide more information and respond to any questions members might have.

Should the Town Council be supportive of this project, which would provide additional open space accessible to all, it could allocate funding from one or more of the following budget lines:

- Grants budget (including Green Grants due to the nature of the project)
- Earmarked Interest
- Capital Interest
- Property Fund Dividend

Linda Scott-Giles
Town Clerk
4th July 2022



Appendix A – New Planning Applications

	Application & Date	Application Details	Comments/ Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2033
1.	P/FUL/2022/04056 Mr Sheldon young 6 th July 2022	Whitecliffe House 38-40 White Cliff Mill Street Repair and replacement of windows and doors throughout the building.	B11 – Managing Design in the Conservation Area: Blandford Forum
2.	P/CLP/2022/04134 The Trustees of the Holland Estates (Construction) 7 th July 2022	Unit A Holland Way Erect 2 No. extensions. For information only	B3 – Employment
3.	P/FUL/2022/03963 Bryanston (RFE) Ltd and The Rothermere Foundation 11 th July 2022	Land at E3882210 N106645 Deer Park Road Change of use of land for the stationing of up to 40 No. caravans to provide temporary accommodation for up to 5 years, together with the formation of ancillary bases, tracks, services communal amenity/green space, play areas, landscaping and bin stores. Provide low-level lighting to tracks and common areas. Convert redundant agricultural building to an amenity block and community area.	B14 River Stour Meadows
4.	P/VOC/2022/03896 Ebell Ltd 12 th July 2022	15 Orchard Street Conversion of rear ground floor to 2no. flats & conversion of ground floor and basement to 1no. maisonette flat (with variation of condition 2 of planning permission P/FUL/2021/00666 to amend approved plans)	B11 Managing Design in the Conservation Area: Blandford Forum
5.	P/HOU/2022/04308 Millbrook Healthcare 12 th July 2022	4 Hunt Road Erect single storey, flat roof extension to accommodate additional bedroom and ground floor level access shower.	
6.	P/LBC/2022/04173 Mrs Viv Phillips 13 th July 2022	63A Salisbury Street Internal alterations to kitchen area, install first floor bathroom and alteration of shower room on second floor.	B11 – Managing Design in the Conservation Area: Blandford Forum

	Application & Date	Application Details	Comments/ Blandford + Neighbourhood Plan 2011-2033
7.	P/FUL/2022/04238 Woodlands Dairy 14 th July 2022	Unit 4a Sunrise Business Park Installation of matching first floor window & internal alterations	B1 – Blandford Forum and Blandford St Mary Settlement Boundaries
8.	P/HOU/2022/04353 DR Laura Tompsett 18 th July 2022	1 Cobham Road Erect single storey rear extension. Extend garage to create a garage/bedroom, add two rooflights to rear elevation.	

Previous applications:

		Town Council	Dorset Council
P/HOU/2022/01720 Millbrook Helathcare 15 th March 2022	4 Hunt Road Erect single side storey, flat roof extension to accommodate additional bedroom and ground floor W/C.	The Town Council has no objections to the application as there is no impact to neighbouring amenities.	Granted

To consider responding to a new Tree Preservation Order for the former Priory Hospital, Fairfield Bungalows

New Tree Preservation Order TPO/2022/0041

Dear Sir/Madam

This is to inform you that the provisional Tree Preservation Order (TPO) has been made at:

Former Priory Hospital, Fairfield Bungalows, Blandford Forum, Dorset, DT11 7HX on **12 July 2022**.

The following is the statement of the Council's reasons for making the Order (as required by REGULATION 5 of The Town and Country Planning (TREES) Regulations 2012), "following receipt of a full planning application reference P/FUL/2022/03360 an assessment of the trees on site was undertaken and it is the Council's view that the 7 young Field Maple trees which were planted as part of an earlier landscaping scheme at the site are considered to contribute positively to the amenity of the locality and their long-term protection and retention is therefore sought.

Tree Number and description	Situation
T1 - Field Maple	As map
T2 - Field Maple	
T3 - Field Maple	
T4 - Field Maple	
T5 - Field Maple	
T6 - Field Maple	
T7 - Field Maple	

As mentioned the order is currently provisional and the Council will have six months, from the date on the order, in which to decide whether the order is to be confirmed or not.

All representations or valid objections regarding the order received within the 28 day notice period will be considered prior to any decision being made.

The authority will take your comments into account when deciding whether or not to confirm the order.

In the absence of any objections the order will be confirmed, with or without modification, under powers delegated to the Service Manager for Conservation.

Should you have any questions or queries regarding this TPO, please do not hesitate to contact me.

To consider a proposal to widen the footway at the bottom of Salisbury Street

Dorset Council has written to the Town Council with the following proposal and a deadline of 16th August 2022 for responses:

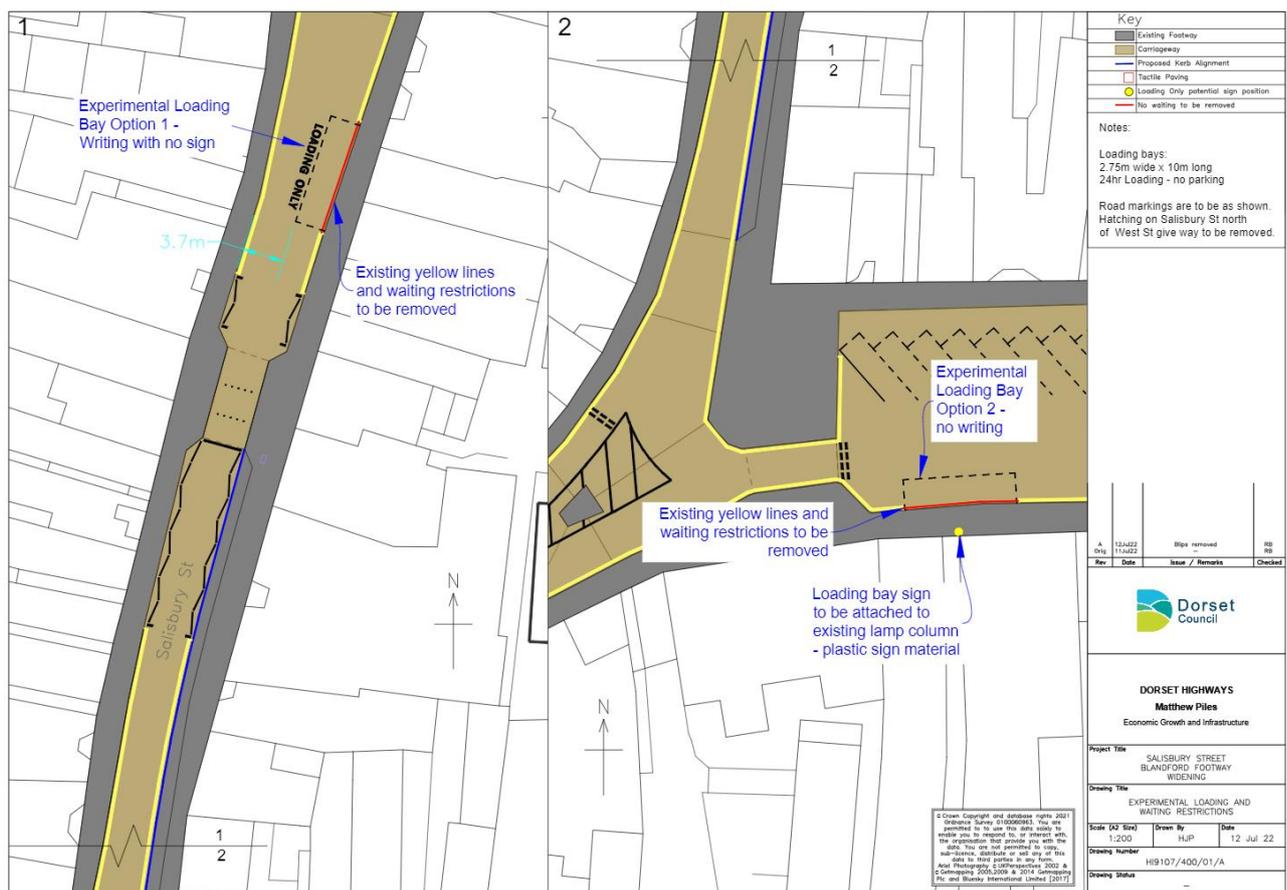
As part of the Highways Improvement Scheme to widen the footway at the bottom of Salisbury Street two new loading bays have been proposed by experimental order. (please see map below).

1. Salisbury Street just after the pedestrian crossing.
2. Market Place outside WHSmith.

As we do not know what the effect of the new road layout will have and whether the implementation of the loading bays will alleviate the issues originally raised by local businesses and Dorset Councillors the use of an Experimental Traffic Regulation Order has been proposed. This allows us to:

- make amendments to take into account any unforeseen problems that may arise,
- allow the scheme to complete a formal public consultation process which will in turn assist the Council in determining whether or not to keep the restrictions in force on a permanent basis.

When the Order comes into operation it will be on an experimental basis and be in force for a maximum period of 18 months.



Blandford + Monitoring Group

The notes from the monitoring group meeting held on Tuesday 28th June 2022 have been distributed to Councillors.

A further meeting was held on Tuesday 19th July 2022 and the notes will follow in due course.

The planning consultants, O'Neill Homer, have asked that Councillors are made aware of the requirement to sign off on the pre-submission plan in October 2022 and the submission plan in March 2023. This will therefore be an agenda item for either Planning or full council in both months, depending on timing.

In addition, a meeting was held online on Thursday 14th July with the consultants and the market area working group to discuss the Town Centre Vision. Councillors are asked if they would like to pursue the Town Centre Vision idea of the town centre expansion to the meadows, working in partnership with Blandford St Mary and Bryanston Parish Councils with O'Neill Homer as the consultant. Members present at the meeting will be able to provide further information via a verbal report.

Linda Scott-Giles
Town Clerk
12th July 2022

To receive an update and adopt a Motion for the Ocean

Working Group Meetings – An online meeting was held on 12th July 2022, discussing the Motion for the Ocean, and the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday 13th September at 7pm. Thanks to Dr Pam Buchan for attending the June meeting to explain about the principles of marine citizenship and for the template for the Motion for the Ocean. The proposed Motion for the Ocean is a recommendation from the working group (overleaf). Dr Buchan has asked if the council would agree to being highlighted as the first inland council to adopt a Motion for the Ocean, stating that the model pledges were co-developed with us, which would involve an inland launch if the council agrees to it.

At the July meeting, attendees received an update on the T&GP resolution for Only Rain Down the Drain campaign and considered the blockage of drains. As a result, DC's Steven Ford at Dorset Council was asked about the possibility of introducing filters to all drains across the county (as pictured) to make emptying/cleaning easier and prevent rubbish and build up. A response has not yet been received.



Provision of Shade – Due to the increased heat and sunny weather, two parasols and bases were introduced to Woodhouse Gardens and a gardening parasol purchased for the groundsman based there to provide some shade, in line with the council's Climate Change & Biodiversity Action Plan.

Climate Fair – Thanks to Nicci Brown who offered to display the Town Council's summary of actions, which have been summarised in the two panels shown below.

BLANDFORD FORUM TOWN COUNCIL

Climate Change & Biodiversity Actions taken to date...

Carbon reduction

- Carbon footprint benchmarks carried out on the Town Council estate by Cllr Pat Osborne.
- Switched to green electricity (100% renewable energy) in October 2020.
- Eco hot water boilers installed in venues.
- Goods and services are purchased locally, where possible, to reduce mileage and packaging.
- Ensuring money is invested wisely, in low-risk sustainable banks or investment funds.
- Battery powered machinery purchased for the grounds staff to use.
- Working to introduce two Electric Vehicle Charge Points in Park Road recreation ground car park.

Plastic reduction

- Reusable items for events, instead of single use.
- Refillable soap dispensers in venues.
- Promoting the use of re-usable bags, purchased locally to give out for free to market customers.
- Switched from handwaving flags with plastic sticks to an eco-version with paper sticks for events.
- Signed up to the free water refill scheme, to reduce use of bottles.
- Partnership working with Wessex Water for the introduction of a bottle refill point in the Market Place.



Waste reduction

- Wastepaper is reused or recycled, along with recyclable plastic items, cardboard and tins.
- All woodchip produced is either reused or sent for recycling if possible.
- Offering of reusable items to the community.
- Two-minute litter pick board available to the public on market days.
- Supporting Litter Free Dorset campaigns, such as Bin Your Butt and distributing free stubby packs.

Biodiversity and trees

- Provision of insect hotels, bird feeders, swift/swallow nests and bird nests in Woodhouse Gardens with environmentally friendly slug repellent in use.
- Wildflower areas introduced at Jubilee Way and Badger Cross in planters.
- Trees that are felled due to being dead, diseased or dying, are replaced.
- Signed up to the ten principles of the Charter for Trees, Woods and People and tree planted as part of the Queen's Green Canopy.
- £100 of wildflower seeds purchased for residents to encourage growing of wildflower areas.
- Promoting the importance of trees through the annual tree photography competition.
- Public art installation designed to provide shelter from sun and rain. Parasols introduced at Woodhouse Gardens due to lack of shade.

We are now working towards a Motion for the Ocean. Please get in touch if you would like to join the working group.

For more information, please visit <https://blandfordforum-tc.gov.uk/town-council/procedures> to view the Town Council's Climate Change & Biodiversity Plan.





Motion for the Ocean

This Town Council declares an urgent need for Ocean Recovery. Members of the council recognise that we need ocean recovery to meet our net zero carbon targets, and we need net zero carbon to recover our ocean.

We also recognise that inland communities, like our own, have an important role to play in ocean recovery through acting as the custodians of the rivers, waterways and tributaries that run through our towns and villages on their way to the sea.

The Town Council therefore pledges to:

1. Report to Full Council within 6-12 months on the actions and projects that will contribute to protection and recovery of the River Stour and its tributaries and the nature and wildlife that they support within the Blandford Forum Town Council area. Please note that tributaries are included in the actions even if not stated in the subsequent pledges.
2. Embed protection and recovery of the River Stour in all strategic decisions, plans, budgets, procurement and approaches to decisions by the Council (particularly in planning and regeneration, skills and economic policy), aligning with climate change mitigation and adaptation requirements, and considering ocean-based and river-based solutions in our journey towards a carbon neutral and climate resilient future.
3. Ensure that local planning recommendations support ocean recovery by embedding the protection and recovery of the River Stour in the Neighbourhood Plan at the earliest opportunity.
4. Ensure that the Town Council's Climate Change and Biodiversity Plan strives to support ocean recovery through a focus on the protection and recovery of the River Stour.
5. Work in partnership with other Town and Parish Councils along the Stour and local community groups, clubs and other organisations that have a recreational, economic or other interest in its protection and recovery.
6. Grow ocean literacy and marine citizenship in Blandford Forum, including:
 - a) Ensuring primary school aged children in Blandford Forum are encouraged to engage with the River Stour first-hand - striving to include home-schooled children;
 - b) Promote sustainable and equitable access to the River Stour through physical and digital experiences for all residents.
 - c) Through these actions, embed understanding of the 'source to sea' approach and how all people, wherever they live, impact and are impacted by ocean health.
7. Use the Town Council website and other communications channels to update on the River Stour recovery progress and signpost to ocean literacy development opportunities and marine citizenship pledges.
8. Encourage Dorset Council to introduce filters to their drains, to prevent items from polluting the county's rivers and tributaries.
9. Lobby the Government asking them to put the ocean into net recovery by 2030 by:
 - a) Ensuring Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authorities have the resources they need to effectively research and monitor our growing number of marine protected areas, and to set and enforce appropriate fishing levels that support local economies and deliver environmental sustainability.
 - b) Work with coastal communities to co-develop marine policy to ensure it delivers equitable and sustainable outcomes in local placemaking.

- c) Appoint a dedicated Minister for Coastal Communities.
- d) Stop plastic pollution at source by strengthening the regulations around single-use plastics and set standards for microfibre-catching filters to ensure that all new domestic and commercial washing machines are fitted with a filter that captures a high percentage of microfibres produced in the wash cycle.
- e) And by listening to marine and social scientific advice to update the Marine Policy Statement and produce a national Ocean Recovery Strategy which will:
 - i. Enable the recovery of marine and river ecosystems rather than managing degraded or altered habitats in their reduced state.
 - ii. Consider levelling up, marine and river conservation, energy, industrial growth, flood and coastal erosion risk management, climate adaptation and fisheries policy holistically rather than as competing interests.
 - iii. Develop a smarter approach to managing the health of the entire ocean that moves beyond Marine Protected Areas and enables links to be made across sectors towards sustainability.
 - iv. Establish improved processes for understanding the benefits of ocean and river recovery, leaving no doubt the links between this and human lives, livelihoods, and wellbeing.

To consider becoming a sponsor of the Blandford Business Awards 2022

Blandford Business Awards 2022

The Blandford Business Awards 2022 are being held at Bryanston School on Saturday 15 October 2022, and we wondered whether the Town Council would be interested in supporting the event or being a sponsor. As with last year's event we are seeking sponsorship, either for a category or the celebratory event, in amounts ranging from £100 to £250.

The categories are:

- ◆ Retail
- ◆ Hospitality
- ◆ Service, professional and trade
- ◆ Entrepreneur (new business established on or after 1 January 2021)
- ◆ Best Business in Blandford

This is an exciting opportunity to bring local business and services together to celebrate and acknowledge the wonderful work being done in our community and we very much hope you will be part of this.

As a sponsor you would receive:

- ◆ Acknowledgement in all our publicity
- ◆ A seat at our celebration dinner
- ◆ The opportunity to promote your business at the event

Councillors are asked to consider sponsoring the event.

Linda Scott-Giles
Town Clerk
15th July 2022