



## **STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL**

Business Plan

2020 – 2024

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## **Introduction**

This document summarises the annual review of Town Council priorities carried out in 2019. The projects identified below will enhance the delivery of Town Council services and will contribute to the environment and wider well-being in the town.

## **Sturminster Newton Town Council**

Sturminster Newton Town Council (SNTC) is the parish authority for the town of Sturminster Newton. It is the third tier of government after Parliament (national) and Dorset Council (regional/County); legal powers are granted to Sturminster Newton Town Council, which are regulated by various government acts. The Town Council supplements the provision of local government services in Sturminster Newton including recreation spaces, play areas, allotments, public conveniences and the Cemetery. The Council also has a key role in representing the interests of the town, for example acting as a consultee with national and statutory bodies.

## **Priorities and Projects**

The Town Council prioritises the delivery of its core services and also works to represent and promote the interests of the town. Service provision may adapt over time in response to the changing needs of the town. The projects summarised in this plan are those identified by the Town Council as important priorities during the timeframe of this plan (2020-2024) and are designed to supplement or enhance existing services.

The specific priority level (H, M, L) is a consensus agreed by the Council taking into account capacity and resources. Timescales reflect a view on how quickly the Council can execute these projects given their importance versus available capacity. These priorities inform the annual budget setting process. This plan will be reviewed annually, at least, and will be updated as required. Good practice requires detailed costings and plans to be developed for each project before it commences where resources will be identified including staff time, budget and lead Councillors.

## List of Town Council Projects

ID	Project Summary	Category	Resources	Committee	Lead Officer	Timescales	Priority (H/M/L)	Comments, incl. progress updates
1	Sturminster Newton Mill: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Secure funding to deliver a sustainable future for the Mill</li> <li>Deliver the improvements identified in the 2019 condition survey</li> </ul>	Amenities & Recreation	Heritage Lottery Fund/other grant funding	Amenities	Town Clerk	2020-2024	H	
2	Railway Gardens: Install addition electrical points to support events held in the Gardens	Amenities & Recreation	Project budget provision 2021/22 project	Amenities	Town Clerk/ Grounds Manager	2021-22	M	
3	Enhancement of the Trailway entrance Installation of railway gates, benches and signage to inform/enhance the visitor experience	Amenities & Recreation	It is anticipated that funding will largely be provided from grant & donations	Amenities	Town Clerk/Grounds Manger	2021-24	M	
4	Install benches and picnic benches to encourage friendship and social interaction within our community	Amenities & Recreation	Budget provision required Grant funding and bequests	Amenities	Town Clerk/ Grounds Manager	2021 onwards	M	
5	Plan additional trees at Rixon recreation ground to improve the amenity space.	Amenities & Recreation	Grant funded	Amenities	Grounds Manager	2021-23	M	
6	Improve the pathway across the Rickets Lane recreation ground	Amenities & Recreation	Budget provision required Grant funding	Amenities	Grounds Manager	2021-22	M	
7	Introduce wild flower areas within amenity spaces	Amenities & Recreation	Budget provision required	Amenities	Grounds Manager	2021 onwards	L	
8	William Williams centenary project to deliver enhanced services for young people	Community	The Charity of William Williams	Amenities	Town Clerk	2020-2023	H	The Town Council has given support for the project to be scoped without further commitment

9	Raises awareness and support for mental health within the town	Community	Requires community engagement	Town Council	Town Clerk	2020 onwards	H	
10	Support the delivery of Sturminster Newton as a dementia-friendly Town	Community	Requires community engagement	Town Council	Town Clerk	2020 onwards	H	
11	To support the economic development of the town	Community	Dorset Council	Town Council	Town Clerk	2021-2024	M	
12	Support the delivery of a plastic free town: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Encourage businesses to provide free water re-fills</li> <li>Installation of drinking water fountains</li> </ul>	Environment & Well-being	Requires community engagement  Possible grant funding	Amenities	Town Clerk/ Grounds Manager	2020 onwards	H	
13	Prepare a play equipment repair/replacement programme Delivery of a costed repair and maintenance plan to inform budget planning.	Services	Within existing resources	Amenities	Town Clerk/Grounds Manager	2020-2023	H	
14	Prepare a programme for the repair/maintenance of Town Council assets: Deliver a costed repair and maintenance plan to inform budget planning	Services	Within existing resources	Amenities/ Town Council	Town Clerk/ Grounds Manager	2020-2023	H	
15	Prepare a programme for the replacement of grounds maintenance equipment Review current equipment and establish replacement programme to inform budget planning	Services	Within existing resources	Amenities	Town Clerk/Grounds Manger	2020-2023	H	
16	Create a comprehensive map of the Cemetery to replace paper records	Services	Budget provision required	Amenities	Assistant Town Clerk/Grounds Manager	2020-2025	M	Part of a long term project to digitise cemetery records

17	Deliver a rolling programme of improvements to maintain the governance arrangements of the Town Council	Services	Within existing resources	Town Council	Town Clerk	2020 onwards	<b>M</b>	
18	Support the delivery of Section 106 projects within the town as funding becomes available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Learner area extension for the skate park</li> <li>• Enhancements to the Leisure Centre</li> <li>• Additional allotments</li> </ul>	Services	Budget from Section 106 provision	Town Council	Town Clerk	2021 onwards	<b>M</b>	Depends on development within the town to generate Section 106 funds