



Swanage Matters

The official newsletter of Swanage Town Council

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Swanage Town Council Community Awards 2020

Who do **YOU** think deserves to be recognised for their good works locally? **NOW** is your chance to nominate a deserving individual or group for an award.

Individual/Group Awards

The Town Council wishes to give public recognition by way of an award to individuals or groups who have contributed significantly to the quality of the community by their public/community activity.

Up to nine awards may be presented from the following categories: **Group/organisation, volunteer of the year, sporting achievement, service with a smile, creative arts achievement, green champion, young citizen of the year, and lifetime achievement.**

Special Award

A 'Special Award' may also be awarded by the panel to an individual or group for an outstanding achievement, or service provided to the community, during the year.

Nominations

Any member of the public who is a **registered elector in Swanage** may submit one or more nominations to the Town Council. Nominations can be made by email to admin@swanage.gov.uk or by post. A copy of the nomination form can be found on the Council's website or Facebook page, or collected in person from the Town Hall or Swanage Information Centre. **Nominations must be received by close of business on Friday 28th February 2020.**

The awards ceremony will take place at the Swanage Annual Parish Assembly on Monday 20th April 2020.

Swanage Winter Market

Every Friday throughout the winter



At Main Beach Car Park
Victoria Avenue
BH19 1AP

For more information contact
Swanage Information Centre
01929 766018
welcome@swanage.gov.uk

Swanage Information Centre

Following on from its success at the Dorset Tourism Awards 2019, the Council is delighted to announce that Swanage Information Centre has been selected as a finalist in the South West (SW) England Tourism Excellence Awards 2020, Visitor Service of the Year category. Feedback from the Award's 'mystery shopper' visit to the Centre included the comments "Wow, what a brilliant place, I loved everything about it".

Councillor Caroline Finch, Chair of the Council's Tourism Committee, commented: "This is great news as it once again demonstrates that the Centre's team is performing to a very high standard and should be really proud of what it is providing here in Swanage. We weren't expecting to reach the SW Awards this year, as we knew we had some stiff competition. But the consistency of excellence shown by the team has shone through!". Congratulations and well done team!



Did you know...?

Winter car parking charges in Swanage (between 1st November and 31st March) are only £1.00 all day in the Council's Broad Road and Main Beach car parks, and only 60p per hour in the Co-op and Mermond Place car parks.

During this period, however, it is free to park in the North Beach car park.

Electric vehicle charging facilities are also available in the Main Beach and Mermond Place car parks.

What better place to shop!

Upcoming Town Council meeting dates 2020

Council Meeting
24th February
(to be held at The Centre)

Beach Management Advisory Committee
26th February

Planning & Consultation Committee
2nd March

Policy, Finance & Performance Management Committee
11th March

Tourism Committee
24th March 2020

Climate Crisis

In September 2019 Swanage Town Council voted unanimously to declare a climate crisis and appointed a working party to devise an action plan. The Council acknowledged that scientific evidence points to the serious acceleration of climate change caused by human activity which has led to the present world climate crisis, and pledged to use its best endeavours to make the Council carbon neutral by 2030. To date the Council has undertaken a number of steps towards addressing this issue, including the acquisition of electric vehicles and battery-operated tools (at the present time 33% of Council owned vehicles are electric), the installation of public access electric car charging points, and has achieved “plastic free” status in its operations. However, it recognises there is much more to be done to limit its use of fossil carbon. A carbon footprint audit of the Council’s properties and ways of working is currently being undertaken. The Council is also a partner of the Sustainable Swanage Group.

The Council has made a number of other decisions aimed at improving the environment, which include the trial of a winter market in Swanage until Easter 2020 to reduce food miles, and is working with event organisers about reducing single use plastics at events held on Council owned land.

The Council’s Environmental Policy Working Party has been meeting regularly and work is progressing on the creation of the Council’s draft Environmental Policy and Action Plan. The Council has agreed that it will be vitally important for its aims to be realistic and achievable, and it is anticipated that wider community engagement on the draft Plan will be undertaken in the near future.

Swanage Town Council values your opinion

The Town Council is interested to know your thoughts regarding the possible permanent closure of the south end of Shore Road (the section between the Mowlem and its junction with Victoria Avenue that is currently closed between 1st May until 30th September each year). An online survey is available to complete through the Council’s website: www.swanage@gov.uk or Facebook page. **If you are unable to do this online, please complete the short survey below and return it to the Town Hall or Swanage Information Centre by close of business on Friday 20th March 2020.** Please call in should you need any assistance, or for more copies of the survey.

Shore Road (between the Mowlem and Victoria Avenue) Closure Survey 2020

1. Are you concerned about safety along this section of Shore Road?

Yes No

2. Would you like to see the existing road closure arrangement:

To remain as it is (1st May—30th Sept) Extend the closure period Close permanently

3. Would permanent closure be beneficial? Yes No
If yes, why?

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4. Would permanent closure be detrimental? Yes No
If yes, why?

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5. **Any other comments or suggestions regarding Shore Road (please continue on a separate sheet if required):**

Please return by close of business on Friday 20th March 2020

Your postcode: