

Draft Swanage Town Council Environment Policy

Swanage Town Council is committed to the continued development of a sustainable community, balancing and integrating economic, social and environmental components. Developing a more sustainable community will benefit present-day residents and build a community able to meet the increasing environmental challenges that will be faced as climate change impacts locally.

Swanage Town Council reiterates the ‘Climate Crisis’ motion that it adopted on 16th September 2019 which includes a recognition “that there is a serious climate crisis”.

Swanage Town Council will ensure that environmental considerations are put at the heart of how we operate our functions and services and deal with stakeholders at all levels of our activities.

This policy covers premises directly managed by Swanage Town Council and includes council buildings, the beach, boat park and parks and gardens.

Our six policy aims are outlined below.

Managing the Town Council in an environmentally sustainable manner

We shall ensure that sustainability is at the heart of how we manage the Town Council and its functions

Encouraging, educating and embedding environmental best practice

We shall work with the community and other stakeholders to encourage environmental best practice

Managing our built environment sustainably

We are directly responsible for both historic and modern buildings and infrastructure which will be managed sustainably

Protecting local infrastructure

By working with the community and stakeholders we shall strive to protect and enhance local infrastructure in order to retain a vibrant and sustainable town

Protecting and enhancing the natural environment

We are directly responsible for a wide range of natural environments and shall work to enhance these and look to support initiatives that enhance other natural areas within the town

Supporting sustainable tourism

We shall support the town’s tourism economy through the promotion of sustainable tourism

Swanage Town Council will achieve this policy through working with the community and the establishment of an Environmental Action Plan. This policy will be reviewed by the Town Council at least annually.

February 2020