

Environment Action Plan, version 12. A discussion ensued regarding the retention of the Motion for the Ocean Action Plan within the wider Environment Action Plan. It was agreed that until the Motion for the Ocean Action Plan had been established it would remain within the wider document.

4) Swanage Bay Water Quality-To consider proposals for improving the provision of information to the public

Further to Minute No. 6) iii) of the Environment and Green Spaces Committee meeting held on 26th June 2024, consideration was given to a briefing paper, prepared by the VSBDM, which set out various options in regard to water quality alerts and signage to improve the provision of water quality information to the public.

The paper outlined the importance of this, especially during the winter months, partly due to the growing popularity of year-round open water swimming.

The current information provided during the summer months (May to September), was based on the Environment Agency's (EA) weekly water testing on the designated Blue Flag beach. Daily forecasts from the EA notified the Town Council of any advice against bathing, based on an AI-driven risk forecast model. During the winter months the EA halts testing, meaning sea users would be dependent on online sources like Wessex Water's website for updates on the Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) discharges. It was noted that the CSO alert did not provide data on water quality, only that the CSO had discharged.

Members discussed the proposed improvements to signage, which included a central noticeboard outside the Swanage Information Centre, for the display of water quality information for easy public access and new signs along the beach, which would direct sea users to online resources. Ongoing discussions with local sea swimmers were highlighted as a key factor in raising awareness about water quality.

It was proposed by Councillor Monkhouse, seconded by Councillor Sutton and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

TO RECOMMEND:

That a budget of £1,500 be allocated for 2025-26 to amend the header board of the existing A2 double sided noticeboard, to be sited at the Swanage Information Centre, at a cost of £1,000, and to install appropriate signage along the seafront at a cost of £500.

During the debate, it was recognised that there are potential challenges and risks for staff in maintaining daily updates of the signage along the beach during the winter months and it was noted that when the Swanage Information Centre staff were unavailable this could lead to confusion.

It was proposed by Councillor Monkhouse and seconded by Councillor Foster:-

That during the summer months, water quality updates will be provided daily, based on the Environment Agency's risk forecast and that in the winter months, a central noticeboard, outside the Swanage Information Centre, will display notifications issued by Wessex Water regarding discharges at the Ulwell Stream Combined Sewer Overflow outlet.

Upon being put to the Meeting, FOUR Members voted IN FAVOUR of the Proposition, and there was ONE AGAINST, whereupon the Proposition was declared CARRIED.

5) Swanage Streams Partnership - To consider provision of funding community engagement work

Consideration was given to a briefing paper, prepared by the VSBDM, which outlined the National Trust's 'Swanage Streams Partnership and the Swan Brook Wetlands Natural Flood Management project', which had been established following a public meeting in September 2023. The project aim was to develop a programme of action to improve the condition of the Swan Brook and other local streams and involve the local community in the process.

The National Trust representative provided an update to the committee, which included information regarding the funding of the partnership, and the six sites of headwater requiring mitigation. Community engagement was noted as a key component in raising the awareness of the history of the local stream network and ways in which the quality of the streams could be improved. It was anticipated that local schools would become involved in the projects and this would have a positive impact on encouraging behavioural changes to protect the local streams for the future.

In order to provide adequate community engagement it was proposed by Councillor Tomes, seconded by Councillor Monkhouse and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That £6,000 of the £7,000 Environmental Community Engagement Budget for 2024-25 be allocated to the National Trust to implement and oversee the community engagement elements of the Swanage Streams Partnership.

6) Motion for the Ocean Action Plan - Update

The lead councillor of the Environmental Policy and Action Plan working party provided an update regarding the Motion for the Ocean (M4O) action plan which included:

- Collaboration with Wessex Water and EA - plan to reduce sewage discharges and improve monitoring near the bathing beach.
- Defining the Bay Area - proposal to define the scoped area of the bay as 'what can be seen from Peveril Point', naming it 'the two bays' (Ballard Down to Durlston Head).
- Water Quality and Marine Life Study - need for a better understanding of water contents. Proposals for a citizen science project or a maritime bio audit of Swanage Bay and Durlston Bay, possibly leading to seafront presentation boards. Potential funding from the Environmental Community Engagement budget.
- Stakeholder Engagement - form a group to discuss issues in Swanage and Durlston Bay, involving relevant stakeholders once a clear direction is set.
- Consultation with Expert - Plan to discuss direction with the DCF Chair, a marine scientist.
- Website and Social Media for Marine Life - an idea to create platforms for divers and boat users to share marine life content from Swanage two Bays.
- Rainwater Management - investigate ways to reduce rainwater entering sewage systems, potentially through educational programs for local residents.
- Local MP Engagement - involve the local MP in the M4O discussions.

7) Sustainable Swanage - Update

The representative from Sustainable Swanage reported that the group had held two public meetings to encourage additional members to join the group. The meeting held in September entitled 'Repair and Reuse' had attracted 60 attendees and the meeting in October entitled 'Healthy Homes' had attracted a smaller number of attendees but had

facilitated valuable discussions

Members were encouraged to attend the upcoming meeting being held on 26th November 2024 at 7.30 p.m. at The Swanage School regarding the Swanage Streams Partnership Project.

8) **King George V & Queen Elizabeth II Field biodiversity audit - To consider audit report**

Members noted the contents of a report, produced by LC Ecological Services Ltd, and the following summary was brought to the attention of the committee:

- This preliminary ecological survey had been carried out to inform Swanage Town Council of the ecological baseline information for a biodiversity audit and to make recommendations for potential management or enhancement measures to increase biodiversity.
- The preliminary ecological survey comprised a baseline habitat survey and a general species survey, giving a snapshot of species recorded on site at the time of the survey. It also includes an assessment of the site's potential to support any legally protected, notable, and invasive species.
- The main playing fields comprised modified grassland, however, a number of other habitats were recorded within the site.
- Species recorded on site during the walkover survey included a disused badger sett, breeding bird species, some of conservation concern, and common invertebrates. The site also has the potential to support roosting, foraging and commuting bats, great crested newt, hedgehog, otter and water vole, and widespread reptile and amphibian species.
- The survey contains recommendations for potential management or enhancement measures to increase biodiversity.

It was noted that the well-used playing fields would be unaffected. However, the ecological plan would ensure that the boundaries provided a wildlife habitat and an element of connectivity to the borders of both fields.

It was agreed to refer the plan to the Sport, Leisure, and Wellbeing Working Party for review. As part of this process, stakeholder engagement would be conducted to ensure a balanced approach to using the areas as both sports fields and wildlife habitats.

9) **To note links between the Environment and Green Spaces Committee and the Swanage Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group and its Task Teams**

Members noted the contents of a briefing paper, prepared by the Planning and Community Engagement Manager, which detailed the establishment of the Swanage Neighbourhood Plan (SNHP) sub-committee and its Task Teams: the Development task team (OTT) and Environment task team (ETT).

It was noted that the ETT was in the process of reviewing existing green spaces, and the Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy (SGIS), exploring additional greening efforts such as footpaths, tree planting, and green corridors. The Town Council and SNHP group members will be collaborating closely to update the SGIS, which, once completed, will be shared with both the SNHP group and this committee. The Town Council is expected to adopt the SGIS as a standalone policy, to be referenced in the SNHP.

A public survey would soon be conducted to gather residents' views on green spaces, including their usage, value, and potential improvements. Following Dorset Council's advice, a public consultation on the draft SGIS will also be held, with further updates to be provided at a future meeting.

10) **Weed control on highways -To consider continuation of funding supplementary weed clearance**

Consideration was given to a briefing paper prepared by the Assets and Compliance Manager, which set out the options for weed control on the highways.

It was noted that for the 2024 season Dorset Council had outsourced surface dressing on highways to a third-party contractor. Weed control formed part of the contractor's remit, however, the treatment in Swanage in the early part of July was largely unsuccessful due to weather, resulting in visible weed growth along kerbs and pavements. A further treatment in September had proved more successful, but in light of the number of complaints from residents, the Town Council intervened and performed additional weed control in some areas through mechanical and surface spraying. It was stated that the Town Council allocated resources for weed control on high-traffic roads and paths, even though these were not under its direct ownership or management, in order to maintain the town's appearance.

During volunteer clean-up efforts, it was noted that debris along kerbs and pavements often contained dog waste and, if left unchecked, seemed to encourage further littering.

A question was raised regarding the environmental impact of surface spraying, and it was clarified that the Town Council used a controlled, targeted spot treatment method. Mechanical methods were also employed, although they were labour-intensive.

Given the Town Council's resources and potential impact to businesses should the town's visual appeal decline, it was proposed by Councillor Tomes, seconded by Councillor Foster and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-**

That the Town Council should continue to carry out sealed surface spraying, as a supplementary weed control service to that provided by Dorset Council.

11) Waste Management

a) Dorset Council Waste Services - Summer service review and 2025 proposals

Further to Minute No. 11 a) of the Environment and Green Spaces Committee meeting held on 26th June 2024, members noted the contents of a briefing paper prepared by the Assets and Compliance Manager, which outlined the review of Dorset Council's Waste services over the summer and proposals for the 2025 season. It was reported that both Town Council and Dorset Council officers acknowledged that the season had been successful, with effective communication and collaboration. Dorset Council provided a resorts' waste service in Swanage from 29th March to 8th September 2024, with approximately four collections per day, seven days a week. Waste was stored in a large, covered skip, swapped twice weekly and additional bins were placed along the seafront for Swanage Carnival to manage the increased waste from visitors. The Mechanical Road Sweeper (MRS) increased its visits over the season, reducing the need for additional sweeps by the Town Council.

During 2025, Dorset Council has proposed to provide the same waste service as in 2024. However, Dorset Council has decided not to replace the previous street cleansing service but planned to ensure regular cleaning, aiming for the MRS to attend twice per month.

Concerns were raised regarding the potential impact that a reduced street cleaning service from Dorset Council would have on the volunteer groups and on the visual appeal of the town.

It was agreed that a meeting of the Waste Management working party would be arranged and invitees would include Dorset Council representatives, the Chairman of the Tourism and Local Economy Committee and the date would be circulated to members of the Environment and Green Spaces Committee.

b) Update on activities from Beach Buddies

Members noted the contents of an update circulated prior to the meeting in which it was reported that the Beach Buddies had completed 50 beach cleans this year to date and had

removed 915kg of litter and debris. The average number of volunteers who attended on Sunday mornings had been 15. It was stated that the average weight of litter and debris per beach clean for the last five years had been recorded as follows: 2020 16.0kg, 2021 19.0kg, 2022 19.4kg, 2023 16.2kg, 2024 18.3 kg. It was noted that cigarette butts were the most numerous items of litter found each year.

The Chairman thanked the Beach Buddies team for their hard work.

c) **Update on activities from Swanage Landers**

The Swanage Landers representative provided an update, noting the challenges involved in disposing of detritus after its removal. It was highlighted that a 'Street Pride' initiative would provide an opportunity for residents to take pride in maintaining the areas in front of their properties, with Sustainable Swanage offering support to help promote this effort.

12) **Budget Setting**

a) **2024-25 Budget - Update**

Members noted the contents of a briefing paper prepared by the VSBDM which set out the forecast spend for the current year, 2024-25. It was noted that a budget of £20,000 had been approved for 2024-25 and it was forecast that £14,350 of this would be spent by the end of the year.

b) **2025-26 Budget - Proposals**

Consideration was given to the proposed budget for 2025-26 which included the inclusion of essential items in order to meet the Council's safety and regulatory obligations and those items required for routine/planned maintenance of assets, at a total of £49,500.

It was proposed by Councillor Monkhouse, seconded by Councillor Foster and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY:-

That the one-off revenue items totaling £49,500, and continuation of the £25,000 per annum contribution to the Environmental Projects earmarked reserve, be taken forward to the meeting of the Finance & Governance Committee to be held on 11th December 2024 for consideration as part of the budget setting process for 2025-26.

13) **Stakeholder Consultation - Wessex Marine Team, Wessex Area Team, Natural England- Marine Protected Areas - New and updated Marine Conservation Advice packages: September 2024 - Invitation to comment - further to discussions at the Planning and Consultation Committee Meeting held on 7th October 2024**

Further to Minute No. 5 a) of the Planning and Consultation Committee meeting held on 7th October 2024, ongoing research into the topic was noted and Members agreed that any findings should be reported to the Planning and Consultation Committee for consideration.

14) **Meeting with other Councils about Environmental issues**

It was noted that the Chairman and the VSBDM would liaise with local Town and Parish councils on shared environmental issues and provide a report to a future meeting.

15) **Items of information and matters for forthcoming agendas**

a) **Portland Waste Incinerator**

It was reported that Dorset Council had refused planning permission for the waste incinerator on Portland, however, the developers had appealed that decision and further to a public inquiry in 2023, the government granted planning permission in

September 2024. Dorset Council has said it will not mount a legal challenge.

b) Washpond Lane footpath

The Chairman noted that the proposed footpath along the edge of the Cricket Club ground would be discussed with Dorset Council officers and a further update provided to a future meeting.

16) Date of next meeting

It was noted that the meeting times would remain at 2.15 p.m. on Wednesday afternoons, to be reviewed at the Annual Council meeting held in May. It was noted that the next meeting had been scheduled for 2.15 p.m. on Wednesday 26th February 2025.

The Meeting closed at 4.00 p.m.

Carbon Literacy Training

Swanage Town Council's Corporate Plan 2023-2025 states that the Council will 'Provide Climate Crisis training for all staff and Councillors' to be completed by 2025. In addition, this is included in the Environment Action Plan.

In order to meet this requirement Dorset CAN (Climate Action Network) has been procured to deliver a qualification known as 'Carbon Literacy'. Further information can be found here [Home - The Carbon Literacy Project](#). Dorset CAN are accredited as a training delivery partner through the Carbon Literacy Project and a number of other Councils such as Bridport Town Council have used them to undertake this training.

The Visitor Services Manager undertook this course during the winter and found it to be very interesting and informative. It was very interactive and focused on Dorset issues, within the wider national and international context. The provider will focus on the local area in order to make it as useful as possible, using real examples. It should be noted that some of the trainers are relatively local so genuine local issues will be used within the bespoke training.

The key purpose of the training is to provide a understanding of the climate crisis for all staff and Councillors so that they can make appropriate decisions that support the Council's priority to reduce its impact on the environment. Part of the course will be about identifying personal goals to reduce the impact on the environment and a further goal around how this might be achieved through a work or Councillor setting.

The one-day course will be face to face during March 2025 and Councillors and staff will be formally invited in due course. An additional course in April is being considered.

Decisions required

To note the report

Culvin Milmer
Visitor Services and Business Development Manager
February 2025

Water Quality – Update further to discussion at Coastal Change and Beach Management Advisory Committee

1. Swanage Bay Water Quality Signage

During the autumn the Town Council installed a noticeboard outside the Swanage Information Centre dedicated to water quality information. During the winter period it will show the date of the most recent use of the Combined Sewer Overflow at Ulwell Stream. During the summer bathing season (May to September), this will be updated daily with the days Environment Agency Risk Forecast relating to Swanage Bay.

A budget has also been provided from April 2025 to include additional signage along the seafront to advise the public of the potential risk to water quality and how they might find appropriate information.

2. Swanage swimmers' engagement

At the previous Committee an action to engage with local swimmers was approved. A session has now been published for 6th March 2025 (see poster at Appendix 1) in which there will be an opportunity for those attending to learn more about what information the Town Council has with regards water quality and an opportunity to meet with the Wessex Water representative.

3. Combined Sewer Overflow (CSO) figures for Swanage

Appendix 2 lists the spill figures available for the period 2021 to 2024 from Wessex Water and the corresponding data collected by the Town Council for the Ulwell Stream CSO.

4. Wessex Water letter

At the November 2024 Coastal Change and Beach Management Advisory Committee it was agreed that the Town Council would contact Wessex Water with a series of questions relating to water quality in Swanage Bay. The questions and response to these questions are presented in Appendix 3.

Decisions required

To note the report

Culvin Milmer
Visitor Services and Business Development Manager
February 2025

DO YOU SWIM IN SWANAGE BAY?

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN LEARNING MORE ABOUT WATER QUALITY?

This is a great opportunity to learn about water quality on Swanage Beach including:

- Where is the weekly water sampling point?
- What does the Banjo Pier do?
- Why do we have combined sewers and where are they?
- How often do they release?

The session will be split as follows:

- Short presentation by Swanage Town Council detailing what they do to manage the beach
- Short presentation by Wessex Water detailing their plans for improving the water quality
- Question and Answer session



JOIN US



Thursday 6th March at 5pm
Swanage Town Hall



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swanage.gov.uk
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APPENDIX 2 – Swanage Combined Sewer Overflow data from Wessex Water and STC

Wessex Water data - supplied in January 2025					Swanage Town Council data - as at January 2025		
Year	Site Name	Total Duration (hours)	Counted spills	% of year monitoring operational	Total Duration (hours)	Counted spills	Days EA advisory notice deployed
2021	SWANAGE SHORE ROAD O/S NURSING HOME INT	23.0	10	99%	16.8	17	5
2022	SWANAGE SHORE ROAD O/S NURSING HOME INT	8.9	12	99%	8.2	14	6
2023	SWANAGE SHORE ROAD O/S NURSING HOME INT	47.2	18	100%	48.2	24	5
2024					24.9	10	8
2021	SWANAGE DURLSTON ROAD SPS	95.8	53	99%			
2022	SWANAGE DURLSTON ROAD SPS	23.9	33	95%			
2023	SWANAGE DURLSTON ROAD SPS	66.3	43	100%			
2021	SWANAGE THE SQUARE CSO 1	1.7	1	99%			
2022	SWANAGE THE SQUARE CSO 1	0.0	0	100%			
2023	SWANAGE THE SQUARE CSO 1	4.5	3	98%			
2021	SWANAGE THE SQUARE CSO 2	2.6	1	99%			
2022	SWANAGE THE SQUARE CSO 2	0.0	0	100%			
2023	SWANAGE THE SQUARE CSO 2	4.5	3	100%			
2021	SWANAGE MARINE PARADE WRC to Peveril Point	69.5	19	100%			
2022	SWANAGE MARINE PARADE WRC to Peveril Point	33.7	15	100%			
2023	SWANAGE MARINE PARADE WRC to Peveril Point	166.1	38	100%			
2021	SWANAGE HERSTON CROSS ATTENUATION TANK INT	4.4	3	86%			
2022	SWANAGE HERSTON CROSS ATTENUATION TANK INT	0.5	2	70%			
2023	SWANAGE HERSTON CROSS ATTENUATION TANK INT	7.2	5	88%			
Wessex Water: In the data above, '1 spill' approximately equates to 'any discharge activity during a single 24 hour period'							
Swanage Town Council data: Spills are total actual spills and may include multiple spills in a 24 hour period							
Swanage Town Council data for 2021: Possible that data may not have been accurate due to challenges managing service during the pandemic							

APPENDIX 3 – Questions proposed by Coastal Change and Beach Management Advisory Committee regarding Wessex Water and water quality in Swanage Bay

The following section is the document provided by Wessex Water in response to the questions (Wessex Water responses in bold below).

Questions from the Chair of the Environment Committee and proposed by the BMCCAC on 13th November 2025

At the Beach Management and Coastal Change Advisory Committee meeting on 13th November 2025 a councillor reported a number of concerns about storm overflow spills and a number of questions for Wessex Water, relating to the volume of spills in recent years, and the regulatory framework around these. On discussion a group member added their concern about spills from the marine tunnel. The meeting agreed that it would be helpful for these concerns and questions to be sent to WW.

Concerns

In relation to the Ulwell Stream alone, in 2022 total minutes of spills were 498 minutes, where in 2023 there were 2894 minutes, a six-fold increase. Data we have so far for 2024 shows, compared to 2023:

- a four-fold increase in minutes of spills for the period 1 Jan – 30 April
- a doubling of minutes of spills 1 May – 30 Sept (the bathing season).

There is some good news in that, so far, there have been a lower number of spills compared to 2023 for the period 1 October - 31 December, although the data for that period is not yet complete.

Year-round sea swimming here has increased significantly since the pandemic. There is a swim club with 170 members. Spills during the winter are much more frequent than during the summer bathing season. Last winter there were 23 spills from the Ulwell Stream (over the period 1 Jan - 30 April, and 1 October - 31 December) compared to 2 in this summer's bathing season. Of these 23 winter spills, 14 spills were over 100 minutes duration, 8 spills were over 200 minutes and 2 spills were over 600 minutes.

WW Response, Feb25

In covering storm overflows, the media regularly report along these lines: *'Water Company X claims that there have been more recent spills due to higher rainfall'*.

It's impossible to ignore their scepticism in these cases but the simple fact is that this is true: *storm overflows do discharge more when it rains, and a lot less, or not at all, when the weather is dry.* Remember, they only exist because rainwater gets into foul sewers (either directly from the sky or from rain that has amassed underground). 2023 and indeed 2024 have both been exceptionally wet – it is no surprise at all that storm overflow spill counts are up right across the country.

The EA publishes an annual water situation report that shows their summarised rain gauge data. Their published assessments for rainfall are as follows for one Wessex region, but a similar pattern is seen across Somerset, Dorset and Wiltshire:

Year	EA assessment
2014	Notably high
2015	Normal
2016	Notably low
2017	Below normal
2018	Notably low
2019	Normal
2020	Above normal
2021	Normal
2022	Normal
2023	Exceptionally high
2024	Exceptionally high

The 7 categories are:

- Exceptionally high
- Notably high
- Above normal
- Normal
- Below normal
- Notably low
- Exceptionally low

An example report can be seen here: [Water Situation Report England December 2024.pdf](#)

Construction of the sewer storage tunnel, the first-time Water Recycling Centre at Swanage, and the storage tank at Shore Road between 1999 and 2001 represented a step change in the impact of sewage on the local water quality. The projects were not designed to a definite spill frequency but did target a significant improvement in the bathing water classification achieved. The improvements were seen as a great success, as borne out by the consistent 'Excellent' standard achieved, as measured by the EA: [Bathing water profile](#)

Three spills per bathing season has been the EA's general target for storm overflows close to designated bathing waters – but this was a mechanism to achieve high classification standards – it was not an end in its own right.

Therefore, the permits issued by EA covering these overflows do not contain spill frequency standards. Instead, they contain system design parameters such as storage volumes and pass forward flows. Of interest, the Peveril Point overflow permit requires that 1000 m³ of tunnel storage is used before any discharge is made; but we have found that the system can be operated so that 2000 m³ is used, and we do indeed operate the tunnel in this way.

With the recent introduction of the Storm Overflows Discharge Reduction Plan (SODRP), all this is changing. Furthermore, EA now plan to add spill frequency standards into permits as SODRP improvements are completed by WW in the coming years. See [Storm overflows discharge reduction plan - GOV.UK](#)

There are three fundamental targets in the SODRP that are relevant to bathing water sites:

1. No overflow can spill more than 10 times per year as an average.
2. Those close to 'Good' bathing waters must not spill more than 3 times per summer as an average.
3. Those close to 'Excellent' bathing waters must not spill more than 2 times per summer as an average.

Implementation cannot be done immediately for all overflows needing improvement, but for the period 2025 to 2030, the following has been approved by Ofwat for WW in the Swanage area:

- Spill reduction work at 143 overflows across Dorset, Somerset and Wiltshire at a total cost of approx £0.5 billion.
- In Swanage, it includes the following:

ID	Site Name	Storm Discharge Asset Type	2020 spill count	2021 spill count	2022 spill count	2023 spill count	Improvement Target
14244B	DURLSTON ROAD	Storm discharge at pumping station	73	53	33	43	No more than 10 spills per year as an average
19541S	TUNNEL SO	Storm tunnel at WRC	29	19	15	38	No more than 2 spills per bathing season, and 10 spills per year, as averages

We are already aware that the tunnel overflow improvement project in particular will be challenging in many ways. We have been set the target of delivery by 2030 and we will endeavour to meet that, however, if at all possible.

The Shore Rd / Nursing Home overflow (*edit: this is the Ulwell Stream combined sewer overflow*) is due for improvement by 2035 to meet Defra's targets for bathing waters. Overall, it discharges less than the Durlston Rd or the Tunnel overflows. Please note however that recent examination of the monitor and data returned implies that we may have overestimated discharge events. We are collecting the information that should allow us to re-calculate the stats and we will report back to you on that as soon as we can. This means that the three spills logged in each of the last two bathing seasons may reduce.

Questions

Please could you clarify:

1) Does the legal framework in terms of numbers of permitted spills into bathing waters only apply during the bathing season (1 May – 30 Sept)?

See text above. Otherwise, on the whole, yes: the formal bathing season is 15th May to 30th Sep but the EA samples the water regularly for the whole 5 months.

2) For excellent water areas during the bathing season, such as Swanage Bay, is the regulation that there should be no more than 2 significant spills?

“For storm overflows that discharge to bathing waters with a target of excellent status, **the emission standard is for no more than 2 significant spills** per bathing season on average. Whether a spill is significant will be considered on a site-specific basis. In general, for design purposes, a spill greater than 50m³ is significant. [Guidance on spill definition and how to aggregate spills for frequency and volume.](#)”

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/water-companies-environmental-permits-for-storm-overflows-and-emergency-overflows/water-companies-environmental-permits-for-storm-overflows-and-emergency-overflows>

Please see the text above. In the SODRP, there is no requirement to assess the significance of spills.

3) There were 2 spills just from Ulwell Stream during this summer's bathing season, of 43 and 105 minutes – are these 'significant'?

As mentioned above, we are reviewing the monitoring data and we believe the figures above are over-estimates. We will recalculate them ASAP.

4) Spill frequency is also affected by where the outflow discharges in relation to the high and low water mark of spring tides "For discharges into coastal waters, the soffit of the outfall should be located below the mean low water of spring tides (MLWS). If this is not possible, we will adjust the spill frequency standard."

As the Ulwell Stream discharges out over the sand outside very high tides, would this reduce the permitted number of spills allowed into Swanage Bay?

I don't believe this has been considered by EA. Again, the achievement of the Excellent standard has been seen as a great success. You may wish to ask EA directly about this question.

5) Do maximum spills allowed apply across outlets when there are several discharging into one bay, or apply to each outlet individually? There are 3 outlets discharging into the bay, not including the marine tunnel off Peveril Point. There is also an outlet discharging into Durlston Bay.

They usually apply to each storm overflow individually. The EA will demand a more complex analysis in some cases.

6) Could we please have some details regarding quality and quantity of discharge from Peveril Point overflow and the danger to swimmers from this discharge area?

We do not measure the discharge quality, which would require sampling and laboratory analysis. This could be carried out, but the EA has not requested it to date.

We do know that storm sewage quality varies greatly between overflows, and across the duration of a storm. At the extremes, we have storm overflows that discharge due to groundwater ingress into the sewers, and their discharged flows are little more than clean groundwater with a very small amount of sewage contamination – they look like tap water. Conversely, a frequently spilling overflow in a catchment that does not suffer from groundwater ingress is likely to mobilise more sewage-related contaminants such as ammonia, and will appear a cloudy grey colour.

Public health risk spans a very large spectrum based on three main factors: water quality, an individual's exposure and personal immune tolerance.

- **Water Quality: The EA bathing water classification is about long term (4 yr) averages during the bathing season. The parameters (I.E. and E.Coli) are Indicator organisms that have been chosen because they survive outside of the host mammal for a while and are indicators of pathogens which can make someone have a gastro illness. They themselves generally don't make you ill (Although E.Coli O157 will).**

- **Exposure:** Swimmers can swim in highly polluted water and not become ill due to a lack of ingestion. Conversely a swimmer swimming in 'Excellent' quality water can become ill by drinking some of it. The only safe standard is where water has been disinfected so that there are no living organisms present – this is drinking water standard that comes out of your taps. Chlorine is used as the disinfectant. There would be no ecology in the environment if open water was like this.
- **Immune tolerance:** Additionally, humans and animals (such as dogs) have different levels of immunity against the impact of pathogenic organisms. E.g. dogs will drink out of puddles and not get ill but people probably would. So risk is influenced by an individual's own immune tolerance as well as the level of exposure.

All this leads to the fact that it is not possible to say in binary language whether it is safe/not safe to swim in open water. You may wish to look at the following web pages however, or again, contact the EA direct for advice:

[Our advice for wild swimmers](#)

[GOV.UK's swim healthy guidance](#)

As agreed with EA, we include the Shore Road overflow in our spill alert system that feeds the SAS Safer Seas app. When an alert is issued, we advise of an increased risk of poor water quality, and therefore, the risk to swimmers being increased.

Discharge quantity & significance – ref 19207C, the overflow at SHORE ROAD O/S NURSING HOME discharging to the Ulwell Stream near the beach

The most recent spill statistics we have are as follows:

- Discharges in 2023: 18 (3 in the bathing season)
- Discharges in 2024: 10 (3 in the bathing season)

This data can also be found on our Coast and Rivers Watch web map: [Coast and rivers watch map | Wessex Water](#)

In these cases, '1 Discharge' approximately equates to 'any discharge activity during a single 24-hour period regardless of duration'.

As mentioned previously, we believe these stats to be overestimates. We will re-calculate them and report back to you as soon as we can with the results.

Discharge quantity & significance – ref 19541S, the overflow from the MARINE PARADE TUNNEL discharging to sea 200m east of Peveril Point

The most recent spill statistics we have are as follows:

- Discharges in 2023: 38 (3 in the bathing season)
- Discharges in 2024: 31 (6 in the bathing season)

Volumes are not measured.

We do have calibrated models of our sewer systems however, and by examining these, we can conclude the following for the tunnel storm overflow. The tunnel system is highly dynamic, and the predicted volumes discharged are as follows:

In typical storms:

- For a 30-minute continuous discharge, the volume is likely to be approximately 250 m3.
- For a 1-hour continuous discharge, the volume is likely to be approximately 500 m3.

In the most severe storms, when the tunnel is near to being full and everything is running at maximum capacity:

- For a 30-minute continuous discharge, the volume is likely to be approximately 525 m3.
- For a 1-hour continuous discharge, the volume is likely to be approximately 1050 m3.

All of these would be considered as significant using the 50 m3 standard.

These volumes *do not* represent what is generally thought of as raw sewage – they are for highly diluted sewage that has typically passed through a 6mm mesh screen – and we call this storm sewage. The EA has traditionally considered 50 m3 spilled from a storm overflow to be ‘significant’ but this measure has really been superseded recently by annual or bathing season Spill frequency, as mentioned above.

I believe you have access to most spill duration data but if you require any more, please just let me know and I’ll be glad to help.

Andy Mears, wastewater engagement manager

Wessex Water, Claverton Down, Bath BA2 7WW

07500 128 060

Swanage Town Council

DRAFT Environment Policy Action Plan

Version 12.1

The draft Environment Policy agreed by Council in March 2020 provided six distinct policy areas and, in the sections below, the actions have been categorised under each of these. Swanage Town Council have taken the approach of producing a short action plan with a small number of key actions that can be developed quickly. This is seen very much as an iterative action plan that can grow and develop as we better understand what is required to meet the challenges of the climate crisis. Completed actions are retained at the bottom of the document.

Recommendation

The Committee are asked to consider the various actions below and note progress to date. Green ones were identified by the Environment Action Working Party as new ones to be included.

Once approved by the Committee the Working Party will develop and implement the necessary actions.

Culvin Milmer
Visitor Services and Business Development Manager
February 2025

1. 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.

No.	Action	How will we do this	Cost	Date required	How will we measure this?	Progress to date	Officer
1.	Provide climate crisis training for all STC staff and councillors.	External providers.	Not known	2023	Course undertaken.	ONGOING – A Carbon Literacy course has now been confirmed and will be delivered to all staff and councillors during March 2025	TIC1

2. Managing our built environment sustainably

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

No.	Action	How will we do this	Cost	Date required	How will we measure this?	Progress to date	Officer
2.	Consider options for reducing water use and harvesting rainwater.	Report detailing water use and proposals to reduce.	Not Known	Oct 25	Reduction in water use as measured by water bills	ONGOING - Water use has been reduced significantly with the move away from annual bedding flowers and more drought resistant types. Engagement with Wessex Water has been undertaken and a survey is anticipated of public toilets during the spring of 2025. This will be reported to the June Environment Committee.	OPS1
3.	Ensure all new Town Council constructions have sustainability embedded in their design.	Included in each specification.	Not known	Ongoing	All construction specifications will include sustainability.	ONGOING	TH1
4.	Review the Carbon Neutral target for 2030	Liaise with other authorities to see what they have undertaken	Not Known	2030	Tracking our use of carbon	ONGOING – An energy efficiency audit has been undertaken during January 2025 which has highlighted a number of useful ways to reduce energy. This will be considered during the first half of 2025. The Town Council are working with DAPTC to develop a parish/town council network	

						for sharing information related to energy use, decarbonisation and carbon neutrality.	
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3. 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.

No.	Action	How will we do this	Cost	Date required	How will we measure this?	Progress to date	Officer
1.	Undertake a 'biodiversity' audit of all sites owned by the Town Council to assess their importance within the natural environment.	Volunteers could be used from Sustainable Swanage depending on type of work required.	Not known	March 2025	A map demonstrating high, medium or low bio-diverse areas which might include proposals for improvements	The Council are undertaking a Greenspaces Strategy which will encompass this. A biodiversity audit was undertaken of King Georges Field during June 2024. A Proposal for a community stakeholder and environment improvements will be considered at the February meeting for King Georges and Herston Community Field	OPS1
2.	Continue to plant trees according to the Swanage Tree Strategy and Policy (approved November 2022) generally with 30 planted each year.	Areas identified and trees planted.	Not known	On-going	Number of trees planted.	ONGOING – For past 3 years at least 30 new trees planted per annum to continue. During 2022, Tree Strategy and Policy were approved by Full Council. Site specific Beach Gardens Tree Strategy also produced in 2023.	OPS1
3.	Work with partners to implement environment actions identified within the Swanage Neighbourhood Plan.	tbc	tbc	tbc	tbc	Tbc	
4.	Implement the Tree Warden Scheme	Work with the Tree Council to identify what is required	Small?	June 2025	Scheme set up and actions undertaken	The Mayor is leading on the Tree Scheme – Sustainable Swanage are keen to support this.	

5.	Undertake an audit of the Council's hedges	Work with Sustainable Swanage	Small?	June 2025	Audit undertaken	Sustainable Swanage are keen to support this by working with the relevant organisations.	
6.	Implement the Motion for the Ocean Action Plan	Develop the Action Plan and put in place a mechanism to ensure this is delivered.	Unknown at this stage	July 2025 (Action Plan to be approved)	Action Plan approved	Some outline work has begun – an update will be delivered to the February Environment Committee.	
7.	Consider ways to improve the information provision regarding the water quality of the Swanage bathing beach	Engage with the public	Unknown at this stage	?	Sea users are better informed	This is mostly done with the installation of a noticeboard outside the TIC	
8.	Work with partners to gain a better understanding of the impact of the Ulwell Stream Combined Sewer Overflow and engage with Wessex Water regarding a long-term solution to this issue.	Hold engagement with partners and customers and identify Wessex Water plans and all are aware	Unknown at this stage	?	Everyone is better informed	Ongoing: A swimmers meeting with Wessex Water has been arranged for 6 th March 2025 and a dialogue with Wessex Water continues.	
9.	Support the Swanage Streams Partnership to improve the water quality of the three streams in the parish.	Work with National Trust and Planet Purbeck, provide funding and support	£6k in 2024-25 ? in 2025-26	Ongoing	Partnership set up and engagement being delivered	The Swanage Streams Partnership was launched in November 2024 to 140 people. Over the next few months Planet Purbeck will start to deliver a wide range of engagement activities supporting the improvement of the streams. This was highlighted in the Swanage News article on 14 December 2024.	

4. Encouraging, educating and embedding environmental best practice

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

No.	Action	How will we do this	Cost	Date required	How will we measure this?	Progress to date	
1.	Support Dorset Waste Services to increase the household recycling rate across Swanage.	Support the education teams at DWS, including about composting and food waste.	None	Ongoing	Positive feedback from DWS.	ONGOING - Work with Sustainable Swanage and other groups to promote household recycling. (FareShare and Community Pantry)	TIC1
2.	Recommend that all new constructions in Swanage are built according to sustainable criteria.	Include recommendation in all responses.	None	Ongoing	Increase in new builds built according to sustainable criteria.	ONGOING - May be included in the Design Code in the draft Swanage Neighbourhood Plan	TH2
3.	Continue to support Sustainable Swanage and other partners to deliver community based environmental improvements.	Through the implementation of a 'Environmental Community Engagement Action Plan'	£20,000 per annum	Ongoing	Successful projects being delivered through Sustainable Swanage or directly by the Town Council	ONGOING - Costs included in 2025-26 budget. An update will be provided to the Environment Committee in February 2025.	TIC1

5. Protecting local infrastructure

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

No.	Action	How will we do this	Cost	Date required	How will we measure this?	Progress to date	
1.	Develop Electric Vehicle Charging Strategy to increase the number of charging facilities in STC car parks.	Consider options and bring a report to Committee.	Not known	July 2025	Chargers installed.	ONGOING - STC is working with Dorset Council to deliver the Charging Ahead scheme in three car parks in Swanage – various delays have been incurred although work does continue with	TIC1

						officers. This will be presented to the 24 th February Full Council.	
2.	Campaign to ensure essential services are retained in Swanage in accordance with the Swanage Local Plan, to minimise travel requirements.	By working with SPDT Dorset Council, P-TAG, and other relevant organisations, such as DCCG, and supporting community initiatives to maintain services.	None	Ongoing	By recording and reviewing the actions undertaken and reporting to Full Council.	ONGOING – Working in partnership with SPDT on developing the Chapel Lane community services. Working with other groups such as Wellbeing Swanage and will be included within the draft Neighbourhood Plan.	TH1

6. Supporting Sustainable Tourism

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

No.	Action	How will we do this	Cost	Date required	How will we measure this?	Progress to date	
1.	Enhance the beach 'toy bank' to include a provision at the Ocean Bay end of the beach.	Identify a solution and implement it.	Not known	July 2025	Enhanced Toy Bank in place.	ONGOING - Beach Toy Bank currently successful at the Information Centre. Will engage with North Beach partners in 2025.	TIC1
2.	Develop a sustainable tourism vision.	Work with stakeholders to develop a vision of what a sustainable destination might mean for Swanage.	£0	November 2025	Report to Tourism Committee.	ONGOING - This has been built into the Marketing Strategy that the Marketing Working Group are developing and includes the launch of the new Visit Swanage website.	TIC1
3.	Promote sustainable transport and walking in and around the town to reduce the need for visitors to use cars.	Look at alternative forms of transport and promote these on website and digital media.	-	Ongoing	Customer feedback and uptake.	ONGOING – This will be done through the support of PTAG and the current discussions on a Purbeck tourism strategy.	TIC1

4.	Enhance electric facilities on event fields and the market site to eliminate the requirement for fossil fuelled generators.	Report produced detailing costs of upgrades to sites.	Not known	Ongoing	Upgrades undertaken	ONGOING - Two electric points installed and in use at the market site. Further work required for PAG and Sandpit Field – to be included in the Phase 2 Seafront Development.	OPS1
5.	Improve cycle routes with a particular focus on cycle racks	Consider routes and implement additional racks	Some?	Summer 2025	Upgrades undertaken	tbc	

Completed Actions 2024-25

1.	Implement energy reduction measures.	Produce report which details various possible measures.	Not known	March 2024	Energy use reduction will be tracked by officers	COMPLETED - LED lights have now been installed across all council buildings. Solar panels have been installed at the depot and garage and will be installed at Beach Gardens Pavilion during October/ November. It is noted that there are now no more 'quick wins' with regards energy reduction measures	OPS1
2.	Identify two further sites to be enhanced by Sustainable Swanage	Work with Sustainable Swanage to develop plans	Not known	March 2024	Action Plan developed and work undertaken at sites	COMPLETED - Northbrook Copse and the former St Mark's Playing Field identified for enhancement. For Northbrook Copse a management plan and enhanced information signage has been produced. For Herston Community Field, the National trust has been engaged.	OPS1
3.	Work with partners to implement actions identified within the Swanage Green Infrastructure Strategy.	Identify areas within Strategy that can be developed.	Not known	March 2024	Action Plan developed	REMOVE AND REPLACE WITH ACTION BELOW– Need to develop Action Plan for Committee. The Green Infrastructure Strategy is included in the Purbeck Local Plan and will be reviewed during the current preparation of the Swanage Neighbourhood Plan.	OPS1 / TIC 1

2.	Support businesses in their efforts to be more sustainable	Working with Sustainable Swanage to provide information and support to businesses	None	Ongoing	Positive feedback from businesses.	REMOVE - All new leases between Swanage Town Council and its business partners include a section on environmental considerations. Sustainable Swanage works with businesses to identify effective ways to provide support. With the change of emphasis of Sustainable Swanage, this is no longer a reasonable expectation.	TIC1
3.	Support, where possible, the establishment of a community bus in Swanage.	Review options around a community bus for Swanage	Not yet known	Ongoing	Options exist around improving the route of the Durlston Bus but a community bus serving the whole community could take some time to develop.	REMOVE – This has been the subject of much discussion over the years, but at the current time there does not seem to be a viable solution available. Therefore, this will be removed and subsumed within the ‘sustainable transport’ action below	TIC1
Completed Actions 2023-24							
1.	Review vehicle & equipment needs and where possible move to electric machines.	Equipment asset list to be reviewed and options for change considered.	Not known	March 2023	Review undertaken.	DONE - Officers to produce asset list of machines, including power source, during 2022/23 and take report to Committee at the end of 2023.	OPS1
2.	Develop an environmental monitoring system for the Town Council’s business which includes tracking carbon use.	System to be set up and managed by officers.	None	March 2023	System set up.	DONE: The Council publishes annually usage for the following: gas, electricity, waste tonnages, petrol, diesel, and water.	OPS1
3.	Develop a system to monitor the Council’s waste streams and undertake review.	Identify waste streams and review options for reduction.	Not known	June 2023	Waste tonnages monitored through Management System.	DONE – Linked to 2 above.	OPS1
4.	Reduce the amount of paper documents printed by the Town Council	Review printing volumes and work towards reducing,	Total not known. Budget	June 2023	Monitor through Environment Management System	DONE – Laptops have now been procured and training provided to Councillors. Printed copies	TH1

		beginning with introduction of councillor laptops.	for Councillors' laptops agreed.			of Council reports are no longer issued to Councillors.	
6.	Move to a fully renewable energy contract for the electric supply to the Town Council	Reviewing green options and undertaking a procurement exercise.	-	October 2023	New contract set up.	DONE – Fully renewable energy contract is now in place – Sep 2023.	TH3
2.	Consider options for renewable energy on the Town Council estate.	Undertake research and produce report.	Not known	March 2024	Report produced detailing relevant options.	DONE: Solar Panels are being procured.	OPS1 / TIC1
1.	Review options to reduce or eliminate pesticide/herbicide use.	Current use will be reviewed and alternatives considered.	Not known	March 2023	By monitoring amount used.	DONE - Report provided to February Committee detailing current use and explanation of some available alternatives. Committee agreed to continue current approach and review in the future	OPS1
2.	Reduce quantity of bedding plants and develop more drought resistant plantings.	Planting more drought resistant plants.	Not known	June 2023	Reduction in water use and more hardy plants	DONE - Trial of more drought-resistant plantings is ongoing.	OPS1

Completed Actions 2022-23

No.	Action	How will we do this	Cost	Date required by	How will we measure this?	Responsible Committee	Progress to date	
1.5	Make climate impact a determinant in all grant giving.	Add section to grant application form.	None	31 st March 2021	Revised application form	Full Council	COMPLETE – Criteria now included within application form.	NIKI
2.1	Undertake an energy audit of all Town Council buildings and	Review options to procure a consultancy to	£2,000	31 st March 2021	A report will be produced once complete	Operations	COMPLETE - A report was procured which provided a range of options for the installation of LED bulbs and solar	CULVIN

	identify ways to reduce energy consumption.	undertake this work.					panels across the Council's estate. This will be incorporated in further work being undertaken by the Council in 2022-23.	
3.5	Develop The Downs as a Local Nature Reserve.	Continue to work with Sustainable Swanage to deliver this.	Not yet known	31 st March 2023	Nature Reserve established	Operations	COMPLETE - Customer survey released in January. Sustainable Swanage Open Meeting in early 2021. A Management Plan is complete.	OPS1
5.1	Support a Rights of Way survey to encourage walking in the area	Identify solution and work with partners or other stakeholders	£250	Summer 2021	Survey completed with areas for improvement identified. STC will present findings to Dorset Council for implementation, if necessary	Operations	COMPLETE – Survey complete, Rights of Way Open Meeting on 21 st June 2022 – setting up volunteer hub to undertake grading of ROWs.	TIC1
6.3	All events held on Town Council land to be single use plastic free	No single use plastic will be permitted	£0	Nov 2021	No single use plastic in use	Tourism	COMPLETE - 1 st November 2021 - Full Council confirmed that all events should now be single use plastic free	TIC1
6.5	Enhance the supply of free drinking water solutions across the town	Produce signage for current drinking water taps to make them more obvious and consider if any further are required	Budgeted in 2020-21	31 st March 2021	Signage implemented	Tourism	COMPLETE - Signs have been added to all drinking water taps to make them more visible. A water refill station has been installed on the seafront; part funded by a grant from 'Sea Changers.'	TIC1 / OPS1
6.6	Work with event organisers to ensure that sustainability is embedded into their events	All event applications to detail what positive and negative impacts their events will have on	£0	Immediate	Event application form updated	Tourism	COMPLETE - All events during 2021 were required to complete an 'Environmental Impact Assessment'. These will be reviewed at year end and a report produced	TIC 1

		the local environment						
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1. Current year: Environmental Engagement Plan 2024-25 budget

A budget of £20,000 was approved for 2024-25. Currently £12,850 of this is committed.

Outstanding projects are as follows:

- a) King Georges Field Stakeholder Engagement
- b) Herston Community Field Stakeholder Engagement
- c) Motion for the Ocean – Marine bio-audit and presentation boards

See Appendix 1 for a budget progress report.

2. Next year: 2025-26 Approved budget

As part of the recent budget setting process, a total of £20,000 was allocated to environment improvements including support for Sustainable Swanage. Appendix 2 provides an overview of how this might be allocated across different projects. The budget is delegated to the Visitor Services and Business Development Manager and is designed to be indicative but is useful in order to ensure that the budget is aligned to projects and work streams identified by the Environment and Green Spaces Committee.

3. Decisions required

- 3.1 Note the forecast spend for the current year 2024-25
- 3.2 Consider funding, from the Environment Engagement Budget 2024-25, for the outstanding projects identified in section one
- 3.3 Consider the project budgets identified in Appendix 2 for 2025-26

Culvin Milmer
Visitor Services and Business Development Manager
February 2025

Appendix 1: Environmental Community Engagement Action Plan 2024-25

No.	Project	Detail	Budget	Progress to date	Forecast spend
1.	Lead on the education component of Sustainable Swanage, i.e. develop a two-monthly programme of interesting public Open Meetings	5-6 sessions, including one on repairs to support the Swanage Repair Café. Assumes that the programme of events will be available from June/July.	£3,000	Planet Purbeck have led a successful programme of events during the year	£3,000
2.	Support the Sustainable Swanage website and social media pages	Based on weekly social media posts and updating the webpages as required to an agreed standard Sustainable Swanage - WELCOME TO SUSTAINABLE SWANAGE	£1,500	Planet Purbeck are now leading on social media and website updating	£1,500
3.	Improving water quality – Freshwater and ocean	Includes support for the ‘Swanage Rivers Partnership’ and the proposed Motion for the Ocean action plan. The ‘Swanage Rivers Partnership’ is currently considering a co-ordinator role to be funded by a number of different organisations.	£7,000	National Trust have been provided with £6,000 to work with Planet Purbeck to deliver a range of projects (October 12024 Committee).	£6,000
4.	Undertake greenspaces review of King George’s Field and Forres Field	To be led by the Sports, Leisure and Wellbeing Working Party and funding found from additional sources. £1,000 to be set aside to undertake a biodiversity audit of site in first half of 2024/24 to support the work on the Greenspaces Strategy.	£1,000	A bio audit of King Georges and Forres Field was undertaken in the summer of 2024 and reported to the Committee.	£850
5.	Support engagement projects as they arise from time to time.	Friends of the Downs, Herston Community Field event 6 th May etc. This budget to be delegated to the officer responsible with advice from the Environment Action Plan Working Party.	£4,500	Carbon literacy training for all staff and Councillors	£1,500
				King Georges Field Stakeholder engagement – on February Committee agenda	?
				Herston Community Field Stakeholder engagement - on February Committee agenda	?

				The Working Party have recommended that a marine bio audit of Swanage Bay is undertaken to better understand what currently resides in the bay. This could lead to seafront presentation displays to be produced in 2025-26.	?
	Total - £20,000		£20,000		£12,850

Appendix 2: Environmental Community Engagement Action Plan 2025-26

No.	Project	Detail	Indicative Budget
1.	Lead on the education component of Sustainable Swanage, i.e. develop a two-monthly programme of interesting public Open Meetings. Alos includes management of website and social media	6 sessions led by Planet Purbeck as in 2024-25	£5,000
2.	Improving water quality – Freshwater and ocean	Support the ‘Swanage Rivers Partnership’. The ‘Swanage Streams Partnership’ is led by the National Trust and works with Planet Purbeck. This contribution will enhance the public engagement work and support cleaner and more environmentally beneficial streams in Swanage.	£6,000
3.	Support the implementation of the Greenspaces Strategy	Various projects to enhance green spaces stemming from the Greenspaces Strategy, Neighbourhood Plan and Environment Action Plan	£4,000
4.	Support engagement projects as they arise from time to time.	Friends of the Downs, Herston Community Field event, Motion for the Ocean etc	£5,000
	Total - £20,000		£20,000