

Chipping Norton Town Council

Biodiversity and Crime Disorder Duties Statement

Biodiversity

Section 40 of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 places the following biodiversity duty on Chipping Norton Town Council:

"Every public authority must, in exercising its functions, have regard, so far as is consistent with the proper exercise of those functions, to the purpose of conserving biodiversity"

Having regard to this duty Chipping Norton Town Council has identified the following areas where integrating biodiversity is key:

- commenting on planning applications
- managing land, property, Worcester Road Cemetery, St Mary's closed Churchyard, Pool Meadow, Recreation spaces, energy and waste

In discharging its duties, the Council:

- only undertakes hedge trimming out of the nesting season
- has procured a comprehensive tree survey and associated works to preserve the condition of mature trees, with ongoing revenue budgets to maintain this
- has implemented the "Pesticide-Free Chipping Norton" Policy
- Does not install Christmas Lights in trees where birds may be nesting

Crime and Disorder

Chipping Norton Town Council has a duty to consider the impact of its functions and decisions on crime and disorder in its area, under Section 17 of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998.

As part of that process the Town Council will fully engage with all applicable bodies to:

- Reduce and detect crime.
- Reduce anti-social behaviour and fear of crime, and to re-assure people.
- Strengthen community involvement, pertaining to Section 5(2) of the Crime and Disorder Act 1998 (the right of town and parish councils to be consulted).

In discharging its duties, the Council:-

- Extends a permanent invitation to Thames Valley Police to attend Council, Traffic Advisory Committee and other public meetings where questions can be asked and addressed.
- Manages the CCTV system in Chipping Norton Town Hall which provides evidence for TVP in the instance of a crime in the vicinity.
- Prioritises the quick removal of graffiti, litter and drug paraphernalia from managed public property and open spaces within its control.
- Publishes relevant information on the web and social media as appropriate.
- The Town Clerk and the Mayor hold regular meetings with the local Chief Inspector to discuss local issues.

Adopted 22nd February 2023