

Ringwood Town Council

Ringwood Gateway, The Furlong, Ringwood, Hampshire BH24 1AT

Tel: 01425 473883

www.ringwood.gov.uk

SUMMONS

Dear Member

21st November 2024

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the Town Council at the Forest Suite, Ringwood Gateway on 27th November 2024 at 7.00pm.



Mr C Wilkins
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1.* PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There will be an opportunity for public participation for a period of up to 15 minutes at the start of the meeting

2. To receive Apologies for Absence

3. To receive Declarations of Interest

4. To receive a presentation on 'Brown Signage' by Joe Moorhouse from Ringwood Society (*Report A*)

5. To approve as a correct record the minutes of the meeting on 30th October 2024

6. To receive Minutes of Committees and approve recommendations contained therein:

Planning, Town & Environment

DATE:- 1st November 2024

Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces

DATE :- 6th November 2024

Policy & Finance

DATE:- 20th November 2024

7. COMMITTEE COMPOSITION

To consider any changes to Committee composition

8. NFDC Parking Strategy Consultation

To consider whether to respond to NFDC Parking Strategy Consultation - view online at www.newforest.gov.uk/parkingconsultation

9.* To receive such communications as the Town Mayor may desire to lay before the Council

10.* To receive Reports from County and District Councillors

11.*To Receive Reports from Ringwood Town Councillors

12. Forthcoming Meetings – to note the following dates:

Recreation, Leisure & Open Spaces	7.00pm	Wednesday 4 th December 2024
Planning, Town & Environment	10.00am	Friday 6 th December 2024
Policy & Finance	7.00pm	Wednesday 11 th December 2024
Full Council	7.00pm	Wednesday 18 th December 2024

13. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

To consider exclusion of the press and public from the meeting, in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, section 1(2), to transact business for which publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of its confidential nature

14. LEGAL MATTERS

To receive a verbal report from the Town Clerk on legal matters

If you would like further information on any of the agenda items, please contact Mr Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk, on 01425 484720 or chris.wilkins@ringwood.gov.uk

Council Members:

Chairman: Cllr Rae Frederick, Town Mayor
Vice-Chairman: Cllr Philip Day, Deputy Mayor
Cllr Andrew Briers
Cllr Luke Dadford
Cllr Ingrid De Bruyn
Cllr Gareth DeBoos
Cllr Mary DeBoos
Cllr Janet Georgiou
Cllr John Haywood
Cllr Peter Kelleher
Cllr James Swyer
Cllr Michael Thierry
Cllr Glenys Turner
Cllr Becci Windsor

Officers:

Chris Wilkins, Town Clerk
Jo Hurd, Deputy Town Clerk



A Simple Proposal

As the 800th anniversary of Ringwood's Market Charter approaches in 2026, The Ringwood Society has a simple proposal. That Ringwood is deserving of its own brown signs, alerting passers by to the prospect of enjoying our our historic market town.

It has been noted that Ringwood has the unusual distinction of having a bypass through the middle of it! There is no doubt that the A31 has some significant negative impacts on our town.

In some small way this would use the road to mitigate those harms. We wish we, or others!, had thought of this at the time of the A31 widening and closure of West Street but better late than never.

The New Forest has a vibrant visitor economy worth in excess of £491m per year* and NFDC's economic strategy recognises the importance of increasing footfall on our high streets.

Fordingbridge benefits from a brown sign but Ringwood doesn't have one, yet.

Supporting local stakeholders to improve High Street and retail environments

7.5 Because the change in culture surrounding the High Street has been relatively rapid, some businesses have struggled to adapt. National campaigns such as Small Business Saturday have been successful in raising awareness as to the need to support small, independent retailers and more can be done at a local level to build on this success. What national campaigns cannot deliver is a local focus, giving attention to local needs and this is where the role of the District Council and its partners is vital.

7.6 Beyond this, for many residents town and village centres remain the location of important retail services, particularly for those who are unable to access 'out of town' alternatives. Whilst facilitating the adaptation of town and village uses, it is important that support is also given to existing retailers, particularly those who provide core retail services.

Action: Work with local partners to increase footfall and spend in High Street and retail businesses

New Forest Economic Development Strategy 2018 – 2023

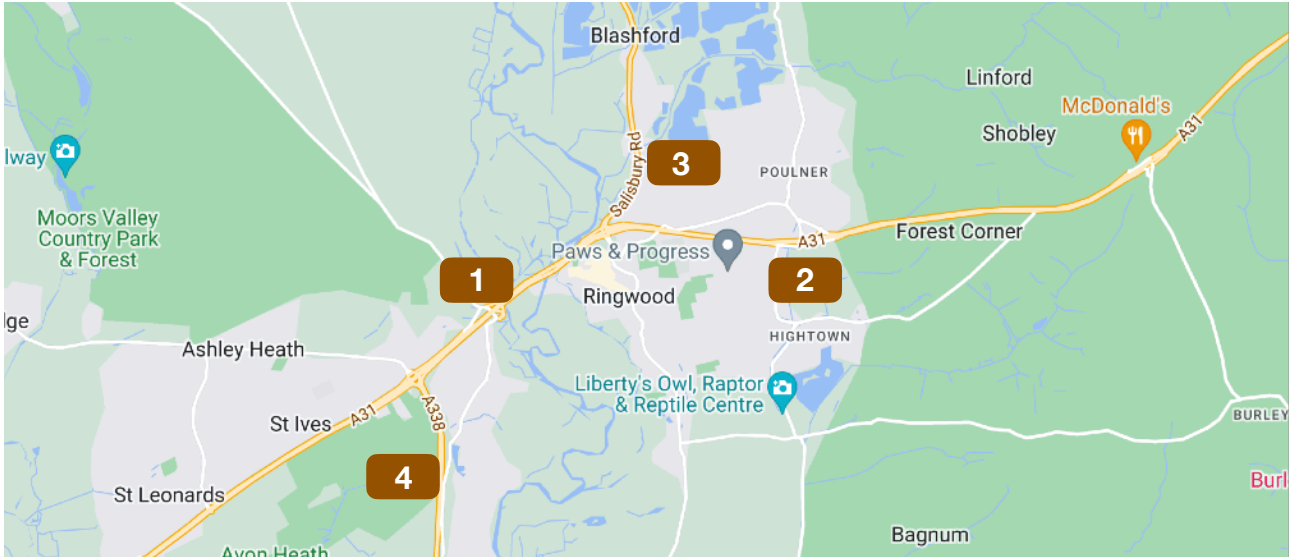
At this stage The Ringwood Society would like to gather opinion from local Councillors and groups who may be able to help us better understand the level of support and identify a route to success.

Let us know if you support this idea info@ringwoodsociety.org.uk

Where

We have identified 4 locations where brown signs could be placed to inform people who may otherwise be passing by.

Clearly 1&2 would reach the most passers by but 3&4 would also be beneficial.



1. Eastbound on A31
2. Westbound on A31
3. Southbound on A338
4. Northbound on A338

What Do We Have Now?



Exit signage for Ringwood



Marking the fact that the A31 passes through Ringwood (Westbound only)

Ringwood Attractions

A suggested list of attractions that *could* feature on the signs:

The Barn



Theatre or Concert Hall

Ringwood Meeting House



Historic Building

Liberty's Owl, Raptor and Reptile Centre



Birds of Prey Centre

Parish Church



Church

Ringwood Gateway



Information Point

Picnic Gardens



Picnic Area

Pubs & Restaurants



Restaurant

Inns & Hotels



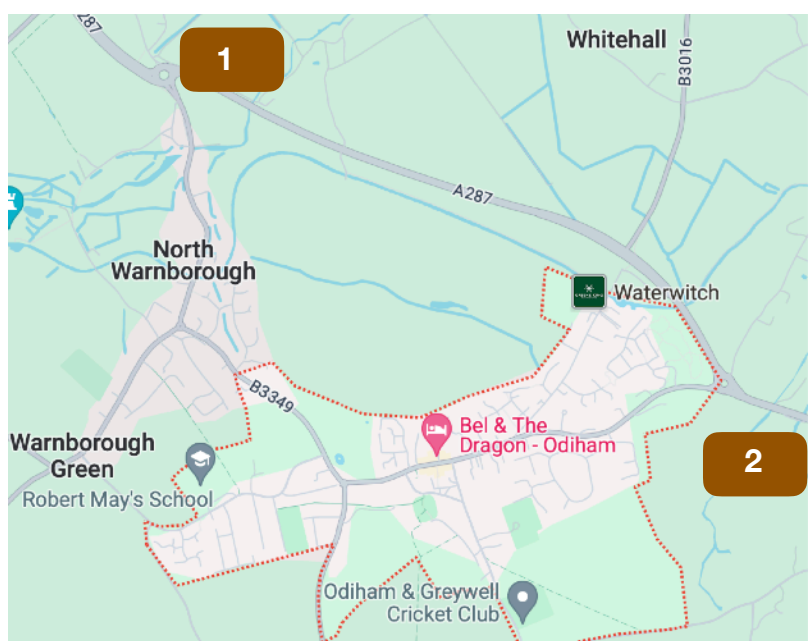
Hotel or Overnight Accommodation

Examples of Other Brown Signs

Wimborne, Dorset



Odiham, Hampshire



Fordingbridge, Hampshire

