

## Williton Recycling Bullet Points

### Background

On 30<sup>th</sup> January Williton Parish Council called a Public Meet to discuss the potential closure of Williton HWRC.

Over 200 people attended representing 17 Communities across West Somerset, the Quantocks and Exmoor.

Everyone in the room, except for your representatives, expressed their anger and disbelief that the future of the Williton Recycling facility was threatened with closure.

On February 6<sup>th</sup> representatives of Parish Councils surrounding Williton met to discuss the matter.

This is a bullet point summary of the concerns and questions raised, more detailed comments highlighting the questions and concerns raised will be sent directly to Somerset Council.

- SC have failed to produce a shred of believable evidence that supports any questionable financial savings, but their actions will lead to inevitably destructive consequences for the environment by closing the Williton Recycling facility or indeed any recycling centre. Where are the business case studies? Where is the cost benefit analysis? What are the carbon consequences?
- Williton is the geographical, business, and central hub of West Somerset
- The location, space and design of Williton Recycling is recognised by all as being superior, more versatile, complies with Equalities Act 2010 for Disabled residents, and safer and more capable of handling larger volumes of traffic.
- Closure will lead to greatly increased fly-tipping in the area along side the public burning and incinerating burnable objects to garden waste.
- Who will be policing and prosecuting fly-tipping and what will be the costs implications?
- There will be a significant increase in waste being put into “general” rubbish bins including small appliances, concrete, and other disposable objects more suitable for recycling. The additional weight of these bins for contractors to handle will come with a cost to haunt SC and ratepayers.

- Cost to the environment by closure has not been evaluated or calculated and yet should be front and centre of SC's commitment to its clean-green manifesto undertakings. This is a massive contradiction!!!
- Roading infrastructure already compromised by the huge volume of traffic which has a consequential effect on village living conditions, emergency services ability to reach patients, hospitals, fires, road accidents and crime.
- The building of up to 1,000 new homes in the Williton, Watchet area in the next decade not only produces an ever-increasing volume of traffic but a much greater volume of recyclable waste and more pressure on emergency services.
- Williton Recycling Centre has space to expand, is alongside the local kerbside recycling waste handling depot and alongside the West Somerset railway line which in time should be the environmental solution for move the recycled material to the processing plants.

The geographical catchment of Williton and its Recycling Facility is significantly larger and more rural than SC seem to appreciate or understand.

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