

Marlborough Town Council



PRESS RELEASE

23 October 2025

We're building some new rain planters!

Are you interested in sustainable planters, watered by the rain?

We're inviting residents, local businesses and the press to drop in to the Community Fridge on **6 and 7 November from 10am-1pm** to take a look at the new rain planters that we're building.



If you're interested in sustainable planters watered with rainwater, there will be people on hand to explain how they work and what the benefits are to homeowners and to the environment.

The planters have been funded from a government grant distributed by the Wiltshire Towns Programme, and are part of our ongoing project to improve the town centre that has already added new signage, street furniture and trees as well as producing a town guide.

These planters are also part of the Town Council's response to [flood prevention](#), and are one of many steps we've taken since the devastating [flood of January 2024](#) following Storm Henk.

This is the first phase of a collaborative project with Action for the River Kennet to help manage rainwater more effectively. As climate changes, we are seeing more cloudburst type rainfall with heavy deluges that overwhelm drainage networks, causing local surface water flooding and sewage spills into rivers. These storms are often followed by long dry periods, so it's important to look for ways to slow the flow of rainwater, catch what we need to water our gardens and create space for water to soak into the ground slowly instead of rushing off down drains to either the river or the sewage treatment works. This is known as Sustainable Drainage (or SuDS).

If you're interested in learning about easy to manage sustainable planters, reducing your use of tap water in the garden, managing rainwater, or simply just curious, then please take some time to come and have a look and ask questions. You'll find us at <https://maps.app.goo.gl/saPZQd1KnSpSbBiKA> - the Community Fridge is at the rear of the George Lane car park, SN8 1NB.

For more information, please contact Clare Williams, Deputy Town Clerk on 01672 512487 or email cwilliams@marlborough-tc.gov.uk.

Richard Spencer-Williams

Richard Spencer Williams, PSLCC
Town Clerk

Notes to editors

ACTION FOR THE RIVER KENNET

Action for the River Kennet is a group of people who care about the Rivers Kennet and Pang and their tributaries. They are the local rivers trust for all the rivers in the Kennet and Pang catchments. Please visit the website for the full background to rain gardens (extract below) at

<https://www.kennetandpang.org/farms-and-suds/raingardens>

Everyone can make a difference to our rivers just by changing the way they manage rain in their gardens. Action for the River Kennet have developed the Rain Garden UK training course to help gardeners or people interested in setting up community projects to build effective rain gardens and rain water planters.

Why build a rain garden?

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TOWN CENTRE WORKING PARTY

This project has been running since 2022 and is funded by a government grant disbursed via the Wiltshire Towns Programme. We've issued several press releases about this project – you can find them, get an update on current activities and see what's already been delivered here: <https://www.marlbrough-tc.gov.uk/council/town-centre-working-party>

COMMUNITY FRIDGE

Marlborough's Community Fridge was officially opened on 5 June 2021 by the-then Town Mayor, Councillor Mark Cooper. This is a partnership project with local community group [Transition Marlborough](#), opening the Community Fridge over a few days every week to reduce food waste – a project that has seen a highly successful response. The volunteers who look after the fridge have shared out the food, preventing almost 14 tonnes of food from going to waste in the last 4 years (equivalent to 33,000 meals' worth of food). There's a community garden on site too. Any food that doesn't get shared is composted.

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& 7th November
between 10am-
1pm**



**This is the first phase of a collaborative
project between ARK and Marlborough Town
Council to help manage rainwater more
effectively**



**Marlborough Community Fridge
George Lane Car Park, Marlborough
SN8 1NB**