

STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson

8 Ring Street, Stalbridge, Sturminster Newton, Dorset, DT10 2LZ.

Tel 01963 364276.

Email: clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk

**Approved minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office
On Wednesday 17th February 2010 commencing after the planning meeting.**

Present Councillors: K Garland (Chair), W Batty Smith, J Cowley, D Hine, J Wardell, P Ashcroft & B Penfold.

T J Watson (Clerk)

In attendance

There were 2 members of the public in attendance.

Hilary Ritchie (NDDC regeneration manager) was present

Apologies had been received for D Fox (County Councillor)

1. To receive apologies.

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from J Smith, G Carr-Jones, J Cox & B Alexandre.

2. Declarations of interest.

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting - held on 20th January 2010 and the extraordinary meeting 3rd February 2010.

B Penfold arrived and stated that he had no interests to declare.

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meetings having previously been circulated to Councillors were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. To receive a presentation on the proposed changes to the North Dorset Community Planning model (Hilary Ritchie NDDC)

(Note: Community planning enables local people to become involved in planning for the future changes in their area, to help improve the quality of life, support the local economy and conserve the environment.)

The report was received and it was understood that the changes were based on the partnerships need for a slightly different range of skills. The following points were of interest to members:-

- The availability of a community resource worker, who could be based part time at Stalbridge.
- The support available to source funding.
- Opportunity for involvement in a cross border plan in relation to the highways infrastructure.
- Opportunities for advice and training

Members were encouraged to become involved in the changes, to have a seat at CEPEND and become more active in Sturquest.

The Chair thanked Hilary for attending.

5. To review the presented new Web site format and give further instruction.

The new web site was reviewed.

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RESOLVED: There was general agreement that the Clerk bring back a draft front page for review at the next TC meeting.

6. Finance.

a) To approve the accounts as presented in annex 1b. For payment.

Retrospective approval ref Financial regulation 6.4		
Southern Electricity	Electricity WC's 20.10.09-22.01.10	£28.10
British Gas	Gas Office 24.09.09-23.12.09	£155.47
Approval		
Gillingham TC	WC & Street cleaning December 2009	£1,685.59
Southern Electricity	Electricity WC's on meter reading units 4704	£294.43
Tracey Watson	In lieu of payment for stamps	£4.68
Direct Office supplies	Stationery	£37.46
Tracey Watson	In lieu for payment for CilCa	£70.00
Tracey Watson	Salary February	£537.26
HM Revenue & customs	Tax & NI February	£117.27
Playing fields Trust	TC contribution towards mowing Jubilee play area 09/10	£300.00

RESOLVED: In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by W Batty- Smith and seconded by D Hind and agreed that the presented cheques be signed.

b) To consider and approve the financial risk assessment document as presented.

Members had received copies prior to the meeting. The Issue of handling cash was discussed.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to adopt the risk assessment with the amendment that no cash be handled and that cash payment be made direct to the Councils account via payment slips which the Clerk will provide.

7. Correspondence: as detailed in annex 1a.

Date	From	Info	Action
06/01/10	NDDC	Request for comments on Draft Housing strategy 2010-2013 – proposed strategic priorities.	Deferred from the January meeting Members objected to the term of decent housing at felt it to be ambiguous. The aim of improving the quality and energy efficiency was appreciated.
25/01/10	NDDC	Invitation to make comments on the Draft North Dorset Economic Strategy	RESOLVED: There was general agreement not to make comment.
	PC P Sugrue	Invitation to the PACT (Partners & Communities together) meeting Weds 28 th April Sturminster Newton Exchange @ 7pm	RESOLVED: J Wardell agreed to attend on behalf of the council.
08/02/10	Mrs Peak . 8 Gold Street	Letter regarding the new street lighting for Gold Street.	The Clerk summarised the content of the letter. RESOLVED: There was general agreement to instruct the Clerk to reply

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			and advise that the steel poles were rotting from within and that they were to be replaced on a like for like basis.
10/02/10	Mr I Forward	E-mail query regarding the need to replace lighting on Gold Street and request to see image of proposed lighting.	Mr Forward had also contacted SEC direct and had been advised that Gold Street is to be replaced on a like for like basis. RESOLVED: There was general agreement to instruct the Clerk to obtain an image of the lights for display in the community office and advise Mr Forward accordingly.
17/02/10	Mrs Meikie	Via community office- Problem of huge lorries going down Springfields cul-de-sac.	RESOLVED: There was general agreement to instruct the Clerk to request a 'no through road' sign for the entrance to Springfields.

8. To consider volunteer litter picking in Stalbridge and approve the risk assessment as presented.

The Clerk advised that Mr Cullom had volunteered to do some litter picking. NDDC are provided some equipment on free loan, purchase of a couple of pairs of gloves may be necessary. A copy of the risk assessment hand been provided prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to adopt the risk assessment as presented.

9. To put forward to DCC suggested names for the 8 plots on the Dike's development site.

Several options were considered.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to put forward the suggestion of numbers 1-8 Nottingham Terrace.

10. To receive the quotation for the post at the land at Pond Walk and give further instruction.

A quotation received from Westree was reviewed:-Total £320.00 (Tree £50 / digger hire £75 / Concrete & ballast £25 / plant & material haulage £20 / Removal of spoil £38/ labour 2 men 5 hours £112. There is £1,021.15 in budget for play equipment (not including fund for Jarvis field at £3,166.96)

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to instruct the Clerk to look into funding for the option 1 EPDM posts.

11. To approve the criteria for provision of grit bins in Stalbridge as presented and specify locations.

A copy of the proposed criteria hand been provided prior to the meeting. The criteria was discussed.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to defer the item to the next TC meeting.

12. To receive a quotation to replace a slat on the bench on A357 to Henstridge and give further instruction.

Subsequent to the inventory check the slat was found to be broken the quote from SA builders was £25.00 fitted.

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RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the quote and instruct the work to be done.

13. To receive a request from the flat tenant for a rent rebate due to boiler malfunction.

The Clerk advised that the request had arisen due to a boiler malfunction. In her opinion since the point she became involved she had done all in her power to resolve the problem.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to offer a rent reduction in March of £20.00 without prejudice.

14. A proposal that the Council write to the County Council regarding outstanding highways defects in Stalbridge. W Batty-Smith

The proposal was amended that W Batty-Smith would write on behalf of the Town Council

RESOLVED: There was general agreement that council W Batty-Smith would write to the County Council regarding outstanding highways defects in Stalbridge in his capacity as District Councillor and also express the Town Councils concerns.

15. A proposal that the Council write to the County Council regarding representation at county level during the extended absence of D Fox (County Councillor).

J Wardell

W Batty Smith advised members on the current position.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to instruct the Clerk to write to the County Council to advise that in the absence of direct representation at County level they would take up the offer from their District Councillors to make representation on their behalf.

16. A proposal that the Council consider the use and management of the land adjacent to Pond Close and give further instruction. J Wardell

J Wardell her motivation was to create and maintain a pleasant communal gathering point, perhaps with a seat. The issue of the lease on the land and its potential for residential building was discussed. Members of the allotment society advised member of the long waiting list for plots and asked that all or some of the land be converted to allotments.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to instruct the clerk to write to NDDC and request permission for the land to be uses as allotment gardens and to enclose a plan of the proposed allotment area (provided by the allotment society)

17. Clerks report on matters arising.

Standing Orders

The new NALC model Standing orders are now available.

Rats on the trail way

Members of the public have reported rats on the trial way at the rear of Fudges/ Hughes buildings. It appears that staff on their break are throwing way items of food in the area thus encouraging vermin. The Clerk has written to both companies asking them to deal with the problem.

Walnut Tree

Need to make arrangements for planting

Allotment sheds

Permission has been granted by NDDC for the sheds on the allotment site. Clerk has asked Dev control whether planning permission is required.

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RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that in accordance with Local Government Act 1972 Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A public and press be excluded during the following part of the Clerks report as their presence may prejudice the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business.

Tree falling onto property at 28 Vale Rd.

A report was received in relation to an insurance claim.

18. To receive :-

a) Items for the next agenda from members.

D Hine - Re-visit the issue of proving a youth shelter in Stalbridge.

J Wardell - To receive an update and give further instruction regarding the footpath Jarvis way to the trail way.

b) Town Councillors reports.

B Penfold- attended the Dorset Waste form, which was most informative.

Pat Ashcroft – litter issues on Thornhill Road

19. To receive North Dorset District Councillors reports.

G Carr -Jones . Written report had been received which will be displayed with the approved minutes.

W Batty –Smith. Updated members on the Appeal at Hallets Farm and subsequent developments.

20. To receive the Dorset County Councillors report.

No report

21. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 17th March 2010. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Tuesday 9th March 2010.

The meeting Closed at 9.13 pm

Date.....

Signed.....

Chairman