

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 24th November.**

Present: Councillors: G Carr-Jones (Chair), J Wardell, B Alexandre, J Cowley, D Hine, J Cox, P Ashcroft, K Garland & J Smith.

Absent: Councillors: None

T J Watson (Clerk)

In attendance: There were no members of the public in attendance.

Welcome to members of the public and introductions.

1. To receive apologies.

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from B Penfold and W Batty Smith.

2. Declarations of interest.

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings

a. Held on 29th September 2010.

Amendments received prior to the meeting were presented.

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

b. Held on 27th October 2010

Amendments received prior to the meeting were presented.

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

4. Finance: -

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

The Clerk suggested Item 4a. be moved to the end of the agenda as some of the approvals could be affected by agenda items.

Direct Debit British Gas	Supply 24/09-27/10	£53.81
PWLB	PLWB direct debit	£6,817.02
Aon Ltd	Premium adjustment ref. increase in Fidelity guarantee	£27.21
Westree Co	Supply & erect post at Pond Walk	£376.00
R Sharp	Grass cutting 12.09.10, 17/08.10 & 28.09.10 <u>re-issue lost cheques CN2530</u>	£549.00
R Sharp	Grass cutting 13.10.10 & 14.10.10	£435.00
Gillingham TC	WC & Street cleaning November 2010	£1,685.59
Tracey Watson	Salary November inc backdated rise to scp 23	£640.77
HM Revenue & customs	Tax & NI November	£160.41
	Web site maintenance 4th 1/4 2010 & 1st 1/4 2011 & renewal of website hosting	£284.35
Great western IT Ltd		
Glasdon manufacturing Ltd	2 no grit bins	£309.42
Additions to annex 1b.		
Harrier Garden Services	Jarvis Way playground grass cutting	£496.17
DCC	Funding under section 137 extra library hours yr 10.11	£6,974.50
Stalbridge Lights Group	Donation under section 137	£500.00
BT	Calls 18.8-16.11 & line rental 01.11.10 -31.01.11	£266.46

RESOLVED: In accordance with S O No.13 a. it was proposed by B Alexandre, seconded by D Hine and agreed that the presented cheques be signed.

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b. Retrospective approval of invoices as presented in accordance with financial regulation 6.4.

Southern Electric

Electricity WC's 15/07-21/10/10

£47.55

RESOLVED: Proposed by B Alexandre, seconded by D Hine and agreed that retrospective approval of invoices as presented be made.

The Clerk requested a transfer of £16,000.00 from the deposit to the current account to cover the payment for library hours and day to day running expenses.

RESOLVED: Agreed to make the transfer as requested.

5. Correspondence: as detailed in annex 1a.

Date	From	Info	Action
28/11/10	Philippa Ashton (Sturquest)	Request for link to PC web site via the new Sturquest web site.	Agreed to link a no cost to TC.
09/11/10	Deb McCarthy (DAP Admin)	Request for volunteers to take part in Bournemouth University research project)	Declined
10/11/10	Liz Goodall (NDDC Chief exec.)	Invitation to participate in budget scrutiny meeting 15.12.10.	G Carr-Jones & W Batty Smith to attend.
13/11/10	Mrs Diane Gibbs	E-mail ref. Mop's trip on pavement outside the Dike's development 16/11/10	The Clerk advised that she had forwarded the e-mail to David Randles cc. Steve Howard, Mike Westwood & David Fox. A response had not been received. The Clerk was instructed to summarise the total correspondence to date and send to David Randles requesting an acknowledgement.
Addition to annex. 1a			
16.11.10	Tony Wood Stalbridge Lights Group	Letter update on committee, 2010 event. Request for 2010 donation and donation in 2011 budget.	Noted. Clerk instructed to ask committee to inform P Ashcroft of meeting dates as TC rep. Request for 2010 donation dealt with in payment approvals and donation in 2011/12 budget at the meeting 8 th December
23.11.10	Dorset Partnership For Older People	Invitation to attend event to discuss the locality planning report. Tues 14 th Dec @ Wimborne.	Declined

6. To resolve the distribution of the Town Council news letter.

K Garland advised that Candy's have one thousand copies of the Blackmore Vale Magazine in the shop and distribute 350 copies. They will insert the newsletter at a cost of 5p each. The distribution of the Blackmore Vale Magazine was discussed. Cost of printing is estimated at 2p per page (paper and toner)

RESOLVED: It was agreed for the 1st issue to distribute 500 copies via:

The Community Office, Dikes, Candy's, Post office, Doctors Surgery, Garage Else butchers, Dentist, St Mary's Church & The library. Members offered to help with distribution

7. To resolve the repair or replacement of the bench on Station Road.

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The Clerk advised that at the annual inventory inspection it had been identified that the bench needed 8 slats replaced as they had rotted at the fixing points. Hardwood slats need to be specially made at an approximate cost of £30.00 per slat, total £240.00. The bench has now been vandalised and 3 of the back slats are damaged. Members considered use of the seat and reviewed pricing options and information on new seats.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to purchase a new seat from Glasdon at a cost of £349.00 plus VAT.

8. To approve the date for the 2011/12 Town Council and planning meetings.

The Clerk advised that she had set a provisional date for the annual Town meeting of May 25th with a planning meeting to follow, so that the 27th April after the planning meeting can be a special meeting to close the year end finances, as the dates for audit are very tight.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the date presented.

9. To receive a report on the condition of the stones at the corner of The Ring and give further instruction.

As previously instructed the Clerk had advised Dorset works that the stones which they had put in place had been damaged and referred them to the TC's original request that the PMU replace stones with proper kerb. M Westwood has agreed to review putting normal kerbs there and bring back his ideas to the TC.

10. To respond to the consultation draft minerals core strategy.

J Cowley took the information to review as a matter of personal interest.

RESOLVED: Members declined to make comment.

11. To respond to the questionnaire, 'Dorset Roads & Transport'.

RESOLVED: Agreed to make individual representation on-line.

12. To consider the creation of the Town design statement.

J Wardell

J Wardell advised that Stalbridge has no guidance in terms of what the Town Council would like the town to look like, that can be applied to individual planning applications. It was understood that NDDC would be able to help with the creation of a plan but there may be a waiting list

RESOLVED: Agreed to instruct the Clerk inquire about the waiting list.

13. To receive a report on the Jarvis way play area refurbishment and give further instruction.

K Garland

K Garland reported that the contractors left site on Friday 19th November. They are coming back to install the cup roundabout, seats, additional log trail and change the springer top, they will grade the entrance which has got a got muddy during construction. They have also been asked to put safagrass over the mound between the slides as the turf has failed. The working group plan an official opening at Easter with egg hunt and school competition etc. and will continue to meet to arrange this and hopefully set up the park set up the ranger scheme. Some members were disappointed that the goal posts had been reduced in size. G Carr-Jones thanked the working party for all their hard work and encouraged members to appreciate the achievement. Graffiti coating and appropriate signage was discussed.

RESOLVED: Agreed not to apply graffiti coating and to arrange a press release prior to the official opening.

14. Clerks report on matters arising.

Pond walk post is installed

Grit bins are installed

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Utilities: 1 yr contract with British gas for both utilities saving on standing charge & fixed lower unit energy costs.

Web site: Members have been asked for new pictures.

Graveyard update: letter from Council's solicitor was read out. It was noted that he is making no charge to the Council for acting on their half on this issue.

15. To receive :-

a) Items for the next agenda from members.

J Wardell - To consider the Town Council's response to the proposal by NDDC to begin charging for parking in the Station Road car park, Stalbridge.

J Cowley – To retrieve from the archives the minutes which relate to the footpaths on the West Acres estate.

D Hine - To discuss the reduced height of the JFPA goal posts.

b) Town Councillors reports.

J Smith – Attended the hall meeting. The committee have been successful in obtaining funding for the roof. Offered to water planters at the cross during the summer.

P Ashcroft – Attended the Trailway AGM, very positive however shame at the lack of progress on the Stalbridge link. Offer of redwood tree for the graveyard extension area was declined by members.

J Wardell - Attended the DAPTC AGM and the service review committee meeting.

DSP funding for projects to improve accessibility has been reviewed and unfortunately the TC need to have a prepared project in terms of objectives and costs to be able to apply. (Future agenda item). Noted that the ring needs weeding.

D Hine – Attended allotment meeting. Problems with people cutting through the allotments.

They still have a waiting list. Clerk confirmed request for additional land is still pending NDDC decision.

J Cowley –Reported tree on verge of footpath to Vale road to Blackmore road may encroach on property as it grows, DC issue.

J Cox – Still waiting for a street light on the path Jarvis way to the bridle path, Clerk confirmed previous correspondence. DC will not support light if it is not on a public footpath.

16.To receive Dorset District Councillors reports.

None.

17. To receive the Dorset County Councillors report.

None.

18. To approve the Clerks salary rise to SCP 23, backdated to April 2010. (Post appraisal, in accordance with point 6.2 of the Clerk's contract)

G Carr-Jones

RESOLVED: Agreed Clerks salary rise to SCP 23, backdated to April 2010. (Post appraisal, in accordance with point 6.2 of the Clerk's contract.

19. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 22nd December 2010**. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Tuesday 14th December 2010.

The meeting Closed at 8.45 pm

Date 22/12/10

Signed.....
Chairman