

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 19th January 2011.**

Present: Councillors: G Carr- Jones (Chair), J Wardell, J Cowley, J Cox, P Ashcroft, B Alexandre, D Hine, K Garland & J Smith. B Penfold from 7.20pm & W Batty-Smith from 8.43pm
T J Watson (Clerk)

In attendance: There were 3 members of the public in attendance. D Fox (County Councillor) was in attendance from 7.17pm

Welcome to members of the public and introductions.

1. To receive apologies.

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from W Batty Smith as he may be late.

2. Declarations of interest.

None.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings - held on 8th & 22nd December.

Amendment : Item 6. DCC not NDDC.

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

4. To discuss the height of the JFPA goal posts.

D Hine

D Hine was extremely disappointed that the goal posts had been altered to 5 aside size and felt that in order to be of use to the youngsters that play football at Jarvis field they should be re-instated at full size.

B Penfold arrived at the meeting.

Whilst some members were in agreement, others felt that the playground was never intended as a football pitch and that the posts had been shortened with the good intention of reducing nuisance to neighbours, in the smaller area which is now available. It was noted that there are 2 alternative sites for football with full size goals at Grosvenor Road and Jubilee play area.

B Alexandre questioned whether enough was being provided for the older children.

D Hine agreed to obtain a price for a single full size goal post and report back to Council.

6. A proposal that the agenda of all meetings of the Town Council shall be displayed on the Council Notice board on the Thursday prior to the meeting.

J Cowley

J Cowley felt it was imperative that the agenda for the meeting be displayed in accordance with Standing order 3.b.ii, in order members of the public have notice to view plans. The Clerk apologised for the inadequate display in December, which was due to illness and advised members of the location of the notice board key for future reference should she be indisposed.

7. To discuss the Councils position with regard to the Royal Wedding celebrations in Stalbridge and give further instruction.

D Hine

Mr Kevin Mahon of Blackmore Vale Catering addressed the meeting and stated that he did not feel a Royal wedding celebration would be a viable event for his company to be involved in.

He advised members of his intention to hold a commercial street Fayre in conjunction with the beer festival at the Stalbridge Arms on Monday 30th May, which would involve the closure of part of Lower Road and Ring Street. Members were surprised that the Town Council had not been previously consulted and questioned why he wished to hold the event in Stalbridge as opposed to his home village of Henstridge.

W Batty –Smith arrived at the meeting.

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Mr Tony Woods advised that the lights group felt it would not be practical for them to organise a street event similar to the Christmas event. Members were keen to have some sort of event and involve other local groups.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement that the Town Council organise an event to celebrate the Royal Wedding and a working group was appointed (D Hine, J Cox & K Garland)

There was general agreement to take the Clerk's report item 13. next for the convenience of members of the public present.

8. Resolve the Council's position with regard to grit bin provision from the 2010/2011 budget including quantity and locations. J Smith

J Smith advised that subsequent to the success of the 2 bins installed and the snow and ice before Christmas, there had been several requests for additional bins. He asked members to consider additional locations and there was further debate concerning the filling arrangements.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to consider the provision of 2 more bins after receipt of the precept in April 2011.

9. To review the Dorset County Council gritting schedule and give further instruction.

Members understood that Barrow Hill to the A30 at Milborne Port was not included in the main gritting schedule. D Fox offered to come back to the Town Council for comments for input to the upcoming DC audit and scrutiny meeting.

10. To resolve the Council's position with regard to the Clerk pension /gratuity.

The Clerk advised that she did not feel she should be involved in this. It was understood that by 2012 provision of pension would be statutory.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to set up a working party to report to Council with regard to the Clerks pension / gratuity (D Hine, K Garland & B Alexandre).

11. To receive an update report on the Jarvis field play area refurbishment and give further instruction.

The Clerk advised that the post installation inspection and risk assessment had been carried out by The Play inspection Co, as recommended by Brian Evens- Johnson at cost £275 (ROSPA fee for this was in excess of £350.00 plus travel expenses of £45.00). Outstanding snagging with Wicksteed: more appropriate top for the springer and safagrass on the mound between the slides. Waiting on Wicksteed for 2 benches one picnic bench and a cup roundabout. Alternative quotations were being sought for the sign / signs.

12. To review the budget and resolve the precept demand for year 2011/2012.

The precept figure reached at the December meeting was £73,206.34, increase of 6.10% on 2010-2011. Members understood a figure need to be added for the Clerk's pension. Whilst not in total agreement a majority of members felt that an increase of 2.9% to £71,000 was appropriate and a reduction in forecast spending was made of £2,206.34 in grants, play equipment, chairman's fund and Pond Walk allotments.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to make a precept demand for 2011/2012 of £71,000.00.

13. Clerks report on matters arising.

Copies of planning decision notices will be sent by e-mail from 17th Jan 2011.

Keys – Members update on storage.

Re-cycling at Station Road car park- Due to bad weather and increased volume over the Christmas period the banks overflowed. Unfortunately some members of the public decline to accept responsibility for their items and when bins appear full leave items on the ground in

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front of the bins, rather than take to the alternative site at Springfield's. Jay did his very best at keeping the area and car park as tidy as possible during this difficult time. NDDC may provide signs ref. alternative sites and extra bins next Christmas.

Lime tree on ring – The lights group have had the tree assessed for remedial works. Mr T woods requested that the Town Council make the application for works at no cost, which was agreed.

14. Correspondence: as detailed in annex 1a.

Date	From	Info	Action
?	Kevin Mahon Deferred form the Dec mtg.	Letter re. Street fayre Mon 30 th May and The Royal wedding celebrations in Stalbridge.	See Item 7.
20.12.10	NDDC	Letter re Part street night lighting	Deferred to next meeting.
02.01.11	D Neil	E Mail re. Grit bins for Westacres estate.	Noted
10.01.11	Hilary Foggo Age concern Dorchester	E Mail ref. changes in travel concessions in Dorset.	Agreed to Pass to J Rabbetts (TC Transport rep.

Additions to annex 1a.

13.01.11	J Muslow DCC (Winter Service Manager.)	Winter service questionnaire.	Deferred to next meeting.
13.01.11	Nick Brown (footpaths officer)	Right of way report- Ref - large mound of soil has been tipped to block the entrance of the unsurfaced part of Drew's Lane.	Noted.

15. Finance: To approve the accounts as presented in annex 1b. for payment.

To approve the accounts as presented:

Direct Office Supplies	copy paper	£14.50
BT	Internet services 01.01-31.03.11	£162.00
North Dorset Trailway network	Funding for leaflets x ref mtg 22.12.10	£43.25
Tracey Watson	Salary January	£552.18
HM Revenue & customs	Tax & NI January	£104.69

Additions to annex. 1b

Williams Nursery	Christmas Tree	£8.00
D Hine	In Lieu of bolt fitted to TC notice board	£5.00

RESOLVED: Proposed by B Alexandre, seconded by W Batty Smith and agreed that approval of invoices as presented be made.

16. To receive :-

a) Items for the next agenda from members.

B Alexandre - To consider the provision of facilities for older children in Stalbridge and give further instruction.

D Hine - To receive a report on the installation of a full size goal post at Jarvis field play area and give further instruction.

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b) Town Councillors reports.

J Smith – Attended the Stalbridge Hall committee meeting on 26th Jan.

K Garland – Spoke to Mrs Bennett re access onto Hall land, to advise Council's action subsequent to the December meeting.

J Wardell – Visited the Dorset History centre to view the minutes of 17/07/1991, which unfortunately only refer to the footpath from Jarvis Way to Blackmore Road and are therefore not applicable to the path from Jarvis Way to Bridleway 71.

P Ashcroft – Attended the Lights Committee meeting.

J Cowley – Access to keys (covered in the clerks report). Felt that the statement in the minutes of 17/07/1994 should be used in the aim to dedicate the path Jarvis Way to Bridleway 71 as a footpath.

J Cox – Statement: At the December meeting she did not at any time question the Clerk's honesty. Report litter of glass alcohol bottles on Dikes path.

G Carr-Jones – Reported same issue to PCSO at the garages Coppern Way to Vale Road. Will alert PSCO to Dikes path.

B Alexandre – disappointed that the bump in the pavement on Ring Street has not been removed as part of the works.

17. To receive North Dorset District Councillors reports.

W Batty – Smith – High Street re-surfacing, whilst the works were completed on time and the staff very co-operative he appreciated traders concerns with regard to lack of notice. He had been unsuccessful in attaining a date of works prior Christmas and there was no consultation in terms of local impact.

G Carr-Jones – The District wide consultation on car parking charges commenced on 10th January. The STC working group have been invited to liaise with the District Council and some local traders regarding Station Road car park.

18. To receive the Dorset County Councillors report.

D Fox advised that Tim Lee was due to address the committee regarding the library. Closures were being challenged and the committee encouraged to refine the standard offer. A request was made for future liaison with the TC regarding the previously deferred review of parking restrictions in the High Street. He was pleased to advise that there is a new catering and hospitality training opportunity for young people in Sturminster Newton. Although no vacancies at present would be good to have Stalbridge representation on the Sturminster Newton High School governing body.

19. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 16th February**. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Tuesday 8th February 2011.

The meeting Closed at 9.15 pm

Date...19/01/11

Signed.....

Chairman