

# STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson

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

Tel 01963 364276.

Email: [clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk)

**Approved minutes of The Town Council Meeting held at the Youth Annex, Stalbridge Hall on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> August 2013**

**Present Councillors:** G Carr-Jones (Chair), P Ashcroft, T Bishop, J Cowley, K Garland, D Hine, R Knapp, C Moore & J Smith.

T Watson (Clerk)

## **In attendance**

There were 3 members of the public in attendance. P Batstone (County Councillor) was in attendance)

### **1. Community Open Forum.**

Having previously understood that there had been a request for a bench on the trailway, J Wardell advised that the Ramblers have offered to provide and site a bench. Member accepted the kind offer and P Ashcroft agreed to liaise on the location.

### **2. To receive apologies.**

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from W Batty- Smith & A Dike.

### **3. Declarations of interest.**

None.

### **4. To approve the minutes of the meetings - held on 3<sup>rd</sup> July 2013**

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

### **5. Correspondence: as detailed in annex. 1a.**

| Date     | From                    | Info  | Action  |
|----------|-------------------------|---|---|
| 11/07/13 | DAPTC                   | 9th edition of the Charles Arnold-Baker book Local Council Administration has been released.                      | Agreed to purchase  |
| 12/07/13 | DAPTC                   | A new version of the "Good Councillor's Guide" is available.  | Agreed to purchase  |
| 22/07/13 | DCC                     | Consultation on changes to the local transport provision in conjunction with budget cuts                          | Whilst most of the cuts did not appear to effect Stalbridge members were still concerned and agreed to pass to J Rabbetts & R Moore as TC transport reps. |
| 26/07/13 | DCC Democratic Services | The Dorset Local Access Forum is recruiting new members   | Agreed to pass to C/O volunteers  |
| 26/07/13 | DAPTC                   | Request for resolutions to be considered by the DAPTC Executive Committee and then to be taken forward to the AGM | None.   |
| 06/08/13 | Sturquest               | Invitation to meeting of Parishes eve. 14 <sup>th</sup> October.  | Due to the lack of information members were unsure as to the purpose of the meeting therefore declined.   |

# STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson

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

Tel 01963 364276.

Email: [clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk)

## **6. To facilitate the installation of posts and the end of footpath No 3. To prevent motorbike access. D Hine**

D Hine advised that motorbikes and quad bikes are using the path to access the private woodland and that this is causing a noise disturbance. She further advised that if the TC would purchase 3 posts she had a volunteer to site them. There was further discussion with regard to the ownership of the land and the possibility of the wood being fenced. J Wardell agreed with the advice from N Brown that a width restriction narrow enough to preclude motorbikes would also preclude pushchairs and off-road buggies and advised that in accordance with the equality act this was not lawful.

**RESOLVED:** There was no vote on the proposal made, as an alternative it was agreed to add no vehicle signs at both ends of the path and to publicize the correct use of public rights of way in the next newsletter.

## **7. To resolve the name for the Community Building.**

The following suggestions were made: Pick the names from the war memorial out of a hat, TheHub@Stalbridge, Stalbridge Hub, The Centre, The Forum, The StoneLee Centre, The Town Hall & The Stalbridge Station.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed that the name for the Community Building will be TheHub@Stalbridge.

## **8. To receive notice of the Christmas lights events.**

The lighting of the Lime on the ring and Carols is Mon 2<sup>nd</sup> December and the late night shopping event is Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December. It was noted that this year it is the intention to make the event less commercial and to have focus on local organisations and entertainment.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed to approve the dates of the events.

## **9. To consider a logo for Stalbridge Town Council and give further instruction.**

**G Carr-Jones**

G Carr-Jones advised that this should be a logo for the hub at Stalbridge and presented several designs.

**RESOLVED:** There was general agreement to work with T Wood on his Stalbridge flag design to develop the logo further.

## **10. To consider the provision of power at the Ring and give further instruction.**

T Wood advised that the lights group were seeking the TC's permission to investigate the possibility of the current lime tree light supply being utilised for other lighting of events on the Ring. This will be strictly controlled by the lights group, will save money and reduce noise from on generators.

**RESOLVED:** There was general agreement to allow the lights group to investigate the possibility of the current lime tree light supply being utilised for other lighting of events on the Ring

## **11. A proposal that the Town Council takes leasehold transfer of the land at Grosvenor Road from NDDC for use as amenity land. G Carr-Jones**

G Carr- Jones advised that the aim of this was to protect the area as amenity land. T Bishop encouraged members to ask for a freehold transfer of the land which may be subject to an asset lock.

**RESOLVED:** The proposal was amended and agreed that the Town Council takes the freehold transfer of the land at Grosvenor Road from NDDC for use as amenity land pending further negotiations with NDDC.

# STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson

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

Tel 01963 364276.

Email: [clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk)

## 12. To receive a closing report on the Hub project.

G Carr-Jones felt that it was a little premature for a full closing financial report but advised that the project had come in both within budget on time. The furnishings and IT will be installed in the next couple of weeks, ready for a move in at the beginning of September. Some landscaping work will be done at the front of the building.

## 13. To consider the service and maintenance arrangements for the Community Building / Community Library and give further instruction.

It was noted that the library group did not feel able to carry out high level cleaning and it was considered if the volunteers should be expected to clean the WC which would be used by the public. A quarterly professional deep clean was considered to be appropriate with the volunteers / Clerk vacuuming, dusting and cleaning the kitchen in the interim. I Kerr would be happy to clean the public WC. Further arrangements can be made for window cleaning. Members felt that a cleaning spec was required.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed to get quotes for a quarterly deep clean. Volunteers/ Clerk to vacuume, dust & clean the kitchen in the interim. I Kerr to clean the public WC.

## 14. To receive an offer to refurbish the hand bier and give further instruction.

The offer had been made by Mr D Stubbings. He has already done some Internet searching and the hand beir goes on top of the wheeled Bier for services with the coffin on top of it. He intends to take a look at the wheeled Bier so that he can match it up and make them both look as one , as was seemingly originally the case. Some members questioned if the hand bier was worth preserving whilst others were keen to keep a piece of Stalbridge history in good condition, so that it can be displayed with the wheeled bier.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and agreed to accept the offer to refurbish the hand bier and that the TC will pay for the materials.

## 15. To consider covering the well in the bier house and give further instruction.

It was noted that this was necessary form a health and safety point of view as the original cover appeared to have disappeared.

**RESOLVED:** There was general agreement that the well must be covered and to proceed with installing an appropriate cover.

## 16. To consider the provision of new carpet for the Library and give further instruction.

D Beardsmore had advised that the cost could be covered in the hub building budget.

**RESOLVED:** It was proposed and unanimously agreed that a new carpet for the Library be provided as part of the hub building project budget.

## 17. Finance.

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

|                          |   |           |
|--------------------------|---|-----------|
| Custom security services | Alarm upgrade Library   | £529.20   |
| N Power                  | DD Electricity Library 03.05-25.06.13                             | £69.16    |
| Total Gas & Power        | DD Gas Library 31.05-30.06.13                                     | £8.05     |
| IK Services              | In lieu purchase replacement safety strap baby changing unit WC's | £33.13    |
| Wallgate                 | WC hand washer service contract                                   | £494.40   |
| I K Services             | WC & street cleaning June   | £1,552.00 |
| DCC                      | Commercial sacks  | £50.00    |
| IK Services              | In lieu of WC's sign  | £55.00    |
| Custom security services | Alarm system hub  | £696.00   |

# STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson

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

Tel 01963 364276.

Email: [clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk)

|                                    |   |           |
|------------------------------------|---|-----------|
| Harrier Garden Services (J Ayres)  | Apply weed killer to paths at Jarvis field              | £28.10    |
| Harrier Garden Services ( J Ayres) | Jarvis field mowing 3rd of 4 instalments                | £516.15   |
| NDDC                               | Council tax flat  | £212.20   |
| Blanchards Bailey                  | Legal fees sale of 8 Ring Street see RN 6               | £600.00   |
| British Gas                        | DD Closing electricity bill 8 Ring St                   | £82.40    |
| British Gas                        | DD Closing gas bill 8 Ring St                           | £62.48    |
| Wessex Water                       | DD Closing Bill 8 Ring St                               | £30.71    |
| T Watson                           | In Lieu C/O phone credit                                | 10        |
| T Watson                           | Postage   | £8.10     |
| T Watson                           | Salary July   | 797.19    |
| HMRC                               | Tax & NI July   | £98.55    |
| DAPTC                              | Annual subscription                                     | £682.70   |
| T Watson                           | In lieu of purchase no dogs sign for JFPA               | £3.00     |
| IK Services                        | In lieu of purchase of new padlock for the Bier house   | £19.22    |
| Cutting Edge Technologies          | IT Cable installation                                   | £1,464.02 |
| BT                                 | DD Line rent calls & connection charges 27.03-31/5/2013 | £654.22   |
| R Sharp                            | STC & NDDC Grass cutting 08.07-06.08.13                 | £884.00   |
| DAPTC                              | Subscription fee 2013/14                                | £682.70   |

The clerk had made enquires as instructed post the July meeting regarding the subscription figure:

In 2012/13 NALC decided to increase it's affiliation fee by 4.5%. DAPTC therefore decided to protect it's members from the full impact of this increase, and only increased it's own subscription rate by 1%. However, as you know, DAPTC is a not for profit organisation, and for 2013/14 cannot continue to absorb this increase; and has therefore had to raise subscriptions by 3.5%. Fortunately NALC has not increased subscription rates again this year. The Clerk advised that the delivery of the commercial sacks had not been received.

**RESOLVED: Proposed by D Hine, seconded by T Bishop and agreed that approval of the invoices as presented be made excluding the DCC payment of £50.00.**

## **b. To approve the transfer between the instant access and deposit accounts.**

A request was made for a transfer of £65,000.00 to the deposit account in conjunction with the receipt of the fund in conjunction with the sale of 8 Ring Street less day to day running expenses.

**RESOLVED: Proposed by D Hine, seconded by T Bishop and agreed that approval of the transfers as presented be made.**

## **c. To receive the quarterly financial report April – June 2013**

Members had received copies prior to the meeting. The Clerk advised that the receipts and payments and the bank balance at the end of June of £96,597.89 included the sub-committee accounts. It was noted that general funds stand at £44,655.15 & capital reserves at £51,833.71. An agenda item was requested for a balance statement on the remaining capital bequest fund.

**RESOLVED: There was general agreement to accept the figures as presented.**

## **d. To receive notice of 13/14 national Clerks salary award.**

The National Joint Council (NJC) for Local Government Services agreement on the pay scales for 2013-14 was jointly recommended by the National Association of Local Councils and Society of Local Council Clerks. This represented a 1% rise, the first cost of living rise for 3 years. It was noted that the Clerks current level is SCP 25, which is at the top of LC1 and no further incremental rises will be made within LC1.

**RESOLVED: There was general agreement that the rise be implemented.**

## **18. Clerks report on matters arising.**

# STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson

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

Tel 01963 364276.

Email: [clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk)

Sale of 8 Ring Street- Complete & funds banked.

Notice board- will be moved to the top of station road under the road sign.

Springfield Hedge – Instructed to be cut

Sign for the WC's – Sign advising opening times has been erected

Jarvis field play area - Had complaints of holes/gaps in the fence, asked a contractor to take a look and quote. There are no dogs signs on the top gate, Wessex Water path gate & Wessex Way gate.

Town Orderly holiday cover – Arrangement advised.

Bibbern Bridge road closure- Urgent unplanned work needs to be undertaken by DCC Highways. Initially a 7.5 Tonne temporary weight restriction has been implemented which will be followed by remedial works requiring a full road closure. These works will be done as soon as possible, whoever because this work was unforeseen DCC Highways will have to programme it amongst the work already planned. At the present time there is no proposed date for the Grass cutting at the land adjacent to Pond Walk- Thanks to Colin for his help in getting this done.

## **19. To receive Town Councillors reports.**

R Knapp- Will proceed with joint neighbourhood plan with Marnhull, G Carr-Jones has given C Dowden R Knapps' contact details.

D Hine – Requested letters of thanks to C Chant & R Selway.

J Cowley – Reported to DCC hole in pavement adjacent to A357 south of Grosvenor Road..

J Smith – Member of the public tripped on curb at the cutting. Clerk will take to highways meeting.

K Garland: Great that the school pool has been open this summer. Eloise Harris will be taking photos as TheHub@Stalbridge opening events.

## **20. To receive North Dorset District Councillors reports.**

G Carr-Jones advised NDDC have agreed to install signage for the Hub@Stalbridge on Station Road and to reinstate the yellow lines outside the library.

## **21. To receive the Dorset County Councillors report.**

Pauline had previously supplied a paper report that had been circulated to members. She intends to have a surgery at TheHub@Stalbridge on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday in the month between 11.45 & 12.30.

**22. Date of the Next meeting** - The next Town Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> September**. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> August 2013.

The meeting closed at 9.00 pm

Date...04/09/13

Signed.....  
Chairman