

STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson
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Draft minutes of extraordinary meeting of the Town Council On Wednesday 24th January 2018

Present Councillors G Carr-Jones (Chair), T Bishop, J Cowley, K Garland, R Knapp, C Moore , B Newton, B Penfold & J Wardell.

Absent Councillors:

T Watson (Clerk)

In attendance

There was 3 members of the public in attendance.

1. Apologies.

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from D Hine & P Brember. R Knapp & B Penfold advised that they would be leaving early.

2. Declarations of Interest.

It was previously resolved at the meeting 08.07.2015 to grant the Dispensations for all Councillors to allow them to discuss and vote on the setting of the Precept to apply until May 2019.

3. To respond to the North Dorset local plan review issues & options consultation.

A response was made.

R Knapp & B Penfold left the meeting

The members of the public left the meeting

4. To award the contract for the Jubilee play area refurbishment

The three schemes and quotations were considered. Whilst some members felt the proposal should be more simple and lower in cost, others appreciated the need for up to date play equipment at the site.

RESOLVED: To award the contract for the Jubilee play area refurbishment to Proludic in conjunction with the quote at £40,000.

5. To consider the information presented regarding the Council's financial position for the first 9 months of 2017-18 and predicted position at the end of the financial year.

The bank statement and cash book were verified and signed.

RESOLVED: Proposed and agreed to accept the figures presented regarding the Council's financial position for the first 9 months of 2017-18 and predicted position at the end of the financial year.

6. To consider the grant applications for the budget period 18/19 and give further instruction.

The following applications had been received: St Marys Church for Churchyard grass cutting £5,300 (Grasscutting £3,600, winter tidy hedges £800, hedge topping £900.) Stalbridge Youth Club £1500 (Room hire rent to Stalbridge Hall), The Playingfields Management Committee £1,500 (running costs to include PL insurance). Life education Wessex up to £550 (2 day visit to Stalbridge School)

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RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to set a general grant fund of £9,500 and to allocate from the fund £4,500 to St Mary's PCC to cover the total cost of the grasscutting and the balance to contribute to the other up keep listed above. £1,500 to Stalbridge Youth Club for rent to the Hall. £1,500 to the Playingfields Management Committee for Playingfields running costs & PL insurance. £275 to Life Education Wessex as a contribution to the costs of a 2 day visit to Stalbridge School.

7. To consider the figures presented for the budget period 18/19 in forecast income and give further instruction.

Members had received the financial information prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to accept the figures presented for the Budget period 18/19 in forecast income excluding the precept.

8. To consider the figures presented for the budget period 18/19 forecast payments and give further instruction.

Members had received the financial information prior to the meeting. It was also suggested that the enhanced footpath maintenance service is reviewed in the 2018 summer season. The Clerk presented figures in relation to costs and re-charges if the TC took on the urban verge cutting.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to accept the figures presented for the Budget period 18/19 forecast payments and that the TC would not be making budget provision for urban verge cutting in 18/19.

9. To consider the figures set aside for capital, general allocated and non-allocated reserves and give further instruction.

The forecast unallocated general reserve figure was noted and felt to be appropriate. The allocated capital and general reserves were considered.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to accept the figures presented for reserves.

10. To resolve the level of the precept 2018/2019.

Members had received the financial information prior to the meeting. They discussed the potential increase in devolved functions from the District and County Councils. It was noted that capping will not happen for 3 years.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to make a precept demand for year 2018/19 of £ 109,500 which represents an increase of 32 pence per month on a band D property for the Town Councils part of the Council Tax.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.30 pm