



# Stalbridge Town Council Meetings

## Town Council Meeting Minutes

Approved minutes of Video Conference meeting held via Microsoft teams of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2021. Commencing after the Interim Planning Committee meeting held at 7 p.m.

### Councillors present at the meeting:

K Garland (Chair), D Andrews, J Convoy, M Dimmer, H Hatcher, R Lovell, M Robinson, R Roden & S Waite.

**Absent Councillors:** B Penfold

### Clerk for the meeting:

T Watson

### In attendance:

- Mrs J Wardell Rights of way liaison Officer (ROWLO) , Mr Enrico Dimarino (DC Community Highway Officer) . Mrs J Watts was present via phone link.
- G Carr-Jones (Dorset Councillor) was in attendance

## 1. Open Forum

No Comments

## 2. To receive apologies

None.

## 3. To receive declarations of interest & Requests for dispensations (Please notify the Town Clerk prior to the meeting)

K Garland: Pecuniary item 13a.in relation to payments to IK services.

## 4. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2021

**RESOLVED:** The minutes of the meeting having previously been circulated to Councillors were approved to be signed by the Chairman at a later date.

## 5. Clerks report & Correspondence: As detailed in annex 1a.

No Clerks matters of report

### *Correspondence*

W Lawson

Halter path to Sturminster Newton

Noted as outside Stalbridge Parish boundary and ROWLO J Wardell contact details passed to correspondent

J Watts

Recently fenced local rights of way in Stalbridge

Jan Wardell (ROWLO) advised that the land owners were within their rights for fence the footpaths in relation to stock control and encouraging walkers and dogs to stick to the footpath route. In addition to this advice had been sought from Dc Rangers prior to the erection of the fences. She advised that lots of footpaths are currently wet and muddy and if the paths are unfenced walkers stray from the path to avoid the mud and can damage crops.

Agreed ROWLO to liaise with the land owner and DC Rangers to see if a solution can be found.

S Conlan

Water flowing down Barrow Hill

Enrico Dimarino (DC Community Highway Officer). Explained that the problem may be roots in the pipe and that the first attempt at root cutting was unsuccessful and he had re-arranged the root cutter and camera survey with some urgency for hopefully early week commencing 08.03.21

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

It was understood that the facebook consultation with residents of Anglesey Cottages regarding a sign for the cottages had been inconclusive.

R Lovel – Reported works on a beech tree on Park Grove. (Post meeting noted in conjunction with application P/TRC/2020/00266)

K Garland- Had received some leaflets for the high Sheriff Of Dorset regarding insight into the inspirational work of some of Dorset's charities. Attending the funeral of D Hine on behalf of the Town Council.

## **7. To receive the Dorset Councillors report.**

G Carr-Jones had been working with the site managers of the Laburnum House development site to address regarding neighbours concerns regarding tree and nesting birds on the Laburnum site and monthly site visits with neighbouring residents on the Thornhill Rd site.

Question from H Hatcher: Looking toward the future in terms of housing developments and education in the town how would we proceed in terms of the local authority and planning? Do you have you any knowledge/experience of past developments where this has happened?

G Carr-Jones agreed to investigate the trigger point figures for a new school and advise.

## **8. To receive a report from DC Highways Community Highways Team Leader (North) regarding the viability of made up footpath on the East side of Thornhill Rd to Wood Lane and give further instruction.**

It was understood that the Town Councils request for a footway to be constructed as a planning gain in conjunction with the Thornhill Rd site had not been successful as there was no justification for such improvement works to be provided by the applicant as they did not directly relate to the development proposal. Therefore the DC Transport Development Liaison Manager could not use it

as grounds for reason for refusal of the outline application. DC highways also had concerns regarding safety including the crossing point to Wood Lane. E Dimarino advised that the cost of an extended footway, street lighting and moving the speed limit would be in the region of £75,000. It was also noted that in relation to the Thornhill Rd development DC Highways would not be moving the 30mph speed limit further out into the unbuilt rural environment. The Chair thanked E Dimarino for his attendance.

**9. To receive a report from the local Rights Of Way liaison officer and give further instruction.**

J Wadell gave an extensive report on her activities as ROWLO in walking and reporting problems on the local rights of way. She asked members to consider appointing a Town Council representative for the trailway as section 106 funds will be available in the future and it would be good to have a project ready to go. Further to this she suggested considering working with Somerset to extend the trailway at Stalbridge towards Henstridge.

**RESOLVED: M Dimmer was appointed as the Town Council representative for the trailway.**

**10. Stalbridge Town Council start the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Stalbridge  
S Waite**

S Waite accepted that this would be the third attempt at getting a neighbourhood plan off the ground but felt that it would help focus on what sort of place Stalbridge would be in the future and would give more control. It was noted that previously it had been very difficult to find interest people to work on the plan and engage public interest and prior to verification a plan in process carries little weight in the planning process. S Waite offered to produce a draft plan of action.

**RESOLVED: To start the process of preparing a Neighbourhood Plan for Stalbridge**

**11. To approve the March 2020 edition of the TC quarterly newsletter**

**RESOLVED: The March 2020 edition of the TC quarterly newsletter was approved**

**12. To agree a response to the Dorset Local Plan consultation**

**RESOLVED: To approve the draft response with the addition of the mention of the trailway in the Stalbridge section.**

**It was proposed and agreed to suspend Standing order 3.t**

**13. Review of Town Councils operations in relation to Covid 19 and give further instruction in relation to:**

**K Garland**

**a. Meetings (full council and sub-committees)**

It was understood that in accordance with the current lock down meetings must continue over Microsoft teams.

**RESOLVED: To continue with remote meetings until further notice**

**A Waite left the meeting**

**b. Services & expenditure**

Street cleaning and grass cutting services remain operation. Expenditure to date stands at £4,914.29, £632.87 remaining of DC grant.

**c. Community support**

It was noted that Stalbridge helpers group remains shelved due to lack of requirement for help.

**d. Buildings & land (playgrounds, public WC's & Hub including the community library)**

The Clerk advised that the public WC work at Station Rd is complete and they are ready to open. The Community Library remained closed pending advice from DC and the Hub is closed for groups and organisations in conjunction with the current lockdown rules.

**RESOLVED: To open the public WC's at Station Rd on the 8<sup>th</sup> March.**

**14. Finance.**

**a. To receive a list of payments made under the scheme of delegation in relation to covid 19.**

List

**RESOLVED: List of payments made under the scheme of delegation in relation to covid 19 was noted.**

**b. To approve the appointment of the internal auditor for 2020/2021 accounting period and review the terms of reference and schedule for the internal audit.**

**RESOLVED: Mr OA Bedford was appointed as the internal auditor for 2020/2021 accounting period and the terms of reference and schedule for the internal audit were approved.**

**15. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held via Microsoft teams on Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Monday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021.**

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 21.06 pm