



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 6th January 2021. Commencing after the Interim Planning Committee meeting held at 7 p.m.

Councillors present at the meeting:

K Garland (Chair), D Andrews, M Dimmer, H Hatcher, R Lovell, B Benfold, M Robinson, R Roden

Councillors Absent: S Waite

Clerk for the meeting:

T Watson

In attendance:

- No members of the public had requested access to the Video Conference meeting.
- G Carr-Jones (Dorset Councillor) was in attendance

1. Open Forum

No comments

2. To receive apologies

J Convoy

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

K Garland: Pecuniary item 11a.in relation to payments to IK services.

H Hatcher: Pecuniary item 11a.in relation to payments to Stalbridge Building Supplies

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2020

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.

Damaged verges and mud on paths at Park Grove – Reported to DC Highways

Water running down Barrow hill & pothole outside the old telephone exchange - Reported to DC Highways

Precept 21/22 – There will be an extraordinary meeting to resolve on the 20th January 2021

Correspondence

Equilibrium youth work cic Possibility of building a North Dorset College. [NOTED](#)

Notice of APPEAL/0024/2020 Land West Of Waterlake And Grosvenor Road Stalbridge Dorset. Develop land by the erection of up to 90 No. dwellings, form vehicular access (from Waterlake), pedestrian access, open space and carry out associated works. (Outline application to determine access). Appeal Reference: APP/D1265/W/20/3262267 Appellant: Lightwood Strategic Ltd Appeal Start Date: 16 December 2020. All representations must be received by 20 January 2021

[AGREED: As the appeal is written responses only the Clerk and R Roden to draft a covering letter from the Councils previous comments and planning report and circulate to council for comment. Deadline for members response to the Clerk 17/01/20.](#)

6. To receive Town Councillors reports.

H Hatcher – In capacity as Chair of Governors welcomed new headmaster to Stalbridge School

B Lovell – Still has oak whips. Clerk to contact tree officer for suggested sites

M Robinson – Applicant for garden room on gold street would appreciate assistance in dealing with the conservation officer. M Robinson to put application in touch with G Carr-Jones.

K Garlanded – Asked member to give serious thought not putting the precept up if the Council are in a sound financial position to deal with every day running expenses and committed projects. The aim being to give residents of the town every opportunity to endue any financial austerity in the coming 12 months.

7. To receive the Dorset Councillors report.

The DC draft budget includes a 2% increase and a 3% increase in social care. New policies recently approved: housing, housing enforcement and private sector housing. SWEP evoked bringing rough sleepers off the streets in cold weather. He encouraged members to engage with the Dorset local plan consultation due to start in mid-January. Supported the Chairman in that if members can see no valid reason withing the budget figure to raise the precept figure it should remain the same.

8. To review the annual risk assessment 20/21 and give further instruction.

Monitor Hygiene at the allotments. Update play area inspection records. Review of the Hub standard operation procedures and lone working policy. Update regarding declarations and the receipt of gifts. Annual letter to The Scouts to establish permission health and safety requirements and insurance for the bonfire event at the playing fields. Address employment of Assistant Clerk. Review of use of station Rd car Park and & inspection of lighting. Monitor fly tipping. Annual inspection and maintenance of street furniture.

[RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to accept the annual risk assessment as presented.](#)

9. Consider options for the replacement bench at Woodmills and give further instruction (TCM 06.11.19)

Four options were considered which were all made of recycled materials.

[RESOLVED: To dispose of the old bench and to purchase and install the Glason Lowther bench at £496.13 plus VAT.](#)

10. Review to Town Councils operations in relation to Covid19 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

b. Services & expenditure

Operational services remain the same as the December meeting report. Members reviewed their previous resolution to revert to core services for the period where they are unable to hold public meetings. Expenditure in relation to safety measures put in place in play areas and buildings managed by the Town Council stood to date at £3,378.57. The plumbers and electricians bills for the WC works are still outstanding.

RESOLVED: Continue to revert to core services

c. Community support

At the moment the Stalbridge helpers scheme is still after the previous lockdown and has a small number of volunteers.

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

The Clerk advised that there is still a problem with the WC auto flush pressure which needs resolving before they can open. In conjunction with the recent lockdown rules the Community Library have closed and the Hub is still closed for groups and organisations.

11. Finance.

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

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

b. To set up a standing order for month payments for IT & VOIP services

RESOLVED: To set up a standing order for month payments for IT & VOIP services to four Counties Services.

12. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held via Microsoft teams on Wednesday 3rd February 2021. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Tuesday 26th January 2021.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.03 pm

Approved 03/02/21

Signed.....

Chairman

Date