



# 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 14<sup>th</sup> October 2020 commencing 7.30 p.m.

### Councillors present at the meeting:

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

### Clerk for the meeting:

T Watson

### In attendance:

- No members of the public had requested access to the Video Conference meeting.
- Apologies had been given by G Carr-Jones (Dorset Councillor)

### 1. Open Forum

No comments

### 2. To receive apologies

R Roden

### 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.

H Hatcher: Pecuniary item 13a.in relation to payments to Stalbridge Building Supplies

### 4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 16th September 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.

Brambles and vegetation growing out of beech hedge on Barrow Hill – Reported to Sovereign 22.09.20

Fallen Park wall at Bazils Hill - Reported to Inwood

Trees at Grosvenor Rd – Contacted Dorset Council regarding low branches making it difficult to cut grass under trees.

Blackmore Vale Family History Group - have decided that if, and when, they get to hold meetings again they will stay in Sturminster and not use the Hub

Fire and intruder alarm system – takeovers went smoothly

IT support and VIOP system – IT takeover went very well and the VOIP system is due to be handed over on Tuesday 20th October

### **Correspondence**

Dorset Council Highways – planned roadworks in October and November NOTED

Dorset Council Highways – temporary closure of unnamed road in Stalbridge NOTED

Dorset Council Highways – temporary closure of Gold Street Stalbridge NOTED

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

K Garland – Had kept in contact with the Dorset Council member who had encouraged members to get in touch should the Town Council have any issues requiring assistance.

J Convoy – Had kept in touch with the Stalbridge Hall management committee and whilst some sports activities have resumed in line with rules an updated risk assessment is being considered.

S Waite – Working with the DAPTC to review its role and the role of NALC in supporting Councils.

M Robinson – Had been in touch with the Worshipful Company of Painter-Stainers regarding their links with John Thornhill.

B Lovel – has some oak tree whips which may be available for public spaces.

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

None.

### **8. To receive the annual inventory inspections and give further instruction. (see papers)**

It was noted that the Springfield hedge has been cut and the Stalbridge flag is not repairable. Jarvis field fence has been repaired and a works order has been sent for play area remedial repairs post annual inspection, waiting on start date. It had been agreed to replace the bench at Woodmills at the TCM 06.11.19.

**RESOLVED: works agreed : Caps on the posts around the cross, wood treatment for the cross information board, repair to the brick surround on the pump at Church Hill, liaise with the PCC regarding removing shrubs and ivy on the rectory side of the Bier House, replace window glass on the phone box on the pound, repairs to the casing on the wooden pump on the ring. Repair / replace the TC office external door. Refurbishment of benches pending more detailed inspection by C Waite. Consider repair / refurbishment of 4 finger posts pending photos from M Dimmer.**

### **9. To resolve the Town Council position in terms of remembrance Sunday 2020 including the laying of the TC wreath and donation to the RBL. K Garland**

It was understood that the Clerk had been liaising with the RBL and St Marys Church regarding the act of remembrance in Stalbridge this year and that in lieu of the parade and large service a smaller gathering based on invitation would take place at the war memorial. Members of the community are encouraged to donate to the RBL online, put poppies in their house windows and stand at their

front door at 11am for the two minute silence. The RBL instruction is that door to door poppy donations will not happen this year and that point of sale for traditional paper poppies and crosses only will be at reduced locations. Members considered if they were happy to finance the printing of some paper poppy for house windows.

**RESOLVED: To fund the printing of paper poppies for windows and publicity. Donation of £40 (under S137) to be made to the Royal British Legion and K Garland to lay the wreath on behalf of the Town Council subject to accommodation of numbers of people attending the act of remembrance.**

**10. To consider a replacement flag for The Ring and give further instruction** **M Robinson**

It was understood that the current 3yard flag had been purchased in September 2019 at a cost of £113.60 and had been flown for most of the year. Members felt that flying the flag had been positive for the Town.

**RESOLVED: M Robinson to work with the Clerk and bring back options for replacement flag to Council**

**11. To receive an update from the Stalbridge representative in relation to Christmas 2020**

**B Penfold**

B Penfold advised that in the current circumstance arising from the covid 19 pandemic Stalbridge did not plan to host any form of gathering this Christmas. Therefore there would not be lantern making sessions, lantern parade or switching on of the lights on the lime tree event. They still plan to support the lit Christmas trees along the A357 in Stalbridge, light the lime tree and the Church tower. There may be some community competition events which involve displays on houses yet to be agreed. Also due to the pandemic it has not been possible for Stalbridge to hold an AGM in 20.21.

**12. 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)**

Members felt whilst numbers of cases in Dorset are low in relation to national figures they are growing and rule of 6 is still in place which precludes face to face meetings at present.

**RESOLVED: To continue using Microsoft teams for Town Council and interim Planning committee meeting pending review at December Town Council meeting.**

**b. Services & expenditure**

The Clerk advised that street cleaning and grass cutting are still being provided and that expenditure in relation to safety measure put in place in play areas and buildings managed by the Town Council stood to date at £2,926.61, and there will be some additional expenditure for labour and signs at the public WC's.

**RESOLVED: To settle bills for works on the public WC works on presentation if they are presented before the next payment run, based on the two member authorisation procedure in place.**

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

The Clerk advised that the Station road WC works are in process. The library as continued to open on reduced hours and there have been no issues to date. Whilst Dorset library service have decided to allow use of their public access PC's the Stalbridge Community Library Management Group have decided against this as it would clog up the limit of 2 patrons at a time in the small space . The archive team had requested access to administer the archive at a time and day deemed safe and suitable.

**RESOLVED: For the Community Library to continue to open based on reduced hours and for the archive team to have access to administer the archive, terms and times to be agreed with the Clerk based on The Hub covid risk assessment.**

**13. Finance.**

- a. To receive a list of payments made under the scheme of delegation in relation to covid 19. (see papers)

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

**14. For the HR Committee to receive members comments in relation to the annual appraisal of the Clerk. H Hatcher & J Convoy**

The Clerk left the meeting and notes were taken by HR Committee members.

There was no need for a resolution to exclude the press and public in accordance with standing order 10a. xi. as no press or public were present at the meeting .

**15. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held via Microsoft team on Wednesday 11th November 2020. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Tuesday 3rd November 2020.**

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.51 pm

Approved 09/12/20

Signed.....

Chairman

Date