

STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson
TheHub@Stalbridge,
Station Road, Stalbridge, Sturminster Newton, Dorset, DT10 2RG.
Tel 01963 364276.
Email: clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk

Approved minutes of The Town Council Meeting held at the above address on Wednesday 8th January 2014

Present Councillors: G Carr-Jones (Chair), P Ashcroft, W Batty-Smith, T Bishop, J Cowley, A Dike, K Garland, R Knapp, C Moore & J Smith.

T Watson (Clerk)

In attendance

There were 5 members of the public in attendance.

Pauline Batstone (County Councillor) was in attendance.

1. Community Open Forum.

T Lee re-iterated his previous request to move forward with a web site where the Library could be fully publicized.

Claudia Dart presented the idea of a community web site to promote Stalbridge. Members welcomed the idea and the offer of expertise and suggested she liaise with the Clerk to progress her ideas.

T Moore (Hub Volunteers Chairman) asked for members input on the Travel Exchange questionnaire. Members agreed to fund prize to the value of £25.00. T Lee offered to have questionnaires in the Library.

2. To receive apologies.

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from D Hine.

3. Declarations of interest.

None.

4. To approve the minutes of the meetings - held on 3rd & 18th December (addition)

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
06.12.13	J Lewin	E-mail reference excessive shade caused by trees on Woodmills Close.	Members felt that 2 or 3 trees could be removed. The Clerk was instructed to advise NDDC, cc to Mrs Lewin.
07.12.13	Rev. William Ridding	Letter of thanks ref. grant for Churchyard maintenance.	Noted
11.12.13	NDDC	Minutes of the meeting of the Community partnership working party.	Noted
19.12.13	DAPTC	CC Letters regarding billing authorities passing on the local council tax support grant	Noted
20.12.13	M James SDO (Sherborne Police)	E-mail requesting opposition to proposed desk closures.	Noted

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06.01.14	Mr K Allen	E-mail thanks to Cllrs. Garland & Cowley	Noted
06.01.14	Dorset Community Action	Free information & Advice sessions	Agreed to pass to hall Committee and Hub Volunteers.
08.01.14	Mr S Conen	E-mail regarding over grown tree adjacent to Dunccliffe Close and Raleigh Rd.	Clerk reported to DC Rights Of Way Ref MNT28168 they cannot help just maintain the path. Agreed a matter between residents TC will write a letter in terms of safety for path users if required.

6. To receive a recommendation for the Library management sub-committee that the old external library door be replaced with a window and give further instruction.

T Lee explained that the old external sliding doors are now redundant and the lobby area is being used for the photocopier and the honesty library. The doors are letting in both a draft and water. A quotation for the works has been obtained at a total of £2,735.00 plus VAT, on the understanding that the TC would require further quotes if it was resolved to go ahead. Before and after images were presented for members review.

Members felt that is was a reasonable request, however concerns were that this would be a permanent re-arrangement of the building that would not have a major effect on the Library facility. It was suggested that funds would be better spent on a suitable wind and watertight door. Members felt that this expenditure was not a high priority in relation

To the external remedial works and fire alarm installation that needs to be done at the Library.
RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that replacement of the old external library door with a window should not be done at this stage.

There were 3 abstentions to the vote.

7. To receive a reply from NDDC with regard to the allocation of parking spaces in Station Road car park.

It was noted that the 4 original designated disabled spaces achieve the recommended minimum of 6% of total spaces. The additional 2 disabled spaces outside the bungalows represent 8% total of 69 spaces. NDDC felt that is was not feasible to generate more standard spaces by removing 2 disabled spaces unless the whole car park was re-marked. It was noted that Stalbridge Close has its own parking.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to instruct the Clerk to write to NDDC requesting that the 2 disabled spaces added outside the bungalows are removed.

8. To respond to the pre submission consultation on the Local plan Part 1.

Summary: The Plan identifies Blandford, Gillingham, Shaftesbury & Sturminster Newton as the key strategic settlements in the district and seeks to focus the vast majority of the district growth in these main towns, as sustainable locations where jobs and facilities are easily accessible. The settlement boundaries defined around the four main towns are retained. The settlement boundaries defined around all other settlements in the North Dorset District wide Local Plan 2003 including Stalbridge will be removed and these settlements will be subject to countryside policies unless new settlement boundaries are defined in neighbourhood plans or site allocations in Part 2 of the Local Plan. Development in these areas will be strictly controlled unless it is required to enable essential rural need to be met and infilling will not be permitted. Rural exception affordable housing schemes (including schemes that propose small

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numbers of a market housing units) will only be permitted if a local need for rural exception affordable housing can be demonstrated in an appropriate up-to-date local needs survey.

It was understood that Stalbridge will be able to 'opt in' to the Local Plan Part 2, as an alternative to meeting local needs for housing, employment or other forms of development through countryside policies and neighbourhood planning.

(N.B part 2 of the local plan will be coming out during 2014 date pending)

Whilst some members were confident that the plan prohibits major development, others felt that the creation of a 'Neighbourhood Plan' would have merit in retaining a development boundary and some form of local control. It was agreed to place an advert in the Blackmore Vale magazine to canvas local interest in a neighbourhood plan.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to respond that Stalbridge have expressed an interest in creating a neighbourhood plan and reserve the right pending publication of part 2 of the local plan.

9. To purchase and install an additional dog bin on the trailway. K Garland

The Clerk advised that the maximum cost would be £120.00, including installation and that the Town Orderly was happy to empty. There is also a further cost saving option that can be explored on asking the DC Rangers to install.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to purchase and install an additional dog bin on the trailway.

10. Finance.

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

HMRC	Tax & NI January	£83.30
T Watson	Salary January	£775.17
T Watson	In lieu of mtg refreshments	£0.97
T Moore	In Lieu of Christmas LNO refreshments	£57.96
IK Services	Street & WC cleaning December	£1,552.00
IK Services	Hub WC cleaning 12 weeks	£53.70
IK Services	In lieu of paper towel dispenser for Hub WC	£8.64
Vale fire Services	Library fire extinguisher service	£43.43
Prodigy PC	Silver BS 6 units & back up January	£109.20

The Clerk advised that there were additional cheques that required signature from payments approved at the meeting 18th December 2013.

RESOLVED: Proposed by K Garland seconded by W Batty-Smith and agreed that approval of the invoices as presented be made.

11. Clerks report on matters arising.

DCC family services: - Approached made by outreach staff member who would like to the use the hub as a base for work.

Age Concern: - Will be using the hub for drop in sessions on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Jacqui Wragg (Community support Worker):- meeting arranged to discuss the utilization of the hub facility.

14/15 budget - Offer for members to attend a workshop to go through the figures.

Skate Park: - The skate park group have raised funds of £643.10 and have asked the TC to administer these funds.

Post on The Ring: Damaged will be replaced.

Grove Lane grit Bin: No success in finding residents to spread grit.

12. To receive Town Councillors reports.

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P Ashcroft- Thanks to the Christmas lights group for the excellent Christmas events.

G CJ – Thanks to the Town Orderly for all his hard work.

C Moore- Trailway update.

A Dike – Query regarding how members of the public access draft minutes.

K Garland – Visit with J Cowley to property in Raleigh Rd with a flooded garden, gave advice. Review required on equipment security and crime prevention measures at the Hub. Action required to check out the water heater element at the Public WC's.

J Cowley – Volunteered to do a Saturday morning Councillor surgery session.

T Bishop – The importance of using the rolling screens to advertise what is going on at the Hub. Some of the new windows have been installed at the Hall. £4,000.00 has been secured from NDDC for administration of community based projects.

W Batty Smith – Has reported potholes at Thornhill.

13. To receive North Dorset District Councillors reports.

W Batty Smith - NDDC have responded to the review of ward boundaries and would like Bagber to be included.

14. To receive the Dorset County Councillors report.

P Batstone expressed thanks for the hospitality at her Saturday morning surgeries. She congratulated the Lights Group on the excellent Christmas events and encouraged reporting of potholes to DC Highways.

15. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held on **Wednesday 5th February 2014**. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Tuesday 28th January 2014.

The meeting closed at 8.55 pm

Date...05/02/14

Signed.....
Chairman