

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 3rd September commencing at 7pm.

Present Councillors: G Carr-Jones (Chair), P Ashcroft, W Batty-Smith, T Bishop, J Cowley, K Garland, D Hine, R Knapp & J Wardell.

T Watson (Clerk)

In attendance

There was 1 member of the public in attendance.

Pauline Batstone (Dorset County Councillor) and Rolly Skeats (DCC Highways technical Officer) were present.

Welcome to members of the public and introductions.

1. Community open forum.

Rolly Skeats explained that he was offering to attend a TC meeting in order to raise the profile of DCC Highways with towns and parishes. Members were most grateful to have this opportunity of contact and agreed that they will send all comments to the Clerk for collation and forwarding to Rolly prior to his visit at the meeting 1st October.

J Turnbull requested that in addition to the current circular signs, no cycling wording be added on the path from Duck Lane to Woodmills.

2. To receive apologies.

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from C Moore & J Smith.

3. Declarations of interest.

None.

4. To approve the minutes of the following meeting - held on 6th August.

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
12.08.14	DWP	Letter regarding the 'Access Britain Challenge'	D Hine wondered if a ramp on the path for Dikes to Pound Close would qualify. Agreed to pass to the Information Office.
13.08.14	R Skeats (DCC Highways)	Offer to attend TC meeting	Invitation to TC meeting 01.10.14
20.08.14	NALC	Technical consultation on planning	J Cowley took a paper copy and the link was sent to all members. Agenda item Planning meeting 17.09.14.
27.08.14	Dorset police & crime commissioner via DAPTC	Letter regarding the 'Safer Dorset Fund'	Agreed to pass to the Information Office and to ask PC Sugrue for comment.
27.08.14	South Somerset District Council	Consultation main modifications to the submission of the south	Noted that modifications do not affect the area adjacent to Stalbridge.

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		Somerset Local plan 2006-2008	
28.08.14	Dorset Fire Authority	Consultation 'Strengthening our Fire and Rescue Service'	D Hine agreed to complete

6. To approve the September 2014 issue of the quarterly newsletter.

RESOLVED: the newsletter was approved as presented.

7. To receive members comments for the Clerks appraisal.

This item was taken at the end of the meeting. The Clerk left the meeting and K Garland took notes.

8. To resolve the purchase of the TC wreath for the remembrance service and specify members attending. 9th November.

J Cowley asked if members wished to have reserved seats at the Church service. It was agreed that this was not required.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to approve the purchase of the wreath at a cost of £25.00 and K Garland agreed to represent the TC.

9. To write to NDDC regarding the new arrangements for notifying the Town Council of Planning applications affecting the area, by means of computer generated images instead of actual plans.
D Hine, J Cowley, T Bishop

Proposing members explained that they have difficulty in using the online system to view planning applications upon which the TC have been consulted. It was felt that in some cases the scale was difficult to assess and details were difficult to find. It was noted that whilst this change must have been driven by cost saving objectives it had made viewing of all planning applications much more accessible. Other members were happy to view the online plans, though some thought there was a place for both formats, particularly in having the paper plans available at site visits. Members considered if they may be a charge for the provision of plans and if it was appropriate for the TC to fund this.

On a separate matter regarding site visits J Cowley expressed disappointment that it is not currently part of the brief of the Planning Advisory Group to call on residents of adjacent properties to gain their views on applications. The Clerk explained that residents of adjacent properties are consulted directly by NDDC and should they wish to make representation to the TC via the Clerk or at planning meetings their comments can be considered by members.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to write to NDDC to express concern regarding the new arrangements for notifying the Town Council of Planning applications affecting the area, by means of computer generated images instead of actual plans.

10. For the Town Council to approach NDDC requesting transfer of the Station Road Car Park & Surrounding Green Space to Stalbridge Town Council. G Carr-Jones

G Carr-Jones explained the objective of the transfer was to preserve the grassed area as an amenity space associated with The Hub and to have control over the car park for The Town. Members were keen to know the costs involved in insurance and maintenance of the car park. The Current lease on the WC's was considered and it was felt it may be beneficial to have a freehold transfer for the WC's in addition. Members were happy to delegate the initial investigation to G Carr-Jones & T Bishop, with reports to be made back to Council on progress.

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RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed that a prompt initial approach to NDDC be made, regarding the possible transfer of the Station Road Car Park & Surrounding Green Space to Stalbridge Town Council.

(8pm) W Batty-Smith left the meeting

11. To receive a recommendation from the working group regarding the appointment of the preferred contractor for phase one of The Ring works and give further instruction.
K Garland & P Ashcroft

K Garland & P Ashcroft recommended that the TC instruct P Wells to commence with the works as per his previous quotation. They explained that whilst the quote was not the cheapest, their preference was based on the offer to raise funds to offset the project cost by selling plants and rocks and planting crocus bulbs at no extra cost.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to appoint P Wells as the contractor for phase one of The Ring works including the planting of crocus bulbs.

12. Finance.

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

HMRC	Tax & NI September	£62.24
T Watson	Salary September	£793.24
Direct Office Supplies	Epson printer cartridge	£11.99
Direct Office Supplies	Black Oki cartridge	£65.71
Direct Office Supplies	Oki cartridge M & C	£167.74
Local world	replace lost cheque no 3082	£9.92
Prodigy PC	Silver BS 5 units & back up September	£115.20
Custom Security	Alarm service annual charge	£72.00
Total Gas & Power	DD Gas Hub 30.06.14-31.07.14	£4.18
	DD Line rent and diversion charges 364177 01.08-31.08.14	£46.88
BT		
	DD Line rent and diversion charges 364276 01.08.-31.08.14	£96.50
BT		
IK Services	Hub cleaning	TBA
IK Services	Street & WC cleaning July	TBA
British Gas	Electricity WCs 02.05-02.08.14	£114.21
Custom Security	Fire Alarm annual Service charge	£336.00
Custom Security	Front lobby auto door annual service charge	£216.00
Direct Office Supplies	Full set Oki cartridges	£317.32
Great Western IT Ltd	Web site maintenance 1st & 2nd qtr. and updates	£158.40
	Grass cutting STC, NDDC Inc. Jarvis Field & Jubilee	
R Sharp	Play area 11.08-02.09.14	£1,482.00

DD £167.79 To N POWER approved at the Aug mtg. not taken. Payment made by TW therefore payment in lieu required. Cheque to Prodigy PC £261.32 for 3yr antivirus approved Aug mtg. as not taken by DD

RESOLVED: Proposed by D Hine seconded by K Garland and agreed that approval of the invoices as presented be made.

b) To approve a transfer between the instant access and deposit account.

The Clerk requested a transfer of £15,000 be made to cover the PWLB loan and day to day running expenses.

RESOLVED: Proposed by D Hine, seconded by K Garland and agreed that the transfer be made as requested and the request was duly signed.

13. Clerks report on matters arising.

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Larks Meadow recycling area – Ongoing work to establish ownership of the area.

Draft Allotment Gardens Agreement – Nearing approval by NDDC.

Fly tipping – Ian has reported fly tipping at 4 sites in and on the edge of the Town between 25th July and 22nd August. None of this refuse has been removed by DWP. The Clerk is in the process of arranging a meeting with DWP.

Weekly Playground inspections – The Clerk will be doing these

IT & Communications problems – Problems with both the Clerks telephone and printer.

14. To receive Town Councillors reports.

J Wardell – Planning notice on the lower part of the pound noted that the land was unregistered.

North Dorset Trailway meeting - Overall positive with extension to the trailway further afield.

P Ashcroft – Water leak is still outside Anvil House Ring St. The area has been marked blue but the leak has been there for over 1 month. ACTION: Clerk to report on-line.

J Cowley – Progressed hearing loop for The Hub. Clerk advised waiting for 3rd quote, will progress.

T Bishop – Congratulation to Jackie Newell & Nicki Ryal for all their effort on the Hall 40th anniversary celebration events. Local Action Group update – Consultation finished, future looking positive with the potential of access to funding.

D Hine – Reported hedge Grove Lane Close / Barrow Hill. Play equipment refurbishment information provided.

G Carr-Jones - New legislation has now been passed to allow for the recording and/or filming of Parish and Town Council meetings. The Clerk advised there would be an agenda item at the October meeting to update standing orders.

15. To receive North Dorset District Councillors reports.

None.

16. To receive the Dorset County Councillors report.

P Batstone expressed thanks to R Skeats for all his efforts in dealing with reported Highways defects in the County. She advised that she is still progressing a final timeline for the Road Traffic Regulation Order works in Stalbridge.

17. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 1st **October 2014**. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Tuesday 30th September 2014.

The meeting closed at 8.50 pm

Date...01/10/14

Signed.....
Chairman