



Stalbridge Town Council Meetings

Town Council Meeting Minutes

**Draft minutes of a meeting of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 15th November 2023.
(Held at The Hub Commencing at 7 p.m.)**

Councillors present at the meeting:

K Garland (Chair), D Andrews, P Hancock, N Penny & M Robinson.

Clerk for the meeting:

T Watson

Apologies had been received from G Carr-Jones (Dorset Councillor)

J Wardell ROWLO / TC Auditor was present

There were 4 members of the public present.

Lauren Wiltshire & Katy Herrington (Hampshire homes)

Open Forum:

Jan Wardell gave a report from the friends of Stalbridge Library. Library sign needs re-painting & the Library is now open on Mondays 2-5pm. LMG section 106 funding use ideas.

Jan Wardell TOWLO report – A slope has been installed on the access from the Thornhill Rd estate to FP 39 by sovereign is too steep. Negotiations are taking place between the DC Senior Ranger and the site manager.

R Thompson – Comments in relation to the TC facebook page, TC membership, web site costs and access to the Barrow Hill site.

1. To receive apologies

B Penfold & H Hatcher

2. To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations (Please notify the Town Clerk prior to the meeting)

K Garland pecuniary in relation to item 8a. in relation to the payment to IK Services.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 18th October 2023

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meeting having previously been circulated to Councillors were approved and signed by the Chairman.

4. Planning

a. Response to planning consultations from Dorset Council

P/RES/2023/05768 Land At E 374230 N 117990 Station Road Stalbridge Erect 130 No. dwellings, form public open space, landscaping and sustainable drainage system (SuDS). (Reserved matters application to determine appearance, landscaping, layout and scale; following the grant of Outline Planning Permission No. APP/D1265/W/21/3284485 (LPA Ref.2/2019/1799/OUT). Hampshire homes Ltd.

Comments had been made on the reserved matters application in the following areas:

- Parking
- Bin storage/collection
- Development Road network
- External building materials.
- Trees & Open spaces
- Housing mix & accommodation types
- Sustainability
- Pedestrian connectivity
- Inclusion and infrastructure

[Link to TC comments](#) which had been provided to Hampshire homes. Each of the areas were address and Hampshire homes indicated that they may be able to accommodate some of the recommendations.

RESOLVED: To submit the reserved matters comments to DC planning & advise that the portfolio holder for environment Paul Hancock would be very keen to engage in the ongoing process.

b. Recent planning decisions of Dorset Council

P/OUT/2023/02643 Erect up to 160 No. dwellings, form vehicular access and public open space, 2 hectares of land for a primary school, landscaping, and sustainable drainage system (SuDS). (Outline application to determine access). Land North Off Station Road Stalbridge. Refused

c. Report on responses to planning consultations.

P/HOU/2023/05671 Construct external swimming pool, timber garden pergola & associated landscaping works. Grove House Park Grove Stalbridge Dorset DT10 2RA.

Application supported: The addition of a swimming pool is not within public view in any direction.

P/LBC/2023/03422 External and internal alterations to install staircase to replace spiral staircase and removal of stud wall. Install replacement kitchen window, door, and front door. Install garage door with electric opening. 1 Barrow Hill Stalbridge DT10 2QT

Application Supported

P/LBC/2023/06196 Re-pointing stonework to house with lime mortar and replacing uPVC rainwater goods with cast iron. Antioch Eastop Lane Stalbridge Weston DT10 2SF

Application supported.

P/HOU/2023/06354 Erect single storey detached garage and store building. The Cherries Grove Lane Close Stalbridge Dorset DT10 2RF

Application supported: Storage & garage is required.

d. Appeals and matters of report from previous applications.

None.

e. Members planning matters of report.

None.

5. Dorset Councillors report.

Written copy in meeting papers.

6. Town Clerk report & correspondence.

Clerks report

ASB / vandalism - Week comm 06.11 The TC notice board at the top of Station Rd appears to have been prised open and has been damaged. Public WC's - All the hand towels and loo rolls were removed from the holders and thrown on the floor and all the soap was removed from the dispenser.

Remembrance Sunday parades – All went well.

Public WC's Station Rd – Christmas & new year closed for the 24th 25th, 26th & 31st December & 1st January 2024

TC Office - Christmas & new year closed from 25th December to 2nd January

Correspondence : From M Mobray. Request to cultivate the fenced bed to the north of the town on the highways verge and for the Town Council to fund the purchase of soil.

AGREED: To the request to cultivate the fenced bed to the north of the town on the highways verge subject to compliance with the 'Stalbridge goes wild' risk assessment and planting not to obstruct the highway or signs.

7. Future Town Vision Project: To receive members portfolio reports & proposals.

a. Community Services. K Garland: To report on the Youth Club re-opening.

K Garland advised that on the opening night there were 18 attendees and on the second 33. Volunteers attendance is pending DBS checks.

RESOLVED: To make an application to the 'Fix the Future' Community Fund will be made for the youth Club.

b. Community Services. K Garland: Proposal for the Town Council to contact the education authority regarding the provision of early years education in the town.

K Garland advised that there is concern in general and particularly following the reserved matters application for 130 homes on the land north Station Road, with many of the homes being for families, that there may not be enough pre-school provision to meet demand to give these children invaluable pre-school places.

RESOLVED: For the Town Council to contact the education authority regarding the provision of early years education in the town.

c. Environment. P Hancock: To report a communication with DC Planning regarding the 5-year housing supply & the Station Rd North application.

P Hancock advised that the communication had been made in consideration the recent decision by Dorset North Planning which provided consent for 490 new houses north of Blandford and Pimperne which meant that North Dorset planning now has a 5.74-year housing land supply. The communication requests that Dorset Council Planning refuses application P/OUT/2023/02643 and any other development here in Stalbridge that is are now not compliant with Dorset Councils spatial strategy.

d. Environment. P Hancock: Proposal for the Town Council to communicate with DC & SC Highways regarding implications of housing developments on the highway's infrastructure.

P Hancock introduced his proposal which is in response to the increased volume of building development work within the town. With the potential for three large developments being built at the same time, and over many years if developments phase in their property construction. The additional works traffic, servicing these construction sites, will be using the existing congested and restricted road network that is totally unsuitable, and that hasn't seen any dimension changes since horse and carts trundled along them. The increasing strain of proposed works traffic through our neighbouring towns needs consideration as part of future discussions. They are already experiencing their own issues with traffic flow, congestion and pedestrian safety due to proposed development projects within their parish's. Stalbridge development is going to add to their problems significantly. After 4 years, Henstridge Parish Council are close to having to go to a county planning committee meeting, in regard to their 130-house development, on the condition of pedestrian safety being improved. There is an urgent need for Stalbridge Town Council to engage with officers from Dorset Council Highways Department to discuss its concerns for public safety from the extensive amount of building work approved for development within the town. There is a need to understand how decisions on highways infrastructure and capability are approved for such developments, and to raise recorded concerns about the consequences of traffic saturation. Furthermore, a joint-county discussion with officers/managers from highways and planning departments, together with councillor representatives from other parish and town councils, affected by development pressures, needs to be arranged.

RESOLVED: For the Town Council to communicate with DC & SC Highways regarding implications of housing developments on the highway's infrastructure.

e. Environment. P Hancock: To report on the process of the traffic management plan in relation to application 2/2019/1799/OUT allowed at appeal.

P Hancock advised that as the application went to appeal a construction traffic management plan does not need to be in place until construction commences on the site. In this circumstance highway details are considered a technical matter, therefore when additional information is requested by a condition DC planning do not consult the Town Council or anyone other than Highways. However, the Planning Officer has advised that if the TC would like to point out a particular concern or item

they would like to see addressed within the conditional detail, then if it is possible (reasonable) he could ask the applicant and Highways England to address the matter.

- f. **TPH&C. D Andrews: Proposal that the Town Council finance the Christmas events road closures.**

RESOLVED: That the Town Council finance the Christmas events road closures £75.00

8. Finance.

- a. **To receive a list of payments & receipts.**

		expenditure	income
Dorset Council	Grass cutting SLA 24/8-27/09		£816.00
PWLB	loan	£3,614.42	
Bankline	charges October	£27.20	
Clerk	Salary Nov 23	£1,765.97	
HMRC	Tax / NI Nov 23	£567.71	
DC	Pension Nov 32	£627.62	
IK Services	Street Cleaning - Oct 23	£2,700.00	
Dorset Council	Hub Rates November	£786.00	
Dorset Council	car park rates November	£493.00	
Dorset handy man	Hub guttering clearance and repairs	£120.00	
Stalbridge Building Supplies	Container base materials less credits	£634.55	
Youth Connect Southwest	Sessions 01.10-31.12.23	£2,967.60	
Tesco Mobile	Mobile phone November 23	£11.50	
T Watson	in Lieu of mirror and loo roll stand for hub	£16.50	
Four County Services Ltd	Annual 3CX 4 x internal channel licence & maint	£255.60	
Four County Services Ltd	Microsoft 365 licences & 7.gov.uk email addresses	£24.44	
Four County Services Ltd	IT support November 23	£207.36	
Four Counties Services Ltd	Broadband & Voip October 22	£100.80	
JFDP	web authoring (Nov)	£288.00	
JFDP	Website GDPR compliance	£294.00	
British Gas lite	Hub electricity	£47.36	
British Gas	Hub gas 02.10-01.11.23	£146.59	
Coles Castings	Roundle for the ring finger post	£300.00	
Openings	Auto door service	£510.00	

RESOLVED: List of payment & receipts received

- b. **To approve the transfer of funds from the deposit to the instant access account.**

RESOLVED: £40,000 to be transferred from the deposit to the instant access account for day to day running costs.

10. The next meeting of the Town Council will be on Wednesday 13th December 2023

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.24pm.