



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 16th September 2020 commencing 7.00 p.m.

Councillors present at the meeting:

K Garland (Chair), D Andrews, M Dimmer, H Hatcher, R Lovell, B Penfold, M Robinson, R Roden & 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 Cllr) was present

1. Open Forum : Please note: a period up to a maximum of fifteen minutes will be allowed for public comments and questions concerning items listed on the following agenda

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 12a.in relation to payments to IK services.

4. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 19th August 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. To elect a Vice- Chairman and receive the declaration of office.

Helen Hatcher was nominated and seconded

RESOLVED: H Hatcher elected as vice chairman acceptance of office to be signed at a later date

6. Clerks report & Correspondence: As detailed in annex 1a.

Cross planters – Mrs Truscott-Payne has come forward to look after the planters from the end of August.

2 new trees at Jarvis field play area (TCM 05.02.20) – taking advice on specimens to plant pending planting in late autumn.

Statement in relation to social media scrutiny ([read here](#))

Correspondence

Noted: DAPTC e-newsletter 4th September edition. Dorset Council planning special newsletter. Latest news and updates from Dorset Council and NALC Chief executive's bulletin September.

E mail from Jen Nixon in reply to Town Councils communication regarding the painting of the frontage of the former Crown Inn Stalbridge.

Noted that no permission is needed for the paint work, despite any resulting impact on the Conservation Area street scene (Conservation Area legislation on its own is unfortunately quite weak). Therefore, any removal would have to be the owner's decision.

Letter from Gladman developments requesting a meeting with the Town Council regarding the Station Road outline planning application.

Agreed to respond with thanks and decline as members see no need to meet at this point and should the need arise in the future contact will be made.

7. To receive Town Councillors reports.

R Roden – In future Town and Parish councils should be able to take part in DC area North VC planning meetings.

S Waite – Attending a DAPTC northern area meeting on 18.09.20. Requested that the Town Council contact Symonds & Sampson and request that the inaccurate description of land being marketed in Stalbridge is corrected. AGREED

8. To receive the Dorset Councillors report.

G Carr-Jones gave an update on his recent work in securing funding for housing for the homeless in Dorset, gave a Dorset covid 19 update and advised that he was pleased to have been re-appointed as portfolio holder for housing community safety and emergency planning. He read out the statement that he had made at the DC VC Area North planning committee meeting in relation to the reserved matters at Thornhill Road and confirmed that section 106 funds will be available from the development in answer to members questions.

9. To receive the annual inventory inspections and give further instruction.

DEFERRED: To the November meeting

10. To approve the September edition of the Town Council newsletter

RESOLVED: The September edition of the Town Council newsletter was approved as presented

11. 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 that despite the current low number of cases in Dorset the recent rule of 6 precludes face to face meetings at present.

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

b. Services & expenditure

The Clerk advised that expenditure in relation to safety measure put in place in play areas and buildings managed by the Town Council stood to date at £2,051.84. An extra sneeze screen had been purchased for the lobby and the public WC works are pending. A Discretionary Business Grant of £5,547.16 from Dorset Council had been awarded to assist C19 safety measure expenses.

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

The Clerk advised that the WC works are due to commence week 28/09/20 and that to date the library opening on reduced hours had been well received and controlled. Requests for hub use had been received from Mencap, the Archive, Mindfull café and Choir. Due to the recent rule of six change, the apparent potential growth of case numbers going into the winter and the size of the rooms making adhering to social distancing guidelines difficult, members were unhappy to open The Hub any further at this stage.

RESOLVED: For the community library to continue to open based on reduced hours and for the rest of the building to remain closed to groups pending review at the November meeting.

12. Finance.

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

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

13. To receive a recommendation from the Interim planning Committee with regard to response the consultation Government white paper 'Planning For the Future'.

RESOLVED: The proposed responses were accepted with the addition that land agents should be required to make a financial contribution to section 106 agreements.

14. To award the annual service contract for the fire/security alarms emergency lighting and fire extinguishers at the Hub.

Four quotations were reviewed.

RESOLVED: To award the annual service contract for the fire/security alarms emergency lighting and fire extinguishers at the Hub to Partnership Security.

15. To award the contract for the works to The Hub rear garden.

Three quotations were reviewed

RESOLVED: To award the contract for the works to The Hub rear garden to MG Garden Services

16. To consider the Hub/Town Council office IT system maintenance and support contract and give further instruction.

RESOLVED: To award the 20.21 IT system maintenance / support contract to Four Counties Services to include the VOIP system if the current contract term allows.

17. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held via Microsoft team on Wednesday 14th October 2020. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Tuesday 6th October 2020.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.34 pm

Approved 14/10/20

Signed.....

Chairman

Date