



# Stalbridge Town Council Meetings

## Town Council Meeting Minutes

Draft minutes of a meeting of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2023.  
(Held at The Hub Commencing at 7 p.m.)

### Councillors present at the meeting:

K Garland (Chair), D Andrews, P Hancock, H Hatcher, & N Penny

### Clerk for the meeting:

T Watson

Present: J Wardell ROWLO

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

There were 2 members of the public present.

Open Forum:

Jan Wardell (ROWLO) gave a report the summary of which was that many footpaths are currently muddy, flooding on FP 39 adjacent to the sovereign development, unauthorised access to the coppice and the trailway from Blackmore Vale Meadows and tree/ hedge obstruction boundary of Jarvis Way play area and the bridgeway N51/74.

### 1. To receive apologies

B Penfold, M Robinson & V Zarucki

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

K Garland: Pecuniary item 18a. in relation to payments to IK Services.

### 3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2022

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

### 4. Planning

#### a. Recent planning decisions of Dorset Council

P/FUL/2022/06495 Change of use of dwelling to a mixed use comprising C3 residential use and Sui generis use for dog boarding ; and use of outbuilding for dog day care. Deacons Mill Poolestown Road Stalbridge Sturminster Newton DT10 2SQ Granted 19.12.22

**b. Report on responses to planning consultations under delegated terms.**

None

**c. Appeals and matters of report from previous applications.**

None

**d. Members planning matters of report.**

None.

**5. To receive the Dorset Councillors report.**

Written January & February reports received.

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

No written reports

**7. Town Clerks report & Correspondence: As detailed in annex 1a.**

Clerks report

Vandalism at the public WC's in Station Rd on two separate occasions. Both have been reported to 101. The touch free tap was wrenched off (has been repaired). The door handle and lock broken, WC was closed pending the new lock being fitted as the door could not be secured by users  
A works order for The Hub grounds works has been placed under health and safety to allow access all around the building.

Correspondence

Archive Society – Request for permission of exhibition of local artwork by 'Harold Ball 'at The Hub  
GRANTED

History Society – Letter regarding the Coronation NOTED

Letter regarding displaying the pole heads at The Hub. GRANTED SUBJECT TO  
ARRANGEMENTS

**8. To award the contract for the Jarvis field play area equipment subject to S106 funding.**

**K Garland (TCM14.09.22)**

The public survey results were noted. The schemes all come in at approx. 70k. The Clerk advised that there is £5,000 in capital reserves and an application of 80k 106 funding had been made to cover price increases, contingency, replacing 2 x existing equipment for the younger children away from the pump track and sundry items highlighted in the consultation. H Hatcher & K Garland offered to review the final scheme.

**RESOLVED: The contract for the Jarvis field play area equipment was awarded to Proludic subject to section 106 funding.**

**9. To purchase of a storage container for use by Stalbright/ Archive Group/Town Council and Town Orderly.**

**H Hatcher**

H Hatcher explained that a separate storage facility would free us space currently used in personal dwellings and within the hub building for items used in relation to the Christmas and other events held in the town. The project cost would start at approx. £3,000 and the provision of electricity was felt to be essential.

**RESOLVED: Agreed purchase in principle subject to site survey / location and provision of more detailed costs.**

**10. For the Town Council to contribute to celebrating the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Community Managed library. K Garland**

The service provided by the library volunteers over the last 10 years was very much appreciated, without which the Town would not have a library.

**RESOLVED: In recognition of the library volunteers service to the Town the Town Council will contribute to marking the 10th Anniversary of the Community Managed library by contributing £350 to food plus a thankyou gift.**

**11. To consider the information presented regarding the Council's and predicted position at the end of the financial year 31.03.22.**

A financial report ending 31.12.22 was proved prior to consideration of the year end position. Bank statements for the current, deposit and Stalbright account were presented to the internal auditor for verification against the cash book.

**RESOLVED: There was general agreement to accept the predicted figures presented for the end of the financial year 31.03.22 with and amendment to the MADL general reserve figure.**

**12. To consider the figures set aside for allocated reserves (capital & general) and give further instruction.**

**RESOLVED: £5,000 in allocated reserves be re-allocated from neighbourhood plan to Youth Club fund, capital reserves of £20,000 (solar park) £449.03 (unallocated) be allocated to the Hub extension project.**

**13. To consider the grant applications for the budget period 23/24 and give further instruction.**

Grant applications had been received from:

Stalbridge Hall - £3,600 for an external CCTV system

St Marys PCC - £6,300 for Churchyard maintenance

Playing fields management committee - £2,500 for running expenses and public liability insurance

Consideration was given to the services provided by the applicants for the town that would otherwise have to be provided by the Town Council. Each application was considered individually.

**RESOLVED: From the above applications to include an amount of £13,400 in the 2023/24 and award the following grants.**

**Playing Fields Trust £ 2,500 (maintenance of the playing fields sports facility, subject to clarity of the accounts closing balance)**

St Marys PCC £ 6,300 (Churchyard grass & hedge cutting subject to provision of 22.23 accounts at the 1<sup>st</sup> opportunity)

Stalbridge Hall £3,600 (CCTV) subject to working with Cllr N Penny to achieve legislation compliance)

Total figure for grants to include £7,200 Youth Club funding & £1,000 general grant fund.

14. To consider the figures presented for the budget period 23/24 in forecast income and give further instruction.

Proposed LPC office services charges increase to £568 P/A was noted.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the figures presented for the Budget period 23/24 in forecast income excluding the precept.

15. To consider the figures presented for the budget period 23/24 forecast payments and give further instruction.

**RESOLVED:** To accept the figures presented for the Budget period 23/24 forecast payments.

16. To resolve the level of the precept 2023/2024.

It was noted that the tax base figure had increased meaning that the total charge was being shared by more properties paying full council tax. The previously reviewed forecast income and expenditure was considered in relation to the tax base precept toolkit, which illustrated the effect of any precept change on a Band D equivalent charge.

**RESOLVED:** Unanimously agreed to make a precept demand for the period 23/24 of £135,500, which equates to a decrease of £2.73 per annum on a Band D Equivalent Charge for the Town Councils part of the council tax.

17. Finance.

a. To receive a list of payments & Receipts

JFDP Design & Print	web authoring (December)	£288.00
Tesco Mobile	Mobile phone Dec 22	£12.99
Tesco Mobile	Mobile phone Jan 23	£12.99
Four Counties Services Ltd	IT Support December	£103.74
Four County Services Ltd	Broadband & Voip December	£100.80
T Watson	In lieu of cash payment to D Bailey Christmas tree	£15.00
Bankline	December	£25.40
British gas	Gas hub 02/12/22-01/01/23	£315.75
British Gas Lite	Hub electricity 06.12.22-04.01.23	£116.58
IK Services	Street Cleaning - December 22	£2,616.67
SSE	electricity public WC's 08.10.22-09.01.23	£156.37
T Watson	In lieu of purchase of new lock for WC	£45.90
Clerk	Salary Jan 23	£1,326.64
HMRC	Tax / NI Jan 23	£258.23
DC	Pension Dec 23	£434.88
Assistant Clerk	Salary Dec 23	£513.67
T Davies fencing	Jarvis field fence & machinery gate	£1,150.00
Dorset Council	Christmas sign stickers	£54.00
K Garland	in lieu of all thing cosy purchases	£120.95

D Stubbings	mens shed grant 22.23	£148.08
JF Design & Print	Fit new WC lock	£36.00
Stalbridge CML	Contribution to marking 10th anniversary	£350.00

**RESOLVED: List of payments & receipts received.**

**16. The next meeting of the Town Council will be on Wednesday 15.02.2023**

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 20.31pm