



Stalbridge Town Council Meetings

Town Council Meeting Minutes

**Draft minutes of a meeting of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 18th October 2023.
(Held at The Hub Commencing at 7 p.m.)**

Councillors present at the meeting:

K Garland (Chair), D Andrews, P Hancock H Hatcher, B Penfold, 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 5 members of the public present.

Open Forum: - No comments

The Chairman advised that V Zarucki had stepped down.

1. To receive apologies

None.

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 19a. in relation to the payment to IK Services.

3. To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 13th September 2023

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

4. To receive a presentation from the Police & Crime commissioner David Sidwick

Mr Sidwick addressed council on the role of the Police and Crime Commissioner. He introduced the police and crime plan: priorities and themes and on his vision to make Dorset the safest county. He informed members on the community fund and fix the future fund and gave an outline of the current central government funding position for the Police Force in Dorset. He answered questions and listed to members concerns regarding the rate that the town's population is growing and ASB. He encouraged members to keep up to date by viewing his weekly newsletters on the police & Crime Commissioners web site.

The Chairman thanked Mr Sidwick for his attendance.

5. Planning

a. Response to planning consultations from Dorset Council

P/FUL/2023/03979 Redevelopment & conversion of existing agricultural buildings to form 8no. dwellings (six conversions & two new builds) including access, parking, landscaping & associated works. (Works include demolition of portal frame agricultural buildings). Land & Buildings at Barrow Hill Cottage Barrow Hill Stalbridge. Mr & Mrs Besent

Andrew Tregay (Symonds & Sampson) addressed members on the housing mix which included lower priced units. Members had concerns on the increased traffic on Wood Lane which is very narrow and a regular walking route. It was considered that some of the development land could be offered to widen wood thane to the Barrow Hill junction. Concerns were expressed at the extra traffic generation on barrow hill and the Station Rd Junction and the cumulative effect of all the developments in the Town. A similar application for a lesser number of dwellings on Wood Lane was re-called.

RESOLVED: Not to support the application on the following grounds:

- **The generation of additional traffic using Barrow Hill and the junction with the A357.**
- **The potential highways safety issue of additional traffic on Wood Lane to the junction with Barrow Hill, which is very narrow and is a much-used walking route.**
- **The negative impact on the views and rural character outweighs any benefit to the town.**

P/FUL/2023/04803 Change of use of part of the ground floor shop (Class E) to increase the area of existing first floor flat to use it as a dwelling (Class C3) Meaders Station Road Stalbridge Dorset DT10 2RQ. Mr A Henry

The application was considered in relation to P/PACD/2023/01285 which was felt to be preferable. The application was felt to be ill thought out as if it is built out the central rear part of the building will be inaccessible.

RESOLVED: Not support the application for the following reasons:

- **The plan is confusing in relation to P/CLE/2023/00964**
- **Consideration being given to the local knowledge which suggests that 20/30 HGVs per day use the junction of Station Rd and the A357 where the site is located. Members have concerns as to how the construction site will be managed in terms of delivery and removal vehicles which will cause an obstruction at this junction and cause a safety issue in terms of vehicles and pedestrians.**

b. Recent planning decisions of Dorset Council

None.

c. Report on responses to planning consultations.

P/FUL/2023/05099 Erect entrance feature walls. Land South of The Paddocks Lower Road Stalbridge.

Application supported.

This application will enhance entrance to new development. However not in favour of proposed materials, Brick and Flint would prefer to see the use of local stone with flint.

d. Appeals and matters of report form previous applications.

None.

e. Members planning matters of report.

None.

6. Town Clerks report & Correspondence

Mat around tree at Jarvis field play area has been replaced.

Low branches at Grosvenor Rd reported to DC

Brambles overhanging the footpath between Stalbridge Close and the old Methodist Church. -

Reported To DC highways

Correspondence

Guggleheads - post grant funding report. Noted

MBP – Pinford Lane. Noted

DC - Polling District, Polling Place and Polling Station Review. Noted

7. To receive Town Councillors reports.

None.

8. To receive the Dorset Councillors report.

None.

9. To receive the Rights of Way liaison officers report

Paper report provided. The content of which referred to the issue or overgrown fenced footpaths and the future maintenance costs. At a previous meeting she had highlighted some issues with access points for pedestrians to existing footpaths from the newly constructed housing on Bovis and Sovereign sites at Lower Rd and Thornhill Rd. DC Rangers forwarded the issue of the drop in level from the Thornhill Rd site accessing footpath 39 (N51/39) reserved matters application 2/2019/1710/REM, point 18 - Footpath Link. Sovereign have now constructed a slope. Further review is required to asserting in the slope meets accessibility standards.

10. To carry out the annual review of fidelity guarantee 23.24.

It was noted that the bank balance thought the year never exceeds the amount of the fidelity cover of £500,00.00.

RESOLVED: Annual review of fidelity guarantee 23.24. completed

11. To facilitate the annual inventory inspections & report.

RESOLVED: Members to carry out inspection returned for the November meeting

12. Youth services in Stalbridge: Proposer Councillor K Garland

a. Receive an update.

Report received form YCSW included in meeting papers.

b. To sign the contract with Youth Connect Southwest

K Garland explained that the youth working staff have been employed since the 1st October and

asked members if they were happy to sign the contract and fund the Youth Club from that date based on an opening date of 6th November 2023.

RESOLVED: To sign the contract with Youth Connect Southwest

13. Town Future Vision Project: Proposer Councillor P Hancock

- a. Review and prioritise the portfolio titles.**

A streamlined set of headers was provided by P Hancock

RESOLVED: Portfolio titles and content agreed

- b. Approve the portfolio terms of reference.**

RESOLVED: Terms of reference agreed in principle to be reviewed by portfolio holders

- c. Appoint members to portfolio titles.**

RESOLVED: Portfolio holders allocated

Community Services – K Garland

Commerce – N Penny

Town Promotion, Heritage & Culture – M Robinson & D Andrews

Environment – P Hancock & B Penfold

Estates – H Hatcher

Finance Personal & Policy - closed group TBC

**14. To receive a quotation to re-work the Town Council web site and give further instruction
Proposer Councillor K Garland**

K Garland withdrew the proposal for this financial year to accommodate the extra expenditure for the .gov.uk e mail addresses @£91 per month

15. To approve the October edition of the Town Council newsletter.

RESOLVED: October edition of the Town Council newsletter approved with some layout amendments

16. To receive notice of events in Stalbridge in relation to road TRO applications.

Remembrance Sunday 12.11.23

Christmas event to light the lime tree Saturday 02.12.23.

**17. To resolve the purchase of the TC wreath for the remembrance service on the 12th
November and specify members attending.**

RESOLVED: £75.00 to the RBL P Hancock to lay wreath

18. To receive the External Auditors report 22.23

RESOLVED: External Auditors report 22.23 received no matters arising

19. Finance.

- a. To receive a list of payments**

		Payments	Receipts
Dorset Council	2nd half of precept 23.24 show on cash book for audit purposes		£67,750.00
IK Services	Bin Hire		£32.50
Mencap	Hub hire		£72.00
SSE	Public WC electricity credit		£130.86
IK Services	Bin Hire		£32.50
Lydlinch PC	Office Services Aug & Sept		£94.66
JFDP	FTV artwork	£162.00	
BDO	external audit 22.23	£504.00	
Bankline	charges September	£23.60	
JFDP	Stalbridge info annual domain charge	£29.00	
JFDP	web authoring (oct)	£288.00	
British Gas lite	hub electricity 04/09-02/10/23	£31.79	
British Gas	Gas hub 02.9-01.10.23	£56.64	
Four County Services Ltd	IT support October 23	£116.22	
Four Counties Services Ltd	Broadband & Voip October 22	£100.80	
Tesco Mobile	Mobile phone October 23	£11.50	
IK Services	Street Cleaning - Sept 23	£2,700.00	
Dorset Council	Hub Rates October	£786.00	
Dorset Council	car park rates October	£493.00	
Dorset Handy Man	Replace vandalised tree mat at Jarvis Field	£30.00	
Adlem & Kemp	Detail hub plans	£420.00	
In Lieu K Garland	Replacement mat for the tree at Jarvis field play area	£54.99	
R & M Shepard	1 x 20-foot shipping container	£2,976.00	
MSV Paul Vincent	Groundworks for container	£1,330.00	
Water 2 business	Allotments water 30.03-12.09.23	£181.68	
Partnership fire & security	replace emergency light	£270.00	
Clerk	Salary Oct 23	£1,326.64	
HMRC	Tax / NI Oct 23	£258.23	
DC	Pension Oct 32	£434.88	
T Watson	In lieu of copier ppr purchase	£5.99	
Water 2 business	Water hub	£151.11	
DWP	hub & town waste 09-12.23	£797.58	
Water 2 business	Water public WC's 25.03-26.09.23	£302.91	
C Rose	Remove cup roundabout at Jarvis field play area	£150.00	
RGG dePelet	Playing fields rent 2nd payment of 23.24	£2,236.09	
R Sharp	STC & Dc grass 22.08-25.09.23	£3,050.00	
SSE	electricity Public WC's 08.07-26.09.23	£49.54	
Stalbridge History Society	Hub hire 11.11.23		£20.00
Stalbridge Allotment Society	Water		£181.68

Additions RBL £75.00 & YCSW£2,473.00

RESOLVED: List of payment & receipts received

b. To receive the quarterly financial report ending 31.09.23

RESOLVED: Quarterly financial report ending 31.09.23 received.

20. The next meeting of the Town Council will be on Wednesday 15th November 2023

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.58 pm.