



## **Special events for Stalbridge**

Approved minutes of the Annual general meeting of Stalbright  
Held on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2018 at The Hub

Attendees: Pete Brember , Rebecca Rocheleau, Tracey Watson, Chris Wiles & Bob Penfold, Wendy Aucock

There were 3 members of the public in attendance

### **1. Welcome and Apologies.**

Apologies from Graham Carr-Jones and Jackie Newell

### **2. Approval of the minutes of the AGM 15.05.2017**

Agreed and signed off by Chairman.

### **3. Group Report**

The past year has been somewhat of a mixed bag for Stalbright. In the spring of 2017 we supported St Mary's Parochial Church Council with help and advice and sponsored £250 for a bouncy castle and band at their fundraiser Springfest.

In preparation for Stalbright's summer fundraising event we commissioned a special flag to adorn the High street; these were interspersed with Dorset flags at a cost of £974.54. The A357 was awash with sunshine yellow, although this met with mixed reviews. Some people loved it, others most definitely did not. Our thanks go to Tony Wood for his beautiful artwork depicting the market cross on the Stalbridge Flag and John Fieldhouse for turning a concept into reality. We would also like to thank Fiona Payne for hearing our call to arms and volunteering her husband John to help the Stalbright team hoist the flags in the high street.

The Sunday Funday itself seemed to be plagued with difficulties this year. We struggled for helpers, with our 'go to' people either double booked for the event, away on holiday or out of the country. The glorious weather on the day meant we saw fewer participants for the dog show and the timing of the event meant there were several other local summer fairs the same weekend. Perhaps people had country fair fatigue as the funday was not as well-attended as previous years. This showed in the profits which were quite considerably less than previous years, £1,342.01.



## **Special events for Stalbridge**

In September we turned our attention to our favourite part of the Stalbright calendar – Christmas!

This year Chris Wiles worked his magic and lit up St Mary's Church Tower and we identified dark spots on the High Street and targeted residents that had not previously displayed a tree. We provided brackets where needed, a tree and loan of lights, resulting in 28 extra trees. Lighting up Stalbridge at a cost of £1,468. We are hopeful that people will now continue this tradition and we will be encouraging residents to commit to Christmas in September 2018.

We had a somewhat revamped Ring event in 2017. Canon William Ridding lead the lantern parade to The Ring and was joined by The Stalbridge Christmas Choir and some very brave Stalbridge residents for the retelling of The Christmas Story. With the Church providing mulled wine and mince pies and the Scouts a very welcome bbq, the evening was filled with true Stalbridge community spirit.

Stalbright promoted a weekend of events ranging from a Tea party at The Hall, Christmas Trees, arts and crafts and a concert at The Congregational Church, and our very own community café and fundraising fair at The Hub.

Unfortunately in January we lost several of our volunteers due to either a change in circumstances or other commitments. This has left us with a skeleton crew. In light of this the remaining volunteers have decided on a manageable plan for 2018.

Of course there is always Christmas and we will be looking for new ways to keep the lights twinkling, but with regards to raising funds we decided to take a break from a big summer fundraiser and look at alternatives. Due to the success of the Community Café at Christmas it was decided to make this a quarterly event giving local deserving groups a much needed platform to raise awareness and funds.

Our current ongoing project is Armistitch - a celebration of the end of The First World War. It's a chance to get creative and community spirited. We meet on Monday mornings at the Hub from 9.30 to 11.30 but anyone can join in so come and see us and find out what it is all about. The group have crafted over a 1524 poppies (as of today 14/8/18 this is now over 2000) and plan to display them in various ways around the town. We have also worked with the school children to make remembrance bunting.



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### **4. Receipt of audited accounts year ending 31st March 2018 & Treasures report.**

Paper copies were provided for review. Addendum to minutes. The accounts had been audited by the internal auditor, there were no audit comments and they are now with the external auditor.

In our inventory we have 1 banner, 1 feather flag, 3 sets of coloured old style tree lights, 18 sets of new coloured tree lights, 2 sets of white lights, 14 plastic collection boxes, 50 poles, 25 Dorset flags, 19 large & 2 small Stalbridge flags & a stock of paints and lampshades for lantern making.

The collection boxes are currently being collected and counted. Many thanks to Becky for her help with this

### **5. Approval of payments**

T Watson black board frame & Pens	£47.26
T Watson poppy Kits & wool	£22.00

Approved

### **6. Welcome new members & Election of Officers.**

New committee members:

Welcome to Wendy Aucock, Julie Wiles, Tony and Lesley Wood.

***Chairman: Peter Brember***

***Vice Chairman : Graham Carr- Jones***

***Treasurer: Tracey Watson***

***Secretary: Wendy Aucock***



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### **7. Group planning**

#### **Christmas trees in the High Street**

With a view to coming Christmas and lights along the High Street, there were questions about new trees and lights and how money was spent and suggested we could do with a breakdown of costs. This would enable further discussion about trees for Christmas 2018 to made with full information to hand.

Flyers are to be distributed in September so that Christmas trees can be ordered from Williams in bulk.

All lights that were loaned were returned.

Waiting for payment for 2 sets of lights.

#### **Collection Boxes**

Julie Wiles volunteered to collect and count boxes for future, as required. The aim is for June or when contacted because a box is full.

List of box locations attached to minutes.

#### **Fundraising**

The last Funday only raised just over 1,000 which was inadequate for the amount of effort involved.

The quarterly community cafe is now beginning to raise reasonable funds as it now includes a raffle.

The next cafe is September 1<sup>st</sup> and now that the charity stalls are going to be organised by Becky, we should be able to have better marketing.

#### **Armistitch**

First push to put the poppies out was 28<sup>th</sup> July. This took the form of sandbags at the bottom of the silent soldiers on the ring and by the school. 2 banners, on Church hill and by Waterlake, on the entry to the village. At 3pm on the ring, William held a small prayer service.



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There are plans to decorate the bench in gold street, decorate the aubretia wall in Church hill and the fence behind it and the railings.

There is lots of bunting to go up both inside and outside and many more poppies which will be trickle fed until November.

It was agreed to spend another £50 on Armistitch.

Approval for another 2 payments

J Fieldhouse	Armistitch poster	£6.75
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J Fieldhouse	2 x Armistitch banners	£39.00
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### **Next meeting**

25<sup>th</sup> September.



## Special events for Stalbridge

Statement of accounts 2017/18				
Opening bank balance 01.04.17	<b>£3977.66</b>			
<b>Income</b>			<b>Expenditure</b>	
Sunday Funday	£3,574.97			
collection boxes	£161.93		Sunday Funday	£2,232.96
bank compensation	£30.00		flags	£974.54
community fayre	£66.82		Springfest sponsorship	£250.00
Christmas lights & trees	£84.00		Christmas lights & trees	£1,468.00
			Christmas events	£272.08
<b>total income</b>	<b>£3,917.72</b>		Licences	£41.00
			Equipment	66.19
<b>Total</b>	<b>£7,895.38</b>		VAT	£26.40
			<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>£5,331.17</b>
<b>closing bank balance 31.03.18</b>	<b>£2,564.21</b>			