

STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson

TheHub@Stalbridge

Station Road, Stalbridge, Sturminster Newton, Dorset, DT10 2RG.

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Approved minutes of extraordinary meeting of the Town Council On Wednesday 23rd January 2019

Present Councillors G Carr-Jones (Chair), T Bishop, P Brember, J Cowley, K Garland, R Knapp, R Lovell, C Moore & J Wardell.

Absent Councillors: B Newton

T Watson (Clerk)

In attendance

There were 7 members of the public in attendance.

1. To receive apologies.

Apologies had been received in advance of the meeting from B Penfold.

2. Declarations of interest.

K Garland in relation to budget matters that relate to town Orderly Services. C Moore Item 7 in relation to the Playing Fields Management Committee grant application. It was previously resolved at the meeting 08.07.2015 to grant the Dispensations for all Councillors to allow them to discuss and vote on the setting of the Precept to apply until May 2019.

3. To consider the information presented regarding the Council's financial position for the first 9 months of 2018-19 and predicted position at the end of the financial year.

The bank statement and cash book were verified and signed.

RESOLVED: Proposed and agreed to accept the figures presented regarding the Council's financial position for the first 9 months of 2018-19 and predicted position at the end of the financial year.

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

The meeting was adjourned and members of the public supported the use of the £70,000 NDDC legacy fund for an extension to the Hub to provide a heritage centre. It was felt that the need for storage and permanent exhibition space was evidenced by the fast growing archive and the volume of local interest in the sale exhibition and the Stalbridge estate dig. The aspiration of providing improved catering, a larger Council chamber and medical consultation space was also supported.

The meeting was re-convened .

RESOLVED: To reallocate £5,000 to general capital funds as the bike track will cost £15,000. Not to allocate the solar Park community capital grant fund.

5. To consider the figures presented for the budget period 19/20 in forecast income and give further instruction.

Members had received the financial information and accompanying notes prior to the meeting.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to accept the figures presented for the Budget period 19/20 in forecast income excluding the precept.

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6. To consider the figures presented for the budget period 19/20 forecast payments and give further instruction.

Members had received the financial information and accompanying notes prior to the meeting. It was noted that the enhanced footpath maintenance service was included in the figures. The Clerk advised that the PWLB loan balance stood at £49,057.04 in September 2018 and the last payment is due on the 17th May 2026.

RESOLVED: There was general agreement to accept the figures presented for the Budget period 19/20 forecast payments.

7. To consider the grant applications for the budget period 19/20 and give further instruction.

The following applications had been received which included information and accounts:

Stalbridge Youth Club (Room hire rent to Stalbridge Hall), £1500. Accounts had been supplied and an update on the clubs activities were considered.

The Playingfields Management Committee (running costs & PL insurance). £1,500. The accounts supplied were considered and it was understood that as the Playingfields Management Committee have very little opportunity for fundraising the grant is essential to the running of the area as a recreational facility for Stalbridge. Members congratulated the Playingfields Management Committee on the recent successful Pavilion refurbishment project.

St Marys Church for Churchyard grass cutting £4,800. The accounts supplied were considered and it was noted that there will be no reduction in the parish share payment in the interregnum period, whilst the parish may need to fund the re-decoration of the vicarage.

B Lovell withdrew the grant application deferred from the January meeting for Petanque & Croquet club as the project is not at a stage to be able to provide evidence / necessary assurances for a grant application.

RESOLVED: To make the following grants for for the budget period 19/20:

Stalbridge Youth Club (Room hire rent to Stalbridge Hall) £1,500.

Playingfields Management Committee (running costs to include PL insurance). £1,500.

St Marys Church for Churchyard grass cutting £4,800

C Moore abstained for the vote on the Playingfields Management Committee grant

8. To resolve the level of the precept 2019/2020.

The previously reviewed income and expenditure was considered in relation to the tax base precept toolkit which illustrated to effect of any precept increase on a Band D Equivalent Charge.

RESOLVED: It was proposed and agreed to make a precept demand for the period 19/20 of £120,000 which equates to an increase of 75p per month on a Band D Equivalent Charge for the TC's part of the council tax.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.55pm

Date: 6 February 2019

Signed:

Chairman