

**Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office
On Wednesday 19th December 2007 commencing 8-10 p.m.**

Present Councillors B Alexandre, P Ashcroft, J Cowley, J Cox, K Garland
D Grimes, R Penfold J Wardell and W Batty-Smith Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance Mr T Lee

To receive apologies C Cllr D Fox, D Cllr G Carr-Jones and J Smith

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

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

J Cowley asked if anything had happened about re-positioning the dog bin in Park Grove. The Chairman confirmed that, as reported by the Clerk previously, it is not possible just turn round this bin. J Cowley then asked that a new bin be provided.

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by K Garland that the following expenditure be approved

Soc. Local Council Clerks £102.00
Westree. JFPA 575.75

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by R Penfold that the following cheques be signed

Soc. L C C £102.00
Westree 575.75
Stalbridge Hall (Town Plan) 30.00
Direct Office 21.95
NDDC Rent Pond Close 11.75
AKH Plumbing. The Flat 94.45
D J Hine Salary 522.82
N Brown (The Pound Wall) 5.45
Glasdon. 2 seats 579.86
Dike & Son (Refreshments Town Plan) 97.44

Up-date on The Library

Mr T Lee, Chirman of the Library Support Group, thanked the TC for the grant of £100 to the Friends of the Library to enable them to open a Bank Account. A successful public meeting was held on November attended by 65 people. The meeting gave wholehearted support to the TC's decision in principle to pay for the 6.5 top-up hours from the precept. It was agreed to establish the Friends of Stalbridge Library and a Committee was formed, however, it was also agreed not to actively seek members until summer 2008 when there would be something worthwhile to do. The Friends Committee held their first meeting on 22nd November at which it was decided that membership would commence from the 1st July and membership forms would go out to those who had registered an interest. A draft Constitution was agreed which would go forward to the AGM. Junior members will be represented by the new Headmaster of the Primary School. A leaflet will be distributed by the Scouts telling people about the Library and the Friends. Membership rates will be £8/£5/free. The next meeting will be on 6th March 2008. It would appear that the TC may only have to pay for the additional hours for six months in 2008.

The DCC put a questionnaire in the Library about opening hours with a closing date of 8th December although we had received a letter on 22nd November advising that the library hours would not change. Letter from P Leivers of DCC stating that RFID/self service is crucial for the volunteer system to work at a cost of £1.7m. A meeting of the Forum on 1st December agreed to send a letter to P Leivers, Councillors, Officers and MPs voicing total opposition to this, however as we are not using volunteers as Librarians it may not affect Stalbridge directly.

Councillors' Reports/Questions

R Penfold reported that he had attended the Sturminster Newton Youth Centre AGM at which it was announced that Tony Baverstock, the Area Youth Worker is retiring.

J Cowley asked if there is any further new regarding Developer Contributions. The Chairman advised that he is still negotiating with NDDC on the grounds that Stalbridge is independent of Sturminster Newton. J Cowley also pointed out that the Ivy has not yet been removed from the Bier House.

Clerk to progress

K Garland asked if there had been any progress regarding the naming of the road on the new development off Barrow Hill as Ham Stone Court is not appropriate and the Town Council had suggested Baker's Field. (Clerk's note. Since the meeting an e-mail received from Bellway Homes asking for confirmation from the TC that Baker's Field is the preferred name for the road. A confirming e-mail has been sent)

When asked, the Clerk advised that at present she had been unable to obtain the signs indicating the Dog Walking Area from the supplier of the other signs. She will endeavour to find another supplier.

J Wardell asked the Chairman if any of the cost of the sailing competitions for the Olympic Games which will be held in Weymouth, is likely to fall on the Council Tax payers in Dorset. He replied that such costs will be borne by the Government direct rather than the County. She also reported that the Health walks are going very well and that the design and content of the booklets is in progress.

J Cowley advised that he thought the conduct of the site meeting regarding the development in Gold Street had been very good.

Correspondence

South Somerset DC Letter re. Local Action for Rural Communities
John Foster-Pegg. Letter requesting Grant for Churchyard maintenance
Sturquest. Invitation to a Reception on 24th January in The Exchange
NDDC Copy of Press Release re. Gillingham & Sturminster Leisure Centres
Sturminster TC Request for contribution towards provision of public toilets in Sturminster and support for Leisure Centre, SIDs and CAB. It was agreed to point out that Stalbridge had its own toilets to deal with, that we supported the CAB by providing premises for them in Stalbridge and that we had already agreed in principle to joining with other parishes in supporting the provision of a SID for use by the parishes in turn, however, the TC felt unable to provide financial support for the Sturminster Newton Leisure Centre.

Clerk to write

Spectrum Housing Group re. proposed footpath from Pound Close. It was agreed to send an acknowledgement of the letter but advise that we are at present making further enquiries regarding the neighbouring land.

Clerk to write

Planning Inspectorate further paperwork re. FP 4
NDDC Details of refurbishment of Public Toilets. Write and point out that the requested "time locks" have not been included.

Clerk to write

E Mail from Andrew Perry re. Common Purpose. Reply to the effect that no-one has heard of Common Purpose

Minutes of DAPTC N Area meeting 22nd November

Letter R Walter MP congratulations on Big Lottery Fund Grant for Health Walks booklet

Minutes of HACC meeting

NDDC Enforcement re. Middle Farm S.Weston. Confirming what had previously been advised by the Chairman, that the two mobile homes on the site were being used by the one family, and that the permission for the mobile home was due for renewal shortly and the matter would be addressed at that time.

Estimate to repair Pump on The Ring. It was agreed to ask for more details of the work included in the quotation

Clerk to obtain

The Clerk reminded all present of the meeting on the 2nd January to set the Precept.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9-20 p.m.

Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office On Wednesday 21st November 2007 commencing 8-10 p.m.

Present Councillors P Ashcroft, J Cowley, K Garland, D Grimes, J Wardell and W Batty-Smith Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

To receive apologies C Cllr D Fox, D Cllr G Carr-Jones, Cllrs. B Booth, J Cox R Penfold and J Smith

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

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

Matters arising

J Cowley advised that there were various sacks deposited by the re-cycling bins.

Re. Item 10. W Batty-Smith advised that it has been agreed between DCC and NDDC to discuss further how the Developer Contributions received should be dealt with.

Clerk to progress work on JFPA fence etc., and also the question of trimming the trees overhanging The Cross.

Conditions of licence for scaffolding on highway by Anvil House to be checked. (Clerk's note. The provision of the sleepers is part of the licence conditions and the scaffolding is checked on a regular basis by DCC Highways to ensure all conditions are being adhered to)

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by P Ashcroft that the following expenditure be approved

NDDC Local Delivery £5,787.00

Stalbridge B. Supplies Flat repair 45.23

New seat for The Close 246.75

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cowley that the following cheques be signed

Playing Fields Grant £5,000.00
D J Hine Salary new rate November 522.82
D J Hine Back pay from 1st April 201.05 723.87
Bonus Saver back pay 8.88
Stalbridge Building Supplies 45.23
Monster Play (swing seats) 385.16
John Singleton 450.00
R Sharp NDDC £386.40
R Sharp JFPA & Pound 174.00 560.40
Stalbridge Hall Hire 20.00
Direct Office Supplies 119.78
NDDC 5,787.00

Library up-date

Apparently the DCC have been investigating the possibility of "self service" computer run set ups for Libraries but it would appear that to do this would cost far in excess of the present budget. There is a meeting regarding the Library on Thursday 22nd Nov.

Proposed Precept

The Clerk produced a draft budget and proposed Precept for 2008/9. It was agreed to discuss this and make a decision at the first Planning Meeting in January

Suggest names for roads on new Development off Barrow Hill

Apparently at the present time Bellway Homes are referring to the site as Hamstone Court and it was agreed that this is totally inappropriate as local stone is being used. After some discussion it was agreed to suggest Baker's Field to reflect the connections with Dike's Bakery.

Councillors' Reports/Questions

The Clerk advised that Mr & Mrs Haskett of Wards Hill would like to provide a seat where the bus stops at the top of the driveway down to Stalbridge Hall. The seat would be the same model as that proposed for Stalbridge Close. There were no objections. Two seats will therefore be ordered and Mr & Mrs Haskett will reimburse the Council in due course.

J Cowley brought up the subject of the Dog Bin in Park Grove which some people feel is facing the wrong way. It was pointed out that enquiries have been made regarding turning the bin but we were told that this is not possible. The Chairman will enquire about this. J Cowley also requested sight of the letter from Mrs Lover re. pavements etc., and commented on the fact that the hole in the road adjacent to The Laburnams seems to have been there some time without anything being done.

K Garland asked if the TC were going to write and support Henstridge PC regarding their traffic problems. It was felt that whilst individual Councillors were, of course, free to do so, it would not be correct for Stalbridge to comment on Henstridge problems especially as they are in Somerset.

P Ashcroft advised that at present 8 Parishes have shown an interest in having a share of the SID. She also queried whether or not rates would be payable by the TC on the Public Toilets

J Wardell reported that the Grant has been agreed by Awards for All of £2,600 (which should now be in the Bank Account) towards the cost of the Health Walks booklets. The first walk was very successful. She also commented on the figure outside the Charity Shop in Station Road.

The No Cycling sign for the footpath from Coppern Way to Vale Road is missing. W Batty-Smith advised that there is a problem with the drain on Church Hill but this has been reported and is being dealt with

Correspondence

Copy e-mail from M Hansford DCC Highways to Insp. Chalkley re. Entrance to Keeper's Cottage, Copse House Lane.

E-mail from Emma Brown, Greenwood Tree Project asking for a contact/representative to identify veteran trees in our area.

DAPTC New Councillors Training evening. 11th Dec. 6-30 Dorchester.

DAPTC reminder re. D Webb leaving.

Sturminster Newton TC report on meeting with Parishes re. Parish Lengthsman and SIDS
John Foster-Pegg, re. purchase of land enclosing copy of letter from Trustees' Solicitors requiring an undertaking re. costs.

SAS Playground Ltd. Offering playground maintenance/inspection service

DAPTC Agenda for AGM of N Dorset Area on 22nd November at Gillingham

Dorset Fire & Rescue Service details of Seasonal Advice

DAPTC Agenda for Town & Larger Councils meeting 30th November

Dorset CC re. Library Opening Hours.

NDDC Invitation for a representative to attend a budget workshop on 28th November

DCA Hugh DeIongh enclosing summary of Town Plan questionnaire

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9-15 p.m.

Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office On Wednesday 24th October 2007 commencing 7-45 p.m.

Present Councillors B Alexandre, P Ashcroft, J Cowley, J Cox, K Garland, D Grimes
J Smith, J Wardell and W Batty-Smith Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance No-one else present

To receive apologies C Cllr D Fox, D Cllr G Carr-Jones, R Penfold

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

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

J Cowley raised some queries regarding the item on JFPA but it was agreed to deal with these under Agenda Item 9

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by B Alexandre that the following expenditure be approved

Four County Services 205.63
Work on new Laptop
Purchase of small workstation to accommodate new
Laptop and screen etc 63.99
Lay turf etc., JFPA 690.00

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by K Garland that the following cheques be signed

Blackmore Vale Internet Website maintenance 108.00
Blackmore Vale Internet Renew hosting and Domain registration 250.00
Stalbridge Land Settlement Rent 1,670.00
D J Hine Salary October 494.10
S & A Builders Inspections and wall repair 282.00
British Gas 29.87
Four County Services 205.63
B Telecom 158.62
Trinity Mirror Southern 50.29
D A Services (Hall Grant) 609.82

Consider withholding payment to NDDC in respect of the provision of Services under the Service Level Agreement

A reply to the T C letter to NDDC regarding the level of street sweeping received from Mrs J Guest advising that the sweeping is being carried out but pointing out that this is done early in the morning before most people are about. J Cowley reported that there is

a problem with the frequency of emptying the re-cycling bins, in particular the plastic bottles. Apparently South Somerset DC do not collect these and people outside Stalbridge are therefore using the facility but nothing can be done about that as it is there for public use. J Cowley proposed that the TC withhold payment to NDDC until the end of December of the outstanding balance due under the SLA in view of the fact that the TC are not satisfied with the standard of pavement sweeping. The proposal was seconded by J Cox. A vote was taken, the result being 3 in favour, 4 against with 2 abstentions. The motion was therefore not carried.

Decide whether or not the Town Council will take part in the Local Delivery programme

Two quotations have been received for carrying out the opening and cleaning of the Public Toilets and for sweeping the pavements, as at present carried out by the NDDC. From these it would appear that the cost of carrying out this work would be in the region of £22,000 but the NDDC will be making a grant back to the TC of £7,500 to cover the cost of the statutory duties. The Precept for 2008/9 will have to be increased, especially bearing in mind the financial support required for the Library, but the precise amount will not be agreed until the Budget Meeting in December. W Batty-Smith proposed that the Town Council formally advise the NDDC that Stalbridge will take part in the Local Delivery programme in the first instance by taking on the responsibility for the opening and cleaning of the public toilets (subject to these being up-dated) and the pavement sweeping as from 1st April 2008. B Alexandre seconded the proposal. A vote was taken which showed 7 in favour, 1 against, 1 abstention. The motion was therefore carried.
Clerk to write

Update on level of support for Library

Mr T Lee reported to the meeting that 182 suggestions as to how to help the Library had been received in the Town Plan questionnaire. With regard to the Library questionnaire, only 50 forms had been returned which confirmed the feeling that the Library could not be run by volunteers. The open meeting has been set up for Friday 2nd November in the Community Hall, it has been well publicised so it is hoped that there will be a good attendance. W Batty-Smith will chair the meeting and then hand over to T Lee to brief the audience on the Library situation. The second part will be a brief on setting up the Friends. Anyone in the audience who has not completed the questionnaire will be asked to complete a card. It is anticipated that the Friends will not be set up until the Spring of 2008. The Friends will be a not for profit Community Group with a Chairman, Treasurer and Secretary and 6 committee members one of which should be a Town Council representative. DCC will be providing a questionnaire on opening hours which will be handed out at the meeting. It was agreed to meet the expenses e.g. hall hire, printing of cards and questionnaire. It would appear that some 160 people from Henstridge use the Library and it was agreed to write to Henstridge P C to ask if they would consider giving a grant to Stalbridge to help with the proposed purchase of additional opening hours. It is permissible for Parishes to combine in the spending of Section 137 funds if residents of both parishes are to benefit. Mr Lee pointed out that the implementation date for the

change in Library running is not likely to be until August/September 2008 and therefore this would halve the demand on the Precept for 2008/9. The Chairman thanked Mr Lee for his efforts to date.

Evaluate work carried out at J F P A

A query was raised with regard the wire fence along pathway from Jarvis Way. The Clerk pointed out that this was not meant to keep out dogs or people it was just to mark the area where dogs were allowed and where they were not. It was agreed to get a quote for replacing this with chainlink fence and concrete posts.

Consider implications of Developer's Contributions re. Pond Walk development

J Cowley expressed concern that all the Developer Contributions from works in Stalbridge apparently go to Sturminster Newton unless they are ringfenced such as the £30,000 from Pond Walk for road improvements and a further £10,000 from Springfields, which is also for road works although no-one seems to know too much about this. As Stalbridge does provide Playing fields and Play Areas it does not seem right that everything goes to another town. The Chairman said he would investigate the position.

Councillors' Reports/Questions

D Grimes reported damaged kerb stones at the entrance to Waterlake

J Wardell & P Ashcroft reported on meeting in Sturminster re SIDS with Mr R Camp from DCC. The total cost of the device would be £2,850. There is another meeting on the 31st October

P Ashcroft asked if there had been any reply from the Tree Officer re. trees overhanging the Cross, the reply was negative.

B Alexandre reported that the residents of S. Weston would rather the Bus Shelter and Notice Board remain where they are

J Cowley requested confirmation that Standing Orders 17 and 18 would be adhered to in the future. This was given

Enquiries to be made as to whether or not the hedge between Pound Close and the Dikes' Development is to be removed.

J Cowley complained about the apparent lack of lighting on the scaffolding on Anvil House and the sleepers in the road.

It would appear that the proposed diversion of FP4 will be going to a public enquiry

Correspondence

Sturminster Newton TC meeting re. Local Delivery including SIDS 31.10.07
DCC A Ackerman. Letter re Dropped (Tactile) Kerb provision. Asking for a someone to be a contact point.
NDDC J Guest. Reply re provision of street cleansing (see Agenda)
DCC A Jowsey re. Proposed changes to waiting restrictions
E-mail from S Sheppard re. New Councillors training. Reply stating evening sessions preferred
ND CAB invite to meeting on 13th Nov. re. Local Delivery
J Else details of Christmas Lights activities
Sturquest. Details of Community Lunch 14th November
Portland TC Details of Christmas Civic Service
Mike Burt Executive Summary for evaluation of community planning in N Dorset
DCC J Mann advising that work is being undertaken on the entrance to Keeper's Cottage
Details of Public Enquiry by written representation in respect of diversion of FP4

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10-10 p.m.

Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office On Wednesday 26th September 2007 commencing 8-05 p.m.

Present Councillors B Alexandre, P Ashcroft, J Cowley, J Cox, D Grimes, J Wardell and W Batty-Smith (Chairman), D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance C Cllr D Fox, D Cllr G Carr-Jones and 8 electors

To receive apologies K Garland, R Penfold and J Smith

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

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

OPEN FORUM

Mrs I Chalcraft read out a letter she had sent to various Agencies and the press with regard to the unkempt appearance of the Town including dirty streets, overflowing litter bins and weeds growing from pavements and walls. Mrs Chalcraft and her husband had cleared the area around the pump at the bottom of Church Hill themselves. The Chairman explained that this work is the responsibility of the District Council at present although it is not a statutory duty for them. As a result of the NDDC Tough Choices programme Stalbridge had agreed to pay approx. £11,500 to NDDC for the year 01.04.07 to 31.03.08 to enable this and other services to continue. From the 1st April

2008 NDDC would not be doing the work and it will be up to the Town Council to provide the service if it is to continue. At the present time quotations for the contract are being obtained.

Mrs S Lee asked when the 'capping' of NDDC will be removed. The Chairman explained that District Councils are restricted to a 5% increase in their budget figures even though this does not actually cover the additional costs of carrying out their various tasks.

Mr I Forward asked about the progress of the Town Plan. G Carr-Jones replied that they are discussing ways of presenting the results of the questionnaires back to the Community

Mr A Chalcraft asked if the full payment for Services had been made to NDDC. Only half has been and it was agreed to discuss possibly withholding part of the next payment at the next full Town Council meeting.

Mr T Lee spoke in support of Mrs Chalcraft and also suggested that the Town Council try and impress on all residents the necessity to try and keep the area in front of their properties tidy and also not to cause problems by depositing litter.

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following expenditure be approved

Jan Wardell explained that the Stalbridge Hall had been hired to carry out training for Leaders of the proposed Health Walks. The Stalbridge Surgery have promised £25 towards the cost

Grant towards Health Walks expenditure. 25.00
D A Services Y & Comm Project £6,675.18
A DeIongh Town Plan 180.00

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine 494.10
D A Services 6675.18
Four County Services 62.85
John Singleton 450.00
J F P A Hedge 140.00
B D O Stoy Hayward Audit 470.00
A DeIongh 180.00
S Electric 103.42

The Clerk presented the comparison of expenditure to budget figures for the six months to the end of September 2007

Approve Annual Return as Audited

It was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by B Alexandre that the Audited Annual Return be adopted. All Agreed.

Adopt new Standing Orders re. Public Participation

As a result of adopting the New Code of Conduct it is necessary to replace existing Standing Orders as follows:-

Standing Order 70A

At all meetings of the Council, the Chairman may at his/her discretion and at a convenient time in the transaction of business, allow any members of the public to address the meeting in relation to the business to be transacted. Such sessions form part of the Council meeting in law and shall be duly minuted. The Code of Conduct which was adopted by the Council on the 29th August 2007 shall apply to members of the Council in respect of the entire meeting. Where, however, members of the Council exercise their rights pursuant to SO70B below, members of the public shall be allowed to attend the meeting to (a) make representations (b) answer questions or (c) give evidence relating to the business to be transacted.

Standing Order 70B

At all meetings of the Council, the Chairman may permit members of the Council (including co-opted members as defined by s.49 (7) Local Government Act 2000) who have a prejudicial interest in relation to any item of business to be transacted at that meeting to (a) make representations, (b) answer questions or (c) give evidence relating to the business to be transacted. Such sessions form part of the Council meeting in law and shall be duly minuted. The Code of Conduct which was adopted by the Council on the 29th August 2007 shall apply to members of the Council in respect of the entire meeting.

It as proposed by D Grimes and seconded by B Alexandre that the above Standing Orders be adopted. All agreed.

Consider proposed joint purchase of S I D and Lengthsman

J Wardell and P Ashcroft had attended a meeting at Sturminster Newton at which Mr A Ackerman, Highways Dept., DCC explained about the proposed Lengthsman Scheme and the proposed sharing of a Speed Indicator Device amongst various parishes. With regard to the Lengthsman Scheme this would provide someone to do various maintenance work throughout the Parishes which signed up. The cost of £25,000 p.a. would be split 50% the Parishes and the other 50% equally between the District and County Councils. After

some discussion it was agreed that Stalbridge were not interested in this particular scheme.

With regard to the S I D it is hoped that approximately 12 Parishes would be interested in this scheme. The device would cost in the region of £3,254 to purchase but there would also be costs for Insurance, maintenance and batteries. It was estimated the cost per annum would be in the region of £500. There is a palm device as well which is used to download the information stored, programmes the device and can also be used as a radar device giving instantaneous readings. The suggested frequency would be one week at a time, every 2/3 months. J Cowley asked about the cost of Insurance, apparently DCC may well undertake responsibility for this. There will be a Committee of six to discuss matters with DCC and if adopted a Committee would agree the rota for use.

It was agreed to write to Sturminster T C to express an interest in receiving further information on the S I D but also advise that Stalbridge are not interested in the Lengthsman scheme.

Clerk to write

Up-date on Library and reply to DCC letter of 01.08.07

A letter had been received from P Leivers with request that the accompanying pro forma be completed which would express the Town Council's wishes regarding the future running of the Library. (the letter date 1st August had not been received until September) Mr T Lee had produced a draft response from the T C which is summarised as follows:-

The Town Council did not wish to take on sole responsibility for the Library building but is willing to reduce the running costs of the building by getting volunteers to do some of the work required and by obtaining sponsorship for the remainder. They would wish to purchase an additional 6.5 Librarian hours (cost £6,500 p.a.) but would hope that any savings made with regard to the cost of maintenance would be offset against the cost of the Librarian. The T C would not wish to use volunteers for the actual Librarian work but will be forming a Friends Group which would provide volunteers to carry out other work required.

It was proposed by J Cox and seconded by W Batty-Smith that Mr Lee's proposed replies be sent. All agreed. The Chairman thanked Mr Lee for his work on the project. A public meeting will be held in the Hall on Friday 2nd November to explain to the public the position regarding the Library and publicise the need for the Friends Group.

Councillors' reports/questions

W Batty-Smith attended at meeting at Lydlinch with representatives of Stourton Caundle and Lydlinch to discuss the Local Delivery programme with Mr S Hill of NDDC. The main point that came from the meeting was that after April 2008 there will be no obligation for various Parishes to contribute towards such things as Artsreach, CAB etc.,

(contributions towards such as these have come out of the lump sum paid to NDDC this year) Individual organisations that require grant aid will have to apply to each Council individually and the Council will decide themselves which, if any, they wish to support. The proposal that the TC consider not paying the second instalment due under the SLA will be on the next full Council Agenda.

With regard to Jarvis Field Play Area as a result of an inspection it was agreed that the following work be undertaken

Chain link fence on southern boundary. Repair/replace as necessary.

Kissing Gate hinges need attention

Swing Seats. Remove a.s.a.p. Order replacement seats and chains

Top Fence. Repair as necessary. Create new opening adjacent bridleway. Check re.

Strainers

Clerk to arrange for the above to be carried out

The Clerk advised that she is obtaining quotes for levelling the areas under the swings and the multiplay system and turfing. This is necessary before any safety surfacing, if necessary, can be applied

Apply to Awards for All for grant towards safety surfacing

J Wardell reported on the Health Walks Training Day. 6 Leaders now qualified. Insurance will be covered by the British Heart Foundation

P Ashcroft attended the Christmas Lighting meeting. Basically the same as last year.

Query raised about trimming back the trees in The Old Rectory gardens which are obscuring The Cross. The Clerk to contact NDDC Tree Officers

Clerk to contact

The road surface by the entrance to Keeper's Cottage in Copse House Lane, still causing concern. DCC Highways have acknowledged problem and are dealing with it.

B Alexandre will contact the new Head teacher at the School to ask about TC representation on the Governors Board.

Dealing with the Inventory will be on the next Planning Meeting Agenda.

Correspondence

Letter from S Hill, NDDC re. Section 106 Projects. Shows £10,000 collected for Stalbridge Highway Schemes (from Springfields) and also a request from DCC for £8,500 of this money for scheme for which they will prepare a Plan.

NDDC Notification of appeal against Enforcement Notice by Mr R Taylor in respect of land adjacent to Priors Down

Letter from S Hill re Local Delivery detailing amount agreed in principle, that NDDC will pay as a contribution towards the Statutory Element of Street Cleansing costs.

Notification that South Somerset Local Plan has been adopted

P R Newman. Advising that he is putting together a Planning Application for development of land off Waterlake

E-mail from Joe Williams. Next meeting of Henstridge Airfield CC 5-45 p.m. 24th October
DCC copy of letter dated 1st August re. Library support (dealt with in Agenda)

NDDC Notification of application for Licence to sell alcohol from Dike & Son Ld

BDO Stoy Hayward Notification of completion of Audit

E-mail from D Ackerly DCC re FP 49 Signage is in place, barrier will be erected

E-mail from Deb McCarthy re. Funding to expand services for older people

Plus details of Dorset Age Partnership requesting someone to attend future meetings

E-mail from J Foster-Bazin NDDC re. Comparative analysis of route for sustainability projects to LAPS

NDDC re. Additional pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers

NDDC Revised Statement of Licensing Policy

S Hill NDDC Notification that the application for £15,000 funding from Lift SW has been successful

DCC re. Additional Street Light on footpath Boyle Close to Jarvis Way. Will be scored and if high enough will be considered along with the other seventy plus requests.

Joy Rabbetts. Request for permission to erect a Bus Stop sign by The Hall

D Fox. Update on various County wide items.

Letter from J Guest NDDC re. Town Orderlies.

Letter from Jean Lover detailing various complaints about the state of the pavements

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10.15 p.m.

Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office On Wednesday 29th August 2007 commencing 8-00 p.m.

Present Councillors B Alexandre, P Ashcroft, J Cowley, J Cox, K Garland,
D Grimes, R Penfold, J Wardell, and W Batty-Smith Chairman , D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance No members of the public attended

To receive apologies Cllr D Fox, D Cllr G Carr-Jones

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

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

Matters arising

Item 7. Local Delivery A meeting was held with Lydlinch, Stourton Caundle and Marnhull, as a result it was decided to try and arrange a meeting with Mr S Hill of NDDC in an endeavour to discover how those items that the parishes are not going to take over will be dealt with. We have asked Gillingham TC if they are interested in quoting for the Toilet Cleaning and Pavement Sweeping.

Item 9. The application to Awards for All for the Health Walks booklet is in hand.

OPEN FORUM No comments

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following expenditure be approved

Society of L C C Conference £305.00
Novatech (a grant will be received for £834.05 and the balance is VAT which will be reclaimed) £980.01

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine Salary 247.05 Postage £25.65 £272.70
Novatech 980.01
B Telecom 143.50
R Sharp 679.60
Direct Office Supplies 13.51
Goldprint 30.00
Proprint2K 57.57

Proposed purchase of additional land for Churchyard

Messrs. Savills, the Agents for the Stalbridge Estate have offered to sell the pieces of land, as requested by the Town Council, to the Town for the sum of £5,000 plus all legal and surveying costs and the fencing etc., of the land. It was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cowley that this was proceeded with. All agreed.

Clerk to write

The Clerk advised that there is the possibility of a grant from Dorset Wildlife Trust if certain conditions are met and also that the Agricultural College may well be interested in the establishing of the hedges.

Update on improvements to J F P A

It was agreed that the following works need to be carried out

The Seat in the Dog Walk area needs painting. J Smith will ascertain if the Scouts will do this.

The chainlink fence near the Kissing Gate needs repair/replacing

The new fence at the top end has one loose post and wire needs tightening

New swing seats, 2 flat and 1 cradle to be purchased

The elder bushes around the children's area need disposing of

Quotes to be obtained for filling and turfing the areas under the swings and multi-play system.

The hedge bordering the bridleway to be trimmed

Adopt new Code of Conduct

Stalbridge Town Council resolved to adopt the Model Code of Conduct for Parish and Town Councils including paragraph 12(2) under the Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007 No.1159. (Clerk's note. This will necessitate replacing current model standing orders 58 and 70 with the following. Adoption of these replacement S Os will be placed on next T C Agenda

Standing Order 70A

At all meetings of the Council, the Chairman may at his/her discretion and at a convenient time in the transaction of business, allow any members of the public to address the meeting in relation to the business to be transacted. Such sessions form part of the Council meeting in law and shall be duly minuted. The Code of Conduct which was adopted by the Council on the 29th August 2007 shall apply to members of the Council in respect of the entire meeting. Where, however, members of the Council exercise their rights pursuant to SO70B below, members of the public shall be allowed to attend the meeting to (a) make representations (b) answer questions or (c) give evidence relating to the business to be transacted.

Standing Order 70B

At all meetings of the Council, the Chairman may permit members of the Council (including co-opted members as defined by s.49 (7) Local Government Act 2000) who have a prejudicial interest in relation to any item of business to be transacted at that meeting to (a) make representations, (b) answer questions or (c) give evidence relating to the business to be transacted. Such sessions form part of the Council meeting in law and shall be duly minuted. The Code of Conduct which was adopted by the Council on the 29th August 2007 shall apply to members of the Council in respect of the entire meeting.

Councillors' Reports/Questions

J Cowley wished to arrange to check the Town Inventory. The Clerk will provide copies and Councillors will meet on Wednesday 5th September to do this. He also asked about

contacting the MP regarding the refusal of DCC to provide a Pedestrian Crossing. It was agreed to write to him.

Clerk to write

B Alexandre advised that DCC had carried out the repairs to the footpath wall in Stalbridge Weston very efficiently. She also asked if the Notice Board could be moved. A query was raised regarding the Bus Shelter. B Alexandre will ask the S Weston residents if they are happy about moving the Notice Board and whether or not they still want the Bus Shelter

R Penfold and J Wardell produced a report on the present state of the Public Toilets. It was agreed to send a copy to Mr B Bray NDDC and to arrange a meeting with him.

Clerk to write

D Grimes advised that the problems with young people drinking and riding scooters in the area of Fudge's Bakery, the Cold Store and the new Trailway, have been reported to the Police

Correspondence

Shaping our Future – Community Strategy for Dorset

DCC – Acknowledgement of complaint about entrance to Keeper's Cottage. As we do not appear to be able to make progress on this it as agreed to write to the Local Police

NDDC- Copy of Sales Particulars for The Sidings

DCC Update of work to Kings Mill Bridge

DAPTC Ch. Exec. Circular 09/07

Sturminster Newton TC Invitation to meeting 12th Sept. re. Local Delivery

NDDC Copy of presentation to made on 25th July re. Tough Choices

Details of Flood Wardens' Seminar

Copy of letter from Transport Rep. to DCC

NDDC E-mail requesting official support for LIFT SW funding

NDDC Supplementary Planning Document. Managing housing land supply

DCC List of road maintenance schemes for 2008-9

E-Mail from NDDC in reply to ours regarding dog bins and pavement sweeping

Introductory e-mail from J Foser-Bazin NDDC (replacement for Wilbert Smith)

DCC P Leivers Suggesting amendments to notes of meeting 10th May

NDDC Notification of request for road closure for Christmas event

DCC reply to request for additional footpath will be put forward for consideration

DCC reply to request for additional speed limits. A357 limits under review

DCC e-mail re. Library running costs

NDDC Notification that P Apps 0640 – variation of conditions Land off Car Park and 0223

Erectr 25 dwellings off Barrow Hill, will be considered on 4th September

DCC Notification of road closure at Warr Bridge

DCC Survey of Highway Maintenance

Banyards letter of introduction re. Grounds Maintenance Works

NALC details of Conference at Bournemouth

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

J Cox and J Smith gave their apologies with regard to the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9-30 p.m.

Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office On Wednesday 1st August 2007 commencing 8-40 p.m.

Present Councillors B Alexandre, P Ashcroft, J Cowley, J Cox, K Garland
D Grimes, R Penfold, J Smith, J Wardell and W Batty-Smith, Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance C Cllr D Fox

To receive apologies D Cllr G Carr-Jones

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting having previously been circulated to Councillors were approved and signed by the Chairman with the following addition.

B Booth pointed out that her report regarding the futility of attending the School Governors' meetings had been omitted. She pointed out that as the Town Council representative could take no part in the meeting and could not report back on the meeting to the Council there would seem little point in attending. It was agreed to contact the new Headmaster in September in this regard.

B Booth asked who she should contact regarding a damaged footpath retaining wall in Stalbridge Weston. She was advised to contact the DCC Highways.

OPEN FORUM

Mr D Neal reported that Pond Close grass needed cutting and the dog bin had not been emptied for some time. Clerk will deal with.

Query raised with regard to progress on the additional land for the Churchyard. No news from Savills yet. Clerk will chase.

The access to Keeper's Cottage off Copse House Lane has again sunk below the road surface. The Clerk advised that this has already been reported to DCC. Copy correspondence to be sent to C Cllr D Fox

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following expenditure be approved

Westree Company JFPA £940.00
Blackmore Vale Internet replacement cheque 54.00
Pearce Seeds P F Grant 196.23
Evans & Pearce do 209.15

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by P Ashcroft that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine Part August Salary 247.05
NDDC Local Delivery 5,787.00
Westree Company 940.88
B Gas 53.06
Blackmore Vale Internet 54.00
Pearce Seeds 196.23
Evans & Pearce 209.15

The Clerk presented the quarterly comparison of expenditure to budget figures.

Sign Annual Town Meeting minutes

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on the 18th April, having been available for reading by all Councillors for 4 weeks, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

Discuss/approve latest developments in Local Delivery programme

Sturminster Newton TC have decided against quoting for the Toilet cleaning/pavement sweeping contract. It was agreed to write to Gillingham and ask if they are interested. The Clerk advised that a Commercial Cleaning Firm are in the process of preparing a quote. It was agreed to set up a meeting with the Chairman and Clerk of Lydlinch and Stourton Caundle Parish Councils in an effort to obtain a contribution from them as users, towards the costs of the work in Stalbridge.

Library up-date

A copy of T Lee's notes on the County Council meeting of 19th July provided. The main point being that Library opening hours will be reduced to 12 per week. However, in order to keep the Library open longer additional hours can be bought from the DCC or the Library staffed by volunteers. In addition responsibility for the Library building may well be handed over to the Town Council but as yet there are no definite proposals or details of any terms to hand. A Service Level Agreement is required before a definite answer as

to whether or not the Town Council wish to do this can be given. J Cowley felt that the Library should not be open unless a qualified Librarian is in attendance although a "Friends" organisation and volunteers would be very useful with regard to maintenance of the building etc. It was proposed to send out a letter to all residents asking if they would be interested in joining a "Friends" organisation however, it was felt that until we had more details of what would be required it is too early to do this. It was agreed to write to Mr S Pitt at Adult Services, DCC, in an effort to obtain full details of what would be required from Stalbridge.

Councillors' Reports/questions

D Grimes suggested that we request a speed limit on the A357 from Stalbridge to Lydlinch, similar to that in operation from Lydlinch to Sturminster Newton. It was agreed to write to DCC in this respect with a copy to the Chief Constable.

J Wardell asked why the Application to Awards for All with regard to the Health Walks booklet had not been sent off. Further suggestions were awaited from Hugh DeIongh, but it was agreed to proceed with this application.

P Ashcroft and J Wardell had attended the DAPTC meeting which had dealt mainly with the Tough Choices/Local Delivery programme. She reported overhanging hedges in Jarvis Way and litter on the Footpath from Coppern Way to Vale Road. With regard to the proposed additional pavement on the corner of Jarvis Way, a letter of support had been received from the School. Letter requesting same to be sent.
Clerk to write

B Alexandre advised that having contacted DCC regarding the damaged wall/pavement in Stalbridge Weston, the site had been visited and something is going to be done.

J Smith advised that he had received a suggestion that the T C should fund The Ring magazine in order for it to be provided free to all residents

J Cowley asked that the hole in the A357 almost opposite the entrance to Stalbridge Close be reported in writing. There has been a request for an additional Street Light on the footpath from Boyle Close to Jarvis Way. It was suggested that the CPSO be asked to support this request and a letter sent to DCC.

J Cox requested that a note be left with Planning Applications regarding arrangements for site visits.

R Penfold reported on the Hall Cttee Meeting on 11th July. A new heating boiler and storage tank are required, for which it is hoped to use the outstanding grants from the Town Council. More tables and chairs are also required. A meeting of the Caravan Club has been booked for August 2008. There is disagreement about the use of Security Cameras, the Youth Club want them but the Pre-School Group do not. It was felt some compromise should be reached i.e. turning off the cameras when the young children are present.

The Chairman advised that the objection to the refusal of planning permission for the additional property at Ryalls Farm is on-going.

C Cllr D Fox advised that the CC is proposing special measures to deal with the areas drains in 2008 in order to alleviate flooding problems. He suggested that the TC might consider the purchase and management of a Speed Indicator Device. With regard to the Bus Service he has asked that Stalbridge be included in any future consultations regarding buses.

Correspondence

NDDC reply to our query regarding Developer Contributions. (Not much help!)
DCC, Eastern Highways. Letter asking to be informed of any footway repairs needed Stalbridge Primary School. Supporting proposed pavement crossing visibility splay area, Jarvis Way.

DCC Progress on Kings Mill Bridge Repairs and extension of closure period

Copy letter from K Rabbetts to Transport Manager DCC

NDDC Introductory letter from Ian Manley Re-cycling and Waste Management

Request for Cardboard Bank from Mrs S Brooks

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10-10 p.m.

Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office On Wednesday 4th July 2007 commencing 8-20 p.m.

Present Councillors P Ashcroft, B Booth, J Cowley, K Garland, D Grimes, R Penfold, S Waite, J Wardell and W Batty-Smith Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance C Cllr D Fox and D Cllr G Carr-Jones

To receive apologies J Cox and J Smith

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

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

OPEN FORUM

G Carr-Jones asked that publicity be given to the fact that there appeared to be a bogus representative of an Electricity Company visiting elderly people in the area.

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by W Batty-Smith that the following expenditure be approved

Western Newspapers Notice re. tenders £112.80

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by W Batty-Smith that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine Salary July £494.10

Blackmore Vale Internet 54.00

Western Newspapers 112.80

Direct Office 105.12

R Sharp NDDC Grass & The Pound £484.20

(Cheque signed at Planning Mtg. 20.6.07)

Conduct of meetings

S Waite felt that the T C should try and get members of the public more involved in the decisions made with regard to the facilities in the Town and its future. As it is illegal for members of the public to actually take part in a Council meeting, this is rather difficult to put into practice, however, it was agreed that all Councillors would give the matter some thought.

Problem of under-age drinking

It was agreed that this matter can really only be dealt with by the Police and that any evidence of this problem should be reported direct to them immediately

Consider extension of pavement at the Jarvis Way junction with Station Road

P Ashcroft had suggested that the pavement on the lower side of Jarvis Way at its junction with Station Road should be changed to go across the grass visibility splay as people who wanted to cross the road and enter Woodmill Close were not bothering to use the pavement which goes further down Station Road as this means crossing Station Road and then walking a short way back up on the other side to get to Woodmill Close. Before any approach is made to the DCC it was agreed that P Ashcroft would endeavour to find out if the School has a "travel plan" which would support the request.

P Ashcroft to action

Check Insurance Values

It was agreed to ask the Insurance company if the "contents insurance" in respect of the offices could be just one lump sum to cover all the contents rather than have all the

items listed. A copy of the Inventory to be placed with documents at the Solicitors' Office. Councillors will arrange a suitable date and time to check the Inventory

Sign Minutes of Annual Town Meeting

It was agreed that a copy of these would be left in the Town Clerk's office to enable all Councillors to read them and the item will be placed on the next Agenda

Discuss possibility of additional land at Pond Close

The Clerk advised that she had been in contact with Mr A Fraser, NDDC Legal Dept and passed to him the name and address of the TC Solicitor. She also pointed out that when preparing the draft Lease of the proposed additional land at Pond Close, this should allow for the land to be used at allotments, if required, and also that Signpost had agreed to lay a water supply from the new development to this area. Access must also be provided into the Recreation Area for use by a Tractor or similar, as is the present case. We await a copy of the draft Lease for approval.

Councillors' Reports/Questions

D Grimes reported a deep hole in the road part way down Bazel Hill. A further hole reported in Ring Street, just opposite turning to Stalbridge Close. D Grimes also suggested that a 30 mph speed limit be placed on the A357 from Spire Hill Farm to Hartgrove Farm. D Fox advised that there are new guidelines on the placing of speed limits on main roads.

J Wardell advised that she is in the process of getting together an application to the Lottery Awards for All scheme in order to obtain match funding for the Health Walks booklets, NDDC having promised a grant on this basis.

P Ashcroft asked that the dead tree on The Ring be replaced. E Williams to be contacted.

J Cowley attended a further meeting regarding the future of Libraries. It would now appear that the DCC are thinking about involving Community Support for all the Libraries in the County rather than just the threatened 13. He also asked if there will be any Developers' Contributions as a result of the further development at Pond Close and if so, will these be allocated to Stalbridge.

Clerk to write

Light No 12 in Jarvis Way is being obscured by overhanging tree.

Clerk to advise DCC

R Penfold asked about checking condition of Public Toilets. B Bray at NDDC to be contacted and it was suggested that the Sturminster Mill Toilets be looked at as these will provide a standard which should be obtained.

W Batty-Smith reported on attending the latest Local Delivery meeting. He asked that the following be considered by all Councillors. If the Town Council do not agree to take

on responsibility for the Public Toilets and the Pavement Sweeping after the 1st April 2008 then the Toilets will most probably be demolished and no pavements will be swept. As Stalbridge has always tried to assert its independence then this must be the time to take control of these important services.

Correspondence

NDDC re/ request for Litter/Dog Bin, JFPA. Should resources become available the request will be considered

DCC Mr S Howard. Acknowledgement of our letter re: Traffic Proposals and confirming changes to parking arrangements will be progressed.

DCC J Burridge. Up-date on situation with Kings Mill Bridge

NDDC Notice of Public Path Order re. FP No.4 Pond Close. J Wardell will be writing to object on behalf of the Ramblers and will let the Clerk have a copy

Sturminster Newton Invitation to Civic Day Sat. 8th September

Blandford TC Invitation to Civic Day Sunday 23rd Sept

Bridport TC Invitation To Civic Service. Sunday 15th July – reply needed

Copies of correspondence between Transport Rep. and County Council

NDDC – Key features of community Planning

DCC Dorset Data Book

N Dorset CAB Acknowledging receipt of grant but asking why it is reduced for this year

DAPTC Ch. Exec Circular 08/07

DCC Highway Maintenance Programme 2007/8 – no mention of Stalbridge

NDDC re. Commuted Sums for Play Areas and Open Spaces.

Signpost H Assoc. Copy of their letter to NDDC re. Pond Close Land. (see above item 11)

NDDC Planning Guidance Note. Parish Planning in North Dorset

Letter of thanks from St. Mary's Church for Churchyard Grant

NDDC Copy of Child Okeford Village Design Statement

Note from Clerk re. Street Lights. Turning off Lights at midnight would have to be County wide.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9-50 p.m.

Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office On Wednesday 6th June 2007 commencing 8-00 p.m.

Present Councillors P Ashcroft, B Booth, J Cowley, J Cox, D Grimes, R Penfold
J Smith, S Waite, J Wardell and W Batty-Smith Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance C Cllr D Fox, D Cllr G Carr-Jones and 4 electors

To receive apologies None

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

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

Matters arising

Mr N Brown had contacted the Chairman expressing surprise and disappointment that he had been superseded as Footpath Officer and felt that the alternative offered as Trailway and Cycleway Officer was a minor post. The Chairman explained that it was standard procedure to appoint Councillors to various posts at the Annual TC Meeting and also, in some instances, to appoint someone outside the Council, as had been the case with Mr Brown. He also pointed out that there was no criticism of Mr Brown's work and commitment to Footpaths intended. It was simply that as J Wardell had a great interest in the Footpaths it was felt that it might make life easier for both if the duties were split. However, it was agreed that Mr Brown and J Wardell be appointed as joint Footpath Officers and Mr Brown was quite happy with this arrangement. The Clerk to inform D CC Rights of Way Officer of the joint appointment.

With regard to the Library, it would now appear that events have overtaken the meeting held in Stalbridge and that the DCC are now going to look at all the Libraries in the County with a view to cutting costs over the whole system by getting local involvement.

OPEN FORUM No comments

Proposed Expenditure

There was no expenditure proposed other than that accounted for in the budget

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine £494.10
Pond Close Mowing 210.00
R Sharp NDDC Grass £386.40
Ring 128.00
Footpaths 60.00 574.40
J Singleton 450.50
B Telecom 153.91
D Nettley Signs 137.50
N Smith The Ring 221.11
Scout Group re. Bus Shelter 100.00
Stalbridge B. Supplies 74.80
A Moore (Playing Fld. Grant) 99.00

Co-opt Councillor

One application for the vacancy on the Council has been received from a Miss K Garland of Poolestown. Unfortunately she was unable to be present at the meeting it was therefore agreed to put this item on the Agenda for the Planning Meeting on the 20th June.

Update on High Street Traffic Plans

The Chairman emphasised that there is no likelihood of a controlled pedestrian crossing in the High Street as the criteria for such a crossing are not met. Proposals for the High Street have been received from Mr S Howard of DCC and the Chairman summarised them for Councillors. It was agreed that Councillors would study these together with the plan provided and a decision would be taken as to what should happen at the next Planning Meeting on the 20th June. It was agreed to send Mr R Walter MP a copy of the proposals together with our reply.

Results of Town Plan Questionnaire

Hugh DeIongh reported on the results of the Questionnaire. There had been 355 replies to the 1000 household that had received it, which is 35%. However, replies were mainly from the older age group rather than the young. It would appear that people think Stalbridge is a great place to live except for the Traffic problems. The population are friendly and there is a good Community Spirit. There are good facilities and the size is just about right. It is felt to be a safe place to live in lovely countryside.

It would appear that residents want small scale developments only including small unit businesses. A Coffee Shop, Market/Farmers' Market/Adult Keep Fit Classes and better Bus Services were among the suggestions for additional facilities. Comments on the Hall were complimentary and critical of Jarvis Field. He offered to send details of the comments on the traffic situation for consideration by Councillors at the next meeting. The next stage is to produce a Plan for the future of Stalbridge based on these replies and ideas.

The Chairman thanked Mr DeIongh for the information and for his on-going work on the project.

Check Insurance Values This item was postponed to the next full meeting

Councillors' Reports/Questions

The Chairman reported that he had attended a meeting of the NDDC Cabinet and asked that a working party with representatives of South Somerset be set up to deal with developments on the Henstridge Airfield site to ensure that we had as much influence of the decisions as they did.

J Wardell suggested that we apply to the Lottery Awards for All scheme to help pay for the Health Walks booklet.

P Ashcroft asked that a request for extending the Jarvis Way pavement be placed on the next Agenda.

B Booth had attended a meeting of the School Governors but due to their policy of secrecy was unable to report on their plans.

J Cowley advised that there would soon be a planning application from Mr Squire for the land adjacent Priors Oak to be turned into a Nature Reserve

A discussion regarding additional land at Pond Close to be placed on next Agenda

With regard to the Tough Choices/Local Delivery Programme it was agreed that R Penfold, S Waite & J Wardell would meet with M Cohen of NDDC to check and agree the condition of the Car Park and Toilets and decided what maintenance work should be undertaken before 2008. Also that The Chairman, the Clerk and D Grimes decide the wording of a possible contract for Street and Toilet Cleaning

Standing Order files to be checked and up-dated.

Correspondence

NDDC Offer of RoSPA Play Area Inspections

DAPTC Ch Exec Circular 05/07 incl Courses for New Councillors

N D Scouts AGM Shaftesbury 13th June Invite to attend

Dorset AONB Partnership requesting comments on Management Plan

Notification of dismissal of Planning Appeal in respect of 24 Vale Road

NDDC Proposed re-siting of re-cycling facilities in Car Park. New positions agreed

Stalbridge Hall Cttee letter re. appointment of J Smith as TC Rep. Actually he is not, he only stood in for R Penfold

DCC Notice of closure of Kings Mill Bridge

Copy of minutes of NDDC Cabinet Meeting re. Trailway route

NDDC Re. Community Planning

DAPTC request for nominations of reps. to Area Cttees

P Leivers DCC copy of report to DCC Community Overview Cttee (e-mail not printed)

NDDC S Hill Local Delivery Phase 2 up-date

NDDC re. Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act. Core Strategy. Issues and alternative options consultation. (needs commenting on)

Copy correspondence re. Buses from J Rabbetts

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10 p.m.

**Minutes of Annual Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office
On Wednesday 9th May 2007 commencing 7-55 p.m.**

Present Councillors P Ashcroft, W Batty-Smith, J Cowley, J Cox, R Penfold, J Smith, S Waite and J Wardell, D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance Three members of the public

To receive apologies C Cllr D Fox and D Cllr G Carr-Jones

To elect Chairman and Vice-Chairman

J Cowley proposed and J Wardell seconded that W Batty-Smith be elected Chairman
Carried unanimously

J Cowley proposed and J ~Cox seconded that R Penfold be elected Vice-Chairman.
Carried unanimously

Co-option of Councillors to fill vacancies.

It was proposed by P Ashcroft and seconded by J Cowley that B Booth and D Grimes be co-opted on to the Council. Carried Unanimously

Councillors signed their Declarations of Acceptance of Office

Declarations of Interest

W Batty-smith advised that the criteria in this regard has now be changed and that in future if he is a member of the NDDC Planning Committee he will still be able carry out the normal duties of a Town Councillor and Chairman of the T C at T C Planning Meetings

Minutes of last meeting

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

OPEN FORUM No comments

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by J Cox and seconded by J Cowley that the following expenditure be approved

DAPTC £495.66

N Dorset CAB (2 years) 300.00

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine Salary £494.10
St Mary's Church C.Yard Grant 3,500.00
Allianz & Cornhill 2320.24
DAPTC 495.66
Stalbridge Hall 15.00
Direct Office 34.05
Ray Sharp The Ring/Pound £128.00
NDDC 386.40 514.40
S & A Builders Inspections etc 239.70
N Dorset CAB 300.00

B Gas 72.07) Signed prior to
B Telecom 158.62) meeting

Please note Public Works Loan Board payment made £6,817.05

The Clerk presented the Receipts & Payments Account for the year ending 31st March 2007 together with the comparison of expenditure to budget for the year and details of the allocation of the amounts carried forward to the present year. The Clerk suggested that a training evening for all interested Councillors be held to explain in detail how the figures are calculated. Agreed to be arranged

To elect Planning & G P Committee

The TC Chairman and Vice-Chairman are automatically members of this Committee. The following Cllrs were duly elected to this Committee.

J Cox proposed J Cowley, seconded D Grimes
J Cowley proposed J Cox seconded J Wardell
J Wardell proposed J Cowley seconded W Batty-Smith
P Ashcroft proposed B Booth seconded J Cox

To appoint representatives to various committees

C Office Cttee B Bottomley Chairman, D Grimes, J Smith P Cossington and S Robinson

Footpath Officer It was felt that this position should be divided as follows

Footpaths only – J Wardell
Trailway, cycleways, bridleways and green lanes – N Brown

Tree Officer D Grimes

Councillor Auditors J Cox and J Wardell

Hall Cttee Rep R Penfold

Playing Fields Rep J Smith

Youth Club Rep J Cox

Public Transport Rep J Rabbetts

Stur. Youth Centre Rep R Penfold

School Rep B Booth

Henstridge Airfield C Cttee R Penfold and S Waite

Stalbridge T C Library Support Group T Lee Chairman, D Neal, J Cowley and P Ashcroft

DAPTC Area S Waite, J Wardell and J Cowley

Pedestrian Crossing Up-date

A meeting has been arranged with Mr S Howard of DCC on Thursday 17th May in the TC Office to discuss this and proposals from Mr Howard with regard to pedestrian safety in the High Street.

Jarvis Field Play Area refurbishment

Topsoil has now been put under the swings, but more is required under the multi play system. Turf needs to be laid as well. The fence needs dealing with. It is important that the area is in good condition before the start of the school holidays.

Possible Closure of Library

T Lee reported that there had been two meetings with DCC Officers and Councillors regarding the Libraries but there was nothing new to report. The consultation period is until March 2009. apparently the amount budgeted for books has been reduced and will run out in March 2008. A meeting is to be held in Stalbridge tomorrow (10th) with Mr Leivers and others. Mr Leivers will report to the DCC Cabinet in July. DCC Cllr C Sutton had put forward a motion asking for a total rethink on the Library situation and suggesting that if DCC supplied books and librarians then communities would form support groups, but this was rejected.

Councillors' reports/questions

J Cowley reported that Stalbridge had been represented at the latest DAPTC area meeting

J Cox advised that the Youth Club Wednesday night opening would be recommencing soon

S Waite asked that the way meetings were conducted be put on a future Agenda

J Smith asked that the problem of under-age drinking be put on a future Agenda

P Ashcroft pointed out that the pavement on the lower side of Jarvis Way at the junction with Station Road stopped before it got to the road and is replaced by grass, could this be changed. The footpath from Thornhill Road to Lower Road needs trimming. Can the suggestion of turning off the Street Lights at midnight be pursued and also the provision of cycle parking at Dikes' new shop.

R Penfold advised that the Hall A G M is new week. They will be applying for planning permission for a temporary storage container. The heating boiler needs changing. With regard to NORDCAT buses there are not enough drivers at present.

J Wardell advised that she was shocked by N Brown's comments at the Annual Town Meeting that the Health Walks project had been shelved because she had been unable to obtain funding for the booklet. This is incorrect as she is still pursuing the matter and has obtained a promise of match funding from NDDC. It was agreed that her comments be added to the ATM minutes. She also asked if we had heard anything from the Brownies regarding a grant.

D Grimes asked if there were any items Councillors wish to bring up at the next meeting with the Police

W Batty-Smith advised that there had been complaints regarding graffiti on the Park Gate in Park Grove, but this has now been dealt with.

J Cowley advised that there had been some confusion over the new signs at JFPA. IT was agreed to get these moved. There is also a query over the pathway from Jarvis Way through to the Bridleway/Trailway.

The new District Councillors will be visiting the Community Office during their tour of the District.

Correspondence

DCC Public Path Extinguishment Order FP71

Paul Newman Property Consultant. Re. Creation of Community Land Trust

DCC Re. Highway Works Public Consultation strategy

Portland Town Council. Invitation to Annual Mayor Making Ceremony

NDDC Local Development Scheme for North Dorset Review

Stalbridge Hall Advice of application for temporary planning permission re. storage container adjacent to Hall No objection to this
Stalbridge Hall. Advice that Mr Forshaw has asked for permission to remove his hedge and replace with a fence. No objections to this

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10-00 p.m.

**Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office
On Wednesday 4th April 2007 commencing 8-10 p.m.**

Present Councillors B Booth, J Cowley, J Cox, D Grimes, J O'Hare, D Neal, J Wardell and W Batty-Smith Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance D Cllr G Carr-Jones

To receive apologies C Cllr D Fox, P Ashcroft, R Penfold, D Short.

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting having previously been circulated to Councillors were approved and signed by the Chairman with the addition of J Wardell to members of the Library Committee

OPEN FORUM No comments

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following expenditure be approved

AKH Building Repairs flat £58.02
Youth & Community Project 995.00

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine Salary & Postage (£12.12) £506.22
AKH Building Services 58.02
Southern Electric 92.49
NDDC Rates with rebate 981.44

Stalbridge Land Settlement PF Rent 1,670.00

Ray Sharp (T C £128 NDDC £375) 503.00

Youth & Community Project 995.00

Bus shelter painting

It was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by B Booth that the Scout Group be given a donation of £100 for painting the Bus Shelter on The Ring. All agreed

Library Up-date

Mr T Lee gave a report on the present position regarding the proposed Library Closures emphasising the need to form a "Friendship Group" (see attached) There will be a meeting in the Town Council Office on Thursday 10th May for further discussions.

Councillors Reports/questions

The Clerk advised that she was trying to contact the Agent for the Stalbridge Estate with regard to the extension to the Churchyard

J Cox asked for an up-date on Jarvis Field. The Clerk advised that she was trying to get an additional quote for the mowing and it was agreed that if she was un-successful within 7 days to offer the existing contractor an addition 3% for this year. Proposed by W Batty-Smith and seconded by B Booth. All agreed. The clerk also advised that she was endeavouring to get some topsoil for under the play equipment.

J Cowley asked that a letter be sent to Mrs Smith congratulating her on the condition of The Ring beds and also asking for suggestions as to treatment of/replacement of the rather large yellow conifers in one of the beds. All agreed
Clerk to write

W Batty-Smith reported on the Bridport T C Walkabout visiting Palmers Brewery, a net makers and also West Bay. He had also visited Stalbridge School and was most impressed, he noted that they have a small Library but was assured that the pupils also used the public library and the computers therein. He also confirmed that the proposed additional housing should not cause any problems with pupil numbers.

A query was raised as to how often the County Council cleaned out the storm water drains. The Clerk will endeavour to find out
Clerk to enquire

Correspondence

NDDC Notification of application for Footpath Diversion. FP 4 Pond Close

NDDC acknowledgement of letter re. Pond Walk development from C. Exec

DCC C Exec reply to letter re. Pedestrian Crossing

Henstridge Airfield C Cttee Interim Report

Copy of letter from R Walter MP to Mrs Pike re. Pedestrian Safety

Planning Inspectorate. Notification of dismissal of appeal by Mr J Harris
E Mail from S. Werro requesting a grant to assist with starting up Brownie Pack
DCC Notification that Kings Mill Bridge needs repairing and that the road will be closed for some 8 weeks
SturQuest Notification of Community Lunch in Sturminster 16th May
NDDC Copy of latest Local Development Scheme for N Dorset
West Dorset DC Statement of Community Involvement
E Mail from DAPTC asking if anyone interested in Dorset Health Scrutiny Cttee meeting
5th April

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9-25 p.m.

**Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office
On Wednesday 7th March 2007 commencing 7-45 p.m.**

Present Councillors P Ashcroft, B Booth, J Cox, J Cowley, D Grimes, J O'Hare
R Penfold, J Wardell and W Batty-Smith Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

To receive apologies C Cllr D Fox, D Cllr G Carr-Jones, Cllrs D Neal and D Short

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting having previously been circulated to Councillors were approved and signed by the Chairman with the following alterations

Re. Report on DAPTC meeting. P Ashcroft also attended.

OPEN FORUM

Mr Patch a resident on the High Street complained about the flouting of parking regulations in respect of the yellow line restrictions in the High Street. Some cars are being left all day. He suggested double yellow lines should be installed by The Cross and at the top of Station Road. It was suggested that he write and complain the DCC Highways Division.

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following expenditure be approved

Four County Services Security £105.75
R Sharp Ring/Pound for Snowdrop Service 65.00

Review of cost of grass cutting for Jarvis Field Play Area and also The Ring/Pound. It was agreed that the cost of mowing the Ring/Pound would be increased to £64 which is in line with the 3% increase agreed by NDDC for their mowing. Further quote to be obtained re. Jarvis Field from Julian Shave of Wincanton Clerk to obtain

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Wardell that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine Salary £494.10
Blackmore Vale Internet 54.00
Four County Services 105.75
R Sharp as above, also NDDC mowing 165.00
S & A Builders 478.23
B Telecom 157.55
Wessex Water 333.52

Library up-date

Mr T Lee has agreed to head the campaign against the closure of the Stalbridge Library and he produced a paper on the present situation. W Batty-Smith proposed the setting up of a Library Sub-Committee comprising D Neal, Chairman, J Cowley and T Lee, P Ashcroft seconded the proposal, all agreed. T Lee pointed out that the Big Lottery Fund had sums available for Community Libraries and he proposed asking P Livers of DCC if money had been applied for. The Chairman thanked Mr Lee for his efforts to date.

Proposed new Standing Orders

(a) When confirmed by the whole Council, the General Purpose Committee's recommendations on planning matters shall be minuted and sent to the relevant District Council without alteration. Proposed by J Cowley, seconded by J Cox. Carried on a vote of 6 in favour 2 against

(b) Letters as authorised by the council must be despatched within two calendar weeks, unless an extension has been authorised by the Council. Proposed by P Ashcroft, seconded by D Grimes. Passed 4 in favour, 3 against, 1 abstention.

Property Maintenance

The Clerk reported that there had been a problem with the electricity supply to the Flat in respect of the central heating and that the tenant had been without heating for nearly two weeks. She suggested that it would be a good idea to have the electrical wiring system checked properly. This was agreed. She also suggested a rebate on the rent for

the tenant for the lack of heating. £35 was proposed by J O'Hare and seconded by W Batty-Smith. All agreed.

Councillors' Reports/Questions

D Grimes asked if there could be an additional sign at Waterlake so that traffic approaching from either direction could see the name of the road.

The Stalbridge Close seat is in need of attention.

R Penfold has now been appointed Vice Chairman of the Sturminster Newton Youth Centre Management Cttee

B Booth asked if the agendas could be sent to her, for Stalbridge Weston, by post as her e-mail system has a problem at present

P Ashcroft advised that there is a School Governors' meeting on 21st March. D Grimes will go.

J Cox re. J F P Area. What is the current position. The clerk advised that she understood that the Probation Service workers were returning but had heard nothing lately. However, topsoil is required to fill in under the swings etc. Prices for supply of same to be obtained.

More holes in the road in Copse House Hill and also the new entrance to Keeper's Cottage in Copse House Lane is again causing problems.

Clerk to write

With regard to the unused land adjacent the Grosvenor Road Play Area, it would appear that this does still belong to a Richard Hanson although his whereabouts are totally unknown

A further meeting had been held with S Hill and Hugh DeIongh regarding Phase 2 of the Tough Choices programme. A meeting to be arranged with Mike Coker of NDDC to check condition of Toilets etc., and agree any work that is required before a possible handover of the facilities. It was agreed to leave his until after the elections.

Correspondence

Howard Shreeves & Turnbull. Re. Pond Walk. Statutory Notice and Plans

Copy letter from D Neal to Signpost re. Pond Walk development

S & A Builders. Notification that Notice Board again damaged. What do we want to do It was agreed to ask Mr Gardener to remove this notice board and to enquire if T C Notices can be put on the board in the Solicitor's Office

Clerk to arrange

Details of Post Office Network Consultation and Response Form. Completed

Copy letter from M Cridge to DCC re. alternative road proposals

Invitation to NDDC Civic Reception on 18th April (date of Annual Parish Meeting)

DCC Western Highways. Re. Copse House Hill. Holes now filled. More to be reported.

Clerk to write

Reply from H Powell, P Off. NDDC re. Land off Car Park. Reply to Clerk's e-mail, confirming Conditon re. Road Works will still apply and that road will transfer to DCC
Notification of closure of Durweston Bridge end March

E_mail from H DeIongh requesting permission to pay for co-ordination of replies to questionnaire. Clerk replied in affirmative, will be paid from grant

Julian Shave introductory letter re. Grass Cutting (see above)

Dorset Rangers details of Trailway Supporters

CPRE details Seminar 8th May

Blandford T C invitation to Charity Hoedown

NDDC details of Stakeholder Consultation on Parish Planning

Details of Bridport TC Walkabout (Chairman and J Cowley)

DAPTC re. Royal Garden Party

NDDC Review of Local Development Scheme

Wimborne TC Invitation to Civic Service

N D Scout invitation to Presentation Evening

DCC Rights of Way Improvement Plan

With regard to the TC request for a Pedestrian Crossing, the Chairman suggested a further letter be sent to The Ch. Exec and also the Leader of DCC pointing out the it is up to the Town Council to decide whether or not the matter is closed, not employees of DCC
Clerk to write

There being no further business the meeting closed at 10 p.m.

Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office On Wednesday 7th February 2007 commencing 8-05 p.m.

Present Councillors P Ashcroft, W Batty-Smith, B Booth J Cowley, J Cox, D Grimes, J O'Hare, R Penfold, J Wardell and D Neal Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance C Cllr F Fox and D Cllr G Carr-Jones

Elect Chairman

D Neal having resigned as Chairman it was proposed by J Cowley and seconded by J Cox that W Batty-Smith be elected as Chairman. All Agreed.

To receive apologies D Short

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

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

Arising As it would appear that no action had been taken regarding the holes in the road at Copse House Hill it was agreed to send a letter to DCC Highways East Dorset.

Clerk to write

OPEN FORUM No comments

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following expenditure be approved

N Smith The Ring £62.50

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by J Cox that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine Salary £494.10

Travel 12.60

Post 29.20

Tree stake 3.10 £539.00

I Davies JFPA Hedge 250.00

Purely Print Town Plan 848.90

Williams Nursery Christmas Tree 5.00

B Gas 68.39

Direct Office 22.90

N Smith 62.50

Street Cleansing

The Clerk reported that NDDC have promised to let us have details of cost of employing a Street Cleaner for 2008 and details of the frequency which different areas have to be cleaned. Discussions have also taken place with a view to contracting out such work to include cleaning and opening and closing the toilets. However, further details required before we can produce a specification of precisely what Stalbridge will need. As one of the problems would appear to be litter generated by the public having visited a shop/takeaway and then just throwing down the food packaging it was suggested that a letter go to the proprietors asking for a Notice to be put up requesting customers to use litter bins. A suitable notice to be produced.

It was also suggested that we ask how often the mechanical road sweeper should operate.

Clerk to ascertain

(Cerk's note: Controlled by NDDC. Zone 2 approximately 4 weekly cycle, Zone 3 8 weekly. Production of a map showing these zones is in hand at present moment)

Proposed new Standing Orders

It was proposed by J Cowley and seconded by J Cox that the following be made additional Standing Orders.

(a) When confirmed by the whole Council, the General Purpose Committee's recommendations on planning matters shall be minuted and sent to the relevant District Council without alteration

(b) Letters as authorised by the Council must be despatched within seven days, maximum, unless an extension has been authorised by the Chairman

This matter now stands adjourned without discussion until the next meeting

Progress report on Library

A meeting was held at Crossways with 12 of the affected Libraries represented. It was agreed that all 34 Dorset Libraries should be involved in the cost cutting exercise and that the fight for the 13 must go on. Meeting on 22nd Feb. at County Hall will be attended. Meeting in Stalbridge Office on 28th March with P Livers and two C Cllrs.

Proposed letter to MP

J Cowley read a letter he has sent to our M P regarding the Library and other problems being experienced in Stalbridge e.g. Tough choices programme. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to him on behalf of the TC and that the letter would be placed in the Notice Board with a request to residents to also write in a similar vein.

Clerk to write

Councillors' Reports/Questions

D Grimes. Complaints still being received re. parked vehicles at junction of A357 and Waterlake. Police to be advised.

R Penfold. Unable to attend Hall Meeting on 13th Feb. D Neal will attend.

D Neal A complaint received that the Snowdrop Walk Stone is dirty. Suggested that someone cleans it if so required.

J Cowley. Attended DAPTC Area meeting re. Proposed Gov. White Paper and Pathfinder Bid but still not entirely clear on what is proposed.

D Fox advised that Bus Timetable Books are very scarce at the moment.

J Cowley reported that he had received a Housing Survey form to complete, apparently so had many others.

J Cowley asked whether a Councillors internal audit has been carried out. J Cox said it had not yet been done.

The Clerk reported that two 15ft Elm Trees were received from NDDC and planted by N Brown in the nature reserve area where the old sewage works were originally. Thanks due to Mr Brown.

Correspondence

Local Council Review

DCC Modification to Definitive Map re. FP 71

Probation Service. Notification that a work group will be sent on 14th Feb, but details will be confirmed

Colehill Parish Council. Re. Library Closures. Setting up an Action Group

DCC Youth & Comm. Service. Notification of Management Cttee meeting Sturminster Newton Area. Monday 12th Feb.

Copy of letter from Mr N Brown to NDDC Dev. Control re. Dike's Development and cycle path

NDDC Confirming Local Delivery Phase 2 meeting Monday 26th Feb. 2-30 Stalbridge

Copy of NDDC letter to Ramblers Assoc. (J Wardell) re. FP 49

E-mail from DCC Confirming meeting with P Livers Wed. 28th March 7-30 Stalbridge

J Foster-Pegg re. Library Closure

DCC P Livers re. Library Closures replying to ours of 6th December. Further letter/e-mail saying not happy that our queries have been dealt with.

Clerk to write

DAPTC e-mail re. Scheme of Publication approval extended to end of 2008

DAPTC e-mail re. Post Office Consultation

Sturquest e-mail re. S N Leisure Centre meeting 12th Feb.

DCC S Howard, Traffic Management. Details of criterion re pedestrian crossing (2 letters)

P Hyde NDDC e-mail re alteration to council Tax leaflet

P Hyde NDDC Requesting article for Open Line

NDDC Timetable for Local Elections

NDDC Draft Employment Land review

DCC User Guide for S I D

Sturminster Newton TC Invitation to meeting 27th Feb. 10 a.m. to informally discuss provision of NDDC Local Services during 2008/9

NORDCAT request for funding

Copy of letter from Mr Kinnibrugh to Dev. Control re. Old Rectory

Cancer Care e-mail inviting members to Snowdrop Service on 25th Feb

DCC Highways Advising of road closure A357 Feb. 11th

Copy letter from Ramblers Assoc. to NDDC re. FP49

NDDC notification of appeal by Mr & Mrs Moore re. refusal of p.p. 24 Vale Road

Copy letter from Ramblers Assoc to DCC re. FPs 49, 54 & 55

DCC re. Developing R of W Improvements Plan
Invite to Annual Review of Guiding 17th March Poole
NDDC re. Noise Nuisance Investigation Procedures
NDDC Support for Community Partnerships
DAPTC Ch. Exec. Circular 01/07
Wilber tSmith NDDc re. Sustainable Community Strategy

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9-20 p.m.

**Minutes of Town Council Meeting held in the Town Council Office
On Wednesday 10th January 2007 commencing 8-00 p.m.**

Present Councillors P Ashcroft, W Batty-Smith, B Booth, J Cowley, D Grimes,
J O'Hare R Penfold, J Wardell, and D Neal Chairman, D J Hine (Clerk)

In attendance D Cllr G Carr-Jones

To receive apologies C Cllr D Fox, Cllrs J Cox and D Short

Declarations of Interest None

Minutes of last meeting

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

Matters arising

The letters to Corfe Mullen and Colehill Councils re. Library Closures have not yet been written but will be in the next few days.

The matter of vehicles parking close to the Waterlake/A357 junction should be reported to the Police

The badly damaged bollard by the Post Office will be reported to Highways at Blandford.

The holes in the road at Copse House Hill have been reported.

(Clerk's note – I have now established that the road surface of Copse House Lane as far as the crossroads with Landshire Lane is the responsibility of DCC Highways East at Blandford. The road from there on down the hill to the A30 is the responsibility of DCC Highways West at Dorchester, even though a short stretch is in Somerset. I also confirmed that the correct and the most efficient procedure for reporting road surface damage is to ring DCC Clarence with full details and the message is then passed

electronically to the appropriate area)

OPEN FORUM No comments

Proposed Expenditure

In accordance with S O No. 40 it was proposed by W Batty-Smith and seconded by P Ashcroft that the following expenditure be approved

Shoptek JFPA Goal post £287.88
Stalbridge Joinery See-Saw repair 235.00
Scouts from Town Plan budget 200.00
BMV Pubs ditto 26.64
Soc LCC Working with your council update 19.50

Sign Cheques

In accordance with S O No.40 it was proposed by D Grimes and seconded by W Batty-Smith that the following cheques be signed

D J Hine Salary £494.10
Shoptek 287.88
Direct Office 22.09
BT 158.62
Stalbridge Joinery 235.00
Stalbridge Scouts 200.00
B M V Pubs 26.64
Southern electric 38.97
Soc. LCC 19.50
Youth Club Grant 500.00
Playing fields Play Area Mowing 250.00
Community Office Grant 250.00

Make Precept

Whilst discussing the proposals it was agreed to ask the Hall Cttee to ensure that the TC get a copy of their balance sheet and also to request a copy of the account in respect of the latest Hall Extension. With regard to the amount put aside for Section 137/Charity expenditure it was proposed by B Booth and seconded by J O'Hare to grant N Dorset CAB £100 for this year only but to give no grant to Sherborne CAB. All agreed. Also it was proposed by W Batty-Smith and seconded by J Cowley to grant £200 to the Air Ambulance. All agreed. It was proposed by W Batty-Smith and seconded by D Grimes to make a precept of £58,000 on the NDDC. All agreed.

Consider offer by NDDC of replacement land at Pond Close

After some discussion it was agreed to write to NDDC agreeing to release the land required by Signpost for the proposed additional dwellings on Pond Close but to delay any decision as to whether or not replacement land for recreation in the area is required until the results of the Town Plan questionnaire are to hand.

Councillors' Reports/Questions

D Grimes reported various holes in the road surface of Thornhill Road. Contact Clarence

J Wardell reported pavement sinking in various parts of Thornhill Road where vehicles cross. Contact Clarence in first instance

G Carr-Jones asked that Street Cleansing be put on the next Agenda as he had comments to make on this subject

W Batty-Smith commented on the letter from DCC re. refusal of Pedestrian Crossing. He proposed that a letter be sent to Miles Butler expressing disgust at the decision and requesting details of criteria used and when the statistics regarding traffic were obtained. The letter should also emphasise that finance is available and in addition more houses are proposed off Barrow Hill and that it is not a new request correspondence regarding a pedestrian crossing dates back to the 1992. All agreed.
Clerk to write

J Cowley/J Wardell reported that the surface of the path down to the Sewage Pumping Station is in poor repair especially by the gate.
Advise DCC

D Neal and P Ashcroft will attend the N Area DAPTC meeting.

Correspondence

NDDC Would we like an Elm Tree to plant. Yes, contact N Brown re location
Clerk to action

DCC two letters re. Review of Library Services including a paper "Agenda for change"
Suggest a meeting on a Wednesday evening in Stalbridge. Also request reply to our letter of 5th Dec.

Clerk to contact

Floodwatch warning re. possible flooding in the area together with Calendar and Newsletter

DAPTC Minutes of AGM

J Rabbetts Copy of letter to First Bus for info.

DCC re. Request for Pedestrian Crossing. List of requests. See comments above
Ramblers Assoc. Copy of letter to NDDC re. development at Poolestown and FP 40
NDDC Report on Financial Assessment of NDDC

Isle of Wight Council re. Power to the Parishes

DAPTC Details of Training Courses and C Exec Circular

Blandford TC details of Charity Event

NDDC Notice of diversion of FP49

Minutes of DAPTC Northern Area meeting and Agenda for meeting 18.01.07

Local Council review

Sth. Som notification of withdrawal of PA 03271 Increase number of resident aircraft to 74

DAPTC Agenda for Northern Area meeting 18th January

Copy of letter from NDDC to Ramblers Assoc advising that PA 1333 will not affect the neighbouring footpath 40

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

R Penfold asked if there was anywhere in Stalbridge a small meeting could be held now that the Methodist Hall is closed. P Field Pavilion may be available.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9-40 p.m.