

# STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No 42 07/2021

## CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL YEAR 2020/21 & LOOKING FORWARD



Due to the covid 19 pandemic restrictions between 16 March 2020 and 6<sup>th</sup> May 2021 The Council reverted to core services and met via video conference. I express sincere thanks staff and members who kept good humour as we struggled with equipment and internet issues to continue meeting. We even had some public participation via phone link, thankyou to those who took to trouble to engage with us during that time.

Moving forward due to the changes to the roadmap out of lock down it is hoped that meetings after the 19<sup>th</sup> July will be at the Stalbridge Hall, as a larger venue which can facilitate social distancing for the time being.

In May 2021 I was re-elected as Chairman and look forward to moving forward with the Council to a new normal and continuing to serve the smallest town and its residents to our best.

### REFURBISHED PUMP ON CHURCH HILL

As part of our ongoing maintance programme and street scene enhancement the water pump on Church Hill has had a face lift and is looking good as new. Underneath the layers of old paint we found a lion crest and a makers number which tells us it was made by Joseph Evans & Sons (Wolverhampton) Limited. This pump and its' predesessors would have served the residents of Church Hill until mains water was brought to the Town in the 1930s.



### CO-OPTION OF A NEW MEMBER

We have a casual vacancy and will be looking to co-opt a new member in the near future . If you would like to know more about the role of a Town Councillor and what the Council does or you would like to be considered for co-option please contact the Clerk.

### DORSET COUNCIL HOUSING REGISTER RE-REGISTRATION

After 26<sup>th</sup> July 2021 if you are currently on the Dorset Council housing register you will need to re-apply on a new website to create an account and re-register.

<https://www.dorsetcouncilhomechoice.org.uk/>

Re-registration applications need to be completed by 1 October 2021.

For more information visit <https://www.dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/housing/housing/re-registration-process> or call the housing team on 01305 221739.

Clerk: T Watson

TheHub@Stalbridge, Station Rd, Stalbridge, Sturminster Newton, Dorset, DT10 2RG.

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## PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

This past eighteen months has seen a tremendous increase in the use of public rights of way everywhere, and it has been the only form of welcome escape for many people. For new and seasoned walkers and riders alike, now would seem an opportune moment to send a polite reminder to everyone, to keep to the legal paths, when out enjoying the countryside.

These are shown on Ordnance Survey (OS) Explorer maps, and on Dorset Council's '[Dorset Explorer](#)', and are waymarked on the ground with yellow arrows (footpaths) and blue arrows (bridleways).

The public have the right to use public rights of way 'without let or hindrance' but please observe "The Countryside Code" the latest version of which has just been published, and can be found [here](#). We live in a rural part of Dorset, and are surrounded by farms, therefore we need to be alert to the needs of the farmers, and stay on marked footpaths, to protect crops, livestock and wildlife. Please do not deviate from the path (unless it is blocked), leave gates as you find them, and keep your dog under effective control to make sure it stays away from wildlife, livestock, horses and other people (unless invited).

If you have any questions, or would like more information, such as how to report problems on rights of way, please contact me – details below.

Jan Wardell, Rights of Way Liaison Officer, Stalbridge, 01963 362162  
[janw934@gmail.com](mailto:janw934@gmail.com)

**HAVE YOUR SAY** Members of the public are very welcome at Town Council meetings to speak during open forum. **For the time being we are asking those wishing to attend to register in advance with the Clerk.**

## MEETING DATES SPRING/SUMMER 2020/21

Planning meetings are only held if the Town council have consulted on applications and start at 7pm followed by the Full Council meeting.

Planning Meetings  
Temporarily postponed  
Minor planning delegated to the  
planning & opens spaces advisory  
group

Town Council Meetings & Planning meetings  
Wednesday  
July 21<sup>st</sup>  
August 18<sup>th</sup>  
September 22<sup>nd</sup>

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