

STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Issue No 19. 06/2016



The Annual Town Meeting was held at the Hub@Stalbridge on 18th May. Thirty people were in attendance and reports were received from local groups and organisations on their activities throughout the past year. The community web site Stalbridge.info. goes from strength to strength and the overall message received from all the reports is that the last year has been one of progression and achievement which helps to make Stalbridge a great place to live.

THE STALBRIDGE ARCHIVE

Fifteen months ago a small group of enthusiastic people got together to form a Stalbridge Archive to preserve photographs, historical documents and artefacts. The Town Council very kindly let the group have some space in the Hub which meant that the collection could be stored in a safe and secure environment. Over the last few months the group which has increased to eight members and meets each week to catalogue the ever growing collection. They have been very fortunate to have had the advice and practical help of Elizabeth Ralph who is a professional conservator. The eventual aim of the group is to have displays in the Hub and to offer Stalbridge residents the opportunity to access historical information.



One example of what the group has been given is a newspaper cutting dated 1913 which reports on Stalbridge 200 years ago. There was a market on Tuesdays and fairs on 6th May and 4th September, there were 134 houses and a population of 899 (over six people per house!). The population of Stalbridge today is 2719.

When you are turning out drawers and cupboards in the future and you come across historical documents or photographs, the group would be pleased to accept items either as gifts or on long term loan, or even have the opportunity to photocopy them. The group are also interested in items from the recent past.



TOWN COUNCIL CHAIRMAN'S SUMMARY OF THE COUNCIL YEAR 2015/16

The past year has seen a great deal of activity from some members of council. This year we have been consulted on over 50 Planning Applications. Council has also made contributions to the important District Wide Plan which was approved by the inspector in January 2016. Our current community project is the enhancement of the Playing Fields Area and Sports Pavilion. This is an enormous undertaking and expectations of what the Town Council can provide will need to be managed. A further

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consultation with the young people of Stalbridge is underway. The Hub is now fulfilling the objective of its creation as a multi-purpose community centre for the town. During the year 15/16 it has been used for 435 hours by local groups, organisations and support agencies.

The Library Management Group have now been running the community library for just over 3 years. The group are to be congratulated for the excellent service they continue to offer and for maintaining the volunteer numbers it takes to facilitate this. The Town Council is please to support the Stalbridge community web site Stalbridge.info. This site continues to be supported by some Information Office members with Special thanks to John Fieldhouse who is so good at the designer bits.

FINANCE The Council has set its precept of £96,000, resulting in an increase in charge per month of 77p per month on a band D property. This represents the Town Council's part of the overall Council tax bill.

USE OF TOWN BINS FOR DOMESTIC REFUSE

Advice has been taken for the Dorset Waste Partnership on the issue of public waste bins being used for domestic refuse in Stalbridge. It is against the Law to use public litter bins for domestic waste. If you are in doubt about the collection dates for your area they are available on The Dorset For You Web site <https://www.dorsetforyou.com/recycling-and-rubbish-collections> and at the Hub.



Don't forget to take a look at the Stalbridge Community Web site for everything that's going on in Stalbridge www.stalbridge.info.

MEETING DATES SUMMER / AUTUMN 2016

All meetings are at The Hub and are open to public & press. Meetings start at 7pm, when the Town Council and planning meetings are on the same night the planning meeting starts at 7pm followed by the Full Council meeting.

Planning Meetings
Wednesday
July 8th & 22nd
August 5th & 19th
September 9th & 23rd

Town Council Meetings & Planning meetings
Wednesday
July 8th
August 5th
September 9th

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