

STALBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Clerk: T Watson
TheHub@Stalbridge,
Station Road, Stalbridge, Sturminster Newton, Dorset, DT10 2RG.
Tel 01963 364276.
Email: clerk@stalbridgetowncouncil.gov.uk

Approved minutes of The Town Council Meeting held at the above address on Wednesday 11th December 2019.

Present Councillors K Garland (Chair), D Andrews, M Dimmer, H Hatcher, R Lovell, B Newton, B Penfold, M Robinson, R Roden & S Waite.

T Watson (Clerk)

In attendance

There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

G Carr-Jones (Dorset Cllr) was present

Welcome to members of the public and introductions.

Community open forum.

Comments were received in relation to the recent Gladman planning consultation on the south of Station Rd and it was suggested the Town Council engage with Dorset Council planners.

Thanks were extended to the Council and the clerk on the recent changes to the foyer area and congratulation to the Archive society for an excellent display

It was advised that Stalbridge Community Volunteer Car Scheme is now 1 year old, is financially solvent and seeking additional volunteer drivers to continue the service.

The meeting commenced at 7.07 pm

1. To receive apologies.

Apologies were received from J Convoy.

2. Declarations of interest.

K Garland: Pecuniary item 17a.payment to IK services.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting - held on 23rd October & 6th November 2019

RESOLVED: The minutes of the meetings having previously been circulated to Councillors were approved including proposed amendments and signed by the Chairman.

4. To receive the Dorset Councillors report.

It was noted that the December supplementary bulletin had been received. G Carr-Jones advised that the reserved matters on the Thornhill application would probably come out for consultation in the new-year and that an appeal had been lodged regarding the Wood Lane application for single dwelling. He had conversed with members of the DC planning team regarding the Gladman proposal on land to the South of Station Rd. He gave an update on his recent local activity and encouraged members and residents to give feedback to the consultation on the Dorset Plan.

5. To receive Town Councillors reports.

P Benfold – Had attended the Henstridge Airfield Consultative Committee.

B Lovell – Has been trying over the last few months to improve the area to the rear of the Stalbridge Hall with a boules / croquet area, with little support. He did not see why he should provide information requested by the Clerk, on a project that the Hall Management Committee were doing to improve the area at the rear of the hall for weddings or the subsequent pocket parks funding application, in order to obtain the Town Councils support as the land owner and for them to agree to be the financial accountable body. He felt that this was a lost opportunity as the deadline for the application is 31.12.19

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The Clerk advised that the Chairman and Secretary of the Hall Management Committee had confirmed that the Hall Management Committee had not made a formal decision to improve the area at the rear of the hall for weddings or apply for the pocket parks funding.

The Chairman offered the opportunity of an extraordinary meeting should the documents be provided. (Copy of the funding application, relevant Hall Management Committee minutes and confirmation of the source of the 30% match funding required.)

6. To Approve the December 2019 edition of the quarterly Town Council newsletter.

RESOLVED: Approved with the addition of the Christmas Town council office hours and a typo correction.

7. To respond to the consultation on the Dorset council plan 2020-24

AGREED: To respond that members feel that climate change needs to be one of headings or encompass the whole plan and that on implementation of the plan there needs to be a recognition of the diversity of the communities that The Council serves.

8. To award the contract for the fencing adjacent to the MF track at Jarvis field Play Area.
K Garland

Four quotations had been received. The durability of wooden post and three rail versus metal posts and chain link fencing was considered.

RESOLVED: To award the contract for the fencing adjacent to the MF track at Jarvis field Play Area to Fencewise based on 3 rail post and rail fencing works to be completed no later than 2 months from the 1st February.

9. To receive the results of the Station Rd traffic survey in relation to the possible provision of a SID and give further instruction.
R Roden

Consideration was given to the results of the traffic survey which was carried out in October 2019 close to the 30mph limit sign in Station Road. Based on the traffic survey for the Barrow Hill development there appeared to be more speeding on Station Rd than the south end of the A357. It was noted that if a new site for the SID is agreed it will reduce the time the SID will be on sited on the A357 and that the costs at: Pole £250.00 & solar panel £140 including installation.

RESOLVED: It was proposed an agreed to add a SID site on the south side of station Rd on the approach to the town and have a new pole installed and purchase a solar panel.

10. That the Town Council agree in principle but without obligation, to investigation of the possibility of a Town Festival which features Robert Boyle and Sir James Thornhill former eminent residents.
M Robinson

A paper from M Robinson had been circulated to members prior to the meeting. He felt that a festival would bring the community together and had the potential to bring business to the town and put Stalbridge on the map. In broad terms members were in favour and appreciated that the history of Stalbridge has proved to be of interest. Several members offered to help.

RESOLVED: In principal but without obligation, to investigate of the possibility of a Town Festival which features Robert Boyle and Sir James Thornhill former eminent residents.

11. For the Town Council to install 'signage' on the A357 at Northern and Southern ends of Stalbridge to welcome people and inform them that Robert Boyle and Sir James Thornhill once lived here subject to approval of costs
M Robinson

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In general members were in favour of the principal of white gates but required more detail in terms highways input, design and costing

DEFERRED: To the January meeting

12. To receive a reply from the Congregational Church in relation to the viability of a Bus Shelter on Station Rd and give further instruction. R Lovell

The comments of members of the Congregational Church were noted with thanks. Members agreed with concerns that the church frontage and notice board would be blocked and the structure may cause difficulties in maintaining the wall

RESOLVED: Proposed and agreed that the proposed site on Station Rd was not suitable for a bus shelter.

13. To approve the request from the Allotment Society for permission to extend the current water mains at the allotments to the top of the site. D Andrews

It was noted that Wessex Water were happy with the proposed works.

RESOLVED: To approve the request from the Allotment society for permission to extend the current water mains at the allotments to the top of the site. On the condition that there is no cost to the Council for the works and the Allotment Society continue to fund any water bills on the site.

14. To receive a recommendation from the buildings and assets committee regarding the future used of the entrance lobby and give further instruction R Lovell

The recommendation of the committee was that the reception area be used by the History and Archive Societies as a mini exhibition area with the option of seating etc. at a later date. It was noted that the displays may include cabinets with items such as Stalbridge House dig finds could be displayed, a rolling visual display on the TV as well as large posters.

RESOLVED: That the reception area be used by the History and Archive Societies as a mini exhibition area with the option of seating etc. at a later date. Subject to the Town Councils future uses of the area.

15. To resolve the closure of Public WCs on Christmas, Boxing day & New Years day.

RESOLVED: That the Public WCs will be closed on Christmas, Boxing day & New Years day.

16. Correspondence: as detailed in annex 1a.

06/11/19	Dorset Council	Invitation to peer review of Dorset Council's planning service	S Waite & M Robinson to attend
13/11/19	Stalbridge Hall MC	Letter of thanks for grant	Noted
22/11/19	DAPTC	Information from South Western Railways with regard to the forthcoming industrial action	Noted
27/11/19	J Ashford	E mail ref openingdoorsdorset.co.uk	Noted
29/11/19	S Shaw	Request to support the Local Electricity Bill.	Agreed to put this to DAPTC to see if it appropriate for the Council to get involved.
04/12/19	Dorset Council	Dorset Parish Independent Remuneration Panel report on allowances for parish and town councillors	Noted

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06/12/19	Gladman Dev. Ltd	Public consultation proposed development south of Station Rd, Stalbridge	Noted
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17. Finance.

a) To approve the accounts as presented in annex 1b. For payment.

Bankline	bank charges October	£29.45
British Gas	Electricity public WC's 01-31.10.19	£23.33
IK Services	Street Cleaning - November	£2,616.67
North Dorset Electrical services	supply & install replacement ground light and replace 2 lamps of Cross lights	£910.80
K Brown	Plants for the cross planters	£15.99
Dorset Council	Refund on overpayment for grass cutting	£312.00
Dorset council	car park rates 10 of 10	£462.00
Dorset Council	Hub rates 10 of 10	£737.00
Playingfield management Cttee	Grant 19.20 agreed TCM 23.01.19	£1,500.00
Prodigy IT Solutions	SIL29017 Sil Support Package -December	£216.00
Prodigy IT Solutions	PIT29057 Support Pack - VoIP December	£111.98
J Fieldhouse	Web authoring stalbridge.info 23.09-20.10.19	£288.00
Bankline	November	£24.05
Custom Fire & Security	Replacement of bulkhead outside Tim Stone Room	£82.20
P Garraway	Salary Nov & Dec	
T Watson	Salary December	
HMRC	Tax & Ni -December	£382.40
Dorset County Pension Fund	Emp & Empl contribution - December	£483.53
RM Mogridge	remove bus shelter A357	£768.00
Tesco Mobile	mobile phone charges October	£11.50

RESOLVED: Proposed by D Andrews, seconded M Robinson and agreed to approve the payments as presented.

(K Garland abstained from the vote in relation to the payment to IK Services)

The Clerk requested a transfer from the deposit to the instant access account to cover day to day running costs of £20,000.00

RESOLVED: To transfer £10,000.00 from the deposit to the instant access account

18. Clerks report on matters arising.

Tree works - Works order has been placed 3-6 month which do not require DC permission.
 Christmas Town Council office closure – 24th December -1st January
 In communication with English heritage to get support for works on the trees that overhang The Cross.

19. Date of the Next meeting - The next Town Council meeting will be held on Wednesday 8th January 2020. All items for inclusion on the agenda must be received by the Clerk by 9.00am on Monday 23rd December 2019.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8.50pm

Date: 8 January 2020

Signed:

Chairman