



Stalbridge Town Council Meetings

Town Council Meeting Minutes

Draft minutes of a meeting of the Town Council Meeting held on Wednesday 17th April 2024. (Held at The Hub Commencing at 7 p.m.)

Councillors present at the meeting:

K Garland (Chair), D Andrews, P Hancock, H Hatcher, B Penfold, N Penny, M Robinson & N Wardle.

Clerk for the meeting:

T Watson

G Carr-Jones (Dorset Councillor) was present

J Wardell (ROWLO / TC Auditor) was present

There was 1 member of the public present.

Open forum.

D Haines raised the topic of dropped curbs along Jarvis Way. Referred to DC Highways

Dorset Councillors Report – G Carr-Jones passed on concerns regarding parking on single yellow line lines in Station Rd on Thursday and Saturday mornings and gave an update on the Blandford application.

The Chairman and members and staff expressed thanks to G Carr-Jones for all his efforts and long standing service to The county and Stalbridge.

1. To receive apologies.

None.

2. To receive declarations of interest and requests for dispensations (Please notify the Town Clerk prior to the meeting)

K Garland Item 13a. pecuniary in relation to the payment to IK Services.

3. To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 20th March 2024

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

4. Planning

a. To consider the following planning applications.

P/OUT/2024/01657 Erection of 2no. dwellings (outline application with all matters reserved). Land South of Lower Road Stalbridge DT10 2PQ

G Carr-Jones advised the members of the site history.

J Wardell (ROWLO) expressed concern that consideration had not been given to the access to the site being over a public / pedestrian right of way N51/39.

Concerns of neighbouring residents at Bibbern Row were noted in terms of the adequacy of parking and the potential of additional parked cars obstructing the access to Bibbern Row and the visibility into Lower Rd.

RESOLVED: To strongly object to the application on the following grounds:

- **The site entrance over the public right of way N51/39 causes a potential conflict between vehicles and pedestrians, mobility aid users, families with push-chairs, etc.- those for whom the crossing point on Lower Road in the direction of the School was recently provided.**
- **This potential detriment to safety of pedestrian users is inappropriate at a time when non-motorised travel is being advocated for public access routes into and around the town.**
- **The proposal of two four bedroomed dwellings is overdevelopment of the site.**
- **The size of the site is not adequate to accommodate parking for the potential number of vehicles associated with two four bedroomed dwellings. This has a potential detriment to the access to Bibbern Row and safety of vehicles accessing Lower Rd.**

b. Recent planning decisions of Dorset Council.

P/LBC/2023/07386 Carry out internal alterations Antioch House Eastop Lane Stalbridge
Weston Dorset DT10 2SF. Granted 24.03.24

P/HOU/2024/01187 Erect replacement detached garage/outbuilding with ancillary accommodation above (gym,office,storage and solar panels) and erect an altered side extension:). Halletts Farm Bungalow Kings Mill Lane Stalbridge DT10 2SN. Granted 09.04.24

c. Report on responses to planning consultations.

None.

d. Appeals and matters of report from previous applications.

None.

e. Members planning matters of report.

None.

5. To receive the Rights Of Way liaison Officers report.

Footpath N51/52 blocked reported to DC Rangers – Planning application P/FUL/2021/03744. Land to North of Waterloo Lane, Stourton Caundle (In Stalbridge parish) ‘Informative Notes’ attached to the granting of permission states: ‘Throughout the duration of the development the full width of the public footpath must remain open and available to the public, with no materials or vehicles stored on the route or, if the public are unlikely to be able to exercise their public rights on the above path, then a Temporary Path Closure Order must be obtained’.

Footpath 91 large hole has appeared - Gradually increasing in size over the past few weeks. As of Tuesday 16th, the Rangers have taped it off as best as they can, and the Senior Ranger will contact the landowner about repair.

Footpath 10 damaged footbridge - Has now had signs placed on the footpaths leading to the bridge, as well as on the bridge itself. The bridge has now also been boarded off to stop potential accidents from people still trying to cross it. (This not yet confirmed with site visit)

Footpath 39 access from the David Wilson homes development - Tarmac only to the boundary which means that users will then have to negotiate a muddy footpath, before reaching the tarmac at Bibberne Row. If this is to be promoted as a route to access the facilities of the town, discussions are needed at an early stage to avoid the type of situation encountered with the access to/from the Thornhill site. (Although on this occasion the levels should not be an issue)

Several problems on footpath 49 - almost impenetrable between the road and the deer gate

6. Town Clerks report & Correspondence: As detailed in annex 1a.

Clerks Report: Leylandii trees at Hunts boundary onto Jarvis Way - Fallen branches have been cleared and Hunts have promised to reduce the height.

Correspondence: Plants for the verge on the A357 north – suggested Garden Club become involved.

7. Future Town Vision Project: To receive members portfolio reports.

Commerce.

No report.

Community Services.

K Garland

Introduced the group 'Stalbridge Connect' and their objectives.

Advised on the high number of attendances at the Youth Club and potential actions that may be required to include, urgent recruitment of additional volunteers and potentially additional youth leader recruitment and the financial implications. G Carr-Jones suggested an application to the Dorset Council Youth Fund.

Environment.

No report.

Estates.

Hub extension - Building control application made. Start date 29th April. Market cross cap installation – progressed and consider a working party for wood treatment.

Town Promotion, Heritage & Culture.

No report

8. Future Town Vision Project: To receive members portfolio proposals.

a. To approve the amended Terms of reference for FTV portfolio work. (Proposer P Hancock)

P Hancock introduced the draft document and advised that in the short term it may be necessary to make some amendments and consider priorities in the portfolio headings and allocation due to the low number of members starting the new term after the 2nd May.

RESOLVED: Amended Terms of reference for FTV portfolio work approved.

- b. That the Town Council supports the ‘Welcome to Stalbridge’ Freshers Fair Event, by sharing information and funding the hire of the Stalbridge Hall - £160.00 (date 28th Sept 2024). (Proposer K Garland - Community Services)**

K Garland explained the motive of the event in welcoming people to the town and promoting local groups and organisations.

P Hancock suggested an urgent finance meeting required to ensure budget 24/25 is adequate.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council supports the ‘Welcome to Stalbridge’ Freshers Fair Event, by sharing information and funding the hire of the Stalbridge Hall - £160.00 (date 28th Sept 2024).

- c. That the Town Council launch a campaign to attract volunteers for a community speedwatch initiative. (Proposer K Garland - Community Services)**

K Garland advised that having received correspondence regarding speeding in the town during a conversation with PC Ed Lewis a suggestion was made of setting up a Community speed watch in the Town. The project could be initiated by gauging if the community is interested in volunteering for the Community speed watch scheme at a small cost.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council launch a campaign to attract volunteers for a community speedwatch initiative.

- 9. To approve the April 2024 edition of the TC quarterly newsletter**

RESOLVED: April 2024 edition of the TC quarterly newsletter with typo corrections.

- 10. To receive a request from the LMG to add a new volunteer access door to the front on the library area and associated works and give further instruction.**

H Hatcher to have Town Council input to design.

RESOLVED: To support the LMGs project and section 106 application to fund adding a new volunteer access door to the front on the library area and associated works. H Hatcher as Estates portfolio holder to have input to design.

- 11. To Receive a draft list of meeting dates for 24/25**

NOTED

- 12. To carry out the annual review of:**

- a. The lone working policy**
- b. Risk assessment for the Hub building.**
- c. Hub terms of letting**

ALL DEFERRED

- 13. Finance.**

- a. To receive a list of payments & Receipts**

IK Services	Bin Hire		£32.50
Newton Forge	2nd payment cross post tops	£1,739.40	

P Channon	Salary March	£175.88	
HMRC	Tax March ADD	£43.80	
Dorset Council	Enhanced ROW SLA 24.25	£404.46	
Water2 business	Water allotments 13/09/23-14/03/24	£43.18	
Dorset Council	Hub rates 2 of 10	£848.00	
Dorset Council	Car park rates 2 of 10	£542.00	
R Sharp	Grass cutting STC 7 DC last of 23.24 contract	£1,138.00	
DAPTC	Annual subs 24/25	£924.22	
DAPTC	P Channon NC training	£50.00	
South West councils	Membership 24.25	£598.80	
Four counties Services Ltd	IT April	£213.18	
Four counties Services Ltd	VOIP April	£108.00	
British Gas Lite	Hub elec 05.02-08.04.24	£15.34	
British Gas	Gas hub 02.03-01.04.24	£341.89	
Tesco	Mobile phone	£12.40	
North Dorset Electrical	Repair water heater in library kitchen	£48.00	
Water2 business	Hub water & sewerage 27/09/23-13/03/24	£261.60	
DWP	Hub & Town waste Apr-June 24	£774.54	
IK Services	In lieu of lamps purchase for public WC's	£28.78	
IK Services	Town orderly services March	£2,700.00	
Water2 business	public WC water & sewerage 23/09/23-13/03/24	£297.31	
P Channon	Salary April	£724.49	
T Watson	Salary April	£1,405.80	
DC Pensions	Pension April	£458.98	
HMRC	Tax & Ni April	£363.02	
Bankline	April charges	£20.00	
JF design & Print	Stalbridge.info March 24	£288.00	
JG design & print	Invitation printing	£23.59	

b. To approve a transfer from the deposit to the instant access account.

Transfer request £50,000

RESOLVED: Transfer of £50,000 from the deposit to the instant access account approved.

14. The next meeting of the Town Council will be on Wednesday 15.05.2024 (ATM)

The Chairman thanked retiring members.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 8 pm.