

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

Held on Thursday 1st April 2021 on Zoom. Us at 7.15 pm

Present :

Councillor N Dobson

Councillor A Donaldson (arrived 19.33pm)

Councillor C Fraser (Mayor)

Councillor M Jones

Councillor H Lacey (Deputy Mayor)

Councillor H Reed

Councillor M Roake

Councillor G Rose

Councillor R Taylor

Apologies for Absence: None.

Attendance on Zoom:

Members of the public: 2

Mal Derricott (Acting Town Clerk), A Dodson (Grounds Manager), Louise Plumridge (Assistant Town Clerk)

Kate Squire (Finance Officer) Dorset Councillor Carole Jones

RESOLUTION
for each item the proposer is
named first followed by the
seconder

21/194 PUBLIC SESSION

A member of Sturminster Newton Heritage Trust had been invited to attend the Town Council meeting to give more details about the proposed arts project at The Mill in June.

It was explained that a grant had been awarded before lockdown for Yewstock and William Barnes schools to be involved in arts/drama and music workshops. This would involve a marquee being set up in The Mill car park for a period of 2-3 weeks. The Heritage Trust hopes to carry out the workshops in June with a performance in July. A discussion followed regarding where the performance could take place. They were advised that permission would need to be given by the landowner if they were seeking to have the performance in the nearby field.

21/195 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS

No interests were declared and consequently no written requests for dispensation had been received.

21/196 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 04.03.2021 were taken as read and approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Cllr Lacey
Cllr Jones

21/197 MINUTES OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS

- Planning & Environment Committee held on 18.03.21
The Minutes of the Planning and Environment Committee held on 18.03.2021 were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.
- Amenities Committee held on 25.03.21
The Minutes of the Amenities Committee held on 25.03.21 were approved as a true and correct record of the meeting.

Cllr Taylor
Cllr Reid

Cllr Jones
Cllr Lacey

21/198 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- i. Payments for invoices in excess of £2000.
No matters to consider.

- 21/199 CO OPTION OF A TOWN COUNCILLOR**
 The Council had considered an application from Mr P Marks to become a co-opted Councillor.
The Council RESOLVED to approve the co-option of Mr P Marks.
 Mr Marks made his declaration and signed the declaration of Acceptance of Office.
- Cllr Jones
Cllr Fraser
- 21/200 PROGRAMME FOR THE ANNUAL PUBLIC TOWN MEETING ON 22ND APRIL 2021**
 The Town Clerk outlined the programme for the Annual Public Town Meeting to include; approval of 2019 minutes, Mayor's Report, Town Clerk's report and then a public open forum to give the public an opportunity to speak and ask questions. Councillors are not obliged to attend but it is good if the Council can be well represented.
- 21/203 USE OF THE MILL CAR PARK FOR AN ARTS PROJECT**
 Having discussed the project
The Council RESOLVED to approve the use of The Mill car park for an arts project.
- Cllr Dobson
Cllr Fraser
- 21/201 ADOPTION OF THE TOWN AND PARISH COUNCILS – ARMED FORCES COVENANT**
 Information having previously been circulated;
The Council RESOLVED to accept the Armed Forces covenant as submitted.
- 21/202 PLANNING APPLICATION P/RES/2021/00696 CLARKES YARD, BATH ROAD .**
Application No: P/RES/2021/00696
Location: Clarkes Yard Bath Road Sturminster Newton Dorset DT10 1DP
Proposal: Erect 29 No. dwellings with associated parking and access.
 (Reserved Matters application to determine appearance and landscaping, following the grant of Outline Planning Permission No. 2/2016/0788/OUT).
Sturminster Newton Town Council comment:
 The application is compliant with Sturminster Newton Neighbourhood Plan and it is noted no adverse comments from neighbouring properties.
 An additional observation: To make the frontages of the houses much shorter so that there is no opportunity for bins to be left at the front of the houses. Extend the back gardens to accommodate the rubbish bins.
- Cllr Donaldson
Cllr Taylor
- 21/204 CREATING A COMMUNITY PLAN FOR STURMINSTER NEWTON**
 Agenda item deferred to an Extraordinary Town Council meeting to be held in July.
- 21/205 DIGITAL STRATEGY AND DIGITAL FOR STURMINSTER NEWTON**
 Agenda item deferred to an Extraordinary Town Council meeting to be held in July.
- 21/206 ATTENDEES FOR ZOOM MEETING WITH SIMON HOARE MP on 15th April.**
 It was agreed Cllrs Fraser and Cllr Lacey would attend MP Simon Hoare's meeting.

21/207

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

a. Annual Town Council Meeting

The Council **RESOLVED** the Sturminster Newton Annual Town Council meeting will be held on Thursday 6th May 2021 by Zoom.

Cllr Fraser
Cllr Taylor

b. Approval of Parking Days

The following free parking allocation days were agreed:

26th June – Gardening Fair

11th September – Cheese Festival

27th November – Christmas Event

There are several more free parking days in the allocation;

1 other event during the year, 1 weekday in December and 1 for the Small Business Event on a Saturday in December.

c. Picnic Benches at Market Cross Area

An email had previously been circulated regarding the purchase to fund 3 benches and a bin for the Market Cross area. There are sufficient funds in the current year's budget, and the approximate cost is £1800 for 3 benches. This is an urgent matter due to issues raised regarding the area being used as a pub beer garden.

The Council need to demonstrate this area belongs to the towns people and will be managed by the Town Council.

The Council RESOLVED to approve the purchase of 3 benches.

Cllr Dobson
Cllr Jones

21/208

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

Cllr Fraser advised he had attended a Northern Area DAPTC meeting.

21/209

DORSET COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Dorset Cllr Jones reported as follows:

- Dorset Council will be encouraging sitting out licences as the lockdown opens up.
- Dorset Council – consultations ongoing on how to organise Council meetings with social distancing in place.
- There is a pre-consultation on a built-up crossing on the Bath Road to create a safe place to cross.
- The land adjacent The Bull – Section 106 agreement still not resolved.
- Cllr Jones is concerned about use of disposable BBQs in high risk areas. Suggested an item for discussion next Amenities Committee
- Local searches – there is a back log in the Planning Department on local searches due to staff shortages.
- St Mary's Churchyard is now being maintained.
- Concerns of residents of Drovers reference parked cars restricting passage.
- There will be new rules for dogs to be on leads on beaches and sports pitches.

ACTION:
Town Clerk

21/210

MEMBER INFORMATION

Cllr Donaldson –

- The Tree Preservation Order at Hazeldene, Manston Road has formally been adopted.
- The Dorset Parking Working Party were due to convene but not been postponed.

Cllr Jones –

- mentioned a rare Australian black swan has been seen with a group of swans at Cutts Mill.

21/211

CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

In exercise of the power conferred by the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Section 1(2) the Council resolved that members of the public and press be excluded from the Meeting on the grounds that the business to be transacted being of a confidential nature it is likely that personal and/or exempt information would otherwise be improperly disclosed and would feel unable to discuss the matter freely.

Clr Fraser
Clr Lacey

a. THE MILL LEASE UPDATE

b. TOWN CLERK RECRUITMENT UPDATE

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Approved on 6th May 2001

Chair's signature..... 

