

**STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**  
Held on Thursday 1<sup>ST</sup> July at 7.15pm in The Exchange

Present:	Cllr P Marks
Cllr N Dobson	Cllr H Reed
Cllr A Donaldson	Cllr M Roake
Cllr C Fraser - Chairman	Cllr J Rose
Cllr M Jones	Cllr R Taylor
Cllr H Lacey – Vice Chairman	

In Attendance: Kate Squire (Town Clerk), Louise Plumridge (Assistant Town Clerk) and Inspector Simon Perry for Dorset Police.

Minute No.      Comments

RESOLUTION  
 For each item, the  
 proposer is named first  
 followed by the seconder

21/075      **PUBLIC SESSION**

No comments were made, or questions asked.

21/076      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllr J Janes. The apologies were accepted by the members present.

21/077      **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**

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

21/082      **VANDALISM AND ANTI SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR**

Inspector Perry had been invited to discuss vandalism and anti-social behaviour in Sturminster Newton. He emphasised the need to report incidents online and not to speak directly to local officers as they would only have to report it online as well. Incidents need to be reported in this way as he is then provided with a district wide weekly report of disorder, from which he can make decisions on how to deploy his limited number of officers. Following discussion over the problems with damage to the public toilets Inspector Perry suggested monitoring when incidents took place and then closing the toilets at night when this was more likely to happen. He reiterated the need to report incidents online.

21/078      **MINUTES OF PEVIOUS MEETINGS**

Town Council meeting 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021

**The minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021, having been circulated, and publicised prior to the meeting, were taken as read and approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record.**

Cllr Donaldson  
 Cllr Rose

Extraordinary Town Council 17<sup>th</sup> June 2021

**The minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on 17th June 2021, had been circulated, and publicised prior to the meeting. Subject to the following amendment:**

**Under Declarations of Interests and Dispensations**

**Cllr J Rose is the Chairman of the Youth Club Management Committee, the minutes were taken as read and approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record.**

Cllr Rose  
 Cllr Reed



Extraordinary Town Council 24th June 2021

The minutes of the Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on 24th June 2021, having been circulated, and publicised prior to the meeting, were taken as read and approved for signature by the Chairman as a true and correct record.

Cllr Taylor  
Cllr Rose

21/079

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**PLANNING & ENVIROMENT COMMITTEE – 17<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021**

There were no recommendations to approve.

**AMENITIES COMMITTEE – 24<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021**

The Queen's Green Canopy Project

This is a UK-wide tree planting initiative created to mark Her Majesty's Platinum Jubilee in 2022, by inviting people to "Plant a Tree for the Jubilee".

**The Committee recommended a working party should be set up to include Cllrs Jones and Marks, V Fox, A Dodson, and L Plumridge, to progress the project.**

Cllr Jones  
Cllr Marks

**The Council resolved to approve the recommendation.**

BBQs in Recreation Areas

The Town Clerk read a report from Dorset Councillor C Jones outlining the trend for families to BBQ in the Town Council's outdoor spaces and the dangers associated with using disposable BBQs on the grass.

**The Committee recommended to consult with the Council's insurance company, Hinton St Mary Estate, and the Sturminster Newton Heritage Trust before agreeing to trial one BBQ plinth and bin in The Mill grounds for one year.**

**The Council recommended to carry out the consultations with the Council's insurance company, Hinton St Mary Estate and the Heritage Trust before making a decision.**

Cllr Jones  
Cllr Marks

Town Council Noticeboards

**The Committee recommended a notice be put in all noticeboards, except Broad Oak, stating that these noticeboards will no longer be used.**

Cllr Jones  
Cllr Marks

**The Council resolved to approve the recommendation.**

Long Close Play Area

**The Committee recommended converting the play area into an educational wildlife area.**

**The Council resolved to approve the recommendation.**

Cllr Jones  
Cllr Marks

21/080

**FINANCIAL MATTERS**

**To Approve Payments of Invoices in excess of £2000**

There were no payments in excess of £2000 to consider.

21/081

**PLANNING APPLICATION: P/LBC/2021/01125**

**Memorial Drinking Fountain and Trough, Market Cross, Sturminster Newton**

Repairs to old pump and trough following damage from a traffic accident.

**Sturminster Newton Town Council comment:**

**No Objections.**



21/082 Dealt with earlier in the meeting.

21/083 **STANDING ORDERS**

The Standing Orders had previously been circulated.  
The Town Clerk suggested an amendment to general meetings that members could raise a hand when wishing to speak rather than having to stand.

**The Council resolved to agree this amendment.**

Cllr Fraser  
Cllr Taylor

Several other amendments were discussed by the Town Clerk.

**The Council resolved that the Town Clerk to prepare a draft of the variations as per her suggestions and these could then be agreed subject to any objections.**

Cllr Rose  
Cllr Reed

21/084 **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk reported as follows:

- Centre bed of the Railway Gardens – it is empty at the moment but the Grounds Manager is looking to grow something more substantial than annuals, perhaps ornamental grasses which will create an interesting feature and be less labour intensive. There are cost and availability implications at present.
- Defibrillator List – a list of defibrillator locations has been received and she will make it more user friendly before publishing. Cllr Reed suggested adding the navigational app What 3 Words.
- Wessex Internet – it was agreed that two Councillors could meet in the day to discuss fibre broadband as it was proving difficult for the company to meet at an evening Council meeting.
- **The Council resolved to agree that Cllr Dobson and Cllr Reed would represent the Council at this meeting.**
- Digital Strategy and Community Plan – the Town Clerk suggested a meeting in August to discuss these items.

Cllr Fraser  
Cllr Lacey

21/085 **TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor reported that he had attended two meetings with the Town Clerk in June;

- A Zoom meeting with local Mayors and Clerks and
- A meeting with John Mortimer regarding the Scout Hut, which will be discussed in confidential session.

21/086 **DORSET COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Dorset Councillor Carole Jones report had been previously circulated and is attached to these minutes.

21/087 **INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

*Councillor Donaldson* – suggested that the Council invite David Sidwick, the new Police Crime Commissioner to either a Town Council meeting or public meeting in September to discuss vandalism and anti-social behaviour.

*Cllr Reed* – advised of an overhanging tree in Broad Oak that needed attention but can't find out who the owner is. It was suggested it is reported online to Dorset Highways as they have the authority to enforce action if necessary.



*Cllr Lacey* – expressed the need for the Council to respond to the Dorset Council Parking Charges Strategy. It was agreed to include on the next Planning and Environment meeting.

21/088

**EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS**

**In exercise of the power conferred by the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, Section 1(2) members of the public and press will 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 members would feel unable to discuss the matter freely.**

21/089

**Confidential minute.**

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.48pm.

Approved on ..... 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2021 .....

Chairman's Signature ..... 