

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
held on Thursday 7th April at 7.15pm in The Council Chamber

Present:

Cllr N Dobson

Cllr A Donaldson

Cllr C Fraser - Chairman

Cllr M Jones

Cllr H Reed

Cllr J Rose

Cllr M Roake (via Zoom)

In Attendance: Kate Squire (Town Clerk), Louise Plumridge (Assistant Town Clerk – via Zoom)
Dorset Cllr C Jones,

Members of the Public: 2

Minute No.	Comments	RESOLUTION <i>The proposer is named first followed by the seconder</i>
21/22/339	PUBLIC SESSION No comments were made or questions asked.	
21/22/340	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies had been received from Cllr H Lacey and Cllr P Marks. These apologies were accepted by the members present.	
21/22/341	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS No interests were declared and no written requests for dispensation had been received.	
21/22/342	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS The Town Council meeting held on 3rd March 2022, 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 Jones
21/22/343	RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS <u>Planning & Environment held on 17th March 2022</u> 21/22/320 BLACKMORE VALE VETERINARY CENTRE Having discussed the presentation made in the public session, in which the owner expressed the desire to purchase part of one of the splots to Butts Pond Industrial Estate. The Committee recommended that the Town Clerk investigate this matter further and report back to the Committee. 21/22/321 REQUEST FROM ALPHA HOUSING TO ADOPT PARCEL OF LAND AT OLD MARKET WALK Cllr Rose and the Grounds Manager had met Alpha Housing on site to discuss the request as agreed by Council. Adoption of the land would allow Alpha Housing to install a more suitable fence and improve the parking issues for their residents. Alpha Housing also agreed to take on the paved area to the roadside of the site. Cllr Rose proposed the Committee recommend the Town Clerk investigate and negotiate an outcome with Alpha Housing. The Council resolved to accept the recommendation of the Committee.	Cllr Donaldson Cllr Rose



21/22/344
1

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application No: P/HOU/2022/01494

Location: Rudey Cottage A357 - Access To Woodlands Farm To Glue Hill
Rolls Mill Dorset DT10 2HP

Proposal: Erect 2 storey side & single storey rear extensions (demolish
existing out building & conservatory)

Observations:

No Objections, the application is not in breach of any material planning
considerations."

Clr Donaldson
Clr Rose

2

Application No: P/LBC/2022/01684

Location: Rushay Church Street Sturminster Newton Dorset DT10 1DB

Proposal: Replacement of external chimney cowl. Blocking of downstairs
door from hall to middle room. Conversion of under stairs cupboard to
downstairs toilet

Observations:

The Town Council are supportive of the views of the Conservation Officer
but otherwise has no objections

Clr Donaldson
Clr Jones

3

Application No: P/FUL/2022/01710

Location: Silver Birch Farm 5 Rivers Corner To Salkeld Bridge - Lane
Rivers Corner Dorset DT10 2AD

Proposal: Continue to use as Class B2 use, General Industrial to
manufacture steel frame buildings and other ancillary steel
structures and items. Erect single storey extension.

Observations:

The Town Council in principle supports the application subject to the
findings and recommendations of the Planning Officer, however due to lack
of information the Town Council feel unable to make a considered
comment.

Clr Donaldson
Clr Reed

4

Application No: P/NMA/2022/02029

Location: 8 Westfield Glue Hill Sturminster Newton Dorset DT10 2DN

Proposal: Non material amendment against planning application
P/HOU/2021/00853 to install a window in the garage storage
space (west elevation).

For information only – no comment required.

21/22/345

Deferred to later in the Agenda.

21/22/346

FREE PARKING DAY ALLOCATIONS 2022/2023

The Council can allocate 6 free parking days a year (March to February
each year).

**The Council resolved to agree the following for free parking days in
the town:**

Sun 5th June	Queen's Jubilee
Sat 18th June	Literary Festival
Sat 26th November	Christmas Event
Sat 3rd December	Small Business Saturday
1st January 2023	New Year's Day event

21/22/347

INTERNAL AUDITOR'S REPORT

The internal auditor's report, which had previously been circulated, and is
attached to these minutes, was approved.

Clr Rose
Clr Reed



21/22/348

COUNCILLOR REPRESENTATION ON THE OPEN SPACES GROUP

Councillor representation on the Open Space Group was discussed and it was agreed this would create effective liaison between the Council and the Open Spaces Group.

The Council resolved to nominate Cllr P Marks as the Town Council representative on the Open Spaces Group.

Cllr Fraser
Cllr Reed

21/22/349

TOWN CLERKS REPORT

Trees by the Blackmore Vale Veterinary Centre - there are two trees and some confusion if both belong to the Town Council. However, the one that is confirmed as being the responsibility of the Town Council is in urgent need of being felled and the Town Clerk has arranged for this to be taken down, the cost will be £650.

Annual Town Public Meeting - Philip Hughes, the historic buildings and conservation Consultant has been invited to talk about The Mill Project as one part of the meeting. It was also suggested and agreed that Dorset Cllrs C Jones and P Batstone would give an update on their work with Ukrainian refugees. It is hoped that presentation of two High Sheriff of Dorset awards will also take place. A report from the Town Mayor will conclude the agenda.

Allotments - all tenancy agreements for Filbridge Rise and Chinnocks have been signed with the updated terms and conditions.

Health and Safety Audit - the audit was conducted yesterday and no concerns were reported. The Town Clerk expressed thanks to the Grounds Manager who had, as always, been extremely conscientious and professional to achieve this outcome.

21/22/350

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT

The Town Mayor regrettably had not been able to attend the Civic Afternoon Tea but understood it had been a pleasant and successful afternoon and thanked the staff for arranging it. He had been invited to Yeovil Mayor's Civic Day, including a tour of Yeovil Town Football Club and extended the invite to Councillors if they were interested to join him.

21/22/351

REPORT FROM DORSET COUNCILLOR C JONES

Dorset Cllr C Jones provided a verbal report:

North Honeymead Field North Fields

Planning Application Number: P/RES/2021/02896 Description: Application for approval of reserved matters for appearance, landscaping, layout & scale in relation to outline approval 2/2018/1749/OUT (& subsequent revisions) will be considered by Planning Committee on 12 April 2022. The meeting will be held at The Stour Hall in The Exchange.

CCTV - she is looking into the possible of CCTV for Station Road Car Park and will link up with the Town Clerk who is also looking into extra security measures.

Ukrainian refugees - 20-30 families have now been matched but it has been made more difficult with the visa process. She is also now trying to source laptops.

The Pantry - some very desperate stories were shared with families struggling with food and fuel poverty.

Cllr Jones has become a Virtual School Governor, helping Children in Care. She reminded Councillors of the Bridge Street road closure all day on Sunday.

21/22/345

CO-OPTION OF TOWN COUNCILLORS

The Council considered applications from Pauline Batstone and Deborah Mantock

The Council resolved to approve the co-option of Pauline Batstone.

The Council resolved to approve the co-option of Deborah Mantock

Cllr Rose
Cllr Dobson

Cllr Donaldson
Cllr Reed



21/22/352

INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Donaldson – expressed concerns that the proposed Station Road closure would affect the Literary Festival in June. Cllr Dobson mentioned it may be possible to change dates. The Town Clerk will investigate this.

Action:
Town Clerk

Cllr Batstone – the Newton Residents Association AGM is on 29th April.

Cllr Dobson – mentioned receiving several comments about the Town Council not doing enough to encourage trade/markets in the town. The Council agreed that communication is key as this is not a role for the Town Council. The Town Clerk will progress the work to provide a newsletter as soon as possible to include addressing this issue. She advised that she had been in contact with the author of a Facebook post regarding markets and explained the situation.

Action:
Town Clerk

Cllr Roake – felt there is still a need to define Sturminster Newton's USP as a community, with a business manager to co-ordinate.

Cllr Fraser –

- commented the Wessex Water works had caused frustrating traffic disruption with no advanced warning of works.
- He then suggested that with 4 Councillors in Newton and 2 Councillors in Broad Oak, Council meetings could now be held in Chapel at the Bridge!
- As this would be the last Town Council meeting Cllr Fraser would Chair, he expressed thanks to the Councillors, especially Cllr Rose, and to the staff for their support over the last 18 months.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.34pm

Approved on 5th May 22

Chairman's Signature 