

**STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL**  
**held on Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 7.15pm in The Council Chamber**

Present:

Cllr P Batstone – arrived 7.37pm  
Cllr N Dobson  
Cllr A Donaldson  
Cllr C Fraser  
Cllr M Jones  
Cllr H Lacey

Cllr D Mantock  
Cllr H Reed  
Cllr J Rose

In Attendance: K Squire (Town Clerk), L Plumridge (Assistant Town Clerk) and Dorset Cllr C Jones

Members of the Public: 0

Minute No.      Comments

RESOLUTION  
*The proposer is  
named first followed  
by the seconder*

22/23/026      **PUBLIC SESSION**  
No members of the public present.

22/23/027      **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
Apologies had been received from Cllr P Marks. The apology was accepted by members present.

22/23/028      **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS**  
Cllr Reed declared a non-pecuniary interest in the planning application P/FUL/2022/03250 – Ralph Down Farm and would not take part in discussion or vote.

22/23/029      **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS**

The following minutes:

- **Extraordinary Town Council 17<sup>th</sup> February 2022**
- **Extraordinary Town Council 31st March 2022 and**
- **Annual Town Council 5<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

Cllr Rose  
Cllr Lacey

Cllr Donaldson  
Cllr Dobson

Cllr Jones  
Cllr Rose

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.

22/23/030      **RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEE MEETINGS**

**Planning & Environment held on 19<sup>th</sup> May 2022**

There were no recommendations to consider.

22/23/031      **PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

**Application No: P/HOU/2022/03018**

**Location:** Rosebelle Lower Bagber Sturminster Newton DT10 2EY

**Proposal:** Erect single storey rear extension and dormer window. Erect detached garage with home office above.

**Observations:** No Objections on the condition any change of use will require planning permission.

Cllr Donaldson  
Cllr Rose

**Application No: P/FUL/2022/03250**



**Location:** Ralph Down Farm Rolls Mill Sturminster Newton DT10 2HP  
**Proposal:** Continue use of agricultural buildings for Storage/Distribution (Class B8) purposes and change the use to include Light Industrial (Class E(g)(iii)).

**Observations:** Subject to the comments made by Dorset Council's Highways Officer being adhered to, we have no objections.

Cllr Lacey  
Cllr Donaldson

**Application No: P/LBC/2021/00411**

**Location:** 25 Church Street Sturminster Newton DT10 1DB

**Description:** Erect single storey rear extension and carry out associated internal and external alterations

**Appeal Reference:** APP/D1265/Y/21/3289691

**Appellant:** Mr J Fielding Appeal Start Date: 17 May 2022

**Observations:** The Appeal was noted, no comment required.

**Planning Application Number: P/FUL/2022/01241**

**Location:** A Hammond & Son Ltd Penny Street Sturminster DT10 1DE

**Description:** Demolish workshop building and erect 6 no. dwellings with associated parking.

**Observations:** It was noted this application will be considered by Northern Planning Committee on 14 June 2022 at Stour Hall in The Exchange. Cllrs Donaldson and Mantock will attend.

22/23/032

**ANNUAL INTERNAL AUDIT 2021/2022**

**The Council received the Annual Internal Audit for 2021/2022.**

A vote of thanks was extended to the Finance Team.

22/23/033

**ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2021/2022**

**The Council resolved to approve the Annual Governance Statements for 2021/2022.**

Cllr Lacey  
Cllr Rose

22/23/034

**ANNUAL ACCOUNTING STATEMENT 2021/2022**

**The Council resolved to approve the Annual Accounting Statements for 2021/2022.**

Cllr Rose  
Cllr Fraser

22/23/035

**COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER**

The Town Clerk advised that the first What's Happening in Stur community newsletter had been well received. Moving forward the Town Council will handle the news section and copy distribution. The Learning Centre will concentrate on events, themes and email distribution and Penny Mountain will deal with editing and proof reading. The aim is to print 200 copies to distribute to cafes and some shops and monitor the response.

Having researched printing costs, it is cheaper for the office to print but the Clerk will monitor time taken and continue to look for cheaper printing options. The plan is to produce 9 editions per year: December/January, February/March, April, May, June, July, August, September and October/November.

The Town Clerk further advised there is currently a reserve of £7,000 ear marked for 'Community Resource'. If this can be used for printing costs it will increase considerably the number of residents this newsletter would reach.

**The Council discussed and resolved to vire the money from the Community Resource reserve into Document Management.**

Cllr Jones  
Cllr Dobson



22/23/036

### **CCTV**

The Town Clerk advised there is a need to improve the CCTV in the town. Dorset Council have recommended a company they are using for CCTV in Dorset Towns. The Town Clerk suggested using this company as well. There is £2000 in a reserve ear marked for small projects which she would like to use.

**The Council agreed this and resolved to vire the money to use on the CCTV survey.**

Cllr Rose  
Cllr Donaldson

22/23/037

### **TOWN CLERK'S REPORT**

The Town Clerk reported as follows:

Manston Road Development – a public consultation document had been received from developers which had been sent to residents to develop land east of Manston Road. She had met with Chair and Vice Chair of the Planning & Environment Committee as some residents had been in contact. It was agreed the Town Council will issue a statement to anyone who enquires, advising that the Neighbourhood Plan shows the area as unsuitable for development and that if an application is received the Town Council would likely recommend it is considered by the Northern Planning Committee. It would also encourage residents to form a Residents Association to present a united front, perhaps employing a private planning consultant if they wish to examine the site.

National Citizens Service – it has been arranged for a group of Yewstock School students to have a day planting in the Community Gardens as part of their involvement in this scheme.

Insurance – Insurance costs have gone up considerably and there is now £5,500 overspend. The Town Clerk had looked at alternatives, but they had not been able to cover Town Councils. She will make a note to get a quote from Zurich and investigate the market next year.

Telephones – Research is still ongoing. Currently BT are offering a competitive price with much better functionality than we have currently.

DAPTC – The Town Clerk had as requested found out more about the DAPTC subscription of £960.36 per year. The Clerk felt that the organization provide a useful service that the Council have not taken advantage of. They are now helping with a communications policy and a zero-tolerance policy. It was agreed to pay the subscription and monitor usage.

Land outside NFU – there are two beautifully crafted benches on the land outside the NFU and they are being 'lost' in the undergrowth as the area is not being maintained. Cllr Lacey had discovered that the land belongs to Highwood Developers. It was suggested that the Clerk contact Highwoods and request that as the benches were a gift to the Town, we remove benches to a more prominent position, the area can then rewild.

Police – The Town Clerk is working with Inspector J Turner on the issues with CCTV. The Police will soon be arranging meetings with local Clerks to discuss problems/topics.

22/23/038

### **TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT**

The Mayor had attended Wimborne Civic Day and the Jubilee weekend in Sturminster. She expressed a big thank you to everyone that helped over the Jubilee weekend, a lot of good comments had been received and the businesses in town reported having a good weekend. It was noted the car rally event worked well at Ricketts Lane Rec.

22/23/039

### **DORSET COUNCILLOR'S REPORT**

Chair's signature



- Work at the Bridge – The grounds investigation has shown that the material beneath the road is mostly natural geology, but the material on the bank is mostly imported material, which is quite weak. The fortnightly monitoring is showing that the slope is moving, with some areas moving faster than others. Solutions have been investigated and all but 3 have been excluded:
  1. Remove the poor-quality bank material replacing it with an engineered high-quality material
  2. A contiguous pile wall at the back of the footway with a new retaining feature at the riverbank to support the slope
  3. Soil nailing to hold all the existing bank in place and prevent further loss of material.

All these options have pros and cons. Currently more detailed information is being compiled so the three options are directly comparable.

This report is due during the first week of July and once a comparison has taken place, a decision will be made on which option to select for a detailed design. The design will be completed by late summer/early autumn so that the works can go to tender before Christmas. Currently the cost estimate is put at almost £1m however, the cost of materials is rising sharply.

- Noise Nuisance – residents in roads close to the White Hart have been upset by loud music at The White Hart and should be encouraged to report this online.
- The Pantry – Channel 5 News is visiting The Pantry on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June

22/23/040

**INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS**

*Cllr Lacey* – Wessex Water have repaired the main manhole cover at the junction of Bath Road. The Jubilee weekend was very good and it was nice to see the office decorated to fit the occasion.

*Cllr Rose* – SIDs (speed indicator devices) are being vandalized.

*Cllr Batstone*- invited Councillors to the opening of the Art Gallery in The Emporium taking place on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> June.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.40pm

Approved on ..... Chairman’s Signature .....

