

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL

held on Thursday 2nd March 2023 at 7.15pm in The Council Chamber

Present:

Cllr P Batstone – arrived at 8.31pm

Cllr N Dobson

Cllr C Fraser

Cllr H Lacey

Cllr N Summers via Zoom

Cllr D Mantock

Cllr P Marks

Cllr H Reed - Chairman

Cllr J Rose – Vice Chairman

In Attendance: K Squire (Town Clerk), J Drew (Finance Officer) and Dorset Cllr C Jones.

Members of the Public: There were 6 members of the public in attendance.

Minute No.	Comments	
22/23/229	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>Two members of the public attended to raise concerns regarding the proposed Youth Hub at the Ricketts Lane Recreation Ground.</p> <p>Three members of the public attended to regarding management of the Allotment Association. This will be discussed at the Amenities committee meeting on 30 March 2023.</p> <p>A representative of Sturminster Amateur Dramatic Association and Sturminster Newton Literary Festival had attended to thank the Council for the grants they had received.</p>	RESOLUTION <i>The proposer is named first followed by the seconder</i>
22/23/230	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr A Donaldson and Cllr M Jones.</p>	
22/23/231	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</p> <p>None.</p>	
22/23/232	<p>MINUTES FROM THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 2 FEBRUARY 2023</p> <p>The minutes of the previous Town Council meeting held on 2nd February 2023, 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.</p>	Cllr Lacey Cllr Rose
22/23/233	<p>PLANNING APPLICATIONS</p> <p>Application No: P/FUL/2023/00373</p> <p>Location: Retsel House, Bridge Street, Sturminster Newton DT10 1AW</p> <p>Proposal: Conversion of attic space to 2 dwellings.</p> <p>Observations: No objection but suggest conditions should be stipulated regarding access for workforce and deliveries during construction, to avoid traffic flow issues through Town.</p>	Cllr Rose Cllr Fraser

Application No: P/HOU/2023/00751

Location: May Cottage, Glue Hill, Sturminster Newton DT10 2DJ
Proposal: Alterations and extensions to dwelling. Erection of detached garage.

Observations: No objections but the Town Council support the comments made by Dorset Council Highways.

Cllr Mantock
Cllr Fraser

Application No: P/MPO/2023/00821

Location: Honeymead Field, North Fields, Sturminster Newton DT10
Proposal: Modification of S106 Agreement dated 19.3.20.

Observations: Unable to comment due to lack of comparison information.

Application No: P/CLE/2022/07459

Location: Land at E 377875 N 112490 Hewletts Drove Rivers Corner
Sturminster Newton DT10

Proposal: Certificate of lawfulness to continue using the land for storage of vehicles and parts for personal enjoyment of applicant.

Observations: No further comments.

Cllr Lacey
Cllr Rose

22/23/234

To review and readopt Financial Regulations

The Council resolved to readopt the NALC model financial regulations with amendments specific to Sturminster Newton Town Council.

Cllr Rose
Cllr Mantock

22/23/235

Consider report regarding Grounds Workshop Refurbishment costings and loan application.

Council considered loan options for the workshop extension.

The Council resolved to apply for a Public Works Loan of £192,000 over a 30-year period to include funds to purchase solar panels.

Cllr Reed
Cllr Lacey

22/23/236

To receive correspondence and discuss any issues raised.

Emails had been received from Sturminster Newton Amateur Dramatic Society and the Sturminster Newton Literary Festival giving thanks for grants that had been awarded.

22/23/237

To receive a report from the Town Clerk.

The Town Clerk and Grounds Manager had recently visited the building site at Northfields. Progress is being made with the show houses. Dorset Council are only adopting the main road through the estate. Enquiries were being made regarding the designated play area.

The Grounds Team have done a great job on the former Long Close playground, making it into a Nature area.

Plans for the Coronation celebrations are in progress:

- Sunday 7th May 11am, a Civic Service at St Mary's Church, followed by refreshments in the Church Hall.
- Monday 8th May there will be a public litter Pick from 11am to 1pm.
- Monday 8th May 1-5pm there will be a village fete style event at the Royal British Legion.

The Fire Brigade will help again with putting up the flags and bunting around the town. The Primary and High Schools are taking part in a Coronation flag competition with Yewstock School designing bunting.

22/23/238

To receive a report from the Town Mayor.

The Mayor attended a meeting to recognise the current hospital transport crisis and discuss solutions.

22/23/239

To receive a report from Dorset Councillor Carole Jones.

Chair's signature



- Dorset Councillor Jones gave an update that a design to resolve the subsidence issues at the Town Bridge was being finalized.
- Dorset Council were due to launch more cost-of-living help.
- Parish and Town Councils would shortly be asked to nominate a green space champion to work with Dorset Council.
- She would like to look into outdoor wellness events in the town if a suitable location could be identified.

22/23/240

To receive information from members and discuss proposals for future business.

Cllr Summers – suggested Cllr Reed ask for volunteer drivers in the What's Happening in Stur newsletter and on social media.

Cllr Dobson – reminded Councillors of free car parking in town for the Car Event on Saturday sponsored by Stur Action. He suggested Council could consider contributing to this in the future.

Cllr Fraser – asked if there should be a hanging sign above the door of the Council office to improve visibility.

Cllr Lacey – was pleased to observe that several businesses have changed hands in the town, despite other towns having empty shops.

Cllr Marks – advised that planting for the Queens Green Canopy Legacy Project ends at the end of March. The community tree group are planning a tree planting event for the 18th March at Filbridge Rise Green.

Cllr Batstone – reminded Councillors that there would be a Careers Open Day in the Exchange on Thursday 9 March 23.

Cllr Mantock – Thanked the staff for all their hard work and asked fellow members to try to limit contact with staff to during the office hours of 9.30am and 12.30pm. This will help them to concentrate on their workload outside of these times. She also suggested arranging another staff and Councillor get together soon.

Cllr Reed – gave a big thank you to all the office and grounds staff for their hard work.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.53pm

Approved on

6th April 2023

Chairman's Signature

H Reed

