

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE TOWN COUNCIL
held on Thursday 6th April 2023 at 7.15pm in The Council Chamber

Present:

Cllr Donaldson – arrived 8.03pm

Cllr N Dobson

Cllr A Donaldson

Cllr C Fraser

Cllr H Lacey

Cllr D Mantock

Cllr P Marks – left the meeting at 8.15pm

Cllr H Reed - Chairman

Cllr J Rose – Vice Chairman

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

Members of the Public: There were 11 members of the public in attendance.

Minute No.	Comments
22/23/266	<p>PUBLIC SESSION</p> <p>The Chairman of Manston Road Residents Association formally requested that the Council review it's Neighbourhood Plan. He then outlined points for the Council to consider when discussing planning application P/OUT/2023/01678 – erection of up to 52no. dwellings & associated works (outline application to determine access only). In summary he listed the following points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 2 previous and 1 appeal, all of which were for small 10-property developments had been refused.• The site in question was excluded by the town's own 2017 Housing Supply Report.• The land in questions has a very steep slope.• Sewage access is steeply uphill.• It is outside Flood Zone 1.• Viable pedestrian access is unaddressed.• Otters using Chivricks Brook would be highly impacted.• Sturminster Newton is already over the housing quota required by the Dorset Council 5-year plan. <p><i>(Full report attached to these minutes).</i></p>
22/23/267	<p>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</p> <p>Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Batstone and Cllr Jones. The apologies were accepted by the members present. Cllr Donaldson would be late as attending a Maundy Thursday Service.</p>
22/23/268	<p>DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST AND DISPENSATIONS</p> <p>No interests were declared and no written requests for dispensation had been received.</p>
22/23/269	<p>MINUTES FROM THE PREVIOUS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING</p> <p>The minutes of the previous Town Council meeting held on 2nd March 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>

RESOLUTION
The proposer is
named first followed
by the seconder

Cllr Lacey
Cllr Rose



22/23/270

PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Application No: P/OUT/2023/01678

Location: Land off Manston Road Sturminster Newton DT10 1AF

Proposal: Erection of up to 52no. dwellings & associated works (outline application to determine access only.

Observations: Objections – we fully support the comments made by the Manston Road Residents Association and request this application is taken to the Full Planning Committee.

Cllr Fraser
Cllr Rose

Application No: P/LBC/2023/01408

Location: Carriage Cottage 16 Church Lane Sturminster Newton DT10 1DH

Proposal: Replace former single glazed crittal window with a new timber framed double glazed window.

Observations: No Objections.

Cllr Mantock
Cllr Lacey

Application No: P/HOU/2023/01324

Location: Land North East Of Jessamine Cottage Chapel Road Bagber Common

Proposal: Proposed boundary treatment, landscaping schedule and boundary wall.

Observations: Objections - as this already retrospective, we request a site visit from the Planning Enforcement Officer prior to decisions being made to verify the current work is compliant.

Cllr Fraser
Cllr Mantock

Application No: P/FUL/2022/07496

Location: Unit 7 Butts Pond Industrial Est. Sturminster Newton DT10 1AZ

Proposal: Retention of 3no. steel units to be used as packing units.

Observations: No Objections.

Cllr Reed
Cllr Lacey

Application No: P/VOC/2023/01573

Location: Banbury Cross Boarding Kennels and Cattery Angers Lane Fiddleford Dorset DT10 2BY

Proposal: Erect 2 No. dwellings, create new vehicular access with brick piers, sliding metal gate and 1.8 m high boundary wall. Create 4 No. parking spaces (with variation of condition 2 of planning permission P/FUL/2022/00841 to amend approved plans.

Observations: No Objections

Cllr Reed
Cllr Lacey

22/23/271

DORSET COUNCIL FREE PARKING ALLOCATIONS AND FUNDING FOR ADDITIONAL DAYS

Free parking allocations:

The Council resolved to allocate the following free parking days for the period 1st March 2023 – end February 2024:

Coronation Bank Holiday	Monday 8 th May
Gardening Fair	Saturday 3 rd June
Christmas Event	Saturday 25 th November
Small Business Saturday	Saturday 2 nd December
Christmas/Sale Shopping	Weekday – 22 nd December
New Year's Day Event	Monday 1 st January 2024

Cllr Lacey
Cllr Mantock



Funding for Additional Car Parking Days

Cllr Dobson outlined that Sturminster Newton Community Benefit Society wishes to promote Sturminster Newton as a town with free parking every Saturday. They have agreed to fund parking costs, £200 per day, for 6 Saturdays and enquired if the Town Council could fund 4 more, a total of £800.

There was some concern that only businesses would benefit and not residents who pay the precept. It was suggested to look for a compromise and find out half day parking costs at Station Road.

The Council resolved for the Clerk to investigate half day parking costs for Station Road Car Park.

Cllr Rose
Cllr Fraser
Action:
Town Clerk

22/23/272

FEEDBACK from DAPTC TRAINING

Cllr Reed had attended DAPTC training for Councils to engage with Dorset Council. She will email the presentation to other Councillors.

The Council had also received from DAPTC a double star award for Councillor Development.

Action:
Cllr Reed

22/23/273

AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS

The Town Clerk asked the Councillors to consider amending the Standing Orders to record Councillor absences from meetings. Councillors do need a valid reason for not attending and any apologies should be accepted by the members. A leave of absence can always be requested if necessary.

The Council resolved to amend Standing Orders to include recording Councillor absences from meetings.

Cllr Fraser
Cllr Rose

22/23/274

CRITERIA FOR REMOTE ATTENDANCE AT COUNCIL MEETINGS

The Council discussed criteria for remote attendance at Council meetings. DAPTC have advised against Councillors regularly attending meetings remotely as Councillors are not able to contribute fully and vote on matters arising. Legislation may change in the future, but it is not a Government priority.

The Council agreed to adhere to legislation.

22/23/275

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR COMMITTEES

The Council resolved to defer this item to the next Town Council meeting.

Cllr Donaldson
Cllr Lacey

22/23/276

WORKING GROUP PROTOCOL AND TERMS OF REFERENCE

The Council resolved to defer this item to the next Town Council meeting.

Cllr Lacey
Cllr Mantock

22/23/277

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence to consider.

22/23/278

TOWN CLERK'S REPORT

- The Town Clerk had met with the Council's insurers, James Hallam and is awaiting a quote from them.
- The internal audit report will be received in time for the next Finance & Personnel meeting.
- Work on end of year accounts is progressing well.

22/23/279

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT



Cllr Reed advised she had attended the induction and installation of the new vicar Reverend Mary Gubbins. As mentioned earlier she had also attended the DAPTC training session.

22/23/280

DORSET COUNCILLOR'S REPORT

Dorset Cllr Carole Jones reported as follows:

- Nazareth Lodge want to become a more integral part of the community and will be organising community lunches.
- Could the Town Council consider updating play equipment? She had conducted a survey and feedback received asking for updated equipment. The Town Clerk advised this was already in hand.
- She has received funding for a Health and Wellness programme and will be using the Rec. for yoga classes.
- She asked if Honeymead Lane could be considered for a 20mph limit. The Town Clerk advised this was due to be considered by the Planning & Environment Committee.

22/23/281

INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Fraser – asked the office to report to Highways subsidence and dangerous trees on the banks opposite the entrance to The Mill.

Action:
Office

Cllr Donaldson – had attended the Careers Open Day on 9th March in The Exchange. It was a fantastic event and has been booked again for next year.

Cllr Lacey – asked if the Clerk could make representation to the Police to see if Mandy Robinson, who recently retired, is going to be replaced.

Town Clerk

Cllr Mantock – advised a Goods Vehicle Operator's Licence had been applied for by Mayflower Logistics to change their operating centre from 7c, Butts Pond Industrial Estate to Ralph Down Farm, Rolls Mill.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.54pm

Approved on 4/5/2023

Chairman's Signature 

