

STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING held on Thursday 15th June 2023 at 7.15pm in The Council Chamber

Present:

Cllr P Batstone

Cllr A Donaldson

Cllr C Fraser - Chairman

Cllr D Mantock

Cllr H Reed

Cllr H Lacey

In Attendance: L Plumridge (Assistant Town Clerk), J Drew (Finance Officer)

Members of the Public: 7 members of the public were present.

Minute No.	Comments
23/24/48	It was agreed to discuss this Agenda first item was moved from later in the meeting. Andrew Bradley, Project Manager, Dorset Highways, Dorset Council addressed the meeting regarding the planned works at the Bridge A357.
23/24/44	PUBLIC SESSION The Chairman of Newton Residents Association feels that there is a case for a second SID for Newton. It is felt that there are two places that it could be used at. There is also a need for traffic calming on the A357 as a recent count showed there are over 800 vehicles per hour using this road with many ignoring the 30mph signs. Another Newton resident reported that residents do not want the telephone box adopted but for it to remain under the care of BT. It is hoped that repairs and decoration will be carried out in the near future.
23/24/45	APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE Apologies were received from Cllr J Rose (Vice Chairman), Cllr M Jones, Cllr P Marks and Cllr H Reed.
23/24/46	DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS AND DISPENSATIONS Cllr P Batstone declared that she is Newton Residents Association Secretary, but has no pecuniary interests.
23/24/47	MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING The minutes of the previous Planning & Environment meeting held on 18 May 2023, having been circulated and publicised prior to the meeting, were taken as read and approved for signature by the Committee Chairman as a true and correct record.
23/24/49	PLANNING MATTERS: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Planning applications – there were no applications to consider.• To report on decisions of Dorset Council – the decisions, having previously been circulated were noted.• Any other planning matters – none.
23/24/50	REQUESTS FROM NEWTON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION concerning <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 1. Speed Indicator Device. Cllr Batstone stated that an update has been requested, and information needed to be sought regarding financing.

RESOLUTION
The proposer is
named first followed
by the seconder

Cllr Donaldson
Cllr Dobson



Cllr Lacey stated that an additional SID had not been budgeted for in this financial year, and when one was purchased, it would not be placed in a permanent location.

- **2. Adoption of Telephone Box at Newton.**

There is a requirement to retain the telephone box at the present time.

- **3. Support for investigations into traffic calming measures on the A357.**

Cllr Batstone felt that the need for traffic calming still remains, and white gates on the approach to town could have some impact on speed reduction.

23/24/51

UPDATE FROM THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN WORKING GROUP

The Consultant, Jo Witherden, had been contacted and can be available for 9 hours work on the Neighbourhood Plan. (£945 plus VAT and expenses). The group had instructed that the Town Council should proceed with this. Funding may be available, but this is not known at this present time.

23/24/52

TOWN CLERK'S UPDATE

There will be an update at the Town Council meeting on 6th July 2023 regarding the proposed 20mph zones.

23/24/53

INFORMATION FROM MEMBERS

Cllr Donaldson – there has been an application from Stour Grange for the removal of a Golden Willow.

The pavements around Brinsley Close have been left in bad condition after installation of internet cabling.

Cllr Batstone – there is a meeting with White Hart Link towns of North Dorset, aimed to boost tourism in the area.

Work is under way with the Christmas Festival and Bridal Fair.

Cllr Fraser - asked that the Grounds Team are thanked for the hard work with the planters around the town.

Cllr Mantock – requested a press release from Dorset Council should be available regarding the A357 Bridge works as a matter of urgency.

She would like Andrew Bradley to be thanked for his presentation.

There has been a spate of young people making a nuisance of themselves in The Row and Goughs Close. The Police are aware of this situation.

Cllr Lacey - is concerned about the volume of traffic using The Row to get to the river. It appears that the sign has become hidden in the hedge.

There continues to be timing issues with the traffic lights at the top of Old Market Hill and requested this was investigated.

The Chairman closed the meeting at 8.22pm.

Approved on 27th July 2023 Chairman's signature.....