STURMINSTER NEWTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 18 MARCH 26 AT 7.15PM IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER

PRESENT:
Cllr P Batstone
Cllr L Cooper
Cllr A Donaldson (Chair)
Cllr L Jackson
Cllr P Marks
Cllr J Rose
Cllr S Trim

IN ATTENDANCE:
J Drew (Office Administrator)

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC: NONE

MINUTE NO	COMMENTS
25/26/287	**To receive comments and questions from members of the public** No members of public present.
25/26/288	**Apologies for absence** Apologies were received from Cllr Fraser, Cllr Lacey, Cllr Dobson and Cllr Mantock. These apologies were accepted by members.
25/26/289	**To approve declarations of interest and written applications for dispensation** No interests were declared and no written requests for dispensation received.
25/26/290	**To approve the minutes of the previous Planning & Environment meeting held on 18th February 2026** The minutes of the Planning & Environment Committee meeting held on 18th February 2026 having been circulated and published prior to the meeting, were taken as a true and correct record and duly signed by the Chair.
25/26/291	**Planning Matters** **Planning Applications for consideration:** **P/HOU/2026/01055 Rose Cottage, The Row, DT10 1AU** Erect garden summer house – No objection. **P/VOC/2026/00166 Old Orchard Close, Newton, Sturminster Newton DT10 2HN** Erect conservatory (demolish existing) – No objection. **P/LBC/2026/00908 May Cottage, Fiddleford DT10 2BX** Removal of ground floor suspended timber floor. Reinstate solid floor – No objection.

Chairs Initials .....

Report on planning decisions of Dorset Council (attached)
These were noted by the Committee.

Any other planning matters:
The Chair made the Committee aware of a resubmitted Planning Application for the old Snooks Yard. There have been minor changes made to the application. This will be considered at the Town Council meeting on 1 April 2026.

The Public Consultation extension of 30mph limit on A357
The following statement will be submitted –

We refer to the consultation regarding the proposed extension of the 30 mph limit at Rolls Mill, Sturminster Newton. Sturminster Newton Town Council are supportive of this proposal and are also supportive of comments forwarded in a letter from the residents of Newton.

It is a matter of concern that the current residential development at Rolls Mill is for 48 affordable house which will, inevitably, suit the younger age group with young families. Additionally, proposed further development to the west of the current development and the proposed Aldi supermarket at Rolls Mill (we are informed by Dorset Cllr Jones that we may expect to be in receipt of a planning application for the supermarket shortly) will no doubt result not only in a significant increase in traffic in the area but also, an increase in pedestrians crossing a very busy main road. In the interest of public safety, we would strongly request the installation of a central refuge to allow safe crossing .

After further discussion, the committee also resolved to contact Dorset Cllr Jones to discuss highways concerns in light of future development proposed for the area.

Tree Matters:
There were three matters to report:
- Ham Gate – removal of trees due to damage of roof and solar panels.
- Bridge Car Park – two maples removed.
- Sequoia, Brinsley Close – removal of one fruit tree, prune of one fruit tree.

25/26/292 **To receive information from members and proposals for future business**
Cllr Marks – noted beaver activity on several trees along the river.
Cllr Donaldson – the Marnhull Neighbourhood Plan referendum will be taking place on 19 March 2026. The traffic lights at the top of Old Market Hill continue to cause lengthy waits for traffic. Had received several enquiries about damage caused to cars hitting potholes. Advise everyone to continue to log the location of potholes. Hopefully they will be more visible now the weather is drier.

The Chair closed the meeting at 7.58pm

Chairs Initials .....

Chairs Signature .....Date Approved .....

Planning Decisions 12 February 2026 – 10 March 2026

P/HOU/2026/00412
Location: 22 Newfoundland Drive Sturminster Newton DT10 1GE
Proposal: Erect conservatory to rear of property.
Decision: Granted
Decision Date: 24/02/2026

P/HOU/2026/00061
Location: 2 The Gables Bath Road Sturminster Newton DT10 1EA
Proposal: Erect two storey and single storey rear extensions. Erect detached garage with store over.
Decision: Granted
Decision Date: 12/02/2026

P/FUL/2025/05853
Location: Puxey Farm Puxey DT10 2HR
Proposal: Change of use from redundant dairy unit to general flexible storage (to include motorhomes, caravans, cars, boats etc).
Decision: Granted
Decision Date: 13/02/2026

P/VOC/2025/07094
Location: Land east of Bath Road Sturminster Newton
Proposal: Erection of 86no. dwellings, formation of access, green space & associated infrastructure (with variation of condition 2 of planning permission P/FUL/2023/06986 - to amend approved plans)
Decision: Granted
Decision Date: 05/03/2026

P/FUL/2025/06271
Location: Banbury Cross Boarding Kennels And Cattery Angers Lane Fiddleford DT10 2BY
Proposal: Erect 1 no. Dwelling (Demolish outbuilding), erect detached garage/carport and form new vehicle access.
Decision: Granted
Decision Date: 05/03/2026

No refusals.

Chairs Initials .....