

Stocksbridge Town Council



ANNUAL REPORT 2017/18



FINANCIAL REPORT 2017/18

The Town Council approved expenditure for the financial year 2017/18 of £144,989. The main items of expenditure being: - contribution to Stocksbridge In Bloom and Steel Valley Project; Christmas Illuminations contract and the maintenance and cleaning of the public toilet block at Bolsterstone. The Town Council also incurred expenditure on the hosting of the Senior Citizens Christmas Party and the Tour de Yorkshire event. Grants of £16,032 were awarded to local groups for activities/projects in the area. The Town Council contributed £20,000 to Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre for running costs towards the small pool with further funding committed for 2018/19. During the year £2,570 Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) has been received from SCC, with expenditure of £350. The precept collected from the local taxpayers amounted to £119,629. The balance was met from reserves, miscellaneous income and donations from local businesses towards the Christmas Illuminations. The Town Council are the facility managers of The ARC Town Hall building and income/expenditure for the building is also shown within the Town Council's accounts. The Town Council's accounts are subject to internal and external audit. The final audit report will be displayed after completion of the external audit. For the current year 2018/19, budgeted expenditure amounts to £122,109 with a precept of £124,242.

COMMITTEE REPORTS - FINANCE COMMITTEE AND RECREATION AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee of the Town Council has had another productive year supporting the communities of Bolsterstone, Deepcar & Stocksbridge.

During the course of the year we have become a partner in the Sheffield Lakes Landscape Partnership Community Grant Scheme. This gives the Town Council a say in how £6,000 of their funding is spent in the area. Other partners in this scheme are Sheffield Wildlife Trust, Yorkshire Water, Sheffield City Council, Bradfield Parish Council, the Environment Agency and the Steel Valley Project. Cllr. Alan Law is our representative on the Steering Group.

The Town Council is now in receipt of Community Infrastructure Levy (CIL) money. The Town Council has taken the decision to spend this money under the Participatory Budgeting Scheme. The Town Council will work alongside the Community Forum to progress the scheme. Spending headings have been set by the Town Council as follows - Environmental Projects; Access Works; Road Safety; Recreational Facility Improvements

The Finance Committee continues to support local groups and clubs through the grant scheme. This year, a number of local schools and toddler groups have received grants, along with sports and music clubs, churches, community associations and the local music festival. We are pleased to continue to support the History Society, the Steel Valley Project and the Community Care Group, all of which are based within the Town Hall.

All the grants we have made and the associated policy can be viewed on our website, together with meeting dates and agendas.

The Recreation and Environment Committee report that the new Fox Valley development goes from strength to strength attracting many visitors into the area, with many new shopping stores opening including a variety of market days and even a Food Festival that saw thousands of people attend. We should be proud of the relatively new development as it has indeed put Stocksbridge on the map. The 'Bloors' development situated off Station Road will shortly be built with the first phase of the development soon to take place. We will see a new road leading from Manchester Road near to Deepcar Motors and a bridge over the river which will allow construction traffic to start the building of around 400 new homes on the old tyre dump site. The area also has seen the construction of around 160 new homes just behind the Fox Valley development, so it's important that the area's infrastructure, i.e. Doctors, schools, roads and transport are fit for purpose. Our main arterial road leading from Stocksbridge to the City (Manchester Road) is at the moment in time experiencing some massive road works, as the sewage plant in Deepcar is being transferred to the Water Treatment plant near to Wharnccliffe Side, many of you will have been queuing at the series of traffic lights leading to and from Stocksbridge. All Town Councillors, cross party are aware of the problems associated with this work and are conscious of every occurring problem. As your local Council representatives we try our best to make alternative suggestions to the Highways Department at City Council to make life easier for you our local residents. Developers have applied to build 80 houses at the top of Carr Road/Hollin Busk at Deepcar and many local people have already objected to this as they believe it will scar our beautiful Green Belt/Green Open Space and further weaken our infrastructure. The application has yet to come before the City's Planning Committee who will make a final decision on the issue. Local people will have noticed that our Town is looking 'Blooming' well, with flowers, bulbs and shrubs that have been planted around the area by the 'In Bloom' volunteers, they do a magnificent job, and showcase the Town, we should all be very proud of them. I believe our Town goes from strength to strength, we should be proud of where we live as Stocksbridge and Deepcar is fast becoming a desirable area to reside.

Cllr Alan Law, Chair of Finance Committee and Cllr Jack Clarkson, Chair of Recreation and Environment Committee

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

As another financial year starts for our Town Council it is time for me to reflect on the past 12 months as Chair of the Town Council and Mayor of Stocksbridge.

Since my election in May last year I have met a whole host of interesting and unique people, people like 100 year old Jean Eustace a wonderful lady now residing in Alpine Lodge and our own war veteran 100 year old Tommy Dickinson whose wife Betty was Mayor of Stocksbridge on many occasions.



I attended the Civic Service for the incoming Lord Mayor of Sheffield Cllr. Anne Murphy and was pleased to attend Yorkshire Day celebrations this year held in Sheffield where I met Mayors and dignitaries from all over Yorkshire.

I have attended numerous functions locally, far too numerous to mention but I enjoyed each and every one of them and I thank them all for their invitations and their welcoming kindness.

I sincerely hope the incoming Mayor will enjoy their year as much as I have mine.

On the Council front, Stocksbridge along with just about every other area in Sheffield has suffered from localised crime and fly tipping. This current Government and its stringent and continuing austerity cuts must shoulder the majority of the blame which has left our police force stretched to the limit.

We invited the Police and Crime Commissioner Dr Alan Billings to a Town Council meeting, the frustration in his face as he tried to answer our questions will leave a lasting mark in my memory.

We continued the Grants scheme and again we supported YOUR Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre as we will continue to do along with other local treasures like the Stocksbridge History Society, Stocksbridge Community Care Group, Stocksbridge Pentaqua and many others.

We welcome repeat and new grant applications which help our Community.

The introduction of CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) which replaced the old Section 106 monies will provide an alternative funding stream and we will need to know how best to distribute this new funding. To this end we are considering an option called "Participatory Budgeting" where an independent panel will review applications and suggest where the money should go.

The fund is small at the moment but will grow with new build projects.

With regard to building projects, this Council will always oppose building on Greenbelt and Green Open Space and to this end totally objects to the plans for Hollin Busk.

Finally, I must offer my sincere thanks to Teresa and Karen our Town Clerk and assistant for their amazing help with my diary and support over the last twelve months and to my fellow Councillors who continue to support our local Community.

Thank you all,

Keith

CHAIRMAN FOR COUNCIL YEAR 2018/2019

At the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 15th May 2018 it was resolved that Councillor Julie Grocutt be elected as Town Mayor and Chairman and Cllr. Catherine Ward was elected as Deputy Mayor.

Stocksbridge Town Council

ELECTED MEMBERS FOR THE YEAR 2017/2018

EAST WARD

Cllr. Jack Clarkson
22 Albany Road
Stocksbridge
SHEFFIELD
S36 1AL

Tel: 07756 335643



Cllr. Joseph Staniforth
As from 11/05/2017
183 Woolley Road
Stocksbridge
SHEFFIELD S36 1GF

Tel: 07415 922773



NORTH WARD

Cllr. Richard Crowther
49 Coronation Road
Stocksbridge
SHEFFIELD
S36 1AX

Tel: 07845 846971



Cllr. Catherine Ward
35 Lilac Avenue
Stocksbridge
SHEFFIELD
S36 1DD

Tel: 0114 288 1783



SOUTH WARD

Cllr. Keith Davis
78 The Rookery
Deepcar
SHEFFIELD
S36 2NA

Tel: 07963 450874



Cllr. Julie Grocutt
1 Ralph Ellis Drive
Stocksbridge
SHEFFIELD
S36 1EW

Tel: 07710 170157



WEST WARD

Cllr. Brian Grundill
8 St Andrew Road
Deepcar
SHEFFIELD
S36 2SA

Tel: 0114 288 3735



Cllr. Alan Law
5 St Helen Road
Deepcar
SHEFFIELD
S36 2TQ

Tel: 0114 288 3405



Clerk to the Council :- Teresa Bisatt

Town Hall, The ARC, Manchester Road, Stocksbridge, Sheffield, S36 2DT

Phone and fax :- 0114 288 7895

www.stocksbridge-council.co.uk E-mail:- admin@stocksbridge-council.co.uk