

STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Stocksbridge Town Council, held in the Council Chamber,
Town Hall, Stocksbridge, on Thursday, 9th February 2023

PRESENT: Cllr. J Staniforth (Chair); Cllrs. M Whittaker, R J Crowther, M Milton and
S Abrahams from Item 197

IN ATTENDANCE: Paul Gordon, Planning Officer, Strategic Planning, SCC – Item 197

1 member of the public

193. To Receive Chairman's Remarks and Apologies for Absence

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllrs. C Ward, A S Law and J A Grocutt.

194. Exclusion of the Press and Public

The Clerk stated that she wished to raise an item in Part 2 of the meeting on behalf of Cllr. JAG.

195. Declarations of Interest

There were no Declarations of Interest.

196. Public Questions and Petitions

There were no public questions and petitions.

197. Allocated Sites

The Chairman welcomed P Gordon, Planning Officer, Strategic Planning, SCC who had attended to provide information to Councillors in regard to the draft Sheffield Local Plan. PG gave a presentation giving details of the draft plan and opportunities for comments. The public consultation will run until 20th February 2023.

Cllr. SA joined the meeting at this point.

Cllr. SA raised her concerns that local schools were currently at full capacity and a further 928 homes would require more classroom space, had this been considered.

PG informed that CIL funding would be utilised and individual planning applications subject to cover some of the costs of more classrooms.

Cllr. RJC stated that the Education Department needed to be consulted and there was a need for future proofing to be prepared ahead of developments, not after they were built. Many large companies would get out of contributing to infrastructure. CIL monies should be cumulative for development over time.

Cllr. JS queried if there were any plans for any new schools in the whole of the Sheffield area, given that there were proposals for 39,000 new homes to be built.

PG said there were no plans for new schools, any additional needs would be met via increasing classroom capacity on current school sites. If it was planning for development of a whole new area then school provision would be incorporated.

Cllr. JS stated that it was foresight to see the need for new schools if school capacity was currently full, where would children go?

PG informed that the Department for Education had not identified a need for new schools.

Cllr. JS asked who had been spoken to in that department and had they been consulted on the proposals?

PG informed that the Department for Education had been consulted.

Cllr. MW queried whether the controversial plans which had been passed in this area would have been refused had the Sheffield Plan been in place.

PG advised that they would most likely have been refused.

Cllr. SA noted that a Neighbourhood Plan had been started several years ago and ground to a halt due to procedures/funding and lack of time to commit by local people.

Cllr. MM queried what infrastructure was in place for roads/transport/medical/dental/social needs as the current transport links were a nightmare.

Cllr. JS stated that if nothing was in place there would be more traffic and pollution.

Cllr. RJC stated that there was a need for a real plan for infrastructure, it was no good building homes if people could not get to work etc., the infrastructure needs to be in place now.

Cllr. MM asked if the impact of electric cars had been taken into account.

PG informed that it had and charging points incorporated throughout the city.

Cllr. JS queried what plans were in place for bus service provision, there would be mass transit corridors.

Cllr. SA noted that there had been on-going railway talks for the past 20 years.

PG noted a rail link would be a great solution and railway halts had been incorporated into the plans at Deepcar and Fox Valley but it would be extremely costly and difficult to achieve.

Cllr. L Chinchon noted that there were two CIL funding pots and queried whether the 85% was being linked to support Stocksbridge.

PG stated that there was a list of projects to be funded from this pot and it would depend where you were on the list whether the funding was allocated.

PG informed that the Draft Plan will be submitted to Government to be considered by an Independent Planning Inspector in July 2023. A report would be issued Summer 2024 with amendments Summer/Autumn 2024, to be adopted by Sheffield City Council in December 2024.

Cllr. MM queried who administers the plan.

PG informed that SCC undertake this.

Cllr. SA queried how many members of the public had attended the public consultation events.

PG stated that it had been very few.

Cllr. LC enquired how many on-line submissions had been received.

PG informed that he did not know at this time. The consultation ended on 20th February.

The Chairman thanked P Gordon for an informative presentation and thanked him for attending the meeting.

198. To Receive Remarks from the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 12th January 2023
There were no Remarks from the Minutes.

199. To Approve as a True and Correct Record the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 12th January 2023

Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 12th January 2023, copies of which had been circulated prior to the meeting were taken as read.

Proposed by Cllr. M Whittaker, seconded by Cllr. R J Crowther and

RESOLVED:- That the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.

200. Finances - To Receive and Approve Monthly Financial Statements
The Clerk reported that the details of the Monthly Financial Statements had been previously circulated.
Proposed by Cllr. M Whittaker, seconded by Cllr. M Milton and
RESOLVED:- That the Town Council accept details of the Monthly Financial Statements for January 2023 as supplied by the Clerk.
201. Yorkshire Local Councils Associations
Correspondence including:-
- White Rose Update, 20th January
- White Rose Update, 3rd February
- White Rose Update,
Copies previously circulated.
202. Towns Fund – Hopper Bus Service
The Clerk reported that she had received correspondence from A Holmes enclosing details with respect to a proposed Stocksbridge Hopper Bus Service, one of the Towns Fund projects. A survey has been put on-line to gain feedback from residents, where they want to see the service go to and the level of fare etc:- <https://haveyoursaysheffield.uk/engagementhq.com/stocksbridge>
Copies of this correspondence had been previously circulated to members’.
203. Licensing Application
The Clerk reported that she had received notification from the Licensing Service of the following application for Minor Variation of Premises Licence:-
Stocksbridge Rugby Union Football Club
634 Manchester Road, Stocksbridge
Change the time allowed to play recorded music – 00:00
Extend to the time, beyond 21:00 where children are allowed on the premises, in line with the weekend opening hours.
204. Steel Valley Project
The Clerk reported that she had received papers for the Steel Valley Project Steering Committee meeting to be held on 23rd January 2023.
The Clerk reported that she had also received minutes of the SVP Steering Committee meeting held on 23rd January 2023.
205. Stocksbridge and Upper Don VAS Data
The Clerk reported that she had received from Cllr. JAG information tables showing how many vehicles had travelled over the speed limit when passing VAS equipment and the rotation schedule of the VAS signs for the coming months. Copies of this correspondence had been previously circulated to members’.
206. Potential Disposals List
The Clerk reported that she had received correspondence via Cllr. JAG providing further information on the Potential Disposals List issued by SCC. Copies of this correspondence had been previously circulated to members’.

207. Streets Ahead

The Clerk reported that she had received a copy of the Streets Ahead Newsletter, January 2023. Copies of this correspondence had been previously circulated to members’.

208. Sheffield Transport User Group

The Clerk reported that she had received correspondence from SYMCA informing that the virtual Sheffield Transport User Group meetings are scheduled for 6th April, 6th July and 5th October 2023, commencing at 10.30am. This information had been forwarded to the Chairman.

209. Clerks Reports

Nothing to report at this time.

210. To Receive Verbal Reports from Members’

a) Cllr. MW reported that he had attended the SVP Steering Committee meeting and asked whether the £9,500 of funding received for litter picks had been spent as there were areas in the Town in desperate need of clearing. Cllr. MW had been informed that the funds had been used so he had requested that SVP apply for further funding for litter picking.

Cllr. MW noted that SVP had received a substantial sum from the Towns Fund towards improvement works in the Little Don.

Cllr. MW informed of residents’ complaints following the increase in works at the Bloors site, exiting onto Station Road, the large vehicles leaving a trail of mud and debris. Members noted that companies had a duty of care to keep the highways clean whilst works are being carried out. The Clerk undertook to write to Bloors informing of the complaints and requesting that clean up works are undertaken on a regular basis.

Cllr. MW reported that he had attended 2 Friends of Fox Glen Park meetings, the group being very active, and this afternoon had attended a site visit with a representative from Parks Department to consider the layout for the new play equipment. However, he had been most concerned to note that pumping equipment, for use in case of future flooding on Wood Royd Road, had been dumped in one side of the park with half of the entrance gate being utilised together with fencing to cordon the area off, thus leaving the remaining gate unable to close, a health and safety issue for young children using the park. Also the machinery needed to install the new play equipment would need access via the width of both gates, hence the improvement works could not currently take place.

Members suggested that Cllr. JAG be asked to confirm who was responsible for the equipment and Cllr. MW undertook to draft a letter informing of the proposed works in the park and requesting that an alternative site be found for the pumping equipment.

b) Cllr. SA reported that she had attended a meeting at Smithy Moor Community Centre, together with Cllr. JAG regarding the green space. There was to be a meeting on 17th February to discuss this further and look at the playground area.

Cllr. SA had attended the Bolsterstone Archaeology Group meeting; the Friday Drop In and Lunch Club, noting that numbers were down.

Cllr. SA reported that The Venue was doing well and they were currently interviewing for staff.

Cllr. SA informed that she had attended a Heritage Community Day in Sheffield organised by Cllr J Ridler and it was hoped to hold a similar event in Stocksbridge in November.

Cllr. SA advised that she was involved in some distressing issues with the elderly/vulnerable people in the area.

Cllr. SA informed that the TARA event would be held on 16th February.

c) In the absence of Cllr. JAG the Clerk read out the following report:-

Re Hole House Lane, Cllr. JAG was trying to establish from Yorkshire Water and Amey who

will be repairing the road and when. YW are still there dealing with further issues. Cllr. JAG has asked if the current state of the road is safe to be driving on and is awaiting a response. Cllr. JAG attended a meeting together with Cllr. SA regarding Smithy Moor green space. Cllr. JAG attended Friends of Fox Glen Park meeting together with Cllr. MW; visited Happy Hands Toddler Group; attended a Coffee Morning at the Christian Centre; attended a Meeting Place book launch of Steelbridge Angels written by Craig Minto. Cllr. JAG informed that the hole in the footpath across from Oceanic where toilet used to be is a BT fault, they have covered the hole but cannot give a date for repairs. Cllr. JAG enquired whether Cllrs. SA or MW have had a chance to speak to Stubbin Community Centre people about their business plan. Cllr. SA noted that she had contacted someone but to date had received no information. Cllr. JAG is still dealing with bus complaints. Stagecoach recently informed that they are reviewing the route but have no plans to change it at this time.

211. To Receive a Verbal Report from the Mayor

The Mayor, Cllr. J Staniforth reported that he had attended the following events since the last meeting:-

Pantomime Jack and the Bean Stalk at Christ Church by Steel Valley Beacon Arts which had been well attended.

7th February – Royd NI/Deepcar St John’s School Council meeting held in the Council Chamber.

Cllr. JS had also attended, with his family, the free sessions put on at Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre for families as part of the Warm Spaces initiative.

212. To Consider Planning Applications and receive the Decisions of the Sheffield Planning and Highways Committee

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|--------------|---|--|
| 22/04337/FUL | Land East of the River Don and to the South West of Station Road, Deepcar | Amendments to house types and plot layout, and construction of a retaining wall (Application under Section 73 to vary condition 2 (Approved plans) of planning permission no. 19/00054/FUL (Erection of 428 dwellings with associated infrastructure including means of access, all-purpose bridge, drainage, open space and landscaping works)). |
| 23/00021/FUL | Within the curtilage of 2 Pheasant Lane, Ewden | Erection of subterranean dwellinghouse. |
| 23/00258/TEL | Pole Mounted Electricity Sub-Station, 35M West From Left Hand House, Low Lathe Farm, Low Lathe Lane, Stocksbridge | Upgrade to base station including removal of 15m high Phosco phase 1 monopole, phase 3 headframe and 2no. cabinets, and installation of 20.0m high phase 4.5 monopole and 4.51 headframe on concrete base, with 1no. GPS module, 4no. antennas, 2no. 300 dishes, 2no. cabinets and associated ancillary works (Application to determine if prior approval required for siting and appearance). |

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| 23/00237/FUL | Land adjacent 22 Belmont Drive, Stocksbridge | Application under Section 73 to vary condition no.2 (approved plans) and rewording of condition no.11 (landscape works) to ‘Prior to the development being brought into use a comprehensive and detailed landscaping scheme for the site shall be submitted and approved in writing by the local planning authority’ to planning permission 19/01392/FUL – Erection of 2x dwellinghouses. |
| NP/S/1122/1364 | School House, Heads Lane, Bolsterstone | Infill extension, additional windows and doors to existing side extension, refurbished window surrounds mullions and transoms, replacement windows, rooflights, replacement porch and refurbishment to existing conservatory with internal reconfigurations. |

With regard to the undermentioned planning application the Clerk reported that the Town Council’s comments had been forwarded to SCC Planning Department:-

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|--------------|---|---|
| 22/04094/OUT | Land at rear of 1 to 11, Edward Street, Stocksbridge, | Outline planning application (some matters reserved) for the erection of 9no dwellings. |
|--------------|---|---|

The Town Council is highly concerned with regard to the suitability of this proposal.

Local amenity

The application site is presently a green open space providing amenity to local residents. The development of this site, in conjunction with the threat to privacy posed by the likelihood of any constructed property overlooking existing residents’ properties, would not be conducive to local residents’ continued enjoyment of their domiciles.

Highways issues

The local highway network is comprised of relatively narrow residential streets, the narrowness of which are compounded by high levels of on-street parking. We are concerned that additional vehicle movements would pose an increased highways hazard for local (and prospective future) residents.

Suitability of application site

There are numerous issues with regard to the suitability of the application site itself for development. The site presently acts as a green soakaway through which a stream currently flows, and becomes a torrent during mild to heavy rainfall. There is a wealth of anecdotal evidence to suggest that this particular elevation along the valley side is prone to the appearance of springs and other flooding issues; we feel that this should be thoroughly explored to determine whether this is due to geological factors.

It is well known that the application site is affected by old mine workings. We agree entirely with the assessment made by the Coal Authority, that the developer has not adequately demonstrated that the application can safely accommodate the scale and layout of the proposed development. In the interests of the safety of existing and prospective future residents, members

of the public and construction workers no permission of any kind should be granted if there are doubts about the safety of the proposals.

Due to the reasons expressed above, Stocksbridge Town Council would express its concern at the proposed development and would wish to formally object. We would also ask that the application is considered by the full Planning and Highways Committee rather than being taken as a delegated decision.

Planning Applications - Decisions

The undermentioned planning applications have been Granted Conditionally:-

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|--------------|---|---|
| 22/04081/FUL | Handfield, 1 Clay Pits Lane, Stocksbridge | Erection of single-storey side and rear extension to dwellinghouse. |
| 22/03874/FUL | 17 Unsliven Road, Stocksbridge | Demolition of garage, erection of first floor, two-storey rear extension, and single-storey side extension to dwellinghouse - Resubmission of application 22/00447/FUL (amended description). |
| 22/03982/FUL | More Hall Grange Cottage, More Hall Lane, Ewden | Erection of a single-storey side extension to dwellinghouse and associated landscaping. |
| 23/00013/TCA | Highlands, Stone Moor Road, Stocksbridge | Pruning of trees (Bolsterstone Conservation Area). |
| 22/04418/FUL | 13 Newton Avenue, Stocksbridge | Formation of access steps to front of dwellinghouse, alterations and part excavation of front garden to provide off-street parking for 2no. cars and provision of dropped kerb to front of dwellinghouse. |
| 22/04211/FUL | Cedar Road Christian Centre, Cedar Road, Stocksbridge | Erection of rear extensions on upper and lower ground floors; renovation of cafe and kitchen for use as food bank and community shop/café, and provision of new vehicular crossing onto Pot House Lane with onsite parking for three disabled parking bays to the north of existing building - Amended description. |
| 22/02662/FUL | Quarry Hill Cottage, Wood Royd Road, Deepcar | Erection of an ancillary building comprising triple garage, workshop/storage for existing residential unit. |
| 22/03873/FUL | Fern House, Briery Busk Farm, Nine Acre Lane, Stocksbridge | Erection of an open fronted barn. |

The undermentioned planning applications have been Refused:-

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|--------------|--|--|
| 22/02303/OUT | Land between Hollin Busk Road and Broomfield Grove and Broomfield Lane, Stocksbridge | Outline application for erection of up to 92 dwellinghouses and associated vehicular and pedestrian access (all matters reserved except Access). |
|--------------|--|--|

22/04204/FUL 6 Birch Tree Road, Stocksbridge Erection of single-storey front extension to dwellinghouse.

213. Recreation and Environment Committee Members discussed Minutes of the Meeting of the Recreation and Environment Committee of the Town Council held on 31st January 2023, copies of which had been previously circulated.

Proposed by Cllr. M Milton, seconded by Cllr. M Whittaker and

RESOLVED:- (i) That the minutes of the Recreation and Environment Committee be accepted.

214. Finance Committee Members discussed Minutes of the Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Town Council, held on 31st January 2023, copies of which had been previously circulated.

Proposed by Cllr. M Milton, seconded by Cllr. R J Crowther and

RESOLVED:- (i) That the minutes of the Finance Committee be accepted.

215. Accounts for Authorisation

Proposed by Cllr. M Whittaker, seconded by Cllr. R J Crowther and

RESOLVED:- (i) That cheques be signed in settlement of the undermentioned accounts:-

| | | | <u>Made Under Power</u> |
|------------------------------------|--|----------|-------------------------|
| Salaries/Tax/NI/Pensions | February 2023 | £3572.09 | LGA72(S111) |
| 4SLC Trust | Revenue funding – Qtr 4 | £5000.00 | LGA76(S19) |
| Facility Maintenance Solutions Ltd | Monthly water monitoring | £ 10.30 | LGA72(Sch14P9) |
| Facility Maintenance Solutions Ltd | Repairs to frozen pipes/ unblocking toilets – Bol public toilets | £ 182.50 | “ |
| Viking | Stationery/stamps/toilet rolls | £ 80.13 | “ |

(ii) That cheques be signed in settlement of the undermentioned accounts in respect of The ARC:-

| | | | <u>Made Under Power</u> |
|------------------------------------|--------------------------|----------|-------------------------|
| Firths Window Cleaning Ltd | Window cleaning | £ 55.00 | LGA72(S111) |
| NRC Services Ltd | Cleaning charges | £ 637.98 | “ |
| Pollards Wholesale Ltd | Coffee supplies | £ 46.45 | “ |
| Record UK | Door repairs and parts | £ 661.20 | “ |
| Copymark (Service) Ltd | Photocopier charges | £ 54.31 | “ |
| Facility Maintenance Solutions Ltd | Monthly water monitoring | £ 20.60 | “ |
| Micro Alarms Ltd | 5x fobs for SCC Housing | £ 35.58 | “ |

(iii) That authority be given for Direct Debits paid in settlement of the undermentioned accounts:-

| | | | <u>Made Under Power</u> |
|--|--|----------|-------------------------|
| January 2023:- Sheffield City Council | Business Rates – History Society | £ 40.00 | LGA72(S111) |
| Sheffield City Council | Business Rates – Communal areas | £ 524.00 | “ |
| Sheffield City Council | Business Rates – Bolsterstone toilets | £ 60.00 | LGA72(Sch14p9) |
| Public Works Loan Board | Loan repayment | £3379.37 | LGA72(S111) |
| Business Stream | Water Rates – ARC | £ 434.01 | “ |
| Business Stream | Water Rates – Bol toilets | £ 425.12 | “ |
| SSE | Electricity charges - ARC | £1609.04 | “ |

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|-------------------------|----------------------------|---|-------|---|
| British Gas Lite | Electricity charges – Xmas | £ | 15.36 | “ |
| | Tree - precinct | | | |
| Moorepay | Payroll monthly charge | £ | 74.90 | “ |
| Intuit Ltd – Quickbooks | VAT software subscription | £ | 14.40 | “ |
| Veolia | Waste removal | £ | 91.54 | “ |

Proposed by Cllr. M Whittaker, seconded by Cllr. S Abrahams and

RESOLVED:- That under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, members of the press and public are excluded for the following item(s) of business as the Council considers that the nature of business to be transacted is prejudicial to the public interest.

216. Whitwell Community Centre

The Clerk reported to members, on behalf of Cllr. JAG, the current situation with respect to Whitwell Community Centre.

Chairman