

STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a Meeting of the Stocksbridge Town Council, held in the Council Chamber,
Town Hall, Stocksbridge, on Thursday, 8th July 2021

PRESENT: Cllr. R J Crowther (Chair); Cllrs. C Ward, J Staniforth, S Abrahams, M Whittaker
and Cllr. J A Grocutt from Item No. 66

IN ATTENDANCE:- M Kaye, Stocksbridge & Deepcar TARA – Item No. 59

2 Members of the public

55. To Receive Chairman's Remarks and Apologies for Absence
Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr. A S Law, M Milton and J A Grocutt would be arriving late.
56. Exclusion of the Press and Public
There were no items for Exclusion of the Press and Public.
57. Declarations of Interest
Cllr. J Grocutt declared an interest in any Planning issues.
Cllr. C Ward declared a personal interest in planning application 21/02283/OUT.
58. Public Questions and Petitions
The Chairman welcomed residents who wished to raise their serious concerns in respect of the development taking place on Coppice Close/Hawthorne Avenue which was causing issues with flooding/mud and debris and traffic/parking problems.
Cllr. SA stated that she was speaking on behalf of all residents living adjacent to the development as it was getting worse day on day and recently there had been a head on collision between two vehicles and on Coppice Close residents vehicles were impeded by a large wagon. Works should not commence until 7.30/8am but were starting much earlier and roads/drains were blocked with mud and debris runoff from the site which was in breach of planning regulations.
A resident stated that he had met with the developer who had acknowledged the flooding and mud situation but no compensation had been forthcoming, nor had any clearing assistance. Residents themselves were having to clear the drains in order to protect their properties from flood damage. Initially a channel had been dug at the back of the gardens in an effort to divert the water runoff but this had gone into the stream polluting the river, involving the Environmental Agency and also damaging the roots of trees in New Hall Woods, an ancient woodland with wood anemomies growing over a long period of time. Yorkshire Water had needed to carry out extensive works on the drains on Manchester Road as the flood water had made its way to the main road.
A resident stated that she had lived on Hawthorne Avenue since childhood and there had never been any flooding issues until works commenced on the development. Only a third of the

properties had been built to date and serious damage had occurred so if the development were to be completed there would be further detrimental damage to the area and the water runoff would find a further alternative route down the hillside.

Cllr. JS concurred with all that had been said and stated that the remainder of the proposed housing should not be built.

Cllr. RJC requested that the Clerk write to Planning Enforcement stating that the flooding/mud/traffic chaos/noise nuisance was impacting on the quality of life of local residents and requesting that serious consideration be given to suspension of the development. It was causing untold environmental damage to the local public ancient woodland in which wood anemones were growing and damaging the root system of the trees. The natural green soak away fields providing runoff for the water from fields above had been disturbed and that water was finding alternative routes, via peoples' properties, on its way down the hillside.

Cllr. CW requested that the resident send in photos/videos of the flooding/mud damage to include with the letter.

The Chairman thanked the residents for attending the meeting.

59. Stocksbridge and Deepcar Tenants and Residents Association (TARA)

The Chairman welcomed Mary Kaye, Treasurer, TARA who had been invited in order to ascertain in what way the Town Council could best assist the group following the recent death of the Chairman and loss of the son of the Secretary.

The Clerk noted that Cllr. JAG had requested this item being concerned that the group may be lacking in administrative support following recent bereavements. Unfortunately, Cllr. JAG was delayed in a meeting.

MK informed the Council that the books had been seen and approved by the Accountant and the groups insurance had been renewed.

Cllr. MW requested clarification on what the group did, being a relatively new Councillor.

MK advised that the group received a levy from SCC which they divided between three local areas, Stocksbridge being one, where groups could apply for a donation towards a project which could then be considered by the group and funded if it was deemed appropriate. However, due to the covid pandemic the group had been unable to meet and sign cheques therefore the levy remained in the Bank for the present time.

MK stated that she had held a lengthy talk with Cllr. JAG and that she had no concerns with the administration of the levy until such time as the group could meet and consideration of donations could commence again.

The Chairman thanked M Kaye for taking the time to attend the meeting and providing an update.

60. Planning Application 21/02283/OUT – Land between 48 and 50 Haywood Lane, Deepcar

Cllr. MW update members on the outcome of his meeting with local residents and a further incident on site. Members were in agreement with the objections put together and previously circulated by Cllr. MW to be sent to Planning Department.

Proposed by Cllr. M Whittaker, seconded by Cllr. J Staniforth and

RESOLVED:- That the Town Council instruct the Clerk to write to Planning Department with respect to the above planning application stating that Councillors felt the proposal was inappropriate due to the following reasons:-

a) This is a steep sided site that provides a natural soak point for the line of springs that lie above it. Haywood Lane is already notorious for its water run off problems. Building will add to these issues.

- b) It is a green site and is home to a wide variety of wildlife including bats, hedgehogs, shrews, owls and foxes. It is part of a green corridor from the Don Valley, through Wood Royd and Fox Glen, out to the moors, providing a rich ecological habitat. The residents see many bats and have requested a bat survey, as well as an ecological survey.
- c) Haywood Lane itself is essentially a narrow country lane. It is used as rat run by cars, lorries and delivery vans at all times of the day, from the residential area higher up the hill which the residents report as causing problems for pedestrians. For much of its course it has no foot way. Where it does have a foot way it is parked on by cars, otherwise those cars would block the road. Residents report frequent wing mirror losses and scrapings of these parked cars because of the narrowness of the road. This lane can take no more pressure from the vehicles of extra houses, and the building operation itself would completely block the road with construction vehicles.
- d) This has been a green site since the mine workings and small quarry stopped a considerable time ago. The presence of a shallow, soft bed coal seam meant the coal could be easily accessed and it was mined illegally, which means there are no maps of these workings. The Coal Risk Assessment indicates possible risk of structural instability and mine gas, due to shallow workings. Bore holes and drilling will have to be done to determine their extent. This will cause further blockages on the road. The residents are also extremely concerned of the fact that the steep hillside is potentially unstable and will have repercussions for their own properties once building commences.
- e) The proposed houses would be at a high elevation compared to surrounding properties. Residents across the road and to either side are concerned that they will be both overshadowed and overlooked, with clear line of site into their properties. The application states that care will be taken as much as possible to minimise the effect of overshadowing the other properties. This does not reassure the residents.

61. To Receive Remarks from the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 24th June 2021
There were no Remarks from the Minutes.
62. To Approve as a True and Correct Record the Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 24th June 2021
Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting of the Town Council held on 24th June 2021, copies of which had been circulated prior to the meeting were taken as read.
Proposed by Cllr. J Staniforth, seconded by Cllr. M Whittaker and
RESOLVED:- That the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
63. 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. S Abrahams and
RESOLVED:- That the Town Council accept details of the Monthly Financial Statements for June 2021 as supplied by the Clerk.
64. Grant Applications
a) Strideout Stocksbridge Running Club
The Clerk tabled the further information requested in respect of the grant application from the Strideout Stocksbridge Running Club.
Proposed by Cllr. C Ward, seconded by Cllr. S Abrahams and

RESOLVED:- That the Town Council approve a grant of £500 to Strideout Stocksbridge Running Club for assistance towards the training of run leaders and equipment.

65. SLLP Grant Applications

No grant applications had been received to date.

66. Clerks Reports

a) The Clerk reported that correspondence had been received from Steel Valley Beacon Arts thanking the Town Council for the recent grant support and noting that they had acted upon the Town Council's requests where possible and working through the Stocksbridge and Upper Don Delivery Group were to provide an opportunity for as many people as possible to attend the filming of their performance free of charge. This had been re-arranged to 21st July following the lifting of covid restrictions, and they had also organised a further two live performances, including an additional play, tickets for which will be reduced in price to make the event accessible for all.

b) The Clerk reported that she had received correspondence from Wake Smith Solicitors acting on behalf of the Sheffield Diocesan Board of Finance in relation to the proposed sale of St Matthias Church and car park. The right for the Council to park on the land is terminable on 12 months notice and the clients have requested that the rights be terminated. However, the client as asked whether the Council would agree to give up the rights before the expiry of a 12 month notice?

Cllr. J A Grocutt arrived at this point of the meeting.

Cllr. JAG noted that there was a public car park opposite the Town Hall and suggested that the Clerk inform the tenants that the development was due to commence imminently and they would be parking at their own risk. In the meantime the Clerk was requested to contact the Solicitors to request a 3 month termination period and possible start date for the development.

c) The Clerk noted that this would be the last meeting prior to the Summer break and that as from September the meeting schedule would return to normal, being the Recreation and Finance Committees on 7th September followed by the Town Council meeting on 9th September.

d) The Clerk noted a request on social media for the location of defibrillators in the area and stated that she had commenced making a list to put on the Town Council website and facebook. However, she had found that not all defibrillators in the area were registered which they needed to be in order to be made accessible to both emergency services and residents and not all were available 24/7. The Clerk would be contacting locations she had found to ascertain if they were internal/external, availability for access and to request that they become registered if not already.

67. To Receive Verbal Reports from Members'

a) Cllr. CW informed that she had held a meeting on site at the Youth Centre with Laura Hayfield, Interim Head of Youth Services, SCC regarding youth provision in the area and requesting that the Youth Centre to be open more evenings for access by local youths.

b) Cllr. SA reported that the issue regarding the caravan on Ridal Avenue/Hawthorne Avenue had been resolved and the caravan had been moved.

Cllr. SA had attended the Climate Action meeting and had been impressed with the actions SCC proposed taking and felt that the Town Council should formally support these.

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

RESOLVED:- That the Town Council write to SCC formally supporting the intended actions in support of Climate Action.

Cllr. SA had attended an Archaeological meeting and felt that the Town Council should lobby to prevent the closure of the Archaeological Office in the University of Sheffield which supports work ongoing in the Sheffield.

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

RESOLVED:- That the Town Council write to the President and Vice Chancellor of the University of Sheffield to oppose the closure of the Archaeological Department.

Cllr. JS abstained from voting.

Cllr. SA noted that G Silverwood's wife had recently passed away and requested that the Town Council send formal condolences.

c) Cllr. MW informed that he had written to the Archaeological Department as a member of Walkers are Welcome as their walks incorporate many historical sites of which they were not fully aware.

Cllr. MW noted that the trees on New Street had now been cut back, however, the debris was causing issues. The Clerk undertook to contact Streets Ahead to request they clear the area.

Cllr. MW reported that issues regarding the Haywood Lane planning application were ongoing.

d) Cllr. JAG noted that the ornamental border recently installed to the front of the Town Hall appeared to be incomplete. The Clerk undertook to contact the installer regarding the matter.

Cllr. JAG requested the Housing notice be removed from the front of the Town Hall as it was looking very tired and torn.

Cllr. JAG reported that she had attended the debriefing meeting following the Hollin Busk Inquiry, the Digital Inclusion session at SCC and the Climate Action Conference together with Cllr. SA.

Cllr. JAG continued to have a large amount of casework involving flooding issues and pot holes.

e) Cllr. JS advised that he had attended the presentation of book tokens to Stocksbridge Junior School together with the Mayor.

68. To Receive a Verbal Report from the Mayor

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

Garden Village Community Association meeting

Hollin Busk Inquiry, which had now closed. Cllr. RJC felt that SCC had gone all out in their choice a Barrister and the Inspector had been very reasonable, hearing everyones views. The Friends of Hollin Busk Group had done an outstanding job. Cllr. RJC would keep the Town Council informed of the outcome.

30th June – presentation of the Award and plaque to Stocksbridge Community Care Group in recognition of outstanding efforts during the covid pandemic.

6th July – presentation of £100 book tokens each to Royd Nursery Infant and Deepcar St John's Junior Schools

8th July – presentation of £100 book tokens to Stocksbridge High School together with Cllr. JS.

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

21/02283/OUT	Land between 48 and 50 Haywood Lane, Deepcar	Outline application (all matters reserved) for the erection of 5 dwellings.
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21/02903/HPN	15 St Helen Road, Deepcar	Single-storey rear extension - the extension will be 5.6 metres from the rear of the original dwellinghouse, ridge height no more than 3 metres and height to the eaves of 3 metres.
21/02945/FUL	759 Manchester Road, Stocksbridge	Construction of a driveway with new vehicular access including a dropped kerb.
21/02854/FUL	20 Shay House Lane, Stocksbridge	Erection of rear raised decking area with provision of balustrade to dwellinghouse.
21/02900/LD2	74 Paterson Close, Stocksbridge	Application for a Lawful Development Certificate for the demolition of rear conservatory, provision of rooflights to front and rear elevations, and erection of a single-storey rear extension and single-storey side extension to dwellinghouse (Application under Section 192).
21/02978/FUL	2 Pheasant Lane, Ewden	Erection of two-storey side extension including attic extension to bungalow
21/02961/FUL	2A Vaughton Hill, Deepcar	Use of first floor office (use Class E) As a single residential unit (use Class C3).

Planning Applications - Decisions

The undermentioned planning applications have been Granted Conditionally:-

21/00967/FUL	Langley Brook Farm, Clay Pits Lane, Stocksbridge	Alterations to barn to form a dwellinghouse.
21/01882/FUL	Land adjacent 1 Samuel Fox Avenue, Stocksbridge	Erection of a dwellinghouse and detached garage.
20/04188/FUL	2 Hole House Lane, Stocksbridge	Erection of a single dwellinghouse including provision of access and parking (Amended Description and Plans).
21/02278/FUL	47 Hunshelf Park, Stocksbridge	Erection of single-storey side/rear extension to dwellinghouse.

The undermentioned planning application has been Withdrawn:-

17/03797/COND3	Land East of the River Don and to the South West of Station Road, Deepcar	Application to approve details in relation to condition numbers 9. (Phase II Intrusive Site Investigation Report) 11. (Minewater Contamination) & 20. (Remediation Strategy Report) of planning permission 17/03797/FUL.
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The undermentioned planning application has been given Condition Application Decided:-

18/03869/COND7	Land at the rear of 13 and 42 Coppice Close, Stocksbridge	Application to approve details in relation to condition numbers: 5 (Surface Water Drainage Design), 6
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(Surface Water Disposal) and 16 (Prevention of Surface Water Spillage onto Highway) relating to planning permission 18/03869/FUL.

70. Towns Deal Bid

Cllr. JAG reported that A Holmes had been appointed as Communications Officer for the Towns Fund and felt that once in position more information regarding the bid would be forthcoming.

Cllr. SA queried the funicular noting the comments on social media.

Cllr. JAG advised that the funicular was an attraction to get people into the Town and from Fox Valley to Manchester Road and any funding received via a small payment to use it would be ploughed back into the further enhancement of the area. However, its positioning was located on Liberty Steel land so the outcome was not clear at present.

71. Accounts for Authorisation

The Clerk informed that approval was required for cheques signed in between meetings during the Coronavirus lockdown, authority having been given by the Chairman, Deputy Chairman and Cllr. JAG, a list of which had been circulated to members prior to the meeting.

Proposed by Cllr. M Whittaker, seconded by Cllr. C Ward and

RESOLVED:-

(i) That approval be given for cheques signed in between meetings during the Coronavirus Lockdown, in settlement of the undermentioned accounts.

				<u>Made Under Power</u>
CPRE	Annual Subscription	£ 36.00	LGA72(S111)	
Facility Maintenance Solutions Ltd	Monthly water monitoring	£ 10.00	LGA72(Sch14P9)	
Steel Valley Beacon Arts	Grant Aid	£ 700.00	LGA76(S19)	
Valley Recreational Project	Transport Grant	£ 260.00	“	
Town Parish Audit	Internal Audit 2020/2021	£ 340.00	LGA72(S111)	
K Lindley	Bolsterstone toilet supplies	£ 20.08	LGA72(Sch14P9)	
T H Bisatt	Zoom subscription	£ 11.99	LGA72(S111)	
4SLC Trust	Revenue funding 2 nd quarter	£5000.00	LGA76(S19)	

(ii) That approval be given for cheques signed in between meetings during the Coronavirus Lockdown, in settlement of the undermentioned accounts in respect of The ARC:-

				<u>Made Under Power</u>
Copymark (Service) Ltd	Photocopier usage	£ 5.82	LGA72(S111)	
Porter Fire Ltd	Annual service of fire extinguishers	£ 169.80	“	
Facility Maintenance Solutions Ltd	Monthly water monitoring	£ 20.00	“	
Facility Maintenance Solutions Ltd	6 monthly external maint	£ 120.00	“	
NRC Services Ltd	Cleaning contract	£ 605.29	“	
Firths Window Cleaning Services	Window cleaning	£ 55.00	“	
Aquapoint Ltd	Water cooler charges	£ 89.43	“	
Graces Ornamental Ironworks Ltd	Rails around flower beds	£1860.00	“	

(iii) That authority be given for Direct Debits paid during the Coronavirus lockdown during June 2021:-

				<u>Made Under Power</u>
Sheffield City Council	Business Rates – ARC	£ 524.00	LGA72(S111)	
Sheffield City Council	Business Rates – History Society	£ 40.00	“	
Sheffield City Council	Business Rates – Bol toilets	£ 60.00	“	
British Telecomms Ltd	Broadband	£ 153.48	“	
Veolia	Waste removal	£ 85.92	“	

Moorepay	Payroll monthly charge	£ 67.75	“
Intuit Ltd – Quickbooks	VAT software subscription	£ 14.40	“

(iv) That authority be given for salaries paid during the coronavirus lockdown:-

Salaries/Tax/NI/Pensions	July 2021	£3341.99	<u>Made Under Power</u> LGA72(S111)
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Chairman