

STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Stocksbridge Town Council, held remotely via Zoom,
on Thursday, 8th October 2020

PRESENT: Cllr. C Ward (Chair); Cllrs. R J Crowther, M Milton, A S Law, M Whittaker,
S Abrahams and J Staniforth from Item 317

310. To Receive Chairman's Remarks and Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. J A Grocutt and J Staniforth would be late joining the meeting.
311. Exclusion of the Press and Public
There were no items for exclusion of the press and public.
312. Declarations of Interest
Cllr. A S Law declared an interest in any planning applications to be considered.
313. Public Questions and Petitions
The Clerk reported a question from a local resident with respect to transport facilities within the Town, asking if it would be possible for Councillors to lobby for a bus to go from Stocksbridge to Barnsley, perhaps twice per day with the suggestion that possibly the 201 could undertake this journey continuing on from Chapeltown. The resident was very appreciative of the South Pennine Community Transport buses 25B and 26 which made the journeys to Penistone and Holmfirth. The Clerk undertook to forward this request to Cllr. JS in order that it could be raised at a future Transport meeting.

The Clerk reported a residents anger at the state of the 57 bus service, the buses of which were not fit for purpose with continual breakdowns, a poor timetable and route. The resident in question caught the bus at Hillcrest Road, an area with many elderly residents, which if it broke down had to walk to the main road to catch the Supertram bus or not make the journey at all due to their inability to walk the distance.

The Clerk undertook to forward this item to Cllr. JS in order that it could be raised at a future Transport meeting.

The Clerk reported that a local resident had raised the issue of parking on Shay House Lane at school drop off and pick up times, noting that his driveway had been completely blocked off on one occasion and the verbal abuse from people if they were asked to move their vehicles. The situation had become intolerable.

The Clerk noted that the residents had been told to contact the Police/PCSO's and undertook to forward the details to Cllr. JAG as she had been dealing with issues around the schools on a number of occasions.

Cllr. SA noted that the schools regularly send letters to parents requesting that they walk their children to school, to no avail.

Cllr. CW reported the situation was similar around all the schools with parents arriving up to an hour early just to get a parking space.

The Clerk was requested to contact the Police/PCSO's again to report the ongoing situation and write an open letter to Look Local appealing to parents to walk before there was a serious accident.

314. To Receive Remarks from the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 10th September 2020
There were no Remarks from the Minutes.

315. To Approve as a True and Correct Record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 10th September 2020

Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 10th September 2020, 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.

316. 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. S Abrahams, seconded by Cllr. M Milton and

RESOLVED:- That the Town Council accept details of the Monthly Financial Statements for September 2020 as supplied by the Clerk.

317. Grant Applications

No grant applications had been received to date.

Cllr. J Staniforth joined the meeting at this point.

The Clerk briefly updated Cllr. JS on the transport items to be forwarded on, to be raised at a future Transport meeting. Cllr. SA noted that the Transport Group were not currently meeting due to Covid.

318. SLLP Grant Applications

No grant applications had been received to date.

319. Clerks Reports

The Clerk updated members on plans for Remembrance Day noting that there would be no Church service or parade this year. A small gathering was proposed at the Clock Tower at 1045am with Revd. Hilda Issacson, members of the Royal British Legion to lay a wreath with the bugler to sound the Last Post. On the actual day, 11th November, it was hoped to hold a small service outside at St Mary's Church, Bolsterstone and to lay a wreath. The poppy on the Town Hall would be displayed from 1st to 12th November and would be changed for the Town Council's Christmas Illuminations display as per last year.

The Town Council Christmas Illuminations will be co-ordinated to be switched on with Fox Valley, however there will be no event in Fox Valley for the Town.

The Clerk noted plans to write to schools after October half term to enquire if they would be interested in taking part in a Christmas Card competition.

320. To Receive Verbal Reports from Members?

a) Cllr. MW noted ongoing issues with mud on the road at the entrance to the new Bloors site.

b) Cllr. JS reported that he had attended the Don Valley Railway meeting, Towns Fund Infrastructure meeting which disappointingly was not making progress, the possibility of a rail link to the area decreasing, having been rejected by the Department for Transport and currently being rewritten and appeared to be hitting a political brick wall.

Cllr. JS informed that schools would be closing at lunchtime on Fridays after half term. He had spoken to the Headteacher who had informed that this was in order to try and prevent teacher burn out but it was obviously causing childcare issues for many parents.

c) Cllr. SA reported that she continued to have daily follow up calls with STEP.

Cllr. SA informed of fly tipping issues in New Hall Wood with residents using the area as a local dump for garden waste, the signage stating no fly tipping having been covered in vegetation. Cllr. SA was requesting the installation of wooden barriers to prevent wheelbarrows from accessing the area. The Clerk noted that SVP had undertaken improvement works in the area and may know who the land belonged to and undertook to contact T Newman.

d) Cllr. RJC reported that he had attended the Community Association, School Governors and Sheffield Plan meetings.

e) Cllr. ASL reported that he had attended the SLLP meeting.

Cllr. ASL noted that Francyne Johnson had been very ill with covid and that Cllr. JAG had undertaken her workload.

Cllr. CW asked that the get well wishes of the Town Council be forwarded on.

f) In the absence of Cllr. JAG the Clerk read out her report since the last meeting:-

Letters have been circulated to all residents in Woolley Road asking for information on concerns about what Oxley Park is currently being used for. Once the information is collated Cllr. JAG will be liaising with the local police in regard to any action that can be taken.

Cllr. JAG met with the local NPT Sargent a couple of weeks ago and discussed a number of areas of concern with regard to anti-social behaviour. As a result a request has been made for a MoCam at Stubbin and Wood Royd Park.

Cllr. JAG had met with the flood defence team in relation to flooding from Fox Glen. A package has put together to go to the Environment Agency for a permanent solution as this is their responsibility, however, this could take a number of years to conclude. In the meantime the situation is being monitored by Amey and when necessary pumps will be brought in to prevent flooding. The solution is a complicated and expensive one as the work which needs to be done is deep underground. Local residents have been updated.

Cllr. JAG reported that the Town Fund, thanks to the hard work of SCC officers and the Friends of Oxley Park working with the Leisure Centre, additional boost funding for the Centre has been approved and work is ongoing for an outside café area. Cllr. JAG had missed the meeting last week and had not yet seen the minutes to provide an update.

Cllr. JAG attended the opening day of the Oxley Café and enjoyed a very nice lunch.

Cllr. JAG continues to be kept busy with a lot of local casework.

The Clerk noted additional information from Cllr. JAG received today:-

Cllr. JAG reported that the new extension at the Leisure Centre has now flooded twice, last weekend and overnight and she was contacted this morning to assist and called out the Fire Service and the Parks Department to see what assistance could be given. The Leisure Centre also got the builders on site. The recent heavy rainfall caused the problems with the water run-off from the park and the Leisure Centre roofs. Investigations are taking place as its believed that a blocked drain could be the cause of the problem.

Sheffield City Council are funding the necessary drainage relief works that need undertaking on Oxley Park to divert water away from the building. This was agreed some time ago but the work was delayed due to covid and is due to start in the next couple of weeks.

Cllr. JAG reported that there was a great response from local people who turned up at the Centre to help sweep out the flood water. Much appreciation and many thanks to all who helped. The builder has provided a pump to pump away the outside flood water from the roofs and park that is flooding into the building. It will take a while to dry out and assess any damage.

As people had turned up to enjoy the new café facilities in true Stocksbridge style it remained open as did the Centre.

Cllr. JAG had also called down into the foodbank today to see how they are. While they are not as busy as usual, they are concerned this could be because people are finding it difficult to get a referral as both the local housing and Citizens Advice offices are closed, having said that people continue to attend. Anyone who needs the foodbank and doesn't have a referral is advised to contact them and they will be assessed.

Cllr. JAG informed of a planning application due imminently for a nursery on Broomfield Road with a car parking area at the rear of the Stubbin Shops, which would greatly improve the area.

321. To Receive a Verbal Report from the Mayor

The Mayor, Cllr. Catherine Ward reported that she had attended the following events since the last meeting:-

29th September – Sheffield Plan Issues and Options presentation meeting together with Cllr. RJC and noted the absence of other members

Cllr. CW noted that she was having difficulty contacting SCC Housing regarding a tenant with issues on Wilson Road. The Clerk undertook to contact a member of the Housing team to request that they contact Cllr. CW.

Cllr. CW asked if the poppy displays would be put in the Clock Tower again this year. The Clerk undertook to ascertain what condition they were in, having been used for the past two years. The Clerk stated it was becoming increasingly difficult installing/removing the poppy displays since not much help was forthcoming and suggested that she enlist the assistance of the Bradfield Parish Council gardening team for half a day, to be charged to the Town Council.

Proposed by Cllr. J Staniforth, seconded by Cllr. A S Law and

RESOLVED:- That the Clerk schedule the installation/removal of the poppy displays in the Clock Tower Gardens if they were fit for purpose, to be undertaken by the Bradfield Parish Council gardening team, to be charged to the Town Council.

322. Sheffield Plan

The Clerk noted that Cllr. RJC had circulated his comments following on from the SCC Briefing Meeting on 29th September with respect to issues raised in the Sheffield Plan consultation document.

Cllr. RJC advised that the presentation had been given by Simon Vincent with Paul Gordon and G Chalis, Transport Planner in attendance.

This was the very early stages of the consultation for SCC options for the future of Sheffield. Decisions had to be made on where future building was undertaken and what would happen to greenbelt areas. There was an interactive map available to view on the SCC website.

Cllr. RJC noted that he had serious concerns with regard to transport issues and felt that it was a major consideration that the Hollin Busk site, recently the subject of a planning application needed to be revisited to ensure it was re-designated a greenbelt area. Cllr. RJC undertook to look into this matter further.

The Clerk noted that Councillors at Bradfield had received the same presentation and had felt that the proposals should be looked at holistically, with planning applications and transport considered at the same time and that it was felt that they should join together with members of Stocksbridge to form a Working Party to look at applications along the valley, Wharncliffe Side/Oughtibridge etc., which affected both areas with respect to infrastructure issues.

Councillors were in agreement that a holistic approach was required.

The Clerk undertook to email the comments from Cllr. RJC, incorporating the holistic approach as discussed, to SCC by the 13th October deadline.

323. Town Fund

The Clerk noted that Cllr. JAG had missed the meeting due to holiday.

324. 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. S Abrahams and

(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>
T H Bisatt	Monthly Zoom subscription	£ 11.99	LAG72(S111)
Word for Word Ltd	Annual Reports	£ 80.00	“
Facility Maintenance Solutions	Monthly water monitoring	£ 10.00	LGA72Sch14P9
Viking	Stationery	£ 38.58	LGA72(S111)

(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>
Micro Alarms Ltd	Repairs/service	£ 228.92	LGA72(S111)
Gemcall	Sanitary services	£ 350.00	“
IPM Ltd	Security call out charge	£ 54.00	“
T H Bisatt	Hand sanitizer unit	£ 177.54	“
Facility Maintenance Solutions	Annual Roof survey	£ 150.00	“
Facility Maintenance Solutions	Monthly water monitoring	£ 20.00	“
Firths Window Cleaning Services	Windows cleaned Sept	£ 55.00	“
Copymark (Service) Ltd	Photocopier usage	£ 4.72	“
NRC Services Ltd	Cleaning services	£ 624.08	“
AquaPoint Ltd	Water supply/rental/service	£ 33.94	“

(iii) That authority be given for Direct Debits paid during the Coronavirus lockdown during September 2020:-

		<u>Made Under Power</u>	
Npower	Electricity charge – precinct	£ 31.25	LGA72(S111)
Moorepay	Payroll monthly charge	£ 59.99	“
Veolia	Waste removal	£ 85.92	“
British Telecommunications plc	Broadband charges	£ 140.04	“
HMRC	VAT payment	£1870.65	“
Sheffield City Council	Business rates – History Society	£ 57.00	“
Sheffield City Council	Business rates – communal Areas	£ 749.00	“
Sheffield City Council	Business rates – Bolsterstone toilets	£ 86.00	LGA72Sch14P9
Intuit Ltd – Quickbooks	VAT software subscription	£ 14.40	LGA72(S111)

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

		<u>Made Under Power</u>	
Salaries/Tax/NI/Pensions	October 2020	£ 3243.60	LGA72(S111)

Chairman