

STOCKSBRIDGE TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Stocksbridge Town Council, held remotely via Zoom,
on Thursday, 10th September 2020

PRESENT: Cllr. C Ward (Chair); Cllrs. R J Crowther, J Staniforth, M Milton, A S Law,
M Whittaker and J A Grocutt from Item 297

293. To Receive Chairman's Remarks and Apologies for Absence
Apologies for absence were received from Cllr. S Abrahams.
The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and noted the system if anyone wished to speak.
294. Exclusion of the Press and Public
Cllr. RJC noted that he wished to raise an item under Part 2 of the meeting.
The Clerk noted that she had received an email report from Cllr. SA which she wished to read out in Part 2 of the meeting.
295. Declarations of Interest
Cllr. A S Law declared an interest in any planning applications to be considered.
296. Public Questions and Petitions
There were no Public Questions and Petitions.
297. To Receive Remarks from the Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 9th July 2020
There were no Remarks from the Minutes.

Cllr. J A Grocutt joined the meeting at this point.
298. To Approve as a True and Correct Record the Minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 9th July 2020
Minutes of the Town Council meeting held on 9th July 2020, copies of which had been circulated prior to the meeting were taken as read.
Proposed by Cllr. R J Crowther, seconded by Cllr. M Milton and
RESOLVED:- That the minutes be confirmed and signed by the Chairman.
299. 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. J A Grocutt, seconded by Cllr. M Milton and
RESOLVED:- That the Town Council accept details of the Monthly Financial Statements for July and August 2020 as supplied by the Clerk.

The Clerk reported that NALC had agreed a National annual pay award of 2.75%, to be backdated to 1st April 2020. This had been taken into account when the Town Council budget for 2020/21 had been set.

300. Grant Applications

No grant applications had been received to date.

301. SLLP Grant Applications

The Clerk reported that a request had been received from SLLP that consideration be given to a 50-50 split between the Town Council and SLLP instead of the current 42-58 which would result in more grant applications being able to be considered.

All members were in agreement.

a) Greave House Farm Trust

The Clerk tabled a SLLP grant application from Greave House Farm Trust requesting funding assistance towards improving access to the care farm and increasing biodiversity of the land.

Proposed by Cllr. C Ward, seconded by Cllr. J Staniforth and

RESOLVED:- That a grant of £2,500 be awarded to Greave House Farm Trust, from the SLLP Community Grant Scheme, for funding towards improving access to the care farm and increasing biodiversity of the land.

b) The Meeting Place

The Clerk tabled a SLLP grant application from The Meeting Place requesting funding assistance towards a project to create and manage through knowledge of the area a wildlife conservation area. Proposed by Cllr. R J Crowther, seconded by Cllr. M Milton and

RESOLVED:- That a grant of £2,500 be awarded to The Meeting Place, from the SLLP Community Grant Scheme, for funding towards a project to create and manage through knowledge of the area a wildlife conservation area.

302. Clerks Reports

The Clerk reported that she had been requested by a S Bennett, BPC Chairman to raise the potential access issue to Plank Gate, following concerns from residents regarding the potential loss or restriction to Plank Gate, the main byway through Wharncliffe Woods as it has potential problems from the new development at Deepcar. The Clerk had contacted SB requesting more information but as yet no response had been received. The Clerk had also contacted T Newman, SVP who assumed it referred to proposals to create a new right of way across the Bloor Homes land to maintain access to Wharncliffe Woods from the top of Station Road. A member of the public is gathering evidence and support for her proposal to create this new right of way, which SVP is in support of. SVP manage the section of path that is owned by Liberty Steel and links the proposed right of way to Plank Gate under the railway.

Cllr.MW reported that he had been in contact with the same member of the public who was seeking assurances that the access would not be shut off.

Cllr. JAG noted that the gardens of some of the houses had been made smaller in order to accommodate the bridleway which provided a pivotal link to the site and suggested that Planning Department be contacted to confirm what had been agreed.

Cllr. ASL stated that Cllr. JAG was right and that issues regarding the width of the bridleway had been resolved but to double check with Planning Department.

303. To Receive Verbal Reports from Members?

a) Cllr. ASL reported that the work being undertaken at Stocksbridge Community Leisure Centre was very good.

b) Cllr. RJC reported that he had spoken at the Sheffield Planning Board in respect of the Hollin Busk site, with a successful outcome.

Cllr. RJC had attended the Oxley Park Improvement Steering Group which had been an excellent meeting.

c) Cllr. MW noted that he had been contacted by a resident regarding a Bloors container blocking the junction of Carr Road/Manchester Road which he had forwarded to Planning. Cllrs. JAG and MM had also been involved in this item.

d) Cllr. JS informed that he had attended the Don Valley Railway meeting and Town Fund Infrastructure meeting, advising that the rail link situation was not going well with bids from elsewhere succeeding.

e) Cllr. JAG reported that she had attended two Don Valley Railway meetings which had been disappointing. Cllr. JAG had succeeded in getting Veolia to empty the Co-op waste recycling containers on a regular basis; the Enforcement Officer had agreed to attend the proposed Hollin Busk Donkey Sanctuary when he was next in the area to ascertain the current situation.

Cllr. JAG together with the Mayor had attended Stocksbridge Cricket Club to view the works commencing with the CIL monies awarded following the Participatory Budgeting event.

Cllr. JAG together with the Deputy Mayor had met with the Oxley Park Steering Group who had raised their very serious concerns with respect to anti-social issues at the Skate Park. Cllr. JAG had undertaken to write to all residents on Woolley Road to ask for their concerns in writing which she would then take up with the Police.

Cllr. JAG advised that the pot holes on Nanny Hill had finally been filled today.

Cllr. JAG had spoken at the Planning Board meeting with regard to the Hollin Busk site which had a successful outcome. She had also spoken with regard to Ingfield House, Bocking Lane the outcome of which had not been successful.

Approval had been given for the Inman Pavilion to receive some Ward Pot funding to become Covid ready. Stocksbridge Fairtrade status had been awarded for a further two year period.

Cllr. JAG noted that 11-27 September was Keep Britain Tidy event and suggested a litter pick with the Scouts/Guides which Councillors would join where possible. The Clerk undertook to contact the groups asking for a date.

f) Cllr. MM thanked Cllr. JAG for sorting out the Bloors container issue which had been resolved before he had time to look into the situation.

Cllr. MM had attended the Hollin Croft site which had been left in a poor condition. Cllr. JAG undertook to chase this up.

g) In the absence of Cllr. SA the Clerk noted that she had attended the Bolsterstone Archaeology Group who have made the decision not to commence their programme of talks/walks and workshops until the new year. The Group is also considering having a stall in Fox Valley or Library to launch the programme. Cllr. SA had also attended a face to face STEP Board meeting.

304. 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:-

16th August - Cricket Club photo for works commencing on updating the Cricket Pavilion following receipt of CIL monies from the Participatory Budgeting Scheme

5th September – opening of the Bridge Bakery at Fox Valley

With regard to the request for a replacement bench on Park Drive the Mayor noted that this had been done over the Bank Holiday weekend.

Cllr. CW reported that she had spoken to a member of the Royal British Legion who had informed that there would be no Remembrance Day Parade this year. There would be a small gathering to lay a wreath on 11th November and they would keep the Town Council informed.

The Clerk queried whether this would be done on the Sunday morning as there was usually a service and wreath laying at Bolsterstone Church on the actual day. The Clerk had been unable to contact T Curson during the day so would keep trying.

Cllr. CW advised that she had spoken to Amanda Holmes who had informed that Fox Valley would not be having any events this year. The Christmas lights would be switched on but there would be no celebrations.

Cllr. CW informed that she was regularly being contacted regarding anti-social behaviour at the Stubbin and Spar with young people taking drugs/driving cars and motor bikes in the area. Calls to the Police were not being answered.

Cllr. JAG advised that the PCSO's were being set up to fail as shift patterns meant they could not get to the areas in question when the anti-social behaviour was taking place. Cllr. JAG stated that she would be contacting the new Chief Superintendent direct as the situation was getting out of hand.

305. Events

The Clerk noted that due to the coronavirus situation it would not be possible to hold the annual Senior Citizens Christmas Party this year and suggested an alternative option for members consideration, which she had discussed with the Chairman and Cllr. JAG, being the issue of a voucher to the value of £5 towards a coffee and cake at participating cafes in the area. The vouchers to be handed out by Councillors from the Town Hall as in previous years, with perhaps a party in April 2021 at The Venue should it be possible at that time. The Clerk advised that the Christmas Party budget was £3,300 which would mean that 660 senior residents could receive a voucher. In order to prevent fraud the Town Council's steel stamp embosser machine could be utilised and proof of address must be shown to receive a voucher.

Cllr. JAG felt that this was a lovely idea, particularly with the Covid situation, and would also help local cafes in the area.

The Clerk undertook to contact all the local cafes to ascertain if they would be interested in participating in the scheme.

The Clerk suggested that she also contact the local schools to ascertain if they would be interested in taking part in a Christmas Card competition this year.

306. Town Fund

Cllr. JAG updated members on the Town Fund meeting, noting there would shortly be a dedicated website, Welcome to Stocksbridge, which would show all the up to date information. There was also a dedicated page on the SCC website.

The application has to be with the Government by the end of January 2021 but prior to that extensive consultation with the public has to be undertaken to ascertain what local people want in their area. A company has been appointed to put the bid together and a site visit and meeting took place on 4th September, following which a timetable is to be presented to the Board by the end of next week.

Cllr. JAG informed that with respect to the Infrastructure Committee, Council Officers have been allocated to each Board to ensure focus is maintained.

Cllr. JAG reported that at the Health, Leisure and Education Committee funding had been allocated for a project a very short notice. As consultations had already taken place with regard to a playground in Oxley Park SCLC and Parks Department had put a bid forward for seating and a tots playground area to be situated on the land in between the Swimming Baths and Leisure Centre with a pathway leading round to the Inman Pavilion where there would be a playground area for older children. The bid had been successful and drainage works were currently underway.

Cllr. JAG stated that it had been felt that some type of housing should be incorporated into any High Street scheme and undertook to forward any plans/proposals she received.

Cllr. JAG noted that both Amanda Holmes and Gillian Duckworth were willing to attend a Town Council meeting in the future.

307. 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. J A Grocutt 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>
Bolsterstone Archaeology Group	SLLP Grant Scheme	£ 300.00	LGA76(S19)
Facility Maintenance Solutions	Monthly water monitoring	£ 10.00	LGA72Sch14P9
Viking	Stationery	£ 46.92	LGA72(S111)
T Flatters	Internal Audit	£ 330.00	“
Facility Maintenance Solutions	Monthly water monitoring	£ 10.00	LGA72Sch14P9
Mr R Brown	Toilet cleaning – Bolsterstone toilets	£ 90.20	“
Wallgate	Soap supplies - Bolsterstone toilets	£ 75.94	“

(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>
Davis Gas	Repairs to disabled toilet	£ 108.00	LGA72(S111)
Copymark (Service) Ltd	Photocopier usage	£ 8.62	“
Facility Maintenance Solutions	Fixing of paper dispensers	£ 45.00	“
Micro Alarms Ltd	Call out, check of security Systems	£ 119.40	“
NRC Services Ltd	Cleaning/supplies – July	£ 656.36	“
Firths Window Cleaning Services	Windows cleaned Aug	£ 55.00	“
Facility Maintenance Solutions	Monthly water monitoring	£ 20.00	“

Facility Maintenance Solutions	Emergency Lighting	£ 231.00	“
T Bisatt	Petty Cash reimbursement	£ 50.00	“
Copymark (Service) Ltd	Photocopier usage	£ 6.38	“
Facility Maintenance Solutions	Monthly water monitoring	£ 20.00	“
NRC Services Ltd	Cleaning – August	£ 601.58	“
Record 24/7	Automatic door maint.	£ 211.20	“
AquaPoint Ltd	Water supply/rental/service	£ 50.51	“
Firths Window Cleaning Services	Windows cleaned Aug	£ 55.00	“
Micro Alarms Ltd	Annual monitoring/maint.	£ 514.50	“

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

Made Under Power

July 2020

Business Stream	Water charges – Bolsterstone toilets	£ 37.30	LGA72Sch14P9
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August

SG Equipment Finance	Photocopier lease	£ 194.40	LGA72(S111)
British Telecommunications plc	Phone charges	£ 110.02	“
British Telecommunications plc	EMCS line	£ 43.16	“
Moorepay	Payroll monthly charge	£ 61.63	“
Information Commissioner	Annual subscription	£ 35.00	“
Veolia	Waste removal	£ 105.54	“
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:-

Made Under Power

Salaries/Tax/NI/Pensions	August 2020	£ 3124.24	LGA72(S111)
Salaries/Tax/NI/Pensions	September 2020	£ 3654.53	“

Proposed by Cllr. J A Grocutt, seconded by Cllr. C Ward 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.

308. St Matthias Church

Cllr. RJC noted concerns from a local resident regarding the stained glass window in St Matthias Church stating it should be protected. The Clerk noted that the developer had been keen to preserve the window and font and that the window had been listed. The application for development proposals was on the SCC Planning website.

309. STEP Board Meeting

In the absence of Cllr. SA the Clerk read out correspondence received following her attendance at a face to face STEP Board meeting, providing a summary of the current situation.

Chairman