

STAMFORD TOWN COUNCIL**MINUTES OF THE ASSETS & SERVICES MEETING
HELD ON Tuesday, 11 March 2025 AT 6.30PM
IN THE TOWN HALL, STAMFORD**

PRESENT Cllr Jonathan Waples (Chair) Cllr Ed Fancourt Cllr Jane Kingman
Cllr Peter Copley (Vice-Chair) Cllr Anna Wotherspoon
Cllr Habib Rahman

ABSENT: Cllr Kelham Cooke (Ex Officio) Cllr Julia Ohela

IN ATTENDANCE Mr John Burke (Facilities & Allotment Officer)

Public Participation

No members of the public were present.

517. Apologies for Absence

The meeting was advised that apologies with valid reasons for absence had been received from Cllr Julia Ohela.

Proposal 1 - Apologies with valid reasons for absence had been received and it was **RESOLVED** to accept apologies from Cllr Julia Ohela

Proposer	Cllr Jane Kingman	
Seconder	Cllr Habib Rahman	
For	6	Cllrs Waples, Copley, Fancourt, Wotherspoon, Kingman, Rahman
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

The meeting was advised that Cllr Marion Pitt had resigned from the Assets & Services Committee.

Proposal 2 - It was **RESOLVED** to thank Cllr Marion Pitt for her time and valued support within the Assets & Services Committee.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Jane Kingman	
For	6	Cllrs Copley, Fancourt, Rahman, Wotherspoon, Waples, Kingman
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

518. Declarations of Interest

No declarations were made during the meeting.

519. Assets & Services Budget Report

The Committee considered the Assets & Services report ending Tuesday, 11 February 2025. It was noted that all income and expenditure aligned with expectations. No further action was deemed necessary.

Proposal 3 - it was **RESOLVED**: that the Assets & Services surplus be carried over from the 2024/2025 accounts to the Assets & Services 2025/2026 accounts.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Peter Copley	
For	5	Cllrs Fancourt, Kingman, Rahman, Waples, Copley
Against	0	
Abstained	1	Cllr Anna Wotherspoon
Motion	CARRIED	

520. Councillor Areas of Responsibility

Proposal 4 - it was **RESOLVED**: that Cllr Peter Copley will take Councillor responsibility of the Butter Market, Red Lion Square.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Anna Wotherspoon	
For	6	Cllrs Copley, Fancourt, Kingman, Rahman, Waples, Wotherspoon
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

521. Councillor Led Reports on Assets & Services

a. Cemetery Update Report

Officer report was received and **NOTED**.

1. Awaiting contractor prices and start date from Stamford College (War Memorial Repair).

b. Allotments Update Report

Officer report was received and **NOTED**.

1. Awaiting contractor prices.

c. Town Hall Update Report

Nothing to report.

d. Recreation Ground Update Report

Officer report was received and **NOTED**.

Further clarification was required on Public Spaces Protection Orders (PSPO's), previously called Dog Control Orders DCO's. The Officer is to contact SKDC for clarification and confirmation.

Discussion held in relation to the email received from a resident which refers to the maintenance and condition of the Town Councils Bins, Benches and Planters.

Proposal 5 - it was **RESOLVED**: that the Officer will undertake a condition survey/report of the bins located at the Recreation Ground and The Meadows and replace those that require replacing (with slab bases added at the same time). And that from now on the Council take on responsibility for the repair and maintenance of the benches and planters in Red Lion Square (as originally funded by the Skells Trust).

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Habib Rahman	
For	6	Cllrs Fancourt, Copley, Wotherspoon, Kingman, Waples, Rahman
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

Proposal 6 - it was **RESOLVED**: that the Officer will contact SKDC and make them aware that the bin located by Albert Bridge is continuously full and requires ongoing additional emptying.

Proposer	Cllr Peter Copley	
Seconder	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
For	6	Cllrs Fancourt, Kingman, Rahman, Wotherspoon, Copley, Waples
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

e. Meadows Update Report

Cllr Fancourt's report was received and **NOTED**.

1. The committee agreed no changes were required to the current Memorial Bench Policy.
2. The committee discussed and agreed that a 'waiting list' for Memorial Benches would be helpful. The Officer confirmed that this was in essence already in place.

f. Uffington Road & Empingham Road Playing Fields Update Report

Cllr Waples reported that discussions on Heads of Terms are still ongoing regarding a ground share at the Uffington Road Playing Fields and confirmed that the lease for the Empingham Road Playing Fields has been signed. The report was received and **NOTED**.

g. Open Spaces & Grass Verges Update Report

Nothing to report.

h. Bastion Update Report

Officer report was received and **NOTED**.

1. Site meeting with Historic England confirmed for Friday 21st March at 10.30am. All Assets & Services Councillors are invited to attend.

i. Butter Market (RLS) Update Report

Officer report was received and **NOTED**.

1. Access to the first-floor section of the building is via a locked door. Keys are to be located for this, if not, a locksmith will be required for entry and inspection.
2. It is anticipated that the roof repair to the public toilets roof will commence within the next four weeks or so. Weather dependent.

j. Phone Box (George Hotel)

Officer report was received and **NOTED**.

1. Cllr Jane Kingman agreed to approach the George Hotel with a view to them potentially providing funding towards the redecoration of the Phone Box.

k. War Memorial

Nothing to report.

l. Use of Council Facilities Update Report

Officer report was received and **NOTED**.

The committee **NOTED** the schedule of Programmed Events, Town Hall Hires, and the Shack Hires and any concerns highlighted and consider any actions deemed necessary.

m. Ground Maintenance

Cllr Jonathan Waples confirmed that the Ground Maintenance contract (as agreed) has been awarded to Sam Harrison & Co and is now in place moving forward.

n. Wedding Hires

Cllr Jonathan Waples delivered a presentation based on a recent Wedding hire in the Mayors parlour, providing examples in which the whole experience could and should be improved.

Valuable input would be welcomed from Officer Mark Murtagh and Officer Victoria Newton.

Cllr Jane Kingman, Cllr Habib Rahman & Cllr Ed Fancourt volunteered their input.

Proposal 7 - it was **RESOLVED**: that a Working Group is formed under Assets & Services, with input and membership from all council committee members.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples
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Seconder	Cllr Jane Kingman	
For	6	Cllrs Fancourt, Rahman, Wotherspoon, Copley, Waples, Kingman
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

522. Supporting Youth Services

Cllr Jonathan Waples presented options in which the Town Council should support Art Pop-Up and Youth Services operating from “The Shack”. Options discussed were:

1. Extend the offer of free hire of The Shack to Art Pop-Up indefinitely.
2. Provide direct annual funding (£11.5k pa) for 2 Youth Workers (one lead, one support), until further notice.
3. Initiate and lead a community project to manage renovations to the Shack, utilising previously allocated funds and seeking additional sources of support locally.

Proposal 8 - it was **PROPOSED**: that the decision for this support should be deferred to the Full Town Council to vote on.

Proposer	Cllr Peter Copley	
Seconder	Cllr Ed Fancourt	
For	3	Cllr Wotherspoon, Copley, Fancourt
Against	3	Cllrs Waples, Rahman, Kingman - Cllr Waples casting vote
Abstained	0	
Motion	FELL	

Proposal 9 - it was **RESOLVED**: To provide free hire of The Shack to Art Pop-Up for two years.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Jane Kingman	
For	6	Cllr Rahman, Waples, Kingham, Copley, Fancourt, Wotherspoon
Against		
Abstained		
Motion	CARRIED	

Proposal 10 - it was **RESOLVED**: To provide direct funding of £11,500 per annum, for two years, for 2 Youth Workers (one lead, one support) at The Shack.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Jane Kingman	
For	3	Cllr Rahman, Waples, Kingman
Against	1	Cllr Copley
Abstained	2	Cllrs Fancourt, Wotherspoon
Motion	CARRIED	

Proposal 11 - it was **RESOLVED**: To set up a working group to lead a community project to manage renovations to the Shack, utilising previously allocated funds and seeking additional sources of support locally.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Jane Kingman	
For	6	Cllr Rahman, Waples, Kingman, Copley, Fancourt, Wotherspoon
Against		
Abstained		
Motion	CARRIED	

523. Bio-Diversity & Environmental Projects.

Cllr Ed Fancourt to provide the Officer with all the finalised details (location, materials used, risk assessment etc) relating to the Rubbing Posts installation on the Meadows. Install date planned for Friday 28th March.

Cllr Jonathan Waples confirmed that the Climate & Environment committee are to vote on the raising of Purchase Orders for the Hedgerow planting on the Meadows. Works planned for Friday 28th March.

524. To consider confidential matters

To resolve to move into closed session in accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed in relation to the following matters: - Grave Digging Charges, LCC Grass verges Tender, Reports of Anti-Social behaviour (The Recreation Ground).

Proposal 12 - It was **RESOLVED** to enter into a confidential session.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Peter Copley	
For	6	Cllrs Copley, Fancourt, Kingman, Rahman, Waples, Wotherspoon
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

8.50pm – The meeting continued in Closed Session

Minutes arising from confidential item:

Proposal 13 - It was **RESOLVED** The Grave digging charges would not be increased for 2025/2026.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Peter Copley	
For	6	Cllrs Copley, Fancourt, Kingman, Rahman, Waples, Wotherspoon
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

Proposal 14 - It was **RESOLVED** The decision for the LCC Grass Verges Tender be deferred as additional information is required relating to the various categories being quoted for.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Ed Fancourt	
For	6	Cllrs Copley, Fancourt, Kingman, Rahman, Waples, Wotherspoon
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

Proposal 15 - It was **RESOLVED** to continue the meeting past 9pm

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Anna Wotherspoon	
For	6	Cllrs Copley, Fancourt, Kingman, Rahman, Waples, Wotherspoon
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

Proposal 16 - It was **RESOLVED** that Cllr Jane Kingman will put to the next full council committee the ongoing issues being experienced (and complaints received) with anti-social behaviour at the Recreation Ground and the need for SKDC and the Police to confirm actions to deal with this behaviour.

Proposer	Cllr Jonathan Waples	
Seconder	Cllr Jane Kingman	
For	6	Cllrs Copley, Fancourt, Kingman, Rahman, Waples, Wotherspoon
Against	0	
Abstained	0	
Motion	CARRIED	

9.11pm – Meeting resumed in Open Session.

525. Closure

The date of the next meeting is to be confirmed.

The meeting closed at 9.11pm

These minutes are subject to confirmation at the next meeting.

Signed on behalf of the Town Council as a true record of the meeting.

Signature

Date