

STONE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk

Les Trigg

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28th November, 2016

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL**, to be held in the **Council Chamber, 15 Station Road, Stone**, on **TUESDAY 6TH DECEMBER, 2016** at **7.00pm** when the following business will be transacted.

Les Trigg
Town Clerk

Agenda

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations Received**
3. **Representations from Members of the Public**
4. **To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 1st November, 2016, Minute No's. C17/055– C17/063 (attached)**
5. **To receive the Minutes and decisions of the under mentioned Committees:**
 - a) General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 1st November, 2016, Minute Numbers GP17/087 – GP17/101 (attached)
 - b) Planning Committee Meeting held on the 15th November, 2016, Minute Numbers P17/065 – P17/069 (attached)
6. **To receive the forthcoming Civic Announcements (attached)**
7. **To receive the Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Reports of Engagements (attached)**

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Council Meeting as observers. Persons attending should enter the Borough Area Office through the rear entrance door (adjacent to the car park). The Council Chamber is at the top of the stairs.

Stone Town Council

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 1 November, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor J Davies in the Chair, and
Councillors Mrs J Farnham, I Fordham, Mrs M Goodall, Mrs K Green, M Green,
Mrs J Hood, R Kenney, P Leason, Mrs E Mowatt, G Neagus, A Osgathorpe and
M Williamson

ABSENT: Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, T Jackson, Mrs J Piggott and M Shaw

Before commencing the meeting, the Mayor showed Members a box for the Maces which had been presented to the Council by Mr Peter Smith. It was agreed to write a formal letter of thanks from the Council.

C17/055 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, T Jackson, Mrs J Piggott and M Shaw

C17/056 Declarations of Interest

None received.

C17/057 Representations from Members of the Public

None received.

C17/058 Minutes

RESOLVED

- a) That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 4th October, 2016, copies having been circulated to the members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record

C17/059 Committee Minutes

RESOLVED

- a) That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 4th October, 2016, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record

- b) That the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 4th October, 2016, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record
- c) That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 11th October, 2016, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record
- d) That the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 18th October, 2016, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record

C17/060 Audit of Accounts 2015-16

Noted

**C17/061 Local Government Transparency Code 2014
Openness of Public Bodies Regulations 2014**

Noted

C17/062 Civic Announcements

The Civic Announcements, which were previously circulated, were noted.

C17/063 Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Announcements

The Town Mayor's Announcements were circulated and noted.

The Deputy Town Mayor had not attended any engagements since the last meeting.

TOWN MAYOR

Stone Town Council – General Purposes Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 1 November, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor R Kenney in the Chair and
Councillors J Davies, Mrs J Farnham, I Fordham, Mrs M Goodall, Mrs K Green,
M Green, Mrs J Hood, P Leason, Mrs E Mowatt, G Neagus, A Osgathorpe and
M Williamson

Absent: Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, T Jackson, Mrs J Piggott and M Shaw

GP17/087 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, T Jackson,
Mrs J Piggott and M Shaw

GP17/088 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None received

GP17/089 **To receive the reports of the County Councillors**

County Councillor P Jones tendered his apologies.

County Councillor I Parry was absent.

GP17/090 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None

GP17/091 **Minutes**

RESOLVED

- a) that the minutes of the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee held on the 18th October, 2016, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record and that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee at Minutes TTP17/011, TTP17/012 and TTP17/013 be adopted.
- b) that the minutes of the Environment Sub-Committee held on the 18th October, 2016, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record and that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee at Minutes ENV17/004, ENV17/005, ENV17/007 and ENV17/008 be adopted.

With reference to minute number ENV17/007, Tree Planting/Hedge Laying, it was agreed to forward the suggested areas to Campaign to Protect Rural England, but as Stone Town Council do not own any of the land, ask them to ensure that they contact the landowners for the necessary permissions before planting.

* Items marked with an asterisk refer to reports or papers circulated with the agenda or distributed at the meeting. They are attached as an appendix to the signed copy of the Council minutes.

GP17/092 **Northesk Street Car Park**

The Clerk reported that there had been a communication with Kier on behalf of the Police regarding the sale of the former police station on Radford Street, and associated land currently being used as a Town Council car park on Northesk Street. Advance notice has been given that there is approximately one year until the land will be sold. Formal notice will be given in due course.

The Clerk is currently awaiting costs to Stone Town Council for buying or renting the land.

It was noted that the land has always been a temporary arrangement for as long as the police were in the Radford Street building. It was also noted that parking in that area is already problematic, and the closure of the car park will make parking outside of houses worse.

RESOLVED: to note the information from Kier, and to bring back to General Purposes for discussion when further information has been received regarding purchase or rental costs.

GP17/093 **Transfer of Services from Stafford Borough Council**

The Committee considered whether to propose to Stafford Borough Council that the Town Council should take over the management of the area of land to the right of the service road on Westbridge Park. Stafford Borough Council had informed the Clerk that maintenance was currently costing the Borough £4,238 per annum, excluding the works/inspections and remedial works after events. The Clerk suggested that a budget of around £6,000 per annum should be considered in the Committee proceed.

RESOLVED: to authorise the Clerk to enter its discussions with Stafford Borough Council with a view to drawing up a formal management agreement, to be reported back to the Committee for final approval

GP17/094 **Budget Monitoring – 30 September 2016**

The Clerk reported that the accounts are generally in good order and there are no major concerns. The Frank Jordan Centre income is down due to a frequent user leaving. Also, Markets income is down but Markets expenditure has not fallen at the same level due to a minimum charge being applied to the setting up of marquees.

RESOLVED: to accept the report of the Town Clerk.

HS2 Phase 2a: West Midlands to Crewe

Members had major concerns regarding the Railhead and HS2.

RESOLVED: to send the following response to the consultation:

Stone Town Council object most strongly to the development of the Railhead and insist that a more suitable, brownfield site is used. We feel that the original Crewe site was more appropriate. Of particular concern are:

- The impact of construction traffic and ongoing HS2 operations on the town of Stone. Stone is a quiet canal/market town, whose character is totally inconsistent with either the demands placed by construction work or the longer term requirements of a maintenance depot.
- The pressure of construction traffic on the local road infrastructure around Stone, particularly Eccleshall Road, which could become a main feed for the transport of construction materials.
- The impact on the Walton area of Stone, where a strategic development location (SDL) for 500 houses has been identified in the Plan for Stafford Borough. The proposed railhead and sidings encroach onto this land.
- The potential for light and noise pollution from the proposed construction/maintenance depot.
- The closure of Yarnfield Lane, resulting in issues such as:
 - Travel times for Yarnfield residents being significantly increased in the Stone direction, resulting in increased travel times for school children and a reduced inclination for Yarnfield residents to visit the Stone town centre. Access for emergency service vehicles may also be compromised.
 - Over 80,000 visitors per annum are attracted to the prestigious, regionally significant footballing facility at Wellbeing Park, Yarnfield. The closure of Yarnfield Lane will reduce the accessibility of this facility and force users to approach it through the village of Yarnfield, rather than via the A34.

In addition, the Council is also extremely disappointed with the level of consultation with Stone residents. Most residents in the area are unaware of this proposal, despite the profound effect it could have on them. No consultation meeting has been held in the town, nor any adequate attempts made to publicise other consultation events to people within the town. Even a simple request to provide more printed consultation materials so that the Council could at least go some way to informing residents itself did not result in the delivery of any documents for over a week. By this time, only two full working days remained before the closure of the consultation.

The Plan for Stafford Borough Part 2 – Main Modifications Plan

RESOLVED: to send the following response to the consultation:

Main Modifications P2-MM3a and P2-MM3b

Stone Town Council support the proposed Main Modifications detailed above as proposed by the Planning Inspector. Removing any part of Westbridge Park from within the settlement boundary will help to secure the parks future as an important leisure/ recreation asset for the residents of Stone and the surrounding area.

We share the concerns of the Planning Inspector as laid out within his note advising on the proposed modifications. However, we are disappointed with total disregard afforded to the Planning Inspectors comments when Stafford Borough Council planning committee granted planning permission on 31st October 31, 2016 for a M&S food store on the area of land in Westbridge park to which the inspector referred to when he stated:

“3. Amend the Stone settlement boundary to exclude the land on the edge of Westbridge Park which is located to the east/south-east of the A520 (Stafford Road) and to the west/south-west of the Trent and Mersey Canal, currently occupied by a surface car park and other community uses, including a leisure centre and tennis courts

The full reasons for the above modifications will be given in my report but in regard to the third modification in the above list, the principal reasons are: the potential impact which could result from the location of the settlement boundary as submitted on the openness of the park and on the setting of the Stone Conservation Area and key listed buildings which can be viewed from the park; concern over flood risk; concern over the location and impact of retail development on the town centre; and the strong and clear physical boundary of the canal.”

GP17/096 **Neighbourhood Plan**

The Clerk presented the latest draft of the Neighbourhood Plan, and reported that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group had already commenced the Local Green Space consultation in order to save time. The Committee were invited to confirm this action.

RESOLVED: to support the current version of the plan for the purpose of Regulation 14 consultations.

RESOLVED: to confirm the actions of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group of commencing the Local Green Space consultation.

RESOLVED: to record the commendation of the members of the steering group for the work they have done on the Neighbourhood Plan.

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GP17/097 Bank Mandate

The Clerk reported that past Councillors needed to be removed from the bank mandate as a prelude to setting up internet banking. The proposed wording of the resolution was as required by the bank.

RESOLVED: that the authorised signatories in the current mandate, for the accounts detailed in Section 2, be changed in accordance with sections 5 and 6 and the current mandate will continue as amended

GP17/098 Grants

Chuckle Productions Limited

Chuckle Productions Limited requested a grant of £500 to continue the Sound Connection Project for Children.

Members commented on the good work of the organisation but decided not to award a grant on this occasion.

RESOLVED: to refuse a grant to Chuckle Productions Limited

GP17/099 Member's Motions under Standing Order 4

Councillor M Williamson

"I ask the Council to request the Clerk to write to London Midland thanking them for their gesture in painting out station signs with gold paint to celebrate the gold medal won by Joe Clarke in the recent Olympic Games held in Rio."

RESOLVED: to write a letter of thanks to London Midland as per the Members Motion above

GP17/100 Update from Working Groups

Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Councillor Mrs J Hood stated she was delighted to put the Neighbourhood Plan through to regulation 14, and thanked everyone on the Steering Group for their input. Part of the Local Green Space consultation will take place on Saturday 5th November from 10 to 1 in the High Street.

GP17/101 To receive reports from Town Councillors on attendance at meetings of local organisations and outside bodies as a representative of the Town Council

Stone ATC – Councillor J Davies attended the AGM. They are financially sound and are delighted to provide a Mayor's Cadet. Councillor Davies has been made honorary president, and he commented that he hopes the excellent relationship with the Town Council continues.

Age Concern Stone & District – Councillor Mrs C Collier tended her apologies for the meeting but sent a report as follows:

Report of the Age Concern meeting on the 20/10/2016

The lunch clubs are doing well with around 35 attending the Monday one at the Crown, the Friday club is not quite so well supported.

The Hospital volunteer drivers scheme is very successful but more volunteers are needed.

Councillor Mrs K Green also reported on the meeting stating that a new treasurer

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has been appointed and lunch club is going well. The transport to medical appointments is also going well but more volunteer drivers are required.

Stone Town Band – Councillor J Davies attended a meeting where it was reported that band members are down. They have a very competent conductor and the band will be supporting the Remembrance event.

Walton Community Centre – Councillor M Shaw was not in attendance

Stafford & Stone Access Group – Councillor Mrs C Collier sent the following report:
Report of the Access group meeting on 12/09/2016

We welcomed Daniel Baldawi to the group, he is a wheelchair user and gave a lot of input of his experiences and problems. The web site is being redesigned for better access. Ricawatch invited members with older people and those with disabilities to join their panel of mystery shoppers - a small fee is paid for a research report. (RICA = Research Institute for Consumer Affairs). Flip Out Stoke is hoping to offer trampolining in Stoke for those less abled. Daniel commented on the need for much more provision for adult changing rooms with hoists and adult changing tables. In Stafford the only one we know of is in the County Council. It is not well known, has some deficiencies, and is not open evenings.

Stone Common Plott Trustees – no meetings have taken place

Town Mayor

Stone Town Council – Planning Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 15 November, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor G Neagus in the Chair and
Councillors J Davies, I Fordham, Mrs M Goodall, Mrs K Green, M Green,
Mrs J Hood, T Jackson, R Kenney, Mrs E Mowatt, A Osgathorpe, Mrs J Piggott and
M Williamson

ABSENT: Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, Mrs J Farnham, P Leason and M Shaw

P17/065 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, Mrs J Farnham,
P Leason and M Shaw

P17/066 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

The Clerk informed Members that application 16/25064/FUL related to his
daughter's employers. He left the room during consideration of the item.

P17/067 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None received

P17/068 **Planning Applications**

RESOLVED that the following observations be made on the Applications as listed:

Application Number – 16/25069/FUL

Location – Capula Limited, Orion House, Unit 10 Walton Industrial Estate, Stone

Development – Over cladding existing asbestos cement to warehouse with new
built-up profiled metal sheet system

Observation – No objections

Application Number – 16/24992/FUL

Location – Crown & Anchor Inn, 1 Station Road, Stone

Development – Extension to the existing external shelter to be of timber
construction tying in with the current shelter and will continue the existing close
boarded panelling along the elevation fronting Newcastle Street, the proposal
also continues the existing flat roof

Observation – No objections providing the height of the fence is within planning
regulations

Application Number – 16/24995/FUL

Location – Crown & Anchor Inn, 1 Station Road, Stone

Development – Retention of raised area and planters of timber construction

Observation – No objections providing the height of the fence is within planning
regulations

Application Number – 16/24999/HOU
Location – 5 Claremont Close, Stone
Development – Proposed detached garage
Observation – No objections

Application Number – 16/24492/FUL
Location – 11 Lichfield Street, Stone
Development – Amended plan – Proposed first and second floor rear extension to form two additional flats
Observation – Members wish to reiterate their previous comments - Members object due to the property being in a Conservation Area, it is overbearing for the area and it is over-intensification of the local area. There are also great concerns regarding parking and access for emergency vehicles and refuse collectors down this very narrow street as a result of this application.

Application Number – 16/25064/FUL
Location – Printdesigns Ltd, Stone Business Park, Emerald Way, Stone
Development – Single storey side extension
Observation – No objections although concerns were raised regarding delivery access and turning points

Application Number – 16/25096/HOU
Location – 102 Newcastle Road, Stone
Development – Demolition of existing garage and single storey outrigger, proposed two storey side extension and rear single storey extension
Observation – No objections

Application Number – 16/25155/REM
Location – Walton Hill Residential Development, West of Longhope Drive, Stone
Development – Reserved matters application on 13/19002/OUT – in relation to main access and landscaping for Phase 1 of development of up to 200 dwellings
Observation – Members object due to lack of defined information regarding the HS2 Railhead Hub which will border phase two of the proposed development. The Committee question the tenability of the whole application with the uncertainty of the proposed HS2 railhead extending into the SDL and felt that it was no longer sound to accept the first phase without any guarantee of the second phase being delivered. The phases could produce an imbalance in provision and the allocation of green spaces and recreational facilities. It was also noted that in the HS2 consultation response the council noted that HS2 could not only jeopardise this SDL, but if it was found that the homes were undeliverable it could cast doubt on the SBC ability to deliver the required housing in SBC part 2 plan. There are also concerns regarding flood water and drainage in an area where the current infrastructure cannot cope with this level of development.

P17/069

To note the following items considered under delegated powers where no objections were forwarded to Stafford Borough Council due to no Member asking for the item to be considered by a special meeting of the Committee.

None.

Town Mayor

STONE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
6TH DECEMBER 2016

CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor

Thursday 8 th December	Uttoxeter Christmas Cracker
Sunday 11 th December	Civic Church Service of Nine Lessons and Carols, St Michael & St Wulfad's Church
	Outward Division Girlguiding Carols Service, St Saviours Church
Tuesday 13 th December	Trinity Skills for Life Christmas Service, St Michael's Church
	Aston & Little Stoke Scouts Carol Concert, St Saviour's Church
Wednesday 14 th December	Mayoress and Councillor Mrs Green, Stafford Borough Mayoress Ladies Luncheon at Tillington Hall Hotel
Thursday 15 th December	Drake Hall Carols Service
Sunday 18 th December	Stafford Borough Mayor's Civic Carols Service
Tuesday 20 th December	Lions Prize Draw at Morrisons
Sunday 25 th December	St Mary's Home

Deputy Mayor

Monday 12 th December	Gala Performance, Aladdin, Gatehouse Theatre, Stafford
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TOWN MAYOR

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT
6th December 2016

Thursday 20 Oct 16

The Mayor and Mayoress attended the AGM of the Stone Community Hub which operates in the Frank Jordan Centre. The Hub is one of the Mayor's charities and had enjoyed a successful year of consolidation. The Hub provides irreplaceable support and assistance to the wide range of needs presented by so many people in Stone.

Friday 21 Oct 16

The naval heritage of Stone was celebrated at a highly-enjoyable Trafalgar Dinner held in the Crown Hotel and hosted by the Mayor and Mayoress. The event was very well supported including representatives from all three armed services. A highlight was the singing of sea songs led by Sue and Ian Campbell-Kelly with the CK Community Choir.

Sunday 23 Oct 16

After the celebrations welcoming home Joe Clarke, the Town's Olympic gold medallist, the Mayor and Mayoress were delighted to be back at the Canoe Club to view the final competition of the year and to award trophies.

Wednesday 26 Oct 16

The High Sherriff, David Leigh, hosted a fascinating presentation on the wartime Air Transport Auxiliary at Staffordshire University, Stoke, as a fund raiser for the Staffordshire Yeomanry Museum. The Mayor and Mayoress attended alongside many other local civic representatives.

Saturday 5 Nov 16

The weather was perfect for the annual bonfire and fireworks in Westbridge Park. Attendance was massive, the bonfire extremely well-engineered and the fireworks were truly spectacular. The Mayor was joined by the Mayoress and had the pleasure of lighting the bonfire.

Sunday 6 Nov 16

The Mayor and Mayoress joined the Deputy Mayor and Consort of Stafford Borough at the annual Parish service for Eccleshall held at St Peter's, Broughton. The Chairman of Eccleshall Parish Council invited all to refreshments afterwards at the Broughton Parish Room.

Friday 11 Nov 16

The numbers at the commemoration of the anniversary of the armistice at the end of the First World War were continuing to grow. There was a short but moving ceremony at the war memorial and the Mayor was attended for the first time at this event by the two Mayor's Cadets whose bearing and turnout were exemplary.

Sunday 13 Nov 16

For many years the support for Remembrance Sunday has been both impressive and moving; 2016 was no exception. The day began with a quiet and thoughtful commemoration at Walton where the presence of the two Mayor's Cadets added an additional respectful touch. Back in the Town the usual large number of wreaths was laid followed by a very well attended service in St Michael's and St Wulfad's church. The day concluded with a brief address by the Mayor in the Market Square after which the Mayor and Mayoress hosted a small reception in the Crown Hotel for veterans and their families.

Monday 14 Nov 16

As part of the BBC Children in Need annual appeal the BBC presenter Richie Anderson was riding around the BBC West Midlands Area on a tandem bicycle. On his visit to Stone he was accompanied by Stone's own Olympic gold medallist, Joe Clarke, and was welcomed in the High St by the Mayor and Mayoress along with many Stone residents and members of Joe Clarke's family.

Thursday 17 Nov 16

The Mayor and Mayoress visited St Dominic's Priory school to talk to the children about the town mayoralty. The children were very interested in what the Mayor and Mayoress had to say and asked a number of questions: some expected and others, unexpected!

The evening saw one of the most popular annual events in the town: the switch-on of the Christmas lights. The Mayor and Mayoress alongside Joe Clarke assisted Father Christmas in this task. As usual the town was extremely busy and the lights were very impressive.

Sunday 20 Nov 16

The Mayor and Mayoress travelled to Ashbourne to support their Christmas lantern parade and light switch-on. Excellent hospitality and an entertaining children's short theatre production were enjoyed.

Wednesday 23 Nov 16

The Mayor attended the Annual General Meeting of the Stone Outward Girlguiding Division at Yarnfield. The Division and its units had had a very successful 2016. The Mayor congratulated them on their achievements and wished them well for 2017.

Deputy Mayor's Report

6th December 2016

Sunday 23rd October 2016 Official naming ceremony of the Tri-Services Centre (Veterans House)
Hassle Street Newcastle.

The Tri-Services Centre is a registered charity that aims to provide guidance / support to both serving and ex service personnel and their families, whatever their needs.

It was an honour for Jane and I to represent Stone on this special occasion, and to meet the staff and volunteers.