#### **STONE TOWN COUNCIL**

Town Clerk Les Trigg 15 Station Road STONE ST15 8JP

Tel: 01785 619740 Fax: 01785 619741

25 September, 2017

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL**, to be held in **St Michael's Suite at the Frank Jordan Centre, Lichfield Street, Stone** on **TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER, 2017** at **7.00pm** when the following business will be transacted.

> Les Trigg Town Clerk

#### <u>Agenda</u>

- 1. To receive apologies for absence
- 2. Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations
- 3. **Representations from Members of the Public**
- 4. To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on the 5 September, 2017, Minute No's. C18/030 C18/038 (attached)
- 5. To receive the minutes and decisions of the under mentioned Committees:
  - a) Planning Committee Meeting held on 5 September, 2017, Minute Number P18/046 P18/050 (attached)
  - b) General Purposes Committee Meeting held on 5 September, 2017, Minute Numbers GP18/038 GP18/058 (attached)
- Conclusion of Audit 2016-17: To note receipt of the External Auditor's Report and Certificate for the year ending 31 March 2017 (attached)
- 7. To receive the forthcoming Civic Announcements (attached)
- 8. **To receive the Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Reports of Engagements** (attached)

## 9. **Exclusion of the Public and Press**

To resolve, pursuant to the Public Bodies (admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting whilst the next item of business is discussed on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the debate.

### 10. To receive the Confidential Minutes and decisions of the undermentioned Committees:

a) General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 5 September, 2017, Minute Numbers GP18/059, GP18/060 and GP18/061 (attached)

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Council Meeting as observers.

# **Stone Town Council**

# Minutes of the meeting held in Christchurch Suite, Frank Jordan Centre, Lichfield Street, Stone, on Tuesday 05 September, 2017

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

ABSENT: Councillor Mrs J. Farnham

Before the meeting began Reverend I. Cardinal gave prayers.

The Mayor reported that he had sent a letter to Carthage, Stone's sister City in Texas, enquiring about the impact of the recent hurricane. He passed on the concerns of the people of Stone and their sorrow at the loss of life and huge damage that has been suffered in the State. Stone Town Council has raised the Lone Star flag as a mark of respect.

A reply to Councillor Davies' letter had been received advising that the storm had been far enough away from the City not to have caused damage. Many of its citizens had taken their boats to Houston to aid the recovery effort.

#### C18/030 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs J. Farnham.

#### C18/031 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

None received

#### C18/032 <u>Representations from Members of the Public</u>

None

#### C18/033 Allotment Awards

The Mayor welcomed Martin Robinson and invited him to present the awards to the allotments Competition winners for 2017.

Winners of awards are:

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

Best Kept Allotment – Mr A. Adams Most Improved Allotment – Miss D. Rushton Merit Mount Road – Mrs Murphy Merit Newcastle Road – Mr Warrillow (not in attendance)

Mr Robinson was thanked for taking care of the judging.

#### C18/034 Minutes

#### **RESOLVED:**

That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 4 July, 2017, copies having been circulated to the members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record

#### C18/035 Committee Minutes

#### **RESOLVED:**

- a) That the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 4 July, 2017, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record
- b) That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 4 July, 2017, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record
- c) That the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 18 July, 2017, 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 15 August, 2017, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record

## C18/036 Local Government Transparency Code 2015 Openness of Public Bodies Regulations 2014

The information was noted.

#### C18/037 <u>Civic Announcements</u>

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

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

### C18/038 Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Reports of Engagements

The Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Announcements which had been previously circulated, were noted.

TOWN MAYOR

\* 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.

# Stone Town Council – Planning Committee

# Minutes of the meeting held in the Christchurch Suite, Frank Jordan Centre, Lichfield Street, Stone, on Tuesday 05 September 2017

- PRESENT: Councillor A. Osgathorpe in the Chair, and Councillors Mrs K. Green, M. Green, R. Kenney, Mrs E. Mowatt, J. Davies, G. Neagus, Mrs J. Hood, Mrs J. Piggott, Mrs C. Collier, Mrs M. Goodall, T. Jackson, M. Shaw, M. Williamson, I. Fordham, P. Leason and G. Collier
- ABSENT: Councillor: Mrs J. Farnham

#### P18/046 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor Mrs J. Farnham

#### P18/047 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

Councillor I. Fordham declared an interest in Minute Number P18/049 application number 17/26787/HOU

Councillor Mrs M. Goodall declared an interest in Minute Number P18/049 application number 17/26501/HOU

#### P18/048 Representations from Members of the Public

None received

#### P18/049 Planning Applications

**RESOLVED:** That the following observations be made on the applications listed:

Application Number – 17/26820/HOU
 Applicant – Mr & Mrs Hawksworth
 Location – 205 Newcastle Road, Stone
 Development – Extensions and alterations to existing dwelling house in addition to construction of new outbuilding

#### Observations: No objections

Application Number – 17/26787/HOU Applicant – Mrs J. Clarke Location – 20 Granville Terrace, Stone Development – Proposed rear ground floor extension, bedroom in roof space, demolition of existing garage

**Observations:** No concerns are raised in respect of the application in principle but objections are raised to the removal of the Victorian wall.

Application Number – 17/26818/FUL
Applicant – Mr M. Fernyhough (Fernyhough Property)
Location – Ground Floor Flat 1, Albert Street, Stone
Development – Removal of one window and re-instatement of original doorway using aperture

Observations: No objections

Application Number – 17/26918/FUL Applicant – Jonathan Lloyd Developments Ltd Location – Land at Oulton Road, Stone Development – Minor Material Amendment on 14/21492/OUT

**Observations:** No objections

Application Number – 17/26501/HOU Applicant – Mr and Mrs P. Cliffe Location – 9 Northesk Street, Stone Development – Alterations to front walls, steps and provision of parking to rear (amended plan)

**Observations:** No objections

Application Number – S.17/04 (County Application)
 Applicant – Staffordshire County Council
 Location – Alleyne's High School, Oulton Road, Stone
 Development – Three storey extension and associated works to provide 9.5FE school

Observations: No objections

P18/050 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 – General Purposes Committee

# Minutes of the meeting held in the Christchurch Suite, Frank Jordan Centre, Lichfield Street, Stone on Tuesday 5 September 2017

- PRESENT: Councillor R. Kenney in the Chair, and
   Councillors: G. Collier, Mrs C. Collier, Mrs K. Green, M. Green, Mrs J. Hood, J. Davies,
   P. Leason, Mrs E. Mowatt, A. Osgathorpe, M. Shaw, M. Williamson, T. Jackson,
   G. Neagus, Mrs J. Piggott, I. Fordham and Mrs M. Goodall
- ABSENT: Councillor Mrs J. Farnham

The Chairman announced that item 8 of the agenda (Stone Neighbourhood Plan) had been withdrawn. He also announced that the meeting would be adjourned at item 22 to enable the Planning Committee Meeting to be held. The Meeting would then reconvene for the confidential items.

#### GP18/038 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillor: Mrs J. Farnham

#### GP18/039 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

None

#### GP18/040 To receive the Report of the County Councillors

#### **County Councillor Mrs J. Hood**

Councillor Mrs Hood informed the Committee that she had attended the official opening of Stone Boules Club (Le Coche D'or Petanque Club) at The Stone House where three new Courts have been built by members themselves. The Club is made up of able bodied and disabled people, together with Parkinson's sufferers. The Club has been moved around a lot but can now stay at this venue for as long as it wishes to.

Councillor Mrs Hood advised that two new trees (Turkish Hazel) would soon be planted in the High Street. Also, the wall located by Bargain Booze, Hanley Economic Building Society and Subway has been repaired.

Booklets detailing Staffordshire County Council's Bus Review Consultation have been issued to local people over this last few weeks. The feedback received has been that residents are disappointed that funding is being withdrawn from bus services. Some routes are more popular than others but withdrawal could cause both social isolation and a negative impact on the High Street's economy.

Councillor Mrs Hood reported that at a full Staffordshire County Council Meeting, Members voted unanimously to oppose the joint governance of the Police and Fire and Rescue Services in Staffordshire. The Police and Crime Commissioner should be asking for more Government funding and should listen to the people. More staff are needed on the front line and money should not be getting wasted on a consultation.

Councillor Mrs Piggott asked that Staffordshire County Council investigate the accumulation of water on the road outside Londis. A car was seen driving through the water and soaking people at the bus stop.

Councillor Mrs Goodall asked that the grids/drains in the roads be cleared, particularly in the north end of Stone.

#### **County Councillor I. Parry**

Councillor Parry had tendered his apologies for the meeting.

#### GP18/041 Representations from Members of the Public

None

#### GP18/042 Minutes

#### **RESOLVED:**

- a) Tourism and Town Promotion Sub-Committee held on 18 July 2017, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record and that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee contained in Minute Numbers: TTP18/013 and TTP18/014 be adopted.
- b) Estates Sub-Committee held on 15 August 2017, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record and that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee contained in Minute Number EST18/010 be adopted.
- c) That the recommendations of the Estates Sub-Committee contained in Minute Number EST18/011 be adopted, with the Terms and Conditions of Hire for the Frank Jordan Centre updated in accordance with the papers\* circulated with today's agenda, and with the addition of replacing the main exterior sign.

#### GP18/043 Notes of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Meetings

Noted

# GP18/044 Stone Neighbourhood Plan

Item withdrawn as the final draft of the Plan is not yet available.

# GP18/045 Data Protection Policy

The Committee considered a draft Data Protection Policy\* (circulated prior to the meeting) and recommendation that this be adopted by Stone Town Council.

The Town Clerk advised that an updated policy/report would be brought to a future meeting before May 2018, when the 2016 EU Directive known as the General Data

Protection Regulation (GDPR) takes effect. This Regulation will introduce significant changes to Data Protection law.

**RESOLVED:** That the Data Protection Policy is adopted by Stone Town Council.

#### GP18/046 Budget Monitoring – June 2017

The Committee considered the report\* of the Town Clerk.

**RESOLVED:** To note the report.

#### GP18/047 Circulation of Large Reports with Meeting Papers

The committee considered whether large reports/papers should be circulated to Members by email only, rather than printed and enclosed with the agenda.

**RESOLVED:** That paper copies of agenda items which are greater than ten sides will in future be emailed to Members, rather than sent by post, unless a specific request is made for paper by an individual Member.

#### GP18/048 Subsidised Bus Review Consultation

The Committee considered a Staffordshire County Council public consultation outlining four options on how the smaller £1.3 million bus subsidy budget could be spent during 2018/19. Subsidised bus travel is being reviewed in order that the statutory responsibilities of the County Council can be protected and funded.

**RESOLVED:** That the Town Council makes representations (before the closing date of 17 September 2017) opposing option 1 and strongly opposing options 2, 3 and 4.

**RESOLVED:** That Councillor Mark Deaville, Staffordshire County Council Cabinet Member for Commercial be invited to a future meeting.

#### GP18/049 Stafford Borough Council Local Plan Review

The Committee considered a Stafford Borough Council public consultation on the 'Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report' as part of the Local Plan Review. The purpose of Sustainability Appraisal is to appraise new planning policies and proposals as they are being prepared. The Sustainability Appraisal reports will be prepared and consulted upon as part of the evidence base prior to the Plan being independently examined.

**RESOLVED:** To note the content of the Local Plan Review, with no items to raise with the Borough Council.

#### GP18/050 Police and Fire Consultation

The Committee considered the Business Case detailing the four options identified by the Staffordshire Police and Crime Commissioner for amalgamating the governance of Staffordshire Fire and Rescue Services with that of Policing.

After consideration of the implications of the merging of services, Members decided that Stone Town Council would support the position of Staffordshire County Council.

**RESOLVED:** That all emergency services should work more closely together to provide better public protection. To oppose the recommendations in the Business Case that the Governance Model be adopted.

#### GP18/051 Request from the Richard Vernon Trust to Adopt a Bench

The Chairman of the Richard Vernon Trust, Councillor Leason, reported that the proposed bench, to be located in the churchyard of St Michael and St Wulfad's Church, was to commemorate 100 years since the ending of World War 1 in 2018. The Trust are looking to purchase the bench but would like the Council to adopt it in order that future maintenance is taken care of.

**RESOLVED:** That Stone Town Council adopt the new proposed bench, taking on maintenance responsibility after its installation by the Trust.

#### GP18/052 Canal & River Trust – Canal Adoption Meeting

The Committee considered a request for the Council to be represented at a meeting of local organisations who are looking to become involved in a scheme to adopt a stretch of canal through Stone, and thereafter work together to look after its appearance. Use of the Council Chamber has also been requested.

**RESOLVED:** That the following Councillors represent Stone Town Council at the meeting: Councillors: R. Kenney, Mrs J. Hood and P. Leason. The Council Chamber would be provided as a venue for the meeting.

#### GP18/053 Stone Town Council Representative on Walton Community Association (Stone) Ltd

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that no response had been received to the Council's letter asking for the date when Walton Community Association's constitution had changed. Attendance at meetings by representatives of both Stafford Borough Council and Stone Town Council was thought to be included in the Associations constitution.

**RESOLVED:** To note that no response had been received.

#### GP18/054 Non-Cheque Payment

**RESOLVED:** To note the list\* of non-cheque payments made by the Council during the period 1 April to 30 June 2017.

#### GP18/055 Update from Working Groups

#### **Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group**

Councillor Mrs Hood reported that she had been confident that agreement would be reached at the Steering Group meeting on 30 August 2017 for the Neighbourhood Plan to go to Regulation 14. However, after receiving two objections to the wording of a paragraph, a further meeting has been called for 6 September 2017.

Councillor Mrs Hood apologised that progress with the Neighbourhood Plan had been delayed. However, an additional meeting of the General Purposes Committee is scheduled for later during the month which would enable the final draft to be considered.

**RESOLVED:** To note the update on the work of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

# Protocol for Marking the Death of the Sovereign or other member of the Royal Family Group

Councillor Davies reported that he had a meeting with the Town Clerk tomorrow morning to discuss calling a meeting of the Working Group.

#### GP18/056 Members' Motions under Standing Order 4

#### **Councillor Mrs J. Hood**

'Stone residents are being ignored by HS2, who once again have refused to bring the HS2 2a: consultation to Stone which is the second largest settlement within the borough and will be hugely impacted upon by the Railhead Compound, which originally billed as temporary, is now being described as permanent.

HS2 state that hundreds of heavy goods vehicles (one per minute) will travel down Yarnfield Lane heading north and south throughout the day and night. The impact on Stone will be chaos as the A34 and Yarnfield Lane tries to cope with the volume of backed up traffic with no planned changes by Highways to the Wayfarer junction. We also have to consider light pollution from the compound across the town and the welfare of Walton residents who will suffer sleep deprivation due to construction noise. Dust will threaten the health of many of those residents with breathing conditions. I ask Stone Town Council to consider their support of the Stone Railhead Crisis Group in their alternative plan to re-site the compound'.

**RESOLVED:** To reimburse the costs of the Stone Railhead Crisis Group for the purchase of banners, leaflets, a marquee and hire of a room, to the value of £258.90.

### GP18/057 <u>To receive reports from Town Councillors on attendance at meetings of local</u> organisations and outside bodies as a representative of the Town Council

#### Stone ATC

The Mayor advised that he and Councillor Green had attended a meeting on 24 July 2017 and that the ATC are looking for civilian instructors to assist with its work.

#### Age Concern Stone & District

Councillor Mrs Collier reported that the 'Transport to Hospital' scheme was working very well. Lunch Club, now held at the Crown & Anchor, was also going very well. She also reported that there were two new recruits in the office.

#### Stone Town Band

The Mayor reported that no meeting had taken place.

#### Walton Community Centre

Councillor M. Green reported that he is waiting for an invitation to a meeting.

#### Stafford & Stone Access Group

Councillor Mrs Collier reported that the long-standing Treasurer had retired. A replacement Treasurer has been appointed. The ongoing struggle with A boards was continuing but the website is up and running.

### **Stone Common Plot Trustees**

No report

Stone Community Hub Liaison Group No report

#### **SPCA Executive Meeting**

Councillor Williamson reported on a meeting of the Executive Committee he attended on 4 September 2017. The main points discussed were:

- The accounts for the year 2016-17 have been audited and found to be in order
- Update on the General Data Protection Regulation which will take effect in May 2018.
- A proposal by NALC to set up a 'Larger Council's Committee' (for Councils with a precept greater than £250,000 or an electorate greater than 6000). SPCA is not in support of the proposal.
- 'Disclosable Personal Interests and the Precept'. NALC's legal topic note has highlighted a lack of clarity on this issue. Councillor Williamson advised that he wishes to discuss the matter with the Town Clerk to verify the Council's position and explore the need to ask the Government for dispensation.
- Diane Wallace of the Dementia Action Group gave a talk on Dementia in Stafford Borough. Councillor Williamson suggested Diane be invited to a future meeting of Stone Town Council.

The meeting was suspended to enable the Planning Committee Meeting to take place, after which it was reconvened.

#### GP18/058 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To resolve, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission of Meetings) Act 1960, the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting whilst the next item of business is discussed on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the debate

**RESOLVED:** To exclude the Press and Public from the next item of business.

#### GP18/059 <u>Confidential Minutes</u>

#### **RESOLVED:**

Estates Sub-Committee held on 15 August 2017, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record and that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee contained in Minute Number EST18/013 be adopted.

# GP18/060 Computer Support Contract The committee considered a report of the Town Clerk which explores the potential

\* 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.

for entering into a contract for support of the Council's IT systems.

**RESOLVED:** To authorise the Town Clerk to enter into a contract for IT support, as set out in the report.

## GP18/061 Debt Recovery

The committee considered a report of the Town Clerk detailing a debt recovery issue.

**RESOLVED:** That the matter be reviewed again in two months.

**Town Mayor** 

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# Section 3 – External auditor report and certificate

In respect of:

Enter name of smaller authority here:

STONE TOWN COUNCIL

# 1. Respective responsibilities of the body and the auditor

This smaller authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The smaller authority prepares an annual return in accordance with proper practices which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2017; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

Our responsibility is to review the annual return in accordance with guidance issued by the National Audit Office (NAO) on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General (see note below). Our work does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and does not provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would do.

# 2. 2016/17 External auditor report

(Except for the matters reported below)\* on the basis of our review of the annual return, in our opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislative and regulatory requirements have not been met. (\*delete as appropriate).

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

Other matters not affecting our opinion which we draw to the attention of the smaller authority:

(continue on a separate sheet if required)

# 3. 2016/17 External auditor certificate

We certify/do not certify\* that we have completed our review of the annual return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2017.

* We do not certify complet	ion because:
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
External auditor signature	Grow Thompson VK LLP
External auditor name	Grant Thornton UK LLP Date 12 September 2017
	lance applicable to external auditors' work on 2016/17 accounts in Auditor Guidance Note AGN/02. The NAO website (www.nao.org.uk)

# STONE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING <u>3 October 2017</u>

# **CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

#### <u>Mayor</u>

Wednesday 4 October	South Staffordshire Council – Tour of Chillington Hall
Saturday 7 October	St Vincent Association AGM and Gala Dinner
Tuesday 10 October	Lion's Walk for Sight
Sunday 15 October	Stafford and Stone Canoe club – Presentation of Stone Town Council Cup
Thursday 19 October	2352 (Stone) Squadron ATC – AGM
Friday 20 October	Chuckle Stars performance of the Chucklebox Show
Saturday 21 October	Trafalgar Dinner
Saturday 4 November	Bonfire Night at Westbridge Park

# **Deputy Mayor**

Sunday 15 October	Eccleshall Parish Council – Civic Service
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### TOWN MAYOR

#### TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT – 3 Oct 17

#### Sunday 27 Aug 17

It was a huge privilege for the Mayor and Mayoress to be invited to join a very distinguished gathering at Yarnfield Park to celebrate the 60th anniversary of the Ma Thoma church in UK. The church is based in Kerala, India, and dates back to the 1st century when Saint Thomas took the gospel to the subcontinent. The church has adherents throughout the world and is in communion with the Church of England. The Mayor and Mayoress, along with Rt Rev Geoff Annas, Bishop of Stafford, were received by the head of the Ma Thoma Church, His Grace the Most Rev Dr Joseph Mar Thoma Metropolitan, and by the Rt Rev Dr Isaac Mar Philoxenos, the diocesan bishop.

### Friday 1 Sep 17

To mark Merchant Navy Day the Mayor raised the red ensign at the top of the High St to support the campaign by Seafarers' UK as endorsed by HRH the Earl of Wessex.

### Sunday 3 Sep 17

An important Mayoral role is to visit neighbouring towns and to reciprocate their support of civic events in Stone. Once again the Mayor and Mayoress received a very warm welcome at Cheadle Civic Sunday which included a fascinating visit to 'Pugin's Gem', the church of St Giles.

#### Thursday 6 Jul Sep

The Mayor and Mayoress hosted a very well-supported charity evening at the Lymestone Brewery where the Mayor performed his formal role as chief tester for the Brewery. The many civic representatives included the Chairman and Consort of Staffordshire County Council, the Mayor and Mayoress of Stafford Borough, the Chairman and Consort of Staffordshire Moorlands, the Chairman and Consort of Staffordshire Moorlands, the Chairman and Consort of Uttoxeter.

#### Monday 11 Sep 17

As part of the development of the links between Stone and Carthage, Texas, the Stone & District Branch of the Royal Air Forces Association had arranged for Shaun Farrelly, a local historian, to give a fascinating illustrated presentation in the Stone Tennis Club on the wartime activities at Yarnfield. The Mayor and Mayoress were delighted to support this event and the Mayor welcomed particularly Bill and Mary Throop (from Austin, Texas); Bill's father had served as a US airman at Yarnfield during World War 2.

#### Wednesday 13 Sep 17

The Mayor attended in St Michael's & St Wulfad's church a production of The War Bride, an awardwinning tribute to the Great War.

#### Thursday 14 Sep 17

The Mayor and Mayoress were delighted to be able to represent the Town at the Battle of Britain Dinner held by the RAF Tactical Supply Wing at MoD Stafford. The evening included a moving fly-past by a wartime Hurricane.

#### Saturday 16 Sep 17

The Mayor was pleased to cut the ribbon to open officially the new shop in Radford Street run by AEDdonate, a local charity that helps defibrillators to be provided for public emergency use.

The 31<sup>st</sup> Anniversary Show of the Stone Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society provided further evidence of the extremely high standards achieved by local horticulturalists. The Mayor and Mayoress were delighted by the wonderful blooms on show and the Mayor presented the prizes to the well-deserved recipients.

#### DEPUTY MAYOR'S REPORT – 3 October 2017

#### **Thursday 21 September**

The Deputy Mayor attended the re-opening of the impressively refurbished Frank Jordan Centre, met many stakeholders and spoke about the history of the building and the background to the refurbishment before introducing Frank Jordan's daughters who unveiled a reframed portrait of their late father.