

Stone Town Council

Minutes of the meeting held virtually on Tuesday 1 December 2020

NOTE: Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic (COVID-19) and Government Guidelines on public gatherings, the meeting was held virtually on Zoom. Members of the public were invited to observe the meeting streamed live on YouTube.

PRESENT: Councillor M. Green in the Chair and
Councillors: T. Adamson, A. Best, Mrs A. Burgess, J. Davies, Mrs L. Davies,
I. Fordham, J. Hickling, Mrs J. Hood, T. Kelt, R. Kenney, P. Leason, J. Powell,
C. Thornicroft and R. Townsend

ABSENT: Councillors: K. Argyle, Mrs K. Dawson and M. Hatton

Before the meeting began Reverend Prebendary Cardinal led prayers

C20/145 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors: K. Argyle and Mrs K. Dawson

C20/146 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None received

C20/147 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None

C20/148 **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting of the Town Council held on the 3 November 2020 (Minute Numbers C20/137 – C20/144), be approved as a correct record.

C20/149 **Committee Minutes**

RESOLVED:

- a) The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on the 27 October 2020 (Minute Numbers GP20/275 – GP20/278), were noted.
- b) The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on the 3

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November 2020 (Minute Numbers GP20/279 – GP20/294), were noted.

- c) The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on the 3 November 2020 (Minute Numbers P20/121 – P20/126), were noted.

C20/150 Conclusion of Audit 2019-20

RESOLVED:

The Sub-Committee noted the External Auditor's Report* and Certificate* for the year ending 31 March 2020.

C20/151 Six Month Attendance Rule

The Town Council considered a written communication from Councillor K. Argyle in respect of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

The Town Clerk informed the Council that the legislation requires that all Councillors attend at least one meeting in every six month period or they automatically cease to become a councillor.

The Town Clerk advised that Councillor Argyle had requested the Council waive the need for him to attend a meeting in a six month period as he was at risk of not being able to meet the requirement. Councillor Argyle informed the Council that he does not possess the technology to access the meetings by video link and does not feel that a telephone link would enable him to participate adequately.

RESOLVED: That Councillor Argyle's reasons for not attending virtual meetings of the Town Council are accepted and that the requirements of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 are waived.

C20/152 Civic Announcements

There were no Civic Announcements due to the Coronavirus pandemic and Government requirements on social distancing.

C20/153 Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Reports of Engagements

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

The Town Mayor reported on the short Remembrance Sunday services that had taken place in Stone on 8 November 2020. He thanked the Royal British Legion and Town Council office staff for their contribution to the occasion.

Councillor Green said he was very pleased that organisations had been able to lay

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their wreaths before and after the services. The war memorial in Stone with its collection of wreaths looked second to none.

The Town Mayor looks forward to next year when the town will hopefully be able to gather around the war memorial in the traditional manner to respect the sacrifices made by townspeople involved in war and conflict.

TOWN MAYOR

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