

Town Clerk

Les Trigg

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11 January 2023

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **TOURISM & TOWN PROMOTION SUB COMMITTEE** will be held in the **Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone**, on **TUESDAY 17 JANUARY 2023 at 7.05pm**, or on the rising of the Planning Consultative Committee, if later.

The agenda is set out below and I trust you will be able to attend.

Les Trigg
Town Clerk

Councillors: Mrs J. Hood (Chairman), C. Thornicroft (Vice Chairman), A. Best, J. Davies,
Mrs K. Dawson, P. Leason and S. Walley

Co-opted

Member: Mr J. Cook

AGENDA

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest and Dispensations Received.**
3. **Representations from Members of the Public**

To consider representations from members of the public on items to be considered at this meeting, in accordance with the Council's scheme of public participation

4. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting of the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee held on 25 October 2022, Minute No's TTP23/017 – TTP23/026 (attached)

5. **Calendar of Events 2023**

To consider the Town Council's Calendar of Events (and confirm the dates) for 2023 including:

- Texas Flag Raising, marking Texas State's independence from Mexico (Saturday 4 March 2023)
- Anniversary of the death of the Earl of St Vincent Commemoration (March 2023)
- St George's Day Re-enactment (Saturday 22 April 2023)
- King Charles III Coronation (weekend of Saturday 6 May 2023)
- Floating Market/Waterside Events (provisionally 27, 28 and 29 May 2023)
- Florence Brass Band Concert & Burma Star Commemoration (provisionally Sunday 13 August 2023)
- Stone by the Sea (Wednesday 16 to Saturday 19 August 2023)
- Classic Car Event (September 2023)
- Christmas Lights Switch-On (Thursday 23 November 2023)
- Texas Flag Raising, marking the anniversary of Texas joining the Union on 29 December 1848 (Friday 29 December 2023)
- Puppet Festival
- Any other suggested new events for 2023

6. **Stone Traders Group**

To consider a proposal from the Stone Traders Group along with Stone Food & Drink Festival for a programme of events in 2023.

An email from the Chairman of Stone Traders Group is attached.

7. **Rebekah Refurbishment**

To consider the refurbishment of canal boat 'Rebekah'.

Following previous consideration at the Sub Committee meeting on 25 October 2022 (Minute Reference TTP23/024) an email setting out further information is attached.

8. **Market Signage**

To receive an update on the replacement of the town's roadside market signs.

9. **Budgets 2023-24 – 2025-26**

To consider the report of the Town Clerk (attached).

10. **Reports from Working Groups**

- Remembrance Plaques Working Group
- Market Strategy (Market Pricing & Strategy)
- Earl St Vincent Commemoration Working Group
- King Charles III Coronation Working Group

Will any Councillors who wish to speak at this meeting, but are not members of the Sub-Committee, please inform the Chairman before the start of the meeting

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee Meeting as observers and/or to make representations to the committee in accordance with the Council's scheme of public participation. Details of this scheme are displayed on the Town Council's notice boards and website.

Stone Town Council – Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee

**Minutes of the meeting held in St Michael’s Suite at the Frank Jordan Centre,
Lichfield Street, Stone, on Tuesday 25 October 2022**

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs J. Hood in the Chair and
Councillors: J. Davies, Mrs K. Dawson R. Kenney, J. Powell, C. Thornicroft and
S. Walley

Officers: L. Trigg and Mrs T. Williams

By Chairman’s invitation: I. Fordham and T. Kelt

ABSENT: Councillors: A. Best and P. Leason
Co-opted Member: J. Cook

TTP23/017 Apologies

Councillors: A. Best and P. Leason
Co-opted Member: J. Cook

TTP23/018 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None received

TTP23/019 Representations from Members of the Public

None

TTP23/020 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee meeting held on the 16 August 2022 (Minute Numbers TTP23/008 – TTP23/016), were approved as a correct record.

TTP23/021 Calendar of Events 2022-23

The Sub-Committee considered past and future Town Council events in 2022-23 which included the arrangements for the following:

- Stone by the Sea
The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that Stone by the Sea was a successful event for families and always resulted in lots of positive feedback.

* 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.

With the cost-of-living crisis it was good to offer a variety of free events for families as well as attracting people into town to use the shops and support local eateries.

- Christmas Lights Switch-On

The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that the Christmas Lights Switch-On event would be taking place on 17 November 2022 and this year have a 'Matilda' theme.

Rooftop Studios and a good number of local school choirs had signed up to perform a variety of songs with Sam Lloyd taking on the role of compere once again.

Councillor Mrs Hood asked Town Councillors to volunteer as stewards for the evening if they were available.

- Anniversary of the death of the Earl St Vincent Commemoration

Councillor Mrs Hood advised the Sub-Committee that the Earl St Vincent had been a local hero in Stone and had chosen to be buried in St Michael & St Wulfad's Church yard rather than in London's St Pauls Cathedral.

The Sub-Committee agreed that a working group should be set up to consider the arrangements for a commemoration event in March 2023 to mark the anniversary of his death and honour his life.

It was agreed that the working group's membership would consist of Councillors: Mrs J. Hood, J. Powell, Mrs K. Dawson, R. Kenney and T. Kelt.

- Classic Car Event

The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that the organiser of the Classic Car Show was keen to hold an event next year and a firm date in mid-September was awaited.

- Puppet Festival

The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that David Leech of Pelham Puppets was keen to bring his show to Stone but needed to first establish how it would work.

- St George's Day

The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that the St George's Day Re-enactment was another popular free event for families and the Knights had been booked to perform again in 2023, on the nearest Saturday to 23 April.

As St George is also the Patron Saint of Scouts, the Scout and Guide Band had expressed a wish to have some involvement in the event next year. The Knights will be consulted to see what they think and how the Band could be worked into the programme.

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lights switch-on event (£3,500), High Street Christmas Trees (£2,500), Remembrance Plaques (£250), a general provision for town promotion events (£12,000) and a small contingency. No specific provision has been made for the King's Coronation Event.

- c. The Town Market forecast for 2022-23 shows a lower than expected surplus, largely due to spending on new weights and marquee maintenance. For 2023-24 and subsequent years, the budget has assumed broadly current levels of market operation with an annual contingency of £1,200 for ongoing maintenance. No provision has been made for Market Square rental income.
6. As reported to the meeting of the General Purposes Committee on 13th December, the standstill budget is just the starting point for the budget process. Members will want to review this standstill budget and the amounts provisionally included. In addition, there are likely to be other areas where Members will want to undertake new developments or stop/change the things that the Council is doing now.
7. The Sub-Committee is asked to consider the standstill budget and any areas of growth or savings which they would want to be taken into account in setting the budget for 2023-24 and future years.

Potential Budget Changes

8. The Sub-Committee may wish to consider whether it intends to meet the cost of the proposed King's Coronation event from the £12,000 events provision, or whether it will require a one-off additional budget for the occasion.

Recommendations

9. Members are asked to recommend their proposed budget for consideration by the General Purposes Committee.