

Stone Town Council – Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 28 March 2023

PRESENT: Councillor Mrs J. Hood in the Chair and
Councillors: A. Best, J. Davies, R. Kenney and J. Powell

Co-opted Member: J. Cook

Officers: L. Trigg

By Chairman's invitation: No Councillors

ABSENT: Councillors: Mrs K. Dawson, P. Leason, C. Thornicroft and S. Walley

TTP23/037 Apologies

Councillors: Mrs K. Dawson and C. Thornicroft

TTP23/038 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation

None

TTP23/039 Representations from Members of the Public

None

TTP23/040 Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee meeting held on 17 January 2023 (Minute Numbers TTP23/027 – TTP23/036), were approved as a correct record.

TTP23/041 Calendar of Events 2023

The Chairman invited members of the Sub-Committee to make comments on the past and future events listed on the agenda, and identify any other potential events:

- Commemoration of the Death of Flight Lieutenant Stubbs
Councillor Davies thanked the Sub-Committee for their support with this event, which was a Church Service commemorating the 80th anniversary of the death of Flight Lieutenant Richard Noel Stubbs DFC DFM RAFVR. Councillors reported

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back on an incredible service, and the contact that had been made with Flight Lieutenant Stubbs great niece.

- Texas Flag Raising, marking Texas State's independence from Mexico
Councillor Davies reported back on a successful event that had attracted interest within the town.
- St George's Day Re-enactment
The Chairman and Town Clerk updated the Sub-Committee on the publicity arrangements for this event.
- King Charles III Coronation
The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that the preparations for this event were progressing, and that a further meeting of the Working Group would be held next week.

The event will take place in the High Street on Sunday 7 May 2023 (the day after the King's Coronation in London).

- Florence Brass Band Concert & Burma Star Commemoration
The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that the Council was responsible for organising the Florence Brass Band Concert, but not the Burma Star Commemoration.
- Stone by the Sea
The Town Clerk reported that, following discussions with Warwick Funfairs, the event would now take place between Wednesday 9 and Saturday 12 August, not a week later as had previously been reported.
- Classic Car Event
The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that the Classic Car event had now been confirmed for 23rd September 2023. She also reported that a proposal to hold a scooter event had been received for the following day, which was being followed up on by herself and the Town Clerk.
- Christmas Lights Switch-On
Councillor Powell reported on a switch-on event that he had attended in Cheadle as Mayor, at which the High Street was filled with small stalls. He asked if the Council should consider this change in approach. The Sub-Committee did not support this proposal, preferring to continue with the current arrangements.

It was also proposed by the Chairman that the red box used for the switch-on should be replaced. Councillor Powell reported that he had undertaken some refurbishment of the box prior to last year's event, and the Town Clerk undertook to investigate how the box could be further improved or whether it should be replaced.

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- Puppet Festival
The Chairman advised the Sub-Committee that arrangements were now being finalised for the 2023 Puppet Festival, and that a number of workshops had been arranged with schools.
- Any other suggested new events for 2023
Councillor Davies reported on the Music Festival being organised by Stone Traders’.

TTP23/042 Reports from Working Groups

The Chairman invited representatives from each Working Group to address the Sub-Committee:

Remembrance Plaques Working Group

Councillor Davies advised the Sub-Committee that the project was currently on hold pending the appointment of a new pottery manager at Oak Tree Farm.

Market Strategy (Market Pricing & Strategy)

The Town Clerk reported on a meeting which had taken place earlier in the day.

The meeting had been to discuss a new contract for the erection, removal and storage of the Council’s marquees for markets and other events, as the current contractor had given notice which would expire at the end of April.

Following the receipt of a number of quotations it was agreed to offer the contract to the lowest priced proposal, which would still represent a small increase on current costs. This decision will be implemented by the Clerk under delegated powers.

Earl St Vincent Commemoration Working Group

The Sub-Committee agreed that this group was no longer required and that it would be disbanded.

King Charles III Coronation Working Group

The Chairman informed the Sub-Committee that the King Charles III Working Group will be meeting next week to continue to progress plans for the event. She also said that more Stewards were needed for the event, and Town Councillors were asked to be involved.

The Town Clerk reminded Councillors that, although the event would take place after the elections, they would still be Councillors on the day of the event whether they were re-elected or not.

Chairman

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