

Stone Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 6 June 2023

PRESENT: Councillor J. Davies in the Chair and
Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Burgess, L. Davies, I. Fordham, J. Hood, T. Kelt,
B. Kenney, R. Kenney, J. Metters, A. Mottershead, J. Powell, N. Powell,
C. Thornicroft and R. Townsend

Officers: L. Trigg and T. Williams

ABSENT: Councillors: A. Best, K. Dawson and P. Leason

Before the meeting began the Mayoress, Councillor Lin Davies, led prayers.

C24/016 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors: A. Best, K. Dawson and P. Leason.

C24/017 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

None received.

C24/018 Acceptance of Office

The Town Clerk acknowledged receipt of the Deputy Town Mayor's signed Declaration of Acceptance of Office.

C24/019 Representations from Members of the Public

None

C24/020 Minutes

RESOLVED:

- a) That the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 16 May 2023 (Minute Numbers C24/001 – C24/015), be approved as a correct record.

* 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.

C24/021 Committee Minutes

RESOLVED:

- a) The minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 23 May 2023 (Minute Numbers GP24/001 – GP24/019), were noted.
- b) The minutes of the Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 23 May 2023 (Minute Numbers PC24/001 – PC24/006), were noted.

C24/022 Internal Auditor's Report 2022-23

The Council considered the following documents which had been circulated with the agenda, prior to the meeting:

- a. Formal Internal Audit submission to the External Auditors*
- b. Report from Internal Auditor*

The Town Clerk reported that the Council is required to consider an Internal Audit Report before approving the Annual Governance Statement and accounts for submission to the External Auditors.

RESOLVED: To note the Internal Auditor's report and submission to External Audit.

C24/023 Annual Governance Statement 2022-23

The Council considered the Annual Governance Statement* which must be approved prior to consideration of the Council's accounts.

RESOLVED: To approve the Annual Governance Statement and supporting explanations for submission to the External Auditor for the year 2022-23.

C24/024 Council Accounts 2022-23

The Council considered the Town Clerk's report* and the accounting statement* which had been circulated with the agenda for the meeting.

RESOLVED:

- a) To approve the Council's Accounts for 2022-23 as set out in the report of the Town Clerk, including the use of the rollover reserve to allow the transfer of budgets between financial years and the proposed use of those budgets in 2023-24.
- b) To note the variances between the forecast outturn for 2022-23 and the actual outturn, and the reasons identified for the major variances.

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- c) To approve the financial statement for submission to the Council's External Auditors.

C24/025 Local government Transparency Code 2015
Openness of Public Bodies Regulations 2014

The information* for Quarter ending 31 March 2023 was noted.

C24/026 Civic Announcements

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

C24/027 Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Reports of Engagements

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

The Town Mayor advised the Town Council that he had attended the Samaritans Annual General Meeting in Stafford on 18 May 2023 and was reminded of the invaluable service provided by the Charity. The Charity said it was very grateful for the support received from Stone.

The Deputy Town Mayor, Councillor Townsend, thanked the Town Council for appointing him as Deputy Mayor.

He informed the Town Council that he had attended the Stone and District Scouts Annual General Meeting on 24 May 2023 which was very informative and provided a strong reminder of the popularity of the movement and the dedication of its members.

TOWN MAYOR

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