



**Town Clerk**

Les Trigg

15 Station Road  
STONE  
ST15 8JP

**Tel: 01785 619740**

**Email: [clerk@stonetowncouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@stonetowncouncil.gov.uk)**

25 August 2023

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL** will be held in the **Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone**, on **TUESDAY 5 SEPTEMBER 2023 at 7:00pm** for consideration of the matters itemised in the following agenda.

Les Trigg  
Town Clerk

**Agenda**

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**
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. **To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 1 August 2023, Minute Numbers C24/035 – C24/042 (attached)**

5. **To receive the draft minutes and decisions of the under mentioned Committees:**

- a) General Purposes Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023, Minute Numbers GP24/057 – GP24/074 (attached)
- b) Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023, Minute Numbers PC24/019 – PC24/024 (attached)

6. **Mayor's Cadets**

To thank the outgoing Mayor's Cadets for their service during 2022-23.

7. **Allotment Awards**

To award the winners of the Allotments Competition 2023.

8. **Conclusion of Audit 2022-23**

To note receipt of the External Auditor's Report and Certificate for the year ending 31 March 2023.

A letter from the External Auditor and the External Auditor's Report and Certificate is attached.

9. **To receive the forthcoming Civic Announcements** (attached).

10. **To receive the Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Reports of Engagements** (attached).

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Town Council meeting as observers and/or to make representations to the committee in accordance with the Council's scheme of public participation. Details of the scheme are displayed in the Council's notice boards and website.

# Stone Town Council

## Minutes of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 1 August 2023

**PRESENT:** Councillor J. Davies in the Chair and  
Councillors: A. Best, L. Davies, K. Dawson, T. Kelt, B. Kenney, R. Kenney,  
P. Leason, J. Metters, J. Powell, N. Powell and C. Thornicroft

Officers: L. Trigg and T. Williams

**ABSENT:** Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Burgess, I. Fordham, J. Hood, A. Mottershead and  
R. Townsend

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Before the meeting began:

### **Prayers**

Councillor Mrs Lin Davies led prayers.

### **Presentation of the Mayor's Collection for 2022-23**

The Town Mayor called forward Councillor Jonathan Powell, to present the charity proceeds from his Mayoral year 2022-23.

A total value of £2,400 was raised by Councillor Powell during 2022-23, which was divided equally between his two supported charities.

Councillor Powell presented these donations of £1,200 each to representatives of the charities: Trustee Mr Phil Yates, on behalf of Stone Community Hub, and Mrs Sharon Hodson and Mrs Sara Christie, of Chuckle Productions.

Mr Yates, Mrs Hodson and Mrs Christie thanked Councillor Powell and the Town Council for the monies received.

### **C24/035 Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors: J. Battrick, I. Fordham, J. Hood, A. Mottershead and R. Townsend

### **C24/036 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None received.

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\* 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.

**C24/037     Representations from Members of the Public**

None

**C24/038     Minutes**

RESOLVED:

- a) That the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 4 July 2023 (Minute Numbers C24/028 – C24/034), be approved as a correct record.

**C24/039     Committee Minutes**

RESOLVED:

- a) The draft minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 4 July 2023 (Minute Numbers GP24/034 – GP24/056), were noted.
- b) The draft minutes of the Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 4 July 2023 (Minute Numbers PC24/013 – PC24/018), were noted.

**C24/040     Local Government Transparency Code 2015  
Openness of Public Bodies Regulations 2014**

The information\* for Quarter ending 30 June 2023 was noted.

**C24/041     Civic Announcements**

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

**C24/042     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 Council that the Puppet Festival had been great fun and a good day in the town.

He also reported on the Town Council's Civic Sunday Parade and Church Service on 9 July, where all elements of the occasion had gone very well.

The Town Mayor informed the Council that it was a pleasure to fly the flag for Stone.

**TOWN MAYOR**

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\* 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 – General Purposes Committee

## Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 1 August 2023

**PRESENT:** Councillor R. Kenney in the Chair, and  
Councillors: A. Best, J. Davies, L. Davies, K. Dawson, T. Kelt, B. Kenney,  
P. Leason, J. Metters, J. Powell, N. Powell and C. Thornicroft

Officers: L. Trigg and T. Williams

**ABSENT:** Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Burgess, I. Fordham, J. Hood, A. Mottershead and  
R. Townsend

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### **GP24/057    Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors: J. Battrick, I. Fordham, J. Hood,  
A. Mottershead and R. Townsend

Where a reason for absence is given, this reason was approved for the purposes of  
Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

### **GP24/058    Declarations of Interests**

None

### **GP24/059    Requests for Dispensations**

None

### **GP24/060    To receive the report of the County Councillors**

#### **County Councillor Jill Hood**

Councillor Hood was not available on this occasion to give her report.

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

Councillor Parry was not in attendance at the meeting.

### **GP24/061    To receive the report of Borough Councillors**

Borough Councillors had no report on this occasion.

### **GP24/062    Representations from Members of the Public**

None

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**GP24/063     Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 4 July 2023 (Minute Numbers GP24/034 – GP24/056) be approved as a correct record.

**GP24/064     Minutes of Sub-Committees**

There were no sub-committee minutes for consideration.

**GP24/065     Grants to Local Organisations**

The Committee considered the following request for a grant:

- a.    **Organisation: Futures2gether**  
      **Amount Requested: £470**  
      **Reason:** To support the costs of offering clients the opportunity to take part in multi sports sessions provided by Coaches from Stoke City Football Club.

The Committee had deferred consideration of the grant application at the last meeting pending further information on whether the project would be able to go ahead if the Town Council's support was not forthcoming (Minute reference GP24/042, 4 July 2023).

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that Futures2gether had advised him that if the Town Council did not offer its support to the project the organisation would look elsewhere for potential grants or supporting opportunities. If unable to find any that were suitable, they would not be able to access the sports sessions proposed in the application.

RESOLVED: To award a grant of £470 to Futures2gether.

**GP24/066     Rural England Prosperity Fund Grant**

The Committee considered a request from the Town Clerk who was seeking approval in consultation with the Committee Chairman, to submit a bid to the Rural England Prosperity Fund to support work at the Heritage Centre.

Stafford Borough Council's Rural England Prosperity Fund Policy and the Expression of Interest Application form had been attached to the agenda for the meeting. A link to further information about the application process had also been enclosed.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that this was an opportunity to bring some money in to the Heritage Centre and to improve on the Town Council's original proposal and offer. This could include interactive and IT equipment and items for display, for which there was currently no budget. He said the Town Council met the eligibility criteria.

RESOLVED: To give authority to the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee, to make an application to the Rural England Prosperity Fund for a grant of £40,000 to support the work of the Heritage Centre.

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**GP24/067     Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation**

The Committee considered a Stafford Borough Council Public Spaces Protection Order (PSPO) Consultation.

An email from the Borough Council had been enclosed with the agenda for the meeting along with a copy of the current Public Spaces Protection Order and Consultation form detailing several specific questions. A link to additional information had also been enclosed.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that the consultation could also be completed by individuals wishing to express their personal views and was not exclusive to the Town Council.

RESOLVED: That the following responses are given to Stafford Borough Council in response to the Public Spaces Protection Order Consultation:

**Do you think the restrictions in the current PSPO need to be renewed and be included in the new order?**

Yes, the restrictions in the current PSPO should be renewed and additionally include Adies Alley and the area around Workhouse Bridge, Stone.

**Do you think the following additional restrictions should be included in the new Order?**

Busking in Stafford and Stone Town Centre

No, busking in Stafford and Stone town centres should not be included in the new Order.

Busking with amplifiers in Stafford and Stone Town centre

No, busking with the use of amplifiers should not be restricted in the new Order, up to the point when they become a public nuisance.

Feeding birds in public open spaces

Yes, the feeding of birds in public open spaces should be added as an additional restriction to the PSPO.

Using BBQs or equivalents on Public Open Spaces

Yes, the use of BBQs or equivalents should be restricted and be permitted in specific designated public areas only.

Clarification should be given to the definition of 'public area' so as not to exclude organised uses such as activities arranged by the Scouting and Guiding movement where the lighting of firepits within the vicinity of the scout or guide hut is part of their recreational program.

**Do you think the restrictions relating to dogs should be extended to cover all parks in Stafford Borough?**

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No, restrictions relating to dogs do not need to be extended to cover all parks in Stafford Borough.

**Do you think we should continue to exclude dogs from children's play areas in Stafford Borough?**

Yes, dogs should continue to be excluded from Children's play areas in Stafford Borough.

**GP24/068     Budget Monitoring Report – June 2023**

The report\* of the Town Clerk was noted.

**GP24/069     Heritage Centre**

The Committee considered an update on the Heritage Centre.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that he was awaiting confirmation that the building work was complete. The contract appeared to be on schedule and the work done to a high standard.

He said he had advertised the new Heritage Centre Manager post and was hoping for a good response from job applicants.

The Chairman advised the Committee that there were two parts to the Heritage Centre Working group, the build side (involving conversion of the fabric of the old fire station building) and the artifacts (internal fittings and the displays).

The Chairman invited Councillor Leason to give an update on the work of the 'artifacts' sub-group and he advised the Committee that the proposal was to open the Heritage Centre with the small room to begin with (hopefully later this year) which will concentrate on the story of Stone. The larger room will open around springtime in 2024 when the collection of artifacts will be ready for display. All information was subject to a report by the Working Group to this Committee.

**GP24/070     Frank Jordan Centre**

The Committee considered an update on the Frank Jordan Centre.

The Town Clerk confirmed that Stone Community Hub had now moved from the Walton Suite to the Christchurch Suite, which had proven suitable for their needs.

The Town Council was in the process of returning back into use the Walton Suite and what was the food bank store. The Walton Suite should be ready for hire in September after redecoration, with the storeroom to follow afterwards.

The Town Clerk suggested the food bank store (which will become a meeting room available for hire), be renamed the Stonefield Room, maintaining the theme of Town Council wards.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that the fees and charge needed to be set for use of the rooms and suggested that the Walton Suite be priced at around two thirds of the cost of the St Michael's Suite and the Stonefield Room at around 50%

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of the cost of the St Michael's Suite. This ratio should be maintained going forward.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that between the St Michael's Suite and the Walton Suite it was likely that all previous hirers of the Christchurch Suite could be accommodated. He said the people transferring to the St Michael's Suite will continue paying Christchurch Suite rates as it was the Town Council that had instigated the change.

**GP24/071     50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Stone Town Council**

The Committee considered membership of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Stone Town Council Working Group following its set up at the last meeting of the Committee (Minute Number GP23/052).

RESOLVED: That membership of the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Stone Town Council Working Group consist of:

Councillors: J. Davies L. Davies, K. Dawson, R. Kenney and P. Leason

**GP24/072     Town Council Payments**

RESOLVED: To note the list\* of Town Council payments made during the period 1 to 30 June 2023.

**GP24/073     Update from Working Groups:**

**Stone Heritage Centre Steering Group**

The Chairman advised the Committee that a report had already been given earlier in the meeting (Minute Number GP24/069).

**Engagement with Young People**

Councillor Dawson advised the Committee that the Working Group had not met but she was in the process of communicating with the Town Clerk on her report.

**GP24/074     To receive reports from Town Councillors on attendance at meetings of local organisations and outside bodies as a representative of the Town Council**

**Stone Area Parish Liaison Group**

Councillor Davies advised the Committee that the first Liaison Group meeting since the parish elections had taken place on 26 July 2023 where he had been elected Chairman for the upcoming year and Councillor Peter Jones of Eccleshall Parish Council had been elected Vice Chairman.

The meeting had been useful in sharing information and common concerns with highways being one of the topics discussed. The next meeting of the Liaison Group on 1 November 2023 will take place face to face (not virtually on Zoom) and a Staffordshire County Council highways representative will be invited to present to the Group.

**Stone ATC**

Councillor Davies advised the Committee that a meeting of Stone ATC had taken place on 11 June 2023 and the Squadron was in very good health with the maximum number of cadets signed up. He said they had stopped trying to

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fundraise for a minibus in favour of a flight simulator which was a more achievable project. They were currently looking for a replacement Chaplain and have a person with the necessary credentials in mind.

**Age Concern Stone & District**

Councillor Thornicroft confirmed that no meeting had taken place.

**Stafford & Stone Access Group**

Councillor Kelt advised the Committee that no meeting of the Access Group had taken place.

**Stone Common Plot Trustees**

Councillor Thornicroft advised the Committee that although no meeting had taken place, he had attended a Plot Walk on Sunday 2 July 2023.

Prior to the walk there was a meeting in the barn where the main item of discussion was the travellers that had occupied the play plot opposite Christchurch School.

The Borough Council rent the play plot from the trustees and there was some discussion as to how access could be prevented in the future.

**Stone Community Hub Liaison Group**

Councillor Powell advised the Committee that no meeting had taken place.

**SPCA Executive Committee**

Mr M. Green was not available to give a report.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that this was a personal appointment and there would be the opportunity to nominate a new representative towards the end of the year.

**Stone Traders Group Directors' Meeting**

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that no meeting had taken place.

**CHAIRMAN**

# Stone Town Council – Planning Consultative Committee

## Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 1 August 2023

**PRESENT:** Councillor T. Kelt in the Chair, and  
Councillors: A. Best, J. Davies, L. Davies, K. Dawson, B. Kenney, R. Kenney,  
P. Leason, J. Metters, J. Powell, N. Powell and C. Thornicroft

Officers: L. Trigg and T. Williams

**ABSENT:** Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Burgess, I. Fordham, J. Hood, A. Mottershead and  
R. Townsend

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### **PC24/019      Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors: J. Battrick, I. Fordham, J. Hood,  
A. Mottershead and R. Townsend

### **PC24/020      Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

Councillor R. Kenney advised the Committee that as a member of Stafford  
Borough Council's Planning Committee, he would not speak or vote on the  
planning applications listed on the agenda.

Councillor Leason declared a personal interest in planning application  
23/37722/HOU (40 The Fillybrooks).

### **PC24/021      Representations from Members of the Public**

None

### **PC24/022      Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 4 July  
2023 (Minute Numbers PC24/013 – PC24/018), be approved as a correct record.

### **PC24/023      Planning Applications**

**Application Number** – 23/37722/HOU

**Applicant** – Mr C. Melia

**Location** – 40 The Fillybrooks, Stone

**Development** – Two storey side extension

**Observations:** No objections

**Application Number** – 23/37809/POTH

**Applicant** – Mrs R. Domb

**Location** – 2 Granville Square, Stone

**Development** – Prior approval – Change of use from commercial premises to 5 no. apartment dwellings

**Observations:** The Town Council raises objections to this development proposal for reasons of waste management and health and safety.

The planning application does not provide details on bin storage and refuse collection or make provision for fire safety given that the two access points to and from the property are very narrow.

**Application Number** – 23/37739/ADV

**Applicant** – Mr Mark Lawrence (Staffordshire County Council)

**Location** – Outside Bod Café Bar at 40 High Street, Stone

**Development** – Digital advertisements displayed on a 300 second loop interchanging with passenger transport information.

**Observations:** The Town Council raises objections to the installation of a digital street information display in Stone High Street for the following reasons:

- The display would be inappropriate in the conservation area and out of keeping with the special architectural and historic interest of the town.
- The proposed High Street location is some distance away from any bus stops or roads with vehicular access, so would be unlikely to achieve its objective of informing passengers. Any such display should be located near to a bus stop or road where the information would be immediately available to passengers who are looking or waiting to travel.
- To add street furniture to that already in the town will present difficulties for people with disabilities, particularly wheelchair users and those with vision impairment.
- The display would be a target for vandalism.

**Application Number** – 23/37417/COU

**Applicant** – Dr A. Jilka

**Location** – 11 Abbey Street, Stone

**Development** – Conversion of existing warehouse facilities comprising warehouse facilities to ground floor. Dental Surgeries to the first and second floor with access from no 9 Abbey Street.

**Observations:** The Town Council objects to this planning application as the proposal to render the building is at odds with the character of the building, adjoining property, and the street scene. All materials used in the development should be appropriate and in keeping with the architectural and historic value of the property and the conservation area.

**Application Number** – 23/37740/ADV

**Applicant** – Mr Mark Lawrence (Staffordshire County Council)

**Location** – 60 High Street, Stone

**Development** – Digital advertisements displayed on a 300 second loop interchanging with passenger transport information. No more than 15 adverts displayed for 10 seconds at a time.

**Observations:** The Town Council raises objections to the installation of a digital street information display in Stone High Street for the following reasons:

- The display would be inappropriate in the conservation area and out of keeping with the special architectural and historic interest of the town.
- The proposed High Street location is some distance away from any bus stops or roads with vehicular access, so would be unlikely to achieve its objective of informing passengers. Any such display should be located near to a bus stop or road where the information would be immediately available to passengers who are looking or waiting to travel.
- The display would have a negative impact on the town's market. It would occupy a position in the High Street that is used by the Town Council's market stallholders on market days.
- To add street furniture to that already in the town will present difficulties for people with disabilities, particularly wheelchair users and those with vision impairment.
- The display would be a target for vandalism.

**PC24/024**

**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

**CHAIRMAN**

## Section 3 – External Auditor's Report and Certificate 2022/23

In respect of

Stone Town Council

### 1 Respective responsibilities of the auditor and the authority

Our responsibility as auditors to complete a **limited assurance review** is set out by the National Audit Office (NAO). A limited assurance review is **not a full statutory audit**, it does not constitute an audit carried out in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK & Ireland) and hence it **does not** provide the same level of assurance that such an audit would. The UK Government has determined that a lower level of assurance than that provided by a full statutory audit is appropriate for those local public bodies with the lowest levels of spending.

Under a limited assurance review, the auditor is responsible for reviewing Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with NAO Auditor Guidance Note 02 (AGN 02) as issued by the NAO on behalf of the Comptroller and Auditor General. AGN 02 is available from the NAO website – <https://www.nao.org.uk/code-audit-practice/guidance-and-information-for-auditors/>.

This authority is responsible for ensuring that its financial management is adequate and effective and that it has a sound system of internal control. The authority prepares an Annual Governance and Accountability Return in accordance with *Proper Practices* which:

- summarises the accounting records for the year ended 31 March 2023; and
- confirms and provides assurance on those matters that are relevant to our duties and responsibilities as external auditors.

### 2 External auditor's limited assurance opinion 2022/23

On the basis of our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, in our opinion the information in Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return is in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matters have come to our attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

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

Not applicable

### 3 External auditor certificate 2022/23

We certify that we have completed our review of Sections 1 and 2 of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return, and discharged our responsibilities under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014, for the year ended 31 March 2023.

\*We do not certify completion because:

Not applicable

External Auditor Name

Mazars LLP, Newcastle upon Tyne, NE1 1DF

External Auditor Signature

Mazars LLP

Date

15 August 2023

Mr W L Trigg  
Stone Town Council  
15 Station Road  
Stone  
Staffordshire  
ST15 8JP

Direct line: +44 (0)191 383 6348  
Email: [local.councils@mazars.co.uk](mailto:local.councils@mazars.co.uk)  
Date: 15 August 2023

Dear Mr Trigg

### **Completion of the limited assurance review for the year ended 31 March 2023**

We have completed our limited assurance review for the year ended 31 March 2023 and I have pleasure in enclosing the certified Annual Governance and Accountability Return. The External Auditor's Certificate and Report is given in Section 3.

If there are any significant matters arising from the review, they are summarised in the External Auditor's certificate in Section 3. If we have identified minor scope for improvement we have recorded this on page 2 of this letter. The Council must consider these matters and decide what action is required. In most cases this will be self-evident. In some instances we have referred to further guidance available, in particular, in the publication "*Governance and Accountability for Local Councils – A Practitioners' Guide* (England) 2022. This can be obtained via your NALC or SLCC branch, or downloaded free of charge.

### **Action you are required to take**

The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 set out what you must do at the conclusion of the external auditor's review. In summary, you are required by 30 September 2023 to:

Publish (which must include publication on the authority's website) a statement:

- that the limited assurance review has been concluded and that the statement of accounts has been published;
- of the rights of inspection conferred on local government electors by section 25 of the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014; and
- the address at which, and the hours during which, those rights may be exercised.
- Keep copies of the Annual Governance and Accountability Return for purchase by any person on payment of a reasonable sum.
- Ensure that the Annual Governance and Accountability Return remains available for public access for a period of not less than five years beginning with the date on which the Annual Governance and Accountability Return was first published.

*The Accounts and Audit (England) Regulations 2015 do not specify how long the Completion Notice needs to be on the council's website, but this period must be reasonable.*

Mazars LLP

Mazars LLP is the UK firm of Mazars, an integrated international advisory and accountancy organisation. Mazars LLP is a limited liability partnership registered in England and Wales with registered number OC308299 and with its registered office at 30 Old Bailey, London, EC4M 7AU. Registered to carry on audit work in the UK by the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. Details about our audit registration can be viewed at [www.auditregister.org.uk](http://www.auditregister.org.uk) under reference number C001139861. VAT number: GB 839 8356 73

***Minor scope for improvement in 2023/24***

No minor issues identified.

***Accessibility Regulations***

We are aware that the Accounts and Audit Regulations requirement for a physical 'wet ink' signature on the original AGAR, does not allow parish council's to fully comply with the Accessibility Regulations. The National Audit Office are aware that the two pieces of legislation are not compatible, therefore smaller authorities are advised to make it clear on their website that the document is a scan and will not be fully compliant with the Accessibility Regulations.

***Audit fee***

Our fee note for the limited assurance review which is in accordance with the audit fee scales set by SAAA, and available at <http://www.localaudits.co.uk/fees.html> will follow.

We would be grateful if you could arrange for this to be paid at the earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'C Waddell'.

**Cameron Waddell**

Partner

For and on behalf of Mazars LLP



**STONE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**5 September 2023**

**CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Town Mayor**

Wednesday 6 September 2023    Stone Community Hub Formal 'New Home' Opening

Thursday 14 September 2023    Tactical Supply Wing's Battle of Britain Dinner

Monday 18 September 2023    Uttoxeter Town Council's Dr Johnson Birthday Celebrations

Wednesday 20 September 23    Staffordshire County Scout Council's Annual General Meeting

Saturday 23 September 2023    Classic Car Event in Stone High Street

**Deputy Mayor**

No civic announcements presently

**TOWN MAYOR**

## **TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT – 5 Sep 23**

### **Sunday 30 Jul 23**

The Mayor and Mayoress made another journey to the North of the County, this time to Leek for the Town's Civic Service and Reception. The Reception was held in the refurbished Maude Centre which provides an excellent venue. It was valuable to renew relationships with our neighbouring authorities and to support Mrs Judy Scott-Moncrieff in her first official outing as a Deputy Lieutenant.

### **Sunday 6 Aug 23**

Stone has always enjoyed cordial relations with Cheadle and it was a huge pleasure to support their Party-in-the-Park. The weather relented sufficiently to ensure an enjoyable and popular event. Useful conversations took place regarding ongoing developments in both towns and envious comments were made about Stone's prospective Theatre and Heritage Centre.

### **Thursday 10 Aug 23**

For many years the Stone Lions Club has carried out a huge number of successful and highly valuable events and has supported the Town wonderfully well. It was a pleasure to attend Stone Lions' presentation to the Stone Library of seven environmental books suitable for children of primary school age.

### **Sunday 13 Aug 23**

The Stone Town Band was a permanent feature of past events in the Town and it was a huge pleasure to see their contribution to life in the Town now being continued by Florence Brass into which the Town Band has now merged. The quality of their performance drew laudatory comments from local aficionados and gave a suitable musical backdrop to the short but poignant ceremony in Stonefield Park to commemorate the anniversary of VJ-Day.

### **Saturday 19 Aug 23**

The Mayor and Mayoress were delighted to be invited to be representatives of the local community at the RAF Tactical Supply Wing (TSW) President's Dinner at the National Memorial Arboretum. An extremely smart Guard of Honour of personnel from TSW lined the route to the TSW Memorials where a short service of remembrance was held. The subsequent dinner provided an excellent opportunity to promote the Town during conversations with both the newly appointed Vice Lord-Lieutenant of Staffordshire and the President of the TSW and Servicing Commando Association.

**DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT – 5 Sep 2023**

No report on this occasion.