



Town Clerk

Les Trigg

15 Station Road
STONE
ST15 8JP

Tel: 01785 619740

Email: clerk@stonetowncouncil.gov.uk

27 September 2023

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL** will be held in the **Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone**, on **TUESDAY 3 OCTOBER 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 5 September 2023, Minute Numbers C24/043 – C24/052 (attached)**

5. **To receive the draft minutes and decisions of the under mentioned Committees:**
 - a) General Purposes Committee meeting held on 5 September 2023, Minute Numbers GP24/075 – GP24/093 (attached)
 - b) Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 5 September 2023, Minute Numbers PC24/025 – PC24/030 (attached)
6. **To receive the forthcoming Civic Announcements** (attached).
7. **To receive the Town Mayor’s and Deputy Town Mayor’s Reports of Engagements** (attached).
8. **Exclusion of the Press and Public**

To resolve, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting whilst the next items of business are discussed on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the debate.
9. **To receive the draft Confidential Minutes and decisions of the undermentioned Committees:**
 - a) General Purposes Committee meeting held on 5 September 2023, Minute Numbers GP24/075, GP24/092 and GP24/093 (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.

Please access the Council Chamber from the rear of the building.

Stone Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 5 September 2023

PRESENT: Councillor J. Davies in the Chair and
Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Best, L. Davies, K. Dawson, J. Hood, J. Metters,
J. Powell and R. Townsend

Officers: L. Trigg and T. Williams

ABSENT: Councillors: A. Burgess, I. Fordham, T. Kelt, B. Kenney, R. Kenney, P. Leason,
A. Mottershead, N. Powell and C. Thornicroft

Prayers

Before the meeting began Reverend Jim Cartlidge led prayers.

C24/043 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors: A. Burgess, I. Fordham, T. Kelt,
B. Kenney, R. Kenney, P. Leason, A. Mottershead, N. Powell and C. Thornicroft

C24/044 Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations

None received.

C24/045 Representations from Members of the Public

None

C24/046 Minutes

RESOLVED:

- a) That the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 1 August 2023 (Minute Numbers C24/035 – C24/042), 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.

C24/047 Committee Minutes

RESOLVED:

- a) The draft minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023 (Minute Numbers GP24/057 – GP24/074), were noted.
- b) The draft minutes of the Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023 (Minute Numbers PC24/019 – PC24/024), were noted.

C24/048 Mayor's Cadets

The Town Mayor invited past Town Mayor, Councillor Jonathan Powell, to come forward to thank his Cadets for their diligent and conscientious service through the now completed mayoral years 2021-22 and 2022-23 and to award certificates in acknowledgement of their duty and support.

Staff Sergeant Amelie Carbonell had served as Mayor's Army Cadet for the terms 2021-22 and 2022-23 and Flight Sergeant Abby Lewis had served as Mayor's Air Cadet for the term 2022-23.

C24/049 Allotment Awards

The Town Mayor invited Allotments Judge, Mr Martin Robinson, to come forward to share his observations following his visits to the Town Council's Mount Road and Newcastle Road allotment sites on Wednesday 19 July 2023.

Mr Robinson informed the Council that he had found it a pleasure to judge the allotments competition over the years with the Covid-19 pandemic being a particular highlight in demonstrating to fullest effect the value and benefits the allotments bring local people. The sites were somewhere for allotment holders to go legitimately and to spend time productively growing some amazing produce.

Mr Robinson pointed out that the weather this year had been wetter than the last with a lot more rain and associated weed growth. He said the general standards of the allotments was very good and he acknowledged that maintaining a well-kept plot was not an easy task.

The Town Mayor awarded prizes to the following allotment winners and congratulated each on their achievements:

Best Kept Allotment Winner at Mount Road – Ms H. Dawson
Best Kept Allotment Winner at Newcastle Road – Mr A. Adams
Best Kept Allotment Highly Commended at Mount Road – Miss D. Rushton

Mrs G. Harrison was awarded Best Kept Allotment Highly Commended at Newcastle Road but was not able to be at the meeting.

* 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.

Following Mr Robinson's announcement earlier in the year that he would be standing down as judge, the Town Mayor presented him with a garden centre voucher and a Town Council tankard in recognition of his thirty years of dedicated service.

The Town Mayor expressed the Town Council's appreciation and thanks to Mr Robinson for his work commitment, horticultural skills and the very pleasant manner in which he had performed his allotment judge duties.

C24/050 Conclusion of Audit 2022-23

RESOLVED:

The Town Council noted the External Auditor's Report* and Certificate* for the year ending 31 March 2023.

C24/051 Civic Announcements

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

C24/052 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 it had been a nice surprise to be invited to the National Memorial Arboretum at Alrewas by the RAF Tactical Supply Wing at MOD Stafford, to join their President's Evening.

TOWN MAYOR

* 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 5 September 2023

PRESENT: Councillor J. Davies in the Chair, and
Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Best, L. Davies, K. Dawson, J. Hood, J. Metters, J. Powell
and R. Townsend

Officers: L. Trigg and T. Williams

ABSENT: Councillors: A. Burgess, I. Fordham, T. Kelt, B. Kenney, R. Kenney, P. Leason,
A. Mottershead, N. Powell and C. Thornicroft

At the start of the meeting the Town Mayor, Councillor J. Davies, was elected to take the chair (for the meeting) as neither the Committee Chairman nor Vice-Chairman were able to be present.

The meeting was opened, immediately adjourned and then reconvened after the Planning Consultative Committee meeting had taken place (to allow additional time for the Committee Chairman to arrive (after his commitment at a Borough Council meeting)).

GP24/075 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors: A. Burgess, I. Fordham, T. Kelt, B. Kenney, R. Kenney, P. Leason, A. Mottershead, N. Powell and C. Thornicroft

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

GP24/076 Declarations of Interests

None

GP24/077 Requests for Dispensations

None

GP24/078 To receive the report of the County Councillors

County Councillor Jill Hood

The Chairman invited Councillor Hood to address the Committee.

Boundary Commission for England County Division Consultation

Councillor Hood emphasised the importance of this consultation and asked Councillors if they would contribute their opinions.

Councillor Hood advised the Committee that Sir Gavin Williamson, currently MP for South Staffordshire, had been adopted as the Conservative Party candidate for

* 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.

the new constituency of Stone, Penkridge and Great Wyrley for the next general election. Great Wyrley was already part of his South Staffordshire Constituency.

Highways

Councillor Hood advised the Committee that she had met with the Highways team to talk about the town including installation of yellow lines and the repair of potholes. She said that a further meeting with Highways officers had been arranged and the outcome of a discussion about the High Street would be reported to the next meeting of the Committee. Road closures on Sundays is one item that will be put forward.

Councillor Hood advised the Committee that traders had been invited to take part in a consultation on the times the High Street should close in the morning and open in the evening; the results of which would also be reported back to the Committee.

County Councillor I. Parry

Councillor Parry was not in attendance at the meeting.

GP24/079 To receive the report of Borough Councillors

The Chairman invited Borough Councillors to address the Committee.

Councillor Powell reported on an Economic Development and Planning Scrutiny Committee meeting where the Borough Council's plan to address a backlog in the processing of planning applications was discussed.

GP24/080 Representations from Members of the Public

None

GP24/081 Minutes

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023 (Minute Numbers GP24/057 – GP24/074) be approved as a correct record.

GP24/082 Minutes of Sub-Committees

RESOLVED:

- a) Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee held on 15 August 2023 (Minute Numbers TTP24/009 – TTP24/016), that the draft minutes be noted, and the recommendations of the Sub-Committee contained in Minute Number TTP24/016 be adopted.
- b) Environment Sub-Committee held on 15 August 2023 (Minutes Numbers ENV24/012 – ENV24/020), that the draft minutes be noted, and the recommendations of the Sub-Committee contained in Minute Number ENV24/020 be adopted.
- c) Estates Sub-Committee held on 15 August 2023 (Minutes Numbers

* 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.

EST24/008 – EST24/014), that the draft minutes be noted.

GP24/083 Engagement with Young People

The Committee considered the report* of the Engagement with Young People Working Group which had been attached to the agenda for the meeting.

The following documentation (first circulated in November 2021) was enclosed with the agenda for the meeting for the information of new Town Councillors: Councillor Dawson's Youth Council Research Summary, Councillor J. Davies' Youth Involvement Notes, Protocol for the Appointment of Student Advisors in Association with Ringwood School, and NALC publication 'whatever, yeah?'

The Chairman invited Councillor Dawson to address the Committee.

Councillor Dawson advised the Committee that her proposal to encourage engagement with young people had come about from her speaking to young people and identifying through research that they would like to contribute their views on local issues.

The Committee expressed its support for structured arrangements for young people to be involved in the work of Local Government and discussion on issues affecting the town. The programme would provide access to the views of this hard-to-reach demographic, promote involvement in voluntary projects, support self-development and channel proactive and good civic behaviour.

The Committee considered how the Town Council could develop the initiative, looking at whether engagement with the young should be integrated into the Town Councils existing structure, a parallel structure or other relationship sought.

The Chairman and Town Councillors congratulated Councillor Dawson on her report, appreciating the work she had done behind the scenes and her qualities to take the project forward.

RESOLVED: That the Engagement with Young people concept is supported in principle and that the Working Group is asked to develop a detailed scheme, incorporating consultation with local schools, before bringing back to the Committee a further report.

GP24/084 Review of Staffordshire County Council Divisions

The Committee considered a Local Government Boundary Commission for England consultation on the draft recommendations for new divisions, division boundaries and division names for Staffordshire.

A draft recommendation report, draft recommendations map and summary of the draft recommendations had been enclosed with the agenda for the meeting. A link to the review documentation on the Boundary Commission's website had also been provided.

The Town Clerk reminded the Committee that the first stage of the review (the original consultation) had been considered on 7 March 2023 (Minute Number GP23/183) when the Committee resolved that the whole of Stone town should fall in one County division.

* 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.

The Town Clerk said the Commission had responded to the point (also made by other consultees) confirming that Stone Urban had too many electors for one councillor (and too few for two) if it was to have an acceptable level of electoral equality. The inclusion of the whole of Stone Town in one County Electoral division would create an imbalance that would lead to Stone's underrepresentation at County level.

The Committee agreed that moving Walton North back in to Stone Urban was a good thing but expressed disappointment that Aston Lodge (on the other side of the railway line) had been moved out as a result.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council responds to the Boundary Commission Review of Staffordshire County Divisions as follows:

The Town Council is grateful that Walton North has been brought back into Stone Urban, which is a positive and welcome step, but is disappointed that the area of Stone located beyond the railway line (including Aston Lodge) has been moved into Stafford, Trent Valley. Town Councillors understand the reasons for this move but ask that the matter is considered again at the next County Division review.

GP24/085 Nominations for SPCA Executive and AGM arrangements

The Committee considered an invitation to nominate a representative to stand for election to Staffordshire Parish Councils Association's Executive. It was noted that the election will take place at the Association's AGM on the evening of Monday 30 October 2023 (with a closing date of Friday 29 September 2023 for nominations).

RESOLVED: To nominate Councillor Tom Kelt to stand for election as a representative to the SPCA Executive Committee, subject to his agreement (as he was not present at the meeting).

GP24/086 Heritage Centre

The Committee considered an update from the Town Clerk on the Heritage Centre project.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that the building work was complete apart from one or two minor points including noise in the ventilation system.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that a Heritage Centre Manager had been appointed and the postholder had been given a provisional start date of Monday 9 October 2023.

GP24/087 Members' Motion under Standing Order 4

Councillor Jill Hood

I ask the Council to consider the enclosed report and:*

a. Ticket Office Issues

I propose that the Council send a letter to Network Rail decrying the ticket office closures and reduction in service and ask the company to look at all current uses and users of ticket offices and explain how they will deal with

* 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.

each instance when the office and staff are no longer available.

b. Reduction in Service

I ask the Council to consider the reduction in service identified in the attached note and propose that the Council engage the support of the member of parliament in sending a letter to the train operating company (TOC) asking for the previous route to Birmingham without the diversion be reinstated and retained.

If that is not possible the TOC must ensure that there is a seamless transfer to connecting services at Stafford, i.e., no delays and no platform changes.

The Committee agreed that ticket offices were an invaluable resource, particularly to people unfamiliar with digital applications, and that train services should be accessible to all and not just those who are computer literate. Network Rail say staff will be on hand on the platforms, but objectors believe they will not be equipped to provide the same quality of assistance as ticket office staff.

The view was emphasised that many people moved to Stone because of its public transport links which needed to be enhanced and not depleted to the detriment of the local economy. Direct services to Wolverhampton and Birmingham New Street should not be withdrawn as a means of managing issues caused by their popularity, and the service provider should be asked to have a rethink and if necessary, consider extending the platform at Stone.

The Committee expressed concern that the Town Council was not consulted on these important issues and removing direct services due to overcrowding was seen as a very poor reason for stopping a service.

The Committee suggested writing to Transport Members of Parliament to ask that pressure be put on the railway company to keep ticket offices open and to take action to extend and improve well used services, not remove them.

RESOLVED: That the Town Clerk is asked to write to The Rt Hon Mark Harper MP, Secretary of State for Transport, and Huw Merriman MP, Minister of State at the Department for Transport, to ask:

- that the ticket offices remain open.
- that direct train services to the commuter town of Stone, situated in the middle of the country, are reinstated.

GP24/088 Town Council Payments

RESOLVED: To note the list* of Town Council payments made during the period 1 to 31 July 2023.

GP24/089 Update from Working Groups:

Stone Heritage Centre Steering Group

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that he had given a report earlier in the meeting (under Minute Number GP24/086) and that the subgroup of the Steering Group responsible for the town's heritage collection had a meeting coming up in about a fortnight.

* 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.

Engagement with Young People

Councillor Dawson confirmed that the work of the Engagement with Young People Working Group had been covered earlier in the meeting (under Minute Number GP24/083).

50th Anniversary of Stone Town Council

The Chairman advised the Committee that he had written to members of the 50th Anniversary of Stone Town Council Working Group with suggestions of ideas that could be considered including working in alignment with the Heritage Centre Working Group and Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee. He said that a lot of the work of the group could be done online.

GP24/090 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 a meeting of the Liaison Group would be held on Wednesday 1 November (face to face) at which Highways representatives would be in attendance to talk about highway repairs and maintenance. He said that Town Councillors were welcome to attend.

Stone ATC

Councillor Davies advised the Committee that a meeting of Stone ATC had been scheduled to take place on Tuesday 11 September and he would report back in October.

Age Concern Stone & District

Councillor Davies confirmed that he had attended a meeting of Age Concern Stone & District last week and was continually impressed with the good work undertaken which was appreciated by people living inside and outside of the town.

Stafford & Stone Access Group

Councillor Kelt was unavailable to give a report.

Stone Common Plot Trustees

Councillor Hood advised the Committee that the Trustees had not met.

Stone Community Hub Liaison Group

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

SPCA Executive Committee

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

Stone Traders Group Directors' Meeting

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

GP24/091 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To resolve, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting whilst the next items of business are discussed on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the debate.

* 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.

RESOLVED: To exclude the Press and Public from the next items of business.

GP24/092 Confidential Minutes and recommendations of the undermentioned Sub-Committees:

- a) Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2023, Minute Numbers: TTP24/009 and TTP24/016.

RESOLVED: To note the minutes and approve the recommendations contained in Minute Number TTP24/016.

- b) Environment Sub-Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2023, Minute Numbers: ENV24/012 and ENV24/020.

RESOLVED: To note the minutes and approve the recommendations contained in Minute Number ENV24/020.

- c) Estates Sub-Committee Meeting held on 15 August 2023, Minute Numbers: EST24/008, EST24/013 and EST24/014.

RESOLVED: To note the minutes.

GP24/093 To consider the provision of High Street Christmas trees

The Committee considered the option to purchase artificial Christmas trees, to replace the annually purchased real Christmas trees, following the recommendation of the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee (Minute Number TTP24/016 c).

The Town Clerk's confidential report, circulated to the Tourism and Town Promotion Sub-Committee on 15 August 2023, was enclosed with the confidential part of the agenda for the meeting.

The Committee agreed that the status quo be maintained in 2023 with the purchase of real Christmas trees that were installed by Stone in Bloom and Town Council volunteers.

The Committee agreed that the provision of Christmas trees be reviewed again in 2024.

CHAIRMAN

Stone Town Council – Planning Consultative Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 5 September 2023

PRESENT: Councillor J. Davies in the Chair, and
Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Best, L. Davies, K. Dawson, J. Hood, J. Metters,
J. Powell and R. Townsend

Officers: L. Trigg and T. Williams

ABSENT: Councillors: A. Burgess, I. Fordham, T. Kelt, B. Kenney, R. Kenney, P. Leason,
A. Mottershead, N. Powell and C. Thornicroft

At the start of the meeting the Town Mayor, Councillor J. Davies, was elected to take the chair (for the meeting) as neither the Committee Chairman nor Vice-Chairman were able to be present.

PC24/025 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors: A. Burgess, I. Fordham, T. Kelt, B. Kenney, R. Kenney, P. Leason, A. Mottershead, N. Powell and C. Thornicroft

PC24/026 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None

PC24/027 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None

PC24/028 **Minutes**

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 1 August 2023 (Minute Numbers PC24/019 – PC24/024), be approved as a correct record.

PC24/029 **Planning Applications**

Application Number – 23/37913/HOU

Applicant – Mr J. Harding

Location – 37 The Avenue, Stone

Development – Reinstatement of iron railings to the top of the front boundary wall, plus iron gate to the property

Observations: No objections

Application Number – 23/37723/HOU

Applicant – Mr D. Wall

Location – 1 River Way, Stone

Development – Single storey side and rear extension, pitched roof over existing garage and alterations to entrance porch.

Observations: Application not yet received from the Borough Council.

PC24/030

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

STONE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

3 October 2023

CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Town Mayor

Thursday 5 October 2023	Stone Alzheimer's Drop-In Club – 17 th Birthday Party
Tuesday 10 October 2023	Opening of the Covid-19 Commemorative Orchard on Crown Meadow
Thursday 12 October 2023	High Sheriff of Staffordshire's Invitation to attend the Formal Opening of the Michaelmas Term of Stafford Crown Court
Saturday 14 October 2023	HMS St Vincent Association Reunion and Gala Dinner in Portsmouth
Sunday 22 October 2023	Cheadle Town Mayor's Civic Service at St Giles (The Abbot) Church, Cheadle
Saturday 28 October 2023	Stone Town Mayor's Trafalgar Dinner at the Mill Restaurant, Stone

Deputy Mayor

No civic announcements presently

TOWN MAYOR

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT – 3 October 23

Wednesday 6 Sep 23

For many years the Stone Community Hub has been providing support and advice in time of need to the people of Stone and the Stone area. Its services have been crucial to many people and continue to be so. Recently the Hub moved its operation within the Frank Jordan Centre to a more suitable area and the Mayor and Mayoress were invited to help open the new and improved facility. It was a great opportunity for the Mayor to thank the staff and volunteers for the wonderful work they have been doing and to wish them every success for the future.

Thursday 14 Sep 23

Having himself served for over twenty-seven years in the RAF the Mayor, accompanied by the Mayoress, was delighted to attend the 2023 Battle of Britain Dinner at MoD Stafford. The event was superbly organised and it was evident that the spirit of today's RAF is equal to that of its forebears of over 80 years ago.

Monday 18 Sep 23

Visiting our neighbouring towns is always interesting particularly when a unique event takes place.

As a young man, Dr Johnson refused one day to work on the family stall in Uttoxeter. Years later, in his sixties, and now ashamed of his disobedient behaviour then, he returned to Uttoxeter and stood alone in the market square in the rain, bare-headed, for a number of hours. The act is remembered every year in Uttoxeter as 'Johnson's Penance' with a special ceremony.

The Town Mayor was delighted to attend this year's event and pleased to be able to move to the Uttoxeter Town Hall before heavy rain arrived to emulate Dr Johnson's experience centuries ago.

Thursday 21 Sep 23

The Mayor joined the Mayor of Stafford Borough at the funeral of Mrs Margaret Goodall at the church of St Michael and St Wulfad. Margaret Goodall had served as a Town Councillor and Borough Councillor for Walton, as had her late husband several years beforehand.

Friday 22 Sep 23

The Stone Lions Club had invited the Town Mayor to join them in welcoming to Stone three mothers who had shared the devastating experience of losing a young son to suicide. They were walking the 265-miles from Madeley to Sandwich in Kent in memory of their sons and to raise awareness of suicide prevention and to promote the professional help and support which is available to children and young people. The three mothers and their supporters were delighted with the warmth of the welcome they received.

Saturday 23 Sep 23

Stone has an enviable reputation for the quality and attraction of its town events. On Saturday 23 Sep 23 the town was once again busy with visitors and residents who had come to see the many classic cars that were on display in the High Street. The Town Mayor had a most enjoyable and nostalgic time inspecting the immaculately maintained vehicles and chatting to a number of the owners.

DEPUTY TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT – 3 October 2023

No report on this occasion.