

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.

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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

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