

Stone Town Council

Minutes of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 1 April 2025

PRESENT: Councillor P. Leason in the Chair and
Councillors: A. Best, J. Davies, L. Davies, J. Hood, T. Kelt, B. Kenney, R. Kenney,
J. Powell, C. Thornicroft and R. Townsend

Officers: L. Trigg, R. Edwards and T. Williams

ABSENT: Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Burgess, K. Dawson, I. Fordham, J. Metters,
A. Mottershead and N. Powell

Prayers

Before the meeting began, Reverend Jim Cartlidge led prayers.

The Town Mayor informed the Council that Stone would sadly be losing Reverend Jim in the summer as he was moving on to pastures new having secured a new and permanent position in the Church.

On behalf of the Council, the Town Mayor thanked him for the many Civic Events he had delivered as Mayor's Chaplain in St Michael & St Michael's Church, and the prayers he had led, prior to the start of Council meetings in the Council Chamber.

The Mayor and all Town Councillors offered Reverend Jim their very best wishes for the future.

Congratulations to Jason Turner

Also before the meeting began, the Town Mayor invited Councillor Jill Hood to introduce Jason Turner (who was present in the public gallery), and to give details of the good work he has been doing in the community.

Councillor Hood advised the Council that Jason was a most incredible young man and a first-class example of community spirit as he regularly goes out into town and clears the public areas of litter. She said that he had also written to the heads of schools to encourage their pupils to be responsible for keeping the town clear, undertaking these tasks without any desire for recognition.

Councillor Hood informed the Council that Jason had a lot of ideas he would like to see implemented and had detailed them in writing for circulation to Town Councillors.

* 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 Mayor, on behalf of the Town Council and the people of Stone, congratulated Jason on his achievement as a hardworking and dedicated volunteer litter picker and awarded him with a Certificate of Appreciation and a plate of merit.

Jason thanked Town Councillors for their recognition of his work before leaving the Council Chamber.

C25/085 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors: J. Battrick, K. Dawson, I. Fordham, J. Metters, A. Mottershead and N. Powell

C25/086 Declarations of Interest

None made.

C25/087 Requests for Dispensations

None received.

C25/088 Representations from Members of the Public

Due to this meeting taking place in the pre-election period for County Council elections, the Scheme of Public Participation had been suspended.

C25/089 Minutes

RESOLVED:

- a) That the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held on 18 February 2025 (Minute Numbers C25/075 – C25/084), be approved as a correct record.

C25/090 Committee Minutes

RESOLVED:

- a) The draft Minutes of the Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 18 February 2025 (Minute Numbers PC25/049 – PC25/054), were noted.
- b) The draft Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 18 March 2025 (Minute Numbers GP25/134 – GP25/138), were noted.

C25/091 Civic Announcements

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

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C25/092 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 previously been circulated, were noted.

The Town Mayor drew the Town Council's attention to the Lions Charter Dinner which had provided an enjoyable evening. He was pleased to see two members of the Club receive the Melvin Jones Fellowship, the highest award in the Lions movement.

An evening with the Army Benevolent Fund held at The Mill Restaurant had included readings of thought-provoking and moving poetry by a former army surgeon.

The Town Mayor thanked Councillor Davies for making the arrangements for the Texas Flag Raising ceremony attended by Florence Brass Band and Stone Choral Society; for which he also thanked Councillor Lin Davies for supporting.

The Town Mayor thanked attendees of the Pig Race for their support of the event and raised awareness of the Chatty Café at BOD, set up by the Salvation Army Shop to take place on Mondays from 2.30pm to 3.30pm to bring local people together for a chat.

The Town Mayor informed the Council that he had attended the Civic Funeral of Councillor Panter, the Mayor of Newcastle, on Thursday 20 March 2025, which had been attended by the Lord Lieutenant and most civic heads in Staffordshire.

The Town Mayor had also attended the Civic Service of the Lichfield District Council Chairman in Lichfield Cathedral on Sunday 23 March 2025.

TOWN MAYOR

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