

STONE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk

Les Trigg

Tel: 01785 619740

Fax: 01785 619741

15 Station Road
STONE
ST15 8JP

29 January 2018

A meeting of the **GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** will be held in **St Michael's Suite at the Frank Jordan Centre, Lichfield Street, Stone**, on **TUESDAY 6 FEBRUARY 2018 at 7:05pm**, or on the rising of the Town Council meeting, if later.

I trust you will be able to attend.

Les Trigg
Town Clerk

AGENDA

1. **To receive apologies for absence**
2. **Declarations of Interest**
3. **Requests for Dispensations Received**
4. **To receive the report of the County Councillors**
 - County Councillor Mrs J. Hood
 - County Councillor I. Parry
5. **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
6. **To consider the minutes and recommendations of the undermentioned Committees:**
 - a) Estates Sub-Committee held on 23 January 2018, Minute Numbers EST18/025 - EST18/028
 - i. To consider the minutes
 - ii. To consider the Recommendations contained in Minute Number EST18/028
7. **Staffordshire County Council Libraries Consultation**

To receive a letter from Gill Heath, Cabinet Member for Communities with an update on the outcome of the public consultation (attached).

8. **HS2 petitioning**
To consider petitioning in respect of HS2 (see papers attached).
9. **Traffic on Stone Business Park**
To consider how on street vehicular parking may be eased.
10. **Non Cheque Payments**
To receive a list of non-cheque payments made by the Council during the period 1 November 2017 to 31 December 2017 (attached)
11. **Update from Working Groups:**
 - a) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
 - b) To determine Protocol for Marking the Death of the Sovereign or other members of the Royal Family
 - c) Stone Area Parish Liaison Group
12. **To receive reports from Town Councillors on attendance at meetings of local organisations and outside bodies as a representative of the Town Council**

Stone ATC – Mayor and Cllr M. Green
Age Concern Stone & District – Cllrs: Mrs K. Green and Mrs C. Collier
Stone Town Band – Mayor
Walton Community Centre – Cllr M. Green
Stafford & Stone Access Group – Cllr Mrs C. Collier
Stone Common Plot Trustees – Cllrs: M. Shaw, G. Collier, Mrs J. Hood and R. Kenney
Stone Community Hub Liaison Group – Cllrs: Mrs J. Farnham, M. Green, A. Osgathorpe, Mrs J. Hood and R. Kenney
SPCA Executive Committee – Cllr M. Williamson
Canal & River Trust – Canal Adoption Meeting – Cllrs: Mrs J. Hood, R. Kenney and P. Leason
13. **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
14. **Debt Recovery**
To provide an update relating to Minute Number GP18/127.

Members of the public are welcome to attend the General Purposes Meeting as observers

Stone Town Council – Estates Sub-Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in St Michael's Suite, Frank Jordan Centre, Lichfield Street, Stone on Tuesday 23 January 2018

PRESENT: Councillor M. Green in the Chair and
Councillors Mrs J. Hood, Mrs J. Farnham, I. Fordham, J. Davies, R. Kenney and
G. Collier

By Chairman's invitation:
Councillors: Mrs C. Collier and Mrs K. Green

ABSENT: Councillors: T. Jackson and Mrs E. Mowatt

EST18/025 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillor T. Jackson and Mrs E. Mowatt

EST18/026 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None received.

EST18/027 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None received.

EST18/028 **Use of Frank Jordan Centre Below Standard Pricing**

The Committee considered granting the use of the Christchurch Suite at the Frank Jordan Centre to the Scouts and related organisations at a reduced charge, during the period in which the Pump House is unavailable for use.

RECOMMENDED: That the Christchurch Suite is offered for hire to the Scouts and local groups previously using the Pump House for their meetings at a reduced charge of £8 a session. The groups should be advised that the Town Council's grants scheme will allow them to make an application for financial support to cover the costs.

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.

Gill Heath
Cabinet Member for Communities
2 Staffordshire Place
Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH
Telephone: (01785) 278612
E-mail: gill.heath@staffordshire.gov.uk
Website: www.staffordshire.gov.uk

My Ref: GH-/001CS

Your Ref:

Date: 8 January 2018

Dear Colleague

Re: Public consultation regarding Staffordshire County Council Managed and Delivered Libraries and the Mobile and Travelling Library Service

As you may be aware, financial challenges are seeing public libraries close across the country.

However, not in Staffordshire, here we are bucking the national trend by choosing to modernise and develop our library service in collaboration with our community rather than close our libraries.

Following extensive public consultation during 2014, more people are now volunteering to support their library and community groups have stepped up to take the lead at 23 Community Managed Libraries. As a result all 43 libraries across our county remain open.

23 Community Managed Libraries is a great achievement, however as you will be aware, the funding allocated to local authorities by Central Government is diminishing when demand for the support the County Council provides locally, especially from our growing ageing population, is increasing dramatically. During 2018- 2019, we need to spend £310m on care, more than ever before.

Although the County Council has reduced costs by more than £200m over the last seven years, we need to find new ways for the 20 County Council Managed and Delivered Libraries and the Mobile and Travelling Library Service to operate within the reduced budget available.

Following discussions held at the Prosperous Staffordshire Select Committee and the County Council's Cabinet, a 12 week public consultation began on Monday 8



January 2018 to discuss our ideas with communities and individuals to identify the best way to deliver the service differently and at a reduced cost.

Our ideas do not represent sweeping changes to the library service, but are suggestions that could enable libraries to remain sustainable and relevant to people's lives into the future.

Through this consultation we are exploring a proposal to introduce self-service technology at County Council managed and delivered libraries to potentially extend opening hours. We will also ask how we can encourage more volunteers to work alongside paid staff at these libraries.

As part of the consultation, we will test the appetite for Penkrige, Cheadle, Clayton and Eccleshall Libraries to become Community Managed Libraries. This could reduce the number of fully – funded County Council libraries while enabling more communities have the opportunity access a revitalised service that benefits from the local leadership of local people.

I particularly want to draw your attention to our proposal to reshape the Mobile and Travelling Library Service. Fewer people use mobile and travelling libraries in Staffordshire than ever before and the cost of running the service continues to be high at £6.50 per visitor.

Whilst the service was reshaped during 2015 to focus on providing a service to those communities that need it most, we need to ensure that the service provides better value for money whilst serving the rural or isolated communities that both need and make use of it.

We are proposing to withdraw the larger Travelling Library vehicle and deliver the service via the two smaller Mobile Libraries. These are more flexible vehicles that are able reach more isolated rural communities.

We will consult on a set of principles that will be used to inform which stops the service will continue to make. The principles are based on the need to ensure mobile libraries do not duplicate static library provision; that the mobiles only visit communities where more than 5 people use them and that there is continuation of service to those in greatest need.

As always, our proposals are initial suggestions, and we welcome all ideas for continuing to transform the service to match people's need whilst operating within the budget available.

The consultation runs until 1 April 2018 and we welcome your views and those in your division:



- Through the online survey – which is available at www.staffordshire.gov.uk/connectedlibraries
- Through your Community Partnership Officer
- At any of the drop-in consultation events across the county – there is one at every county council managed library
- At any Staffordshire Library where paper consultation documents are available.

A final decision on these proposals will be made during the summer.

During the public consultation, questionnaires will be made available for members of the public to collect from all Staffordshire Libraries, including Community Managed Libraries and Mobile and Travelling Libraries.

Kind regards

Yours sincerely



Gill Heath
Cabinet Member for Communities



Who can petition and how?

Please note that the process is determined by Parliament, not by HS2 Ltd

- Anyone 'specially and directly affected' by the Bill
- In writing, following a prescribed format, and submitted electronically or in person
- Payment of a fee (£20)
- Full petitioning guidance and template are available from the House of Commons Select Committee website at <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-west-midlands-crewe-bill-select-committee-commons/news/>
- Promoter can challenge the 'locus standi' (the right to be heard) of petitioners if he considers that they are not specially and directly affected (see guidance)

House of Commons Select Committee

- Similar but different to Departmental Select Committees
- No route MPs or MPs linked to the project
- Membership drawn from proportional make-up of the House
- Quasi-judicial (operates more like a court)
- Decides 'locus standi' challenges at outset
- Hears petitions against the Bill presented to it
- Considers any Additional Provisions to the Bill brought forward by the Promoter
- Can amend but cannot reject the Bill (the principle of the Bill is assured at Second Reading)
- Formal decisions of Select Committee published in Special Report (see Phase 1 report at <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/commons-select/high-speed-rail-london-west-midlands-bill-select-committee-commons/news-parliament-20151/hsr-london-west-midlands-bill-report-published-15-16/>)
- Promoter responds to Select Committee report

House of Lords Select Committee

- Similar but different to normal Select Committees
- No Peer with a conflict
- Traditionally chaired by a Crossbencher, with membership drawn from proportional make-up of the House
- Quasi-judicial (operates more like a court)
- Decides locus standi challenges at outset
- Anyone 'directly and specially affected' by the Bill can petition
- Hears petitions against the Bill presented to it
- Cannot require Promoter to bring forward an Additional Provision
- Can amend but cannot reject the Bill (the principle of the Bill is assured at Second Reading)
- Formal decisions of Select Committee published in Special Report (see Phase 1 report at <http://www.parliament.uk/business/committees/committees-a-z/lords-select/high-speed-rail-london-west-midlands-bill-select-committee-lords/news-parliament-2015/hs2-bill-committee-publishes-report/>).
- Promoter responds to Select Committee report

Stone Town Council - Non-Cheque Payments

The table below lists all non-cheque payments made by the Council in the period since the last report, for the Committee's information.

The table includes payments by direct debit, telephone banking and online banking. It excludes salary and related payments, payments from the Mayor's Charity, and transfers between the Council's bank accounts. These excluded items can be seen by any Member on request.

Date	Reference	Supplier	Description	Amount	Month
02/11/2017	Elec005	A1 Signs & Banners	Stickers to update switch-on banners	£9.26	Nov-17
03/11/2017	D/Dbt007	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - FJC	£405.00	Nov-17
03/11/2017	D/Dbt007	Francotyp Teleset	Postage	£200.00	Nov-17
03/11/2017	D/Dbt008	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - STN	£210.00	Nov-17
03/11/2017	D/Dbt007	Stafford Borough Council	Rates -Rates - Market Square	£237.00	Nov-17
03/11/2017	D/Dbt007	Miscellaneous	Annual subscription	£45.00	Nov-17
03/11/2017	D/Dbt008	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - Northesk St Car Park	£105.00	Nov-17
03/11/2017	D/Dbt007	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - Crown Street Car Park	£241.00	Nov-17
06/11/2017	D/Dbt008	EE	Caretaker's mobile	£17.65	Nov-17
06/11/2017	Elec005	Printdesigns LTD	Banners & posters	£121.31	Nov-17
07/11/2017	Elec005	The Flag Shop	Flags to fly around town	£527.92	Nov-17
09/11/2017	Elec005	Panda Press (Stone) Ltd	Order of Service Printing	£235.00	Nov-17
21/11/2017	D/Dbt008	British Gas	Gas supply - STN	£255.07	Nov-17
23/11/2017	Elec007	Miscellaneous	Refund of Payment made in error to us	£215.00	Nov-17
30/11/2017	D/Dbt008	NatWest	Bank charges	£102.92	Nov-17
01/12/2017	Elec008	Panda Press (Stone) Ltd	Signs for temporary car park	£165.00	Dec-17
01/12/2017	Elec008	Panda Press (Stone) Ltd	Mayoral Xmas Cards	£153.50	Dec-17
04/12/2017	D/Dbt009	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - Crown Wharf	£241.00	Dec-17
04/12/2017	D/Dbt009	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - FJC	£405.00	Dec-17
04/12/2017	D/Dbt009	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - market	£237.00	Dec-17
04/12/2017	D/Dbt009	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - STN	£210.00	Dec-17
04/12/2017	D/Dbt009	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - Northesk St Car Park	£105.00	Dec-17
07/12/2017	D/Dbt012	EE	Caretaker's mobile	£18.37	Dec-17
08/12/2017	D/Dbt010	Francotyp Teleset	Postage	£200.00	Dec-17

21/12/2017	D/Dbt010	British Gas	Gas supply STN	£411.96	Dec-17
22/12/2017	D/Dbt010	British Gas	Gas supply - FJC	£677.74	Dec-17
27/12/2017	D/Dbt010	Prism Solutions	ICT support	£579.94	Dec-17
27/12/2017	D/Dbt010	Network Rail	Qtly rent of STN	£987.50	Dec-17
29/12/2017	D/Dbt011	NatWest	Bank charges	£76.53	Dec-17
29/12/2017	D/Dbt010	British Gas	Electricity - STN	£366.35	Dec-17