

STONE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk

Les Trigg

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26th September, 2016

You are hereby summoned to attend a meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL**, to be held in the **Council Chamber, 15 Station Road, Stone**, on **TUESDAY 4th OCTOBER, 2016** at **7.00pm** when the following business will be transacted.

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**
4. **To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 6th September, 2016, Minute No's. C17/038 – C17/045 (attached)**
5. **To receive the Minutes and decisions of the under mentioned Committees:**
 - a) General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 6th September, 2016, Minute Numbers GP17/055 – GP17/068 (attached)
 - b) Planning Committee Meeting held on the 6th September, 2016, Minute Numbers P17/044 – P17/048 (attached)
 - c) Planning Committee Meeting held on the 20th September, 2016, Minute Numbers P17/049 – P17/053 (attached)
6. **Appointment to Committees**

To confirm the appointment of Councillor Ian Fordham to the General Purposes and Planning Committees
7. **To receive the forthcoming Civic Announcements (attached)**

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

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Council Meeting as observers. Persons attending should enter the Borough Area Office through the rear entrance door (adjacent to the car park). The Council Chamber is at the top of the stairs.

Stone Town Council

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 6 September, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor J Davies in the Chair, and
Councillors Mrs C Collier from 19:10, G Collier from 19:10, Mrs J Farnham,
Mrs M Goodall, Mrs K Green, M Green, Mrs J Hood, R Kenney, P Leason, G Neagus,
A Osgathorpe, Mrs J Piggott, M Shaw and M Williamson

ABSENT: Councillors T Jackson and Mrs E Mowatt

C17/038 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors T Jackson and Mrs E Mowatt

C17/039 Declarations of Interest

None received.

C17/040 Representations from Members of the Public

None received.

C17/041 Allotment Awards

Mr Martin Robinson was welcomed to the meeting to present the awards for the allotments competition.

Mr Robinson was accompanied by the Mayor on judging day. He commented that it had again been a difficult growing year, and that there are problems on the Mount Road site with weed infestation.

Mr Broomfield received a merit award for his allotment on Mount Road which he had only had since April. Mr & Mrs Kelly got the Most Improved Award for their allotment.

To close, Mr Robinson said that the allotments are a great asset to the Town.

Mr Robinson was thanked for judging and for presenting the prizes.

C17/042 **Minutes**

RESOLVED

- a) That the minutes of the Town Council Meeting held on the 2nd August, 2016, copies having been circulated to the members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record

C17/043 **Committee Minutes**

RESOLVED

- a) That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee Meeting held on the 2nd August, 2016, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record
- b) That the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 2nd August, 2016, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record
- c) That the minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on the 16th August, 2016, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record
- d) That the minutes of the General Purposes Meeting held on the 23rd August, 2016, copies having been circulated to members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record

C17/044 **Civic Announcements**

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

C17/045 **Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Announcements**

The Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Announcements were circulated and noted.

TOWN MAYOR

Stone Town Council – General Purposes Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 6th September, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor R Kenney in the Chair and
Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, J Davies, Mrs J Farnham, Mrs M Goodall,
Mrs K Green, M Green, Mrs J Hood, P Leason, G Neagus, A Osgathorpe,
Mrs J Piggott, M Shaw and M Williamson

Absent: Councillors T Jackson and Mrs E Mowatt

GP17/055 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors T Jackson and Mrs E Mowatt. County Councillor P Jones also gave his apologies.

GP17/056 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None received.

GP17/057 **To receive the reports of the County Councillors**

County Councillor P Jones tendered his apologies.

County Councillor I Parry was absent.

GP17/058 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None

GP17/059 **Minutes**

RESOLVED

- a) that the minutes of the Estates Sub-Committee held on the 16th August, 2016, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record and that the recommendation of the Sub-Committee at Minute EST17/018 be adopted.

GP17/060 **Staffing Guidelines**

The Committee considered the 'Staffing Guidelines' document circulated with the agenda.

RESOLVED: to adopt the Staffing Guidelines* as set out.

* 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.

GP17/061 Community Hub Liaison Group

The Clerk reminded Members that it had been resolved to award a grant to Stone Community Hub of £500 on a monthly basis. This was subject to regular financial reports and meetings of a liaison group. Four Members are to be appointed to the Liaison Group – one from each ward.

RESOLVED: Councillors Mrs J Farnham, M Green, A Osgathorpe and Mrs J Hood were appointed. Councillor R Kenney was also appointed as a potential fifth member subject to the agreement of the Community Hub.

GP17/062 Crown Wharf

Councillor R Kenney reported that the recent development proposal had been refused which gave Stone Town Council the opportunity to readdress the situation.

RESOLVED: to form a Working Group of seven members and to contact Midland Waterways for their involvement. The Members are Councillors R Kenney, J Hood, M Green, P Leason, M Williamson, Mrs M Goodall and Mrs J Farnham.

GP17/063 Member's Motions under Standing Order 4

Councillor R Kenney

"I ask the support of Stone Town Council that we write to Royal Mail asking them to paint the Royal Mail Post Box adjacent to the anchor flower bed in Stone gold in honour of the achievement of winning an Olympic Gold medal by Joe Clarke of Stafford & Stone Canoe Club. In 2012 Royal Mail, to commemorate British and Irish gold medal winners at the 2012 Summer Olympics and 2012 Summer Paralympics, painted post boxes gold. It would be fitting if they were to repeat this again here in Stone."

RESOLVED: to write to Royal Mail to ask them to paint the post box gold, or failing that, if Stone Town Council can paint it gold. This item will be revisited to seek alternative suggestions if the request is refused.

GP17/064 Member's Motions under Standing Order 4

Councillor A Osgathorpe

"After looking into the possible hire of adult football facilities for two different Stone based clubs, I have become concerned regarding the public availability of pitches and facilities at Alleynes Sports Centre. Neither Stafford Borough Council or Alleynes Academy acknowledge responsibility for the facility out of normal school hours, holidays and weekends. This together with closure of Alleynes Pool on some school holiday times and the underuse of Westbridge Park Fitness Centre during the day, leads me to have serious concerns regarding the availability of these facilities to the public. As a result, I wish to clarify the position.

I propose that a letter be sent to Adam Hill (Head of Leisure Services) at SBC and Ms K Lockett (Headteacher) at Alleynes Academy to clarify availability and booking policy for grassed pitches and all changing accommodation associated with these pitches at Alleynes Sports Centre."

RESOLVED: to write to Adam Hill and the Headteacher of Alleynes Academy for clarification of the use of the facilities.

GP17/065 **Update from Working Groups**

a) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Councillor Mrs J Hood reported that the draft Neighbourhood Plan had been discussed with Stafford Borough Council and minor amendments had been made. There has been no change to the content of the Plan. The next meeting of the Steering Group will discuss the re-submission of the Plan.

GP17/066 **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 – no meeting taken place

Age Concern Stone & District – no meeting taken place

Stone Town Band – no meeting taken place

Walton Community Association – Councillor M Shaw reported that there will be an Autumn Fair on 17th September. He also said that a grant request will be put forward for a public access defibrillator

Stafford & Stone Access Group – no meeting taken place

Stone Common Plott Trustees – no meeting taken place

GP17/067 **To resolve, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting whilst the next item of business is discussed on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the debate**

The Clerk reported that as there isn't an update for the Frank Jordan Centre, there is no need to exclude the press and public from the meeting.

GP17/068 **Frank Jordan Centre Building Works**

This item is referred to the Estates Meeting on 20th September.

Town Mayor

Stone Town Council – Planning Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 6th September, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor G Neagus in the Chair and
Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, J Davies, Mrs J Farnham, Mrs M Goodall,
Mrs K Green, M Green, Mrs J Hood, R Kenney, P Leason, A Osgathorpe,
Mrs J Piggott, M Shaw and M Williamson

ABSENT: Councillors T Jackson and Mrs E Mowatt

P17/044 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors T Jackson and Mrs E Mowatt

P17/045 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

Councillor Mrs C Collier declared an interest in planning application
16/24242/FUL

P17/046 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None received

P17/047 **Planning Applications**

RESOLVED that the following observations be made on the Applications as listed:

Application Number – 15/23264/FUL

Location – Land between Boat Yard and Chandlers Way, Newcastle Road, Stone

Development – Construction of 4 x four bed houses. There is no demolition
(amended plan)

Observation – Members object due to the extremely dangerous junction onto
Newcastle Road

Application Number – 16/23975/FUL

Location – Land off Diamond Way, Stone

Development – Development of the site for Industrial/Warehouse use (Use Class
B1, B2, B8) – amended plan

Observation – Members object due to the inappropriate development in close
proximity to a residential area and concerns regarding noise and vibration

Application Number – 16/24662/HOU

Location – 50 Mount Avenue, Stone

Development – Side / rear single storey extension

Observation – No objections

Application Number – 16/24655/HOU

Location – 24 Longfield Avenue, Stone

Development – Alterations and two storey extension to side and rear

Observation – No objections but this was without the benefit of neighbours' consultation

Application Number – 16/24635/HOU

Location – 12 Telford Close, Stone

Development – Bedroom extensions to side with covered area and patio deck area

Observation – No objections

Application Number – 16/24533/OUT

Location – Land at Uttoxeter Road, Stone

Development – Outline Application with all matters reserved (with exception of the main vehicular access) for development of site for residential uses (Use Class C3) with associated infrastructure and landscaping

Observation – Members wish to support the comments of Stone Rural Parish Council, and add that they object due to over intensification of the road network

Application Number – 16/24700/FUL

Location – Dukes Court, 8 Newcastle Street, Stone

Development – Alterations and extensions to two storey offices to create additional B1 (a) office space and ancillary car parking spaces

Observation – No objections providing construction traffic does not enter the site from the rear, and the heritage of the crinkle-crankle wall is preserved

Application Number – 16/24706/HOU

Location – 6 Aston Chase, Aston Lodge, Stone

Development – First floor bedroom extension to front above existing kitchen

Observation – No objections

Application Number – 16/24713/FUL

Location – 25 Church Street, Stone

Development – Demolition of existing dwelling and erection of three-bedroom, two-storey dwellings

Observation – Members object due to insufficient parking and added stress to the already narrow Church Street

Application Number – 16/24644/FUL

Location – 100 Newcastle Road, Stone

Development – Retention of 3 x external open sided valeting bays

Observation – Members object on the grounds of a) retrospective application and b) the excessive noise from the valeting bays that has been noted by comments from local residents to STC based on 7 days a week activity, and its general out of keeping with the area to have such an operation.

Application Number – 16/23973/COU

Location – Former ‘The Maltings’, Crown Street, Stone

Development – Conversion of former ‘The Maltings’ Hotel accommodation, Gym and Retail Unit – see also 16/23974/LBC

Observation – No objections providing the heritage is preserved in a sympathetic way and the number of rooms is reduced

Application Number – 16/24587/HOU

Location – 86 Church Street, Stone

Development – Two storey side extension

Observation – No objections

Application Number – 16/24242/FUL

Location – Westbridge Park Sports Centre, Stafford Street, Stone

Development – Amended Plan – Demolition of existing buildings and construction of a foodstore (use Class A1) with ancillary café, car parking with associated access work, landscaping and other works

Observation – Members object on the following grounds:

1 – The revised plans and designs that have been submitted do not, in the eyes of the Stone Town Council members, do not materially alter nor address the previously issued concerns that members have over a number of items, including and not limited to areas such as:

- a) The impact of the design of the building being proposed is still deemed to be wholly inappropriate in keeping with architectural and heritage of Stafford Street and the rest of the Town Centre of Stone especially when entering the town from the Walton Roundabout. It is a large modern building in line with the standard M&S “Look and Feel” more appropriate to locations on Retail Parks such as Wolstanton near Stoke for example and not with a historic canal market town of Stone. It will destroy views of the historic landscape setting
- b) especially buildings of historical importance such as the St Michaels and Wulfads Church which today can be seen above The Moorings when approaching from Walton roundabout. This does not blend in sympathetically with the current image of Stone
- c) At its highest point, the proposed building is around 1.5m taller than the current Sports facility to its right
- d) The response given to our first objection of the plans seems to focus more on the m2 of the property being proposed rather than the m3 which is where the main issue comes in terms of the overall design and height / scale of the said building.
- e) The height and sheer size of this proposal (as in the original proposal) will have significant impacts to local residents living close by at the Moorings
- f) The impact of regular HGV deliveries and refuse removal within the car park area and the delivery bay of the proposed building would impact on pedestrian safety, parked cars, noise and light pollution (Reversing warning devices as well as engine noise / refrigeration noise etc). This has not been addressed and we feel would seriously impact the area.
- g) The safety of pedestrians and especially school children, across the

revised entrance has not been considered. Twice a day, Monday to Friday, school children use this route crossing where the new entrance is proposed. Additional school traffic entering the store would make this even more hazardous.

- h) The new slightly wider entrance still does not we feel address the issues around Stafford Road and traffic congestion even with an additional widening / filter lane. The likely congestion backing up to both the Town Centre One Way System to the North West and the traffic coming into Stone from the East down from Walton Roundabout would be potentially excessive to the point of causing a huge “Bottle neck or Pinch Point” in traffic movements in and around Stone. Again the normal location of such stores is often in Retail Park developments or in High Streets where there are existing traffic networks designed to cope with extra traffic and certainly new stores such as that being proposed have caused similar traffic chaos in other towns such as Stafford with the Tesco store and the backup of traffic at times through the traffic lights and back past the Station. Not only is this detrimental to overall traffic flow but also deeply frustrating for travellers and can undermine the desire to visit the locality in the first place.

2 - This planning application doesn't provide a wider opportunity to enhance an existing space resulting in improved natural environment for the neighbourhood amenity.

- 1) **The application is contrary to SBC policy for acceptable development.**

i.e. P4SB Spatial Principle 7 which supports new development sited in Settlement Boundaries providing it

- “f) will not impact adversely on the special character of the area, including not impacting on important open spaces and views, all designated heritage assets including, Listed Buildings, Conservation Areas and locally important buildings, especially those identified in Conservation Area Appraisals...” (e.g. *Grade II listed buildings, canal and green open space*).
- “i) “will not lead to the loss of locally important open space or, in the case of housing and employment, other locally important community facilities (unless adequately replaced); (e.g. *three tennis court – not replaced*)
- j) will not be located in areas of flood risk or contribute to flood risk on neighbouring areas;” (*area is on the Trent Flood Plain in level 2 & 3 flood*)
- k) will ensure adequate vehicular, pedestrian and cycle access as well as cycle and short stay parking facilities on the site; and (No consideration current amenity use see below)
- l) will not adversely affect the residential amenity of the locality.” (HMI Pratt P4SBP1 ... “*could also begin to change the character*

of this fringe of the park, and erode the appearance of this important gateway into the town and its historic Conservation Area”

2) Attempted mitigation against these factors is not acceptable e.g. **Impact on Grade II listed residential amenity** e.g. “The Moorings” for our elderly residents, specifically, size and location of intended building will result in:

- **Increase of unwanted noise** from traffic including 16.5m deliveries lotteries – Noise survey gives an inadequate profile noise profile for “the Moorings” (duration/time of experiment/weather condition, poor position of microphone, exclusion of short duration noise and no consideration of actual plant used on site).
- **Reduction in direct sunlight** falling on these buildings and their gardens will decrease the benefits of passive solar heating to the flat and reduce light intensity. Rooms will be colder and darker. No consideration on well-being of elderly residents.
- **Historical views** -Completely destroyed forever the view of these building and others from the main gateway entry into Stone. (Ref: Stone Conservation Area Character Appraisal: Adopted 2 October 2008:
“The most prominent landmark within the conservation area and beyond is the stone-built tower of St Michael’s Church which can be viewed from many parts of the town and from the canal towpath and is one of the defining features of the town. The most impressive view is obtained along the approach to Stone from Walton where the church stands well above its surroundings.”)

Flood mitigation still using the same flood models for level 2 & 3 flood plains (1 in 100 probability + 20% climate change). Last winter, serious questions were asked regarding it **“fitness for purpose” in this age of climate change**. Locally, last winter floods occurred a Tesco & Sainsbury’s Stafford, A34 Meaford road, Stone. Indeed, Scotch Brook calculations are considered using silt accumulation models when really flash flooding (volume flux) of precipitation and subsequent obstruction of water courses due to storm would be better considered if possible. e.g. Scotch Brook 1987. Indeed, an earlier report from Stafford Borough (Feb 2008) “Delivering the Plan for Stafford Borough- issues and options”. It clearly states that “floodplain areas in Stone should not be used for new housing and employment development.

Protected playing fields in the form of three tennis courts have no mitigation to date despite Sport England’s request.

- 3) **M&S customer are already served** by a wider range of goods at M&S Stafford and more locally Food store at Stone Services (1MI. away)
- 4) **The application removes green space from the children's play area and makes it space smaller with the same facilities space and indeed there is an overall reduction in the green space on this side of the park.**

The park as whole gives the town's people a capacity to celebrate, enjoy leisure, recreation and play and a fundamental change in use to any part of the park would endanger the well-being of Stone people.

These changes to availability of the car park will have a significant and adverse impact on the vitality and viability of Stone town centre as per NPPF Paragraph 27.

Traffic Assessment: Doesn't identify traffic on the current site.

- 5) **Highway Safety: - The application poses a serious risk to public safety as there is no consideration of pedestrian density or flow at peak times.**
 - (i) No account has been taken of the festival/destination nature of the park or indeed of the role of its existing car parks in supporting the town centre on markets days. As such, the large number of visitor to the site, both now and with **future developments** intended under the Stone Leisure Strategy, **poses a serious risk public safety.**
e.g. Joe Clarke celebration brought over 3000 visitors to the park and Food & Drink festival (Sept/Oct 2016) will bring over 15,000 visitors the park during the week.
 - (ii) Is the children's play area an appropriate location?
 - (iii) Delivery vehicles of 16.5 m entering the park, then reversing in front of "disabled" car parking spaces into a loading bay is not a safe manoeuvre.
 - (iv) Pedestrians from the town centre enter the park through the proposed store area and car park area. This includes school children using the gym facilities at Westbridge Fitness centre. This is not a safe option.
- 6) **Loss of an existing amenity car park: Replaces the current feely available public car park (Fitness Centre, Town Centre over spill and Park users) with a private facility beyond the control of SBC and directed at M&S customers. The intended car park is simply not big enough to support the total activity of this site.**

- (I) The current car park is a public amenity and already provides an opportunity for residents to park their vehicles as and when and for as long as they want. This becomes particularly important at festival/market times when thousands of visitors descend onto the park and most afternoon and evening when Westbridge Fitness Centre and the park are used by the public. This limited space is already supplemented with park & ride facilities at peak times and its loss of control would seriously hamper and disadvantage access to park.
- The application replaces existing readily accessible provision with a private amenity mostly for the benefit of M&S customers. The operation and pricing policy of which has not been defined.
- i. *e.g. **M&S Northwich** used a Car Parks contractor - People had to pay £1 to park for one hour in the car park which can be redeemed when customers spend £5 or more in Marks and Spencer. Motorists who fail to comply with the car park regulations will receive a £70 penalty charge notice, or £40 if it is paid within 14 days of being issued.*
 - ii. ***M&S Stockton Heath's Forge car park** had a free for first hour period, unfortunately the period wasn't long and other traders noticed a distinct **drop in footfall** since M&S arrived ... "The days of free parking are over"*
- (II) The car parking spaces allocated for supermarket is not consistent with Plan for Stafford Borough standards as set out by Policy T2. This is NOT a new car park; it is an existing car park. Furthermore, there appears to be no consideration for trips or parking due to the mixed use of this site. The current car park, which serves the fitness centre, (particular in the evenings) shoppers from the town centre, as well as people using the park's open spaces for casual sport and recreation. It does not meet the criteria in NPPF para 39 in considering the type, mix and use of development and is inconsistent with Plan for Stafford Borough, Policy T2. The demand in this space will far outstrip the supply of spaces and it is probably that M&S will protect their customers by imposing appropriate tariffs.
- (III) The existing site is the only large venue in the town capable of parking coaches for visitors e.g. Twinning organisations, organised trips and clubs. It is also used as a destination for international scouts visiting the International Scout Camp. It is the home of

Stafford & Stone Canoe Club. This club is the nursey for world class canoeist whose competitions are organised on the park.

Background to the M&S application

7) The application is unwanted and contrary to designation of Westbridge Park in the Stone Neighbourhood Plan.

Unwanted because the majority residents of Stone have expressed their wishes on numerous occasions building a supermarket on the park is not acceptable and Leisure & Recreational facilities on the park should be improved.

e.g.

- *In 2013 Public meeting at Alleyne's Academy*
- *4771 signature petition against the supermarket build.*
- *Beattie Consultation – majority against. -Cllr Mike Heenan, said: "It is obvious from the feedback that people would rather not have another food store in Stone – but they do support better leisure facilities"*
- *HMI at Plan for Stafford Borough (P4SB) Part 1, commented that the introduction of new buildings, could also begin to change the character of this fringe of the park, and erode the appearance of this important gateway into the town and its historic Conservation Area"*
- *2015 Survey conducted "A little bit of Stone "social media site found 71% of respondents said 'no' to an M&S on Westbridge Park*
- *2016 saw Westbridge park identified as 2nd most important issue in the **Stone Neighbourhood Plan**. This site forms one of fifty-six recently identified and recorded green spaces in the parish of Stone. The evidence gathered forms part of the Stone Neighbourhood Plan evidence base which is used to shape and inform the policies. The site identified is number 55 known as Westbridge Park. We would welcome the opportunity to enhance this open green space with further planting & formal landscaping to provide a natural screen and buffer for the neighbouring development. (note P4SB p32 6.65 states "In due course, it is intended that development allocations for specific sites will be identified within the Settlement Boundaries (and the Boundaries themselves) through the **Neighbourhood Planning process**, or through the preparation of a Site Allocations Development Plan Document"*

8) There is no evidence of a "link" between the M&S planning application

and the Stone Leisure Project despite SBC proclamations. This is confirmed by the:

- **absence of a Grampian Condition** (ref: NPPF 2012 Planning Guidance, Para 009)
- **M&S application being submitted before the Leisure & Recreation** and contrary to information given by SBC in the Beattie Consultation (April 2013) which states:

“Q) When would the leisure centre and food store be delivered if this were to go ahead?

(A) The replacement leisure centre would come first in 2015 and the food store would follow.”

Indeed, this application actually replaces protected Sports & Recreation facilities in the form of three public tennis courts which are to be removed to build the store. The applicant has still to respond to Sport England request on this matter.

9) With the latest SBC proposal of a multicourt to be built on Westbridge Park to mitigate for the loss of three tennis courts, the re-sighting of the store (10m), the easement required around sewage and high pressure gas supplies, there are serious questions concerning the space for the recreation development. Exactly where is Girl Guiding hut and the Multicourt going to go?

10) We are led to believe that retail development is required to supplement the Stone Leisure Project, yet SBC cabinet minutes and press releases imply otherwise: Ref: Agenda of Cabinet. 5 November 2015.

“5.3.15 The plan currently assumes the continuation of the borrowing requirement for Stone Leisure Strategy, however the predicted increase in surpluses to 2017-18 and available capital resources now available are likely to negate that need. The actual borrowing requirement will be assessed as part of this year’s budget process.”

and local press in March 2016 responds to SBC comments concerning improvements to Victoria Park. (

www.staffordshirenewsletter.co.uk/fun-victoria-park-families-say-improvement-plans/story-29018846-detail/story.html.

“The plans will now go back to the Heritage Lottery Fund (HLF), which will make a decision whether to fund the project. The council has set aside around £800,000 and is aiming to get another £1.7 million from the HLF. Final plans will be assessed next summer and work would begin in 2018.”

A named vote was called for the proposal to send the above comments to Stafford Borough Council:

Councillor	R Kenney	For
	P Leason	For
	G Neagus	For
	A Osgathorpe	For
	Mrs J Piggott	Abstain
	M Shaw	Abstain
	M Williamson	Abstain
	Mrs C Collier	Declared an interest
	J Davies	For
	Mrs J Farnham	Abstain
	Mrs M Goodall	Abstain
	Mrs K Green	For
	M Green	For
	Mrs J Hood	For

P17/048 **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.

Town Mayor

Stone Town Council – Planning Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 20th September, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor G Neagus in the Chair and
Councillors J Davies, I Fordham, Mrs K Green, M Green, Mrs J Hood, T Jackson,
R Kenney and A Osgathorpe

ABSENT: Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, Mrs J Farnham, Mrs M Goodall, P Leason,
Mrs E Mowatt, Mrs J Piggott, M Shaw and M Williamson

P17/049 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, Mrs J Farnham,
Mrs M Goodall, P Leason, Mrs E Mowatt, Mrs J Piggott, M Shaw and
M Williamson

Councillor Ian Fordham was congratulated for winning the By-Election and
welcomed to the meeting.

P17/050 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None

P17/051 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None received

P17/052 **Planning Applications**

RESOLVED that the following observations be made on the Applications as listed:

Application Number – 16/24577/COU

Location – 21 High Street, Stone

Development – Change of use from retail premises to off-licence/on-licence
retail outlet

Observation – No objections providing further information is given regarding
access for disabled. Also, the shop frontage and signage should be sympathetic
to the area. There should be no parking on the High Street for any customers or
staff.

P17/053

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.

Town Mayor

STONE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
4TH OCTOBER 2016

CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor

Wednesday 5 th October	Lt Col Byfield visit to Council Chamber
Thursday 6 th October	Alzheimers Drop-in-Club
Friday 7 th – Sunday 9 th October	HMS St Vincent Association Reunion and AGM
Tuesday 11 th October	Stone Lions World Sight Day Leek Charity Fashion Show
Wednesday 12 th October	Commanding Officer 1 Signal Regiment visit to Council Chamber
Thursday 20 th October	Stone Community Hub AGM
Friday 21 st October	Trafalgar Dinner, Crown Hotel
Sunday 23 rd October	Canoe Club Competition

Deputy Mayor

Sunday 23 rd October	Official renaming of Tri-Services Support Centre
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TOWN MAYOR

TOWN MAYOR'S REPORT
4th October 2016

Sunday 28 Aug 16

It was a pleasure to visit the lovely town of Ashbourne in Derbyshire to represent Stone and to support the Ashbourne Mayor at the town's Civic Sunday.

Monday 29 Aug 16

This must have been one of the most memorable events in Stone for decades. It was a huge pleasure and honour for the Mayor and Mayoress to escort Joe Clarke, the Canoe Gold Medallist at the Rio Olympic Games, through the town to the Canoe Club on Westbridge Park. There cannot have been so many people in the town centre and on the Park for many a year. The atmosphere was truly wonderful and the event certainly put Stone on the national map. Congratulations go to Joe Clarke (one of Stone's own) and to all who made the event possible – particularly to the Canoe Club, to the Chairmen of the General Purposes committee, and the Tourism and Town Promotion sub-committee, and to the Town Clerk and his staff.

Thursday 1 Sep

One of the lesser known gems in the town is the comparatively new community allotment garden hidden away off Priory Road; all involved have created something splendid from what had been just waste land. The Mayor and Mayoress were delighted to attend the open day organised by Stafford and Rural Homes, to judge the vegetables competition and to present the prizes.

Wednesday 7 Sep 16

The Town is blessed with a large number of caring organisations, of which the Stroke Club is a valuable and much appreciated example. The Mayor and Mayoress enjoyed visiting the Club at Little Stoke Cricket Club, talking to the club members and volunteers, and participating in the exercise class.

Friday 9 Sep 16

The Oak Tree Farm project near Hilderstone does excellent work for local people with learning disabilities and the Mayor and Mayoress thoroughly enjoyed supporting the charity concert "Musicals Under the Stars" at Sandon Hall in support of the project.

Wednesday 14 Sep 16

The sun shone brightly as the Mayor joined many other local civic heads at a charity tea party at the Old Tree Nursery, Pendeford, in South Staffordshire. This is a project for the disadvantaged run by the Heantun Housing Association and it was interesting to see that there were a number of areas where effective practice and ideas could usefully be shared with the Oak Tree Farm project.

Thursday 15 Sep 16

The Mayor and Mayoress were delighted to be able to represent the Town at the Battle of Britain Dinner held by the RAF Tactical Supply Wing at MoD Stafford. The evening included a moving fly-past by a wartime Spitfire.

Saturday 17 Sep 16

The mayoral year provides a huge variety of events for the involvement of the Town Mayor. One of the less glamorous but very useful events this year was for the Town Mayor and Mayoress to open formally the refurbished toilets at St Michael's Hall. An excellent job had been done and the new facilities would, no doubt, be appreciated by future users.

The Town has an excellent reputation for horticulture, and the 30th Anniversary Show of the Stone Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society provided further evidence of the extremely high standards achieved by local gardeners. The Mayor and Mayoress were delighted by the wonderful blooms on show and the Mayor presented the prizes to the well-merited recipients.

Monday 19 Sep 16

The Mayor was fascinated to attend the celebrations held in Uttoxeter to commemorate the birth of Dr Samuel Johnson and his act of penance in the Market Place.

Wednesday 21 Sep 16

The Mayor and Mayoress joined the Rector of St Michaels' and St Wulfad's church and many others in welcoming the new Bishop of Lichfield during his walk along the "Two Saints Way" from Chester to Lichfield. The Bishop unveiled at the church an information board giving details of the history of Stone, and of the old priory and the present church.

Deputy Mayor's Announcements
04.10.16

Stafford & Rural Homes - 15th September 2016.

I attended the AGM and was very impressed with a number of presentations which highlighted the charities approach to customer care, partnership working and future plans within Staffordshire.