

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