

Stone Town Council – General Purposes Committee

Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 4 October, 2016

PRESENT: Councillor R Kenney in the Chair and
Councillors J Davies, Mrs J Farnham, I Fordham, Mrs M Goodall, Mrs K Green,
M Green, Mrs J Hood, P Leason, Mrs E Mowatt, A Osgathorpe, Mrs J Piggott and
M Williamson

Absent: Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, T Jackson, G Neagus and M Shaw

GP17/069 **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, T Jackson, G Neagus and M Shaw

GP17/070 **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

Councillor I Fordham declared an interest in GP17/078, Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

GP17/071 **To receive the reports of the County Councillors**

County Councillor P Jones has received a petition from residents on Priors Road complaining of joy-riding and speeding. County Councillor Jones will take this to Council and will also request police involvement.

A traffic survey will be carried out on Newcastle Road with regards to speeding. It may be necessary to put a mobile speed camera in the area.

Potholes on Common Lane have been repaired.

County Councillor Jones sent a letter of condolence to the Mayor of Bagnacavallo with reference to the recent earthquake which hit the country.

Councillor Jones is proposing to ask Staffordshire County Council to designate the green area of Westbridge Park as a village green.

Councillor Jones was asked to advise Highways that Pirehill Lane has potholes which need repairing.

County Councillor I Parry was absent.

GP17/072 **Representations from Members of the Public**

None

GP17/073 **Minutes**

RESOLVED

- a) that the minutes of the Estates Sub-Committee held on the 20th September, 2016, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record and that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee at Minute EST17/023 and EST17/024 be adopted.
- b) that the minutes of the Management Sub-Committee held on the 20th September, 2016, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record and that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee at Minute MAN17/010, MAN17/011, MAN17/012 and MAN17/013 be adopted.

GP17/074 **Consultations**

The Committee considered the following consultations:

- a) Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service Corporate Safety Plan (April 2017 – March 2010)

RESOLVED: to send neutral comments in response to the Plan.

- b) Highway Infrastructure Asset Management Plan (HIAMP)

RESOLVED: to comment that the document was difficult to read, but otherwise pass on no comments.

- c) The 2017/18 Local Government Finance Settlement

RESOLVED: to support the guidance from NALC that council tax does not need capping at Parish level.

GP17/075 **Vacancies on Sub-Committees and Working Groups**

The Committee considered the filling of vacancies following the resignation of a Councillor.

RESOLVED: to appoint Councillor I Fordham to the Estates and Management Sub-Committees and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

GP17/076 **Stone Radio**

This item was referred from the Estates Sub-Committee, Minute reference EST17/018.

The Clerk reminded Members that Stone Radio have asked for support regarding accommodation. A small working group was established to look at possible solutions at Stone Station Community Centre and Frank Jordan Centre. The working group recommended that the first room on the right as you enter the Station be a permanent location for Stone Radio. The use of the room would be free of charge for a minimum of 18 months.

* 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.

RESOLVED: to allow Stone Radio exclusive use of the room in Stone Station Community Centre free of charge in principle. The Clerk was asked to present the proposed legal agreement to the Committee for approval.

GP17/077 Member's Motions under Standing Order 4

Councillor A Osgathorpe

"I ask the council to request that Stafford Borough seek the views of Stone Town Council on the draft findings of the Sports and Leisure Consultation which was undertaken earlier this year by Ploszajski Lynch Consulting, and include those views in the final version of the report when it is presented to the Borough Council for adoption."

RESOLVED: to write to Stafford Borough Council to ensure that the views of Stone Town Council are included within the report.

GP17/078 Update from Working Groups

a) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

The next meeting will take place on 5th October. Members of the group will be looking at photographs for submission with the report to Alex Yendole.

GP17/079 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 – The AGM will take place on 18th October

Age Concern Stone & District – No meetings have taken place; the next meeting will be 17th October.

Stone Town Band – No meetings currently scheduled

Stone Common Plott Trustees – No meetings have taken place

The remaining parts of the agenda were adjourned until after the Planning Meeting has taken place.

GP17/080 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

This was RESOLVED.

GP17/081 Minutes

RESOLVED

- b) that the confidential minutes of the Estates Sub-Committee held on the 20th September, 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 EST17/027 be adopted.

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GP17/082 **Frank Jordan Centre Building Works**

This was covered in Minute Number GP17/081.

Town Mayor