

# Stone Town Council – General Purposes Committee

## Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber on Tuesday 24 January, 2017

**PRESENT:** Councillor R Kenney in the Chair and  
Councillors Mrs C Collier, G Collier, J Davies, I Fordham, Mrs M Goodall,  
Mrs K Green, M Green, Mrs J Hood, T Jackson, P Leason, Mrs E Mowatt, G Neagus,  
A Osgathorpe, Mrs J Piggott and M Williamson

**Absent:** Councillors Mrs J Farnham and M Shaw

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**GP17/122**    **Apologies**

Apologies were received from Councillors Mrs J Farnham and M Shaw

**GP17/123**    **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations**

None received

**GP17/124**    **Representations from Members of the Public**

None

**GP17/125**    **Minutes**

**RESOLVED**

- a) Management Sub-Committee held on the 13<sup>th</sup> December, 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 MAN17/027 be adopted. Minute MAN17/024 was considered at minute GP17/126.
- b) Environment Sub-Committee held on the 13<sup>th</sup> December, 2016, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record. Minute ENV17/013 was considered at minute GP17/126.
- c) Estates Sub-Committee held on the 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record. Minute EST17/031 was considered at minute GP17/126.
- d) Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee held on the 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, copies having been circulated to Members, be signed by the Chairman as a correct record and that the recommendations of the Sub-Committee at Minutes TTP17/017 and TTP17/018 be adopted. Minute TTP17/019 was considered at minute GP17/126.

**GP17/126    To Determine budget 2017-18 for recommendation to the Council**

The Committee considered the report of the Clerk circulated with the agenda and a briefing paper circulated to all members.

Councillor R Kenney stated that for 2017-18 if all requests from the Sub-Committees are agreed, the Council Tax Band D figure will rise by 15% from £40.09 to £46.10, which is too high.

With regards to the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee budget, it was agreed to remove the proposed £5,500 per annum for marketing, and reduce the provision for the music festival from £6,000 to £4,000 per annum. The £500 per annum for the Christmas market was also taken out.

With regards to the Estates Sub-Committee budget, it was agreed to reduce the £800 in 2017-18 to refurbish the A34 bus shelter to £200 in order to remove it.

Councillor M Williamson proposed that the £100,000 reserve earmarked for the Crown Wharf should be used to pay for the refurbishment of the Frank Jordan Centre. Councillor T Jackson seconded the proposal and asked for a named vote:

Councillor	Mrs C Collier	Abstain
	G Collier	Abstain
	J Davies	Against
	I Fordham	Against
	Mrs M Goodall	For
	Mrs K Green	Against
	M Green	Against
	Mrs J Hood	Against
	T Jackson	For
	R Kenney	Against
	P Leason	Against
	Mrs E Mowatt	Against
	G Neagus	Against
	A Osgathorpe	Against
	Mrs J Piggott	For
	M Williamson	For

The motion was lost.

With regards to the Council Tax, the Clerk reported that the amendments made during the meeting result in Council Tax Band D at £44.70, a 11.5% increase, with a further indicative 2% increase for the next two years, giving figures of £44.59 and £46.51 respectively.

Councillor M Green stated that there would be an increase in the Council Tax but Stone will be offering more services for the money.

Councillor R Kenney moved the motion set out at appendix 1, including the new Council Tax figures as set out above, which was seconded by Councillor M Green. Councillor M Williamson requested a named vote:

Councillor	M Williamson	Against
	Mrs J Piggott	Against
	A Osgathorpe	For
	G Neagus	For
	Mrs E Mowatt	For
	P Leason	For
	R Kenney	For
	T Jackson	Against
	Mrs J Hood	For
	M Green	For
	Mrs K Green	For
	Mrs M Goodall	Against
	I Fordham	For
	J Davies	For
	G Collier	Against
	Mrs C Collier	Against

The motion was carried.

RESOLVED: To recommend to the Council the budget set out in the Appendix.

**GP17/127** **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.**

RESOLVED: to exclude the Press and Public from the meeting whilst the next item of business is discussed.

**GP17/128** **Confidential Minutes**

**RESOLVED**

- a) Management Sub-Committee held on the 13<sup>th</sup> December, 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 MAN17/027 be adopted.
- b) Estates Sub-Committee held on the 17<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, 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 EST17/033 be adopted.

**Town Mayor**

# Stone Town Council

## General Purposes Committee 24<sup>th</sup> January 2017

### Revenue Budget 2017-18 to 2019-20

#### Proposal by Chairman of General Purposes Committee

In respect of the Town Council's budget for 2017-18 to 2019-20, it is recommended that the Council approve the standstill budget set out in the Clerk's report to this meeting with the following amendments:

- To support proposals from Sub-Committees, as set out below:

	Budget 2017- 18 £	Budget 2018- 19 £	Budget 2019- 20 £
<b>Estates</b>			
A34 Bus Shelter	200	-	-
Oulton Road Bus Shelter	700	-	-
<b>Environment</b>			
Crown Meadow Tree Maintenance	800	800	800
Maintenance of "No Mans' Land"	800	800	800
Maintenance of Benches	700	-	-
Side Entrance Gate - Crown Meadow	300	-	-
<b>Tourism &amp; Town Promotion</b>			
Music Festival	4,000	4,000	4,000

- To provide a further contingency for work at the Frank Jordan Centre, and change its timing as follows:

	Forecast 2016-17 £	Budget 2017- 18 £
Building Works	-45,000	90,000
Caretaking (3 months less)		-1,000
Additional Income (3 months less)		1,300

- To provide a further £4,500 in 2016-17 for the additional cost of the 2016 by-election above the amount already included in the budget.
- As a result, to recommend a budget of £355,900 for 2017-18, with indicative budgets of £259,800 in 2018-19 and £289,700 in 2019-20.
- To recommend an increase in the Council Tax for a Band D property to £44.70 for 2017-18, with indicative increases to £45.59 in 2018-19 and £46.51 in 2019-20.

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\* 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.