

STONE TOWN COUNCIL

Town Clerk

Les Trigg

Tel: 01785 619740

Fax: 01785 619741

15 Station Road
STONE
ST15 8JP

25 February 2019

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 5 MARCH 2019 at 7:05pm**, or on the rising of the 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:**

There are no minutes for consideration
7. **Crown Wharf Development**

To consider entering into an agreement with Joules Brewery for the provision of a heritage centre as part of the Crown Wharf development on the basis of the Heads of Terms document (attached).

8. Debit and Credit Cards

To consider the report of the Town Clerk (attached).

9. To consider the following requests for grants from local organisations:

- **St Michael's Community Hall**

10. HS2 Phase 2a Additional Provision 2

- a) To consider an invitation from Staffordshire County Council to submit comments in response to a consultation on the Additional Provision 2 to the Phase 2a High Speed Rail (West Midlands Crewe) Hybrid Bill (AP2) and Supplementary Environmental Statement (SES).

A copy of an email from the HS2 Project Manager at Staffordshire County Council is attached.

- b) To consider whether the Town Council wishes to prepare a petition in respect of HS2 AP2.

A draft petition prepared by the Stone Railhead Crisis Group will be circulated to Members in advance of the meeting.

11. Stone Parish Area Liaison Group – planning item

To consider a proposal made by Stone Area Parish Liaison Group to send a letter (attached) to Stafford Borough Council regarding its planning process in pursuance of the aims set out in 'Statement of Community Involvement 2018 Update'.

12. Ex Servicemen's Bowls Match

To note the date for the Ex-Servicemen's Bowls Match on Monday 17 June 2019 at 6:00pm, and to agree to fund the buffet as in previous years.

13. Non-Cheque Payments

To receive a list of non-cheque payments made by the Council during the period 1 January to 31 January 2019 (attached).

14. Members Motions under Standing Order 4

Councillor J. Davies

'Sunday 11 November 2018 was Remembrance Sunday and the centenary of the end of the Great War. The support of the people of Stone is always impressive for Remembrance Sunday and it was surpassed far beyond expectations in 2018. During the events that morning a panoramic photo was taken from the first floor of Granville's Brasserie of the magnificent scene in the town centre.

It would be a great pity if the Town Council did not obtain a copy of that photo for posterity, especially with our heritage centre in prospect. A framed copy of that photo is available from the Vantage Point Creative framing shop at a cost of £220. I now ask the Town Council to purchase such a framed copy as a record of that historic day in the town's history'.

15. Members Motions under Standing Order 4

Councillor J. Davies

'With effect from 29th July 2002 Stafford Borough Council introduced charges for parking in the car parks at Crown Street, Westbridge Park and Christchurch Way. It is now some sixteen and a half years since then so it is high time to review those arrangements particularly in the light of pressure to reduce or eliminate car park charges to encourage greater numbers to come into the town centre.

I now ask the Town Council to resolve to write to Stafford Borough Council requesting a statement of the yearly income from these car parking charges since their introduction'.

16. Update from Working Groups:

- a) Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group
- b) Stone Area Parish Liaison Group
- c) Traffic Management in High Street Working Group

17. 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 J. Davies

Age Concern Stone & District – Cllrs: Mrs K. Green and Mrs C. Collier

Stone Town Band – Mayor

Stafford & Stone Access Group – Cllr Mrs C. Collier

Stone Common Plot Trustees – Cllrs: Mrs C. Collier, G. Collier, Mrs J. Hood, R. Kenney and M. Shaw

Stone Community Hub Liaison Group – Cllrs: M. Green, Mrs J. Farnham, R. Kenney, Mrs J. Hood and A. Osgathorpe

SPCA Executive Committee – Cllr M. Green

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

PROPOSED HEADS OF TERMS

between

Joules Brewery Limited

and

Stone Town Council

1 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 As a part of the Crown Wharf Development Joule's brewery has purchased the old Fire Station building.
- 1.2 Joules is prepared to offer this building to Stone Town Council for use as a heritage and visitor centre. The following represents the heads of terms related to that offer.

2 DEFINITION OF TERMS

Fire Station	The old fire station building situated on Crown Street, Stone
Lease	A lease to be agreed between Joules and Stone Town Council
Joules	Joules Brewery Limited
STC	Stone Town Council
Tower	The original hose drying tower.
Access Way	The strip of land, around 4m wide to the right of the fire station which will form a pedestrian link from Crown Street to Crown Wharf.
Opening Hours	The hours when the centre will be open to the public agreed between the parties and subject to a minimum.
Crown Wharf Development	Development of Joules brewery tap, Studio Theatre and Heritage centre located at Crown Wharf Stone
Building Shell	The walls, roof, floor, windows and general fabric of the building
Empty Shell	The building with all internal fixtures, fittings, furniture and other non-structural/non-service items removed.

3 JOULES OBLIGATIONS

- 3.1 Complete the external landscaping around the Fire station.
- 3.2 Offer the building to STC as an empty shell on a fully repairing and insuring lease for use as a heritage/visitor/information centre in perpetuity, subject to the terms of this agreement.
- 3.3 Require a peppercorn rent at the rate of £1 per annum from STC for the duration of the agreement.
- 3.4 In agreement with STC, provide signage on the building and the tower which shall be utilised to signpost Crown Wharf alongside, and complementary with, STC's own signage.
- 3.5 Retain use of the access way at all times for public use.

4 STC OBLIGATIONS

- 4.1 Determine, by 30th September 2019, whether it wishes to take up Joules offer of the use of the building as a heritage and visitor centre. Should STC accept this offer, the terms of this agreement would apply from the acceptance date. Should STC decline or fail to make a determination by the specified date, Joules would be free to determine the future use of the building and neither Joules nor STC would be bound by any further terms of this lease.
- 4.2 Restore the building shell into a suitable condition for use as a heritage and visitor centre, to be completed by 30th June 2020 or any other such date as shall be agreed between STC and Joules. This completion is expected to include making the building wind and water tight; retaining the fire station doors; painting, re-roofing and cleaning the building; and providing gas and electrical services to the site. It may also include the provision of an extension suitable for use as a coffee shop facility. This work will be done to a standard expected to endure for the reasonable life of the building, subject to a reasonable maintenance regime. It is anticipated that this work will be undertaken as part of the main project by Joules on behalf of the Council at cost, on an open book accounting basis.
- 4.3 Provide appropriate furniture, fixtures and fittings, as required for the operation of the heritage and visitor centre
- 4.4 Insure and maintain the building during the term of its use.
- 4.5 Open to the public not less than 5 days per week for an average of at least 4 hours per day, unless otherwise agreed between STC and Joules.
- 4.6 Ensure that the building is lit internally and externally during normal Crown Wharf opening hours, whether or not the Centre is open at the time.

- 4.7 Ensure that the building is kept in good order, presentable and attractive to the public.
- 4.8 Present the Joules Brewery story as a part of the history of Stone town and within the exhibition, subject to the exceptional requirements of one off and short term special events.
- 4.9 Recognise Joules Brewery as the founding sponsor on all advertising material.
- 4.10 Retain use of the access way at all times for public use.
- 4.11 Provide a signage point for the Crown Wharf in a prominent position near the exit being 1m wide by 2m high.
- 4.12 In agreement with Joules, provide STC's signage on the building, which shall be complementary with Joules signage on the building and the tower signposting Crown Wharf.
- 4.13 Pay all running costs directly related to the operation of the Centre.

5 TERMINATION

- 5.1 Should STC cease to use the premises as a heritage and visitor centre, or for any alternative use that may have been agreed with Joules, Joules will retain the option to give 12 months' notice to STC to resume activity as specified within this document. Should STC not comply with the request, the contract will be terminated and the building will revert to Joules in accordance with the termination provisions below.
- 5.2 STC can, at any point during the operation of this agreement, give 12 months' notice to Joules that it no longer wishes to make use of the building. After this notice period has expired, the contract will be terminated and the building will revert to Joules in accordance with the termination provisions below
- 5.3 On termination, STC shall return the building to Joules in broadly the condition set out in paragraph 4.2 above, save for reasonable wear and tear.
- 5.4 Should the termination date be within 15 years of the completion date agreed under the provisions of paragraph 4.2 above, the following additional provisions will apply:
 - a. Joules will pay to STC a sum equal to the amount expended by STC under the provisions of paragraph 4.2 above, adjusted by the retail price index since the work was carried out, and discounted by one fifteenth of this amount for each year between the completion date and the termination date including an adjustment for the final part-year, if any. (For example, if the agreement were to be terminated after nine years and six months, the amount would be discounted by 9.5 fifteenths)

- b. Should the works undertaken by the completion date subsequently prove insufficient to meet STC's obligations under paragraph 4.2 above and further work is required beyond normal routine maintenance, Joules will pay to STC a further sum calculated in accordance with the principles established in paragraph 5.4a above, but adjusted to represent the point in time at which the work was completed. (For example, if £10,000 were expended by STC three years after the completion date, and the agreement is terminated after ten years, the sum, plus RPI increases, would be discounted by seven twelfths).
 - c. On termination, STC would be expected to return the building to Joules as an empty shell. Should this not be done, Joules would be entitled to offset against the above amounts its reasonable costs incurred in returning the building to this condition.
- 5.5 From the date of termination, neither STC nor Joules will continue to be bound by the terms of this agreement except so far as they relate to an obligation which should have been completed prior to or on termination.

6 CHANGE OF OWNERSHIP

- 6.1 Should Joules Brewery Limited cease to be the owners of the building, the Town Council would have the option of purchasing the building from the new owners at the lower of the original purchase price adjusted by the retail price index since the date of purchase, or the independently assessed market value of the building for its (then) current use. This option must be exercised within 12 months of the date of the ownership change (or the notification to STC of the ownership change, if later) and will also require a covenant that STC will retain the access to the Crown Wharf site for as long as required by the new owners.
- 6.2 Should this option not be exercised by STC, the terms of this agreement will continue to apply.

Stone Town Council - General Purposes Committee

5th March 2019

Debit and Credit Cards

Report of Town Clerk

Introduction

1. Currently the Council accepts payment by cash, cheque or bank transfer. It does not accept payment by debit or credit cards.
2. This report asks the Committee to support the introduction of card payments for all Council services, and to consider its future position with regard to cheque payments.

Background

3. For a large proportion of the population, purchasing, paying invoices or ordering using a debit or credit card is a preferred way of undertaking personal financial transactions. Increasingly, this is also the case for businesses as well.
4. The Council's preferred method of accepting payments, however, is by cheque. Many private individuals no longer use cheques, and an increasing number of businesses are moving away from this payment method.
5. The Council does not currently accept payment by card. This reduces the options available for payment to the Council, and may even make the services offered by the Council less attractive than those provided by others.
6. The recently approved markets strategy will require payment in advance by stallholders, rather than it being collected on the day. This may be difficult to implement if a facility for paying the Council by phone is not implemented. This would require the acceptance of card payments.

Proposal

7. It is proposed that the Council starts to accept payments by credit and debit card for all services that it provides. Initially it is suggested that this is limited to a "cardholder not present" facility, rather than a full face to face service. It is also not proposed to implement online card payments at present.
8. This proposal would involve the use of computer software for members of staff to record card payments, and an agreement with a Merchant Bank to process the transactions. No card machines would be required.
9. I have undertaken a review of the services being offered by providers for handling the Council's transactions. In my view, the most appropriate provider for the Council would appear to be Sage Pay. This provider offers an option geared to small organisations who expect to undertake less than 100 transaction each month, and offers the added advantage that the Sage Pay software will integrate directly with the Council's Sage accounting systems.

10. The cost of the Sage Pay software and services would be £15 per month for up to 100 transactions. Further transactions above 100 would cost an additional 14p per transaction, but I cannot currently envisage the Council exceeding this figure. As part of the Sage Pay agreement, merchant services would be provided by World Pay, a major processor of card transactions. World Pay would charge 1.5% of the value of each transaction in addition to the Sage Pay charge.
11. It is not yet possible to identify either how many card transactions there might be, or which payers would use the service, but as an example, if the Council processed 30 card transactions per month at an average value of £40, the cost would be £33 per month (excluding VAT), made up of a Sage Pay charge of £15 and a World Pay charge of £18.
12. There would be a three month notice period if the Council decided to terminate these services.
13. Alongside the acceptance of payment by card, the Council may also wish to consider how much longer it wants to continue to accept payment by cheque.
14. Cheques are significantly more time consuming to process than card or bank payments, in particular due to the requirements for a member of staff to physically go to a bank or post office to pay them in. Cheques are also less secure than more direct payment types, and there is no guarantee that they will be honoured by banks.
15. It is therefore suggested that the Council works towards the elimination of cheque payments by 31st March 2020, though there will always be the need for the Council to be able to process cheques in exceptional circumstances.

Conclusion

16. The payments habits of individuals and businesses, and the development of the Council's operations, are moving away from the traditional method of accepting payment by cheque and towards use of credit and debit cards or direct to bank payments.
17. The Council already accepts payment direct to bank. This report proposes the introduction of a facility for the Council to accept payment by card and a strategy for the elimination of cheque payments.
18. There are currently no proposals to introduce facilities for payments which would require the use of a card machine or for online payments. These might be required in the future as the Council's operations evolve and our customer's needs change, but would be subject to a separate costed proposal.

Recommendations

19. That the Town Clerk is authorised to enter into an agreement with Sage Pay to provide a facility for the Council to accept credit and debit cards as set out in this report.
20. That the Council works towards the elimination of cheque receipts, other than in exceptional circumstances, by 31st March 2020.



Application for Grant Aid

Stone
Town Council

Name of organisation:

ST. MICHAEL'S COMMUNITY HALL

Purpose of organisation:

TO PROVIDE A VENUE FOR THE PEOPLE
OF STONE AND ENVIRONS TO CARRY OUT
THEIR LEGAL ACTIVITIES

Amount of grant requested:

£500

Total cost of project (if appropriate):

£1300

Reason for grant request:

Provision of three extra radiators in
the main room. These will supplement
the existing radiators by providing heat
at the previously unheated end of the
room. ①

Provision of loft insulation to prevent
loss of heat from the main room. ②

① When the heating system was upgraded, we could
not afford all the radiators at that time.

② As we have been unsuccessful in obtaining
grants to replace the roof, we are taking the next option

Benefits to Stone residents:

Users of the hall will benefit from a warmer, more comfortable environment

Other sources of funding secured or being explored (with amounts where known):

The balance will be funded from our bank account.

Is this an "exceptional" request (see notes)? If so, please explain why the Council should treat it as an exception:

Grants awarded by the Council in the last two years, and the uses made of the funding:

A grant was made towards the ongoing refurbishment of the hall on 1/1/18 (£500)

Statement of support from Council appointed representative (if applicable):

Saint Michaels Hall - CHARITY NUMBER 503206			
Accounts to 31st March 2018			
INCOME	£	EXPENDITURE	£
Revellers	4,045.32	Npower	1,106.04
Keep Fit Class	467.70	Severn Trent	531.87
Revellation Choir	583.20	PRS for Music	149.21
Casual Hire	418.60	SSE (Gas)	1,440.00
Drop In Lunch	240.00	Repairs and Maintenance	1,109.19
Historic Society	250.00	Insurance	1,603.73
Donations	1,294.50	Gazebo	149.99
Fund Raising	1,049.47	Cleaning and Consumables	320.42
Grants	1,200.00	Fund Raising	126.02
Sale of Chairs	275.00	Chairs and Trolley	1,105.14
Little Roo's	645.60	Accountancy	255.00
RNP Care	259.20		
CSP Stage Production	451.80		
SSE Refund	225.98		
Insurance Refund	380.46		
	11,786.83		7,896.61

BALANCE SHEET			
Opening Bank Balance 01/04/17	2,550.99	Bank Expenditure	7,896.61
Opening Cash Balance 01/04/17	2.26	Cash Expenditure	0.00
Bank Income	11,786.83	Closing Bank Balance 31/03/18	6,441.21
Cash Income	0.00	Closing Cash Balance 31/03/18	2.26
	14,340.08		14,340.08

Prepared By:

ST15 8XG

^ * R. A. Knight &
Company - Accountants

17th May 2018

Saint Michael's Hall		
Bank Agreement and Reconciliation		
AGREEMENT		
Year to 31st March 2018	Debit	Credit
Opening balance 01/04/17	2,550.99	
Receipts	11,786.83	
Payments		7,896.61
Closing balance 31/03/18 (See Below)		6,441.21
	14,337.82	14,337.82

RECONCILIATION		
Bal per statement 1 19/03/18		5,888.18
Add: Lodgement after Date - reference 000133		598.95
Add: Lodgement after Date - re invoice 12		48.60
		6,535.73
Less: U/p cheques		
100154	80.52	
100155	14.00	94.52
<i>Reconciled Balance Transferred to Agreement</i>		6,441.21

Saint Michael's Hall		
Cash Agreement and Reconciliation		
AGREEMENT		
Year to 31st March 2018	Debit	Credit
Opening balance 01/04/17	2.26	
Receipts	0.00	
Payments		0.00
Closing balance 31/03/18		2.26
	2.26	2.26

From: [Mallen, Sarah \(E,I&S\)](#)
To: [Abbots Bromley](#); [Armitage with Handsacre](#); [Barlaston PC \(indirect effect\)](#); [Bethan Waite \(Newborough PC Chairman\)](#); [Colton](#); [Colwich PC](#); [Fradley and Streethay PC](#); [Hopton PC](#); [Kings Bromley](#); [Liz New Clerk](#); [Madeley](#); [Marston PC](#); [Mavesyn Ridware](#); [Newborough PC \(AP2\)](#); [Stone Rural PC](#); [Town Clerk](#); [Swynnerton PC](#); [Tixall & Ingestre PC](#); [Whitmore PC](#)
Subject: HS2 Phase 2a Additional Provision 2
Date: 11 February 2019 10:15:19
Importance: High

Dear All

As per my previous email, Additional Provision 2 to the Phase 2a High Speed Rail (West Midlands-Crewe) Hybrid Bill (AP2) was deposited in Parliament on Friday afternoon, along with the Supplementary Environmental Statement (SES) which covers likely significant environmental impacts along the route and measures to avoid, manage and reduce these. A consultation has now been launched on the SES. I will be co-ordinating an Staffordshire County Council response and would be grateful for any comments you would like to put forward for inclusion (please include the paragraph number).

The documentation can be found at the links below:

1. [Guidance](#)
2. [Non-technical summary](#)
3. [Volume 1: Introduction and methodology](#)
4. [Volume 2: Community area reports and maps](#)
5. [Volume 3: Route-wide effects](#)
6. [Volume 5: Technical appendices and maps](#)
7. [Background information and data](#)
8. [Competency statement](#)

Please note that the consultation may only feature comments on the AP, not the original Bill. I don't know why there isn't a volume 4 (off route effects) but will query this. I am expecting to take delivery of hard copies later today which along with electronic copies will be available for public use in Staffordshire Place 2 reception. If you can return comments for the consultation to me no later than **8 March** I would be very grateful.

As regards petitioning the AP, the County Council has not yet made a decision on this (this depends both on the AP contents and the constraints of our existing undertakings and assurances). Please do let me know as soon as possible if you intend to petition, and additionally whether you would like me to attend a parish council meeting to discuss this/provide support.

The petitioning period for this AP is **separate** to the consultation period and will run from **15 February to 15 March**.

Kind regards
Sarah

Sarah Mallen
HS2 Project Manager
Connected and Sustainable County

Staffordshire County Council

Office Location: No. 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford, ST16 2LP

Postal Address: Wedgwood Building, Block A, Tipping Street, Stafford, ST16 2DH

Tel: 01785 277252

Mob: 07891 641658

Email: sarah.mallen@staffordshire.gov.uk

Staffordshire County Council

A Connected Staffordshire where everyone can prosper and be healthy and happy

Find out more by visiting the [Staffordshire County Council](http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk) website.

Sign up for [free alerts and newsletters](#) straight to your email or mobile phone to receive county council news and information on topics important to you.

Save time and download [MyStaffs mobile app](#) available on Android and iOS

Follow the county council on [Twitter](#), [Facebook](#), [LinkedIn](#) and [YouTube](#)

Disclaimer

This e-mail (including any attachments) is only for the person or organisation it is addressed to. If you are not the intended recipient you must let me know immediately and then delete this e-mail. If you use this e-mail without permission, or if you allow anyone else to see, copy or distribute the e-mail, or if you do, or don't do something because you have read this e-mail, you may be breaking the law.

Liability cannot be accepted for any loss or damage arising from this e-mail (or any attachments) or from incompatible scripts or any virus transmitted.

E-mails and attachments sent to or received from staff and elected Members may be monitored and read and the right is reserved to reject or return or delete any which are considered to be inappropriate or unsuitable.

Do you really need to print this email? It will use paper, add to your waste disposal costs and harm the environment.

Hybrid Bill Petition

House of Commons

Session 2017-19

Additional Provision to the High Speed Rail (West Midlands – Crewe) Bill
March 2018

Do not include any images or graphics in your petition. There will be an opportunity to present these later if you give evidence to the committee.

Your petition does not need to be signed.

Expand the size of the text boxes as you need.

1. Petitioner information

In the box below, give the name and address of each individual, business or organisation(s) submitting the petition.

Stone Town Council, 15 Station Rd, Stone ST15 8JP

Email: clerk@stonetowncouncil.org.uk

Petition contact email :

In the box below, give a description of the petitioners. For example, “we are the owners/tenants of the addresses above”; “my company has offices at the address above”; “our organisation represents the interests of...”; “we are the parish council of...”.

Stone Town Council - Representing the community of Stone, Staffordshire.

Stone Town Council, at a meeting held on the 5 March 2019, resolved that they petition the High Speed Rail (West Midlands – Crewe) Bill Select Committee for changes arising from the Second Additional Provisions (AP2) to the High Speed Rail (West Midlands – Crewe) Bill.

2. Objections to the Additional Provision to the Bill

In the box below, write your objections to the additional provision to the Bill and why your property or other interests are specially and directly affected. Please number each paragraph.

Only objections outlined in this petition can be presented when giving evidence to the committee. You will not be entitled to be heard on new matters.

2.1 Stone Town Council objects to the impact caused by the proposals relating to the construction of a Railhead and Infrastructure Maintenance Base – Rail (IMB-R) on land to the west of Stone, Staffordshire, together with the proposals relating to the

two road junctions in the vicinity of Stone, as outlined in the Supplementary Environmental Statement 2 (SES2) and Additional Provisioning 2 (AP2) ES Volume 2 relating to Community Area 3 – Stone and Swynnerton, and the related documentation referred to therein, including maps and sections.

2.2 The proposal is objectionable with respect to the impacts on the following road junctions in the Stone area for the following reasons:

- a. Insufficient detail has been provided by HS2 Ltd to demonstrate how its proposed highway works at the A34/A51 junction with the Stone Business Park will address the major delays that will ensue at all approaches during peak periods, with the consequential severe impacts on the economy of Stone and the surrounding area.
- b. Insufficient detail has been provided by HS2 Ltd to demonstrate how its proposals to construct new permanent traffic signals at the junction of Yarnfield Lane at the A34 - The Fillybrooks would operate effectively and safely for all road users with particular reference to the impact this proposal will have on the interaction of all vehicle movements with the nearby junction of the A34/Trent Road.

2.3 The proposal is objectionable because the requirements of the House of Commons Select Committee on High Speed Rail (West Midlands – Crewe), as expressed in paragraph 67 of its Second Special Report, which requires the Yarnfield Lane bridge over the M6 to be widened “...to ensure the better safety of all road users” has not been adequately considered and does not form part of Additional Provisioning 2:

- a. There are no details of any change to the carriageway or footway widths or how HS2 will ensure the better safety of all types of users of Yarnfield Lane, despite HS2 Ltd’s stated proposal to bring forward the opening of the realigned Yarnfield Lane by 18 months to the start of Q1 2022 and approximately double the number of HGVs accessing the Yarnfield Transfer node during the stated busy period.
- b. This is important because HS2 Ltd’s proposals in AP2 for segregating local traffic and its construction traffic rely on its ability to use a 1.2km section of the existing Yarnfield Lane, including the existing M6 overbridge, to be used as an internal haul road once the realigned Yarnfield Lane has been completed. However, no evidence has been produced that demonstrates whether the existing M6 overbridge is capable of carrying up to 50% of HS2’s proposed peak levels of 2329 HGVs/day. Nor has HS2 Ltd shown how the use of the existing Yarnfield Lane as a haul road is compatible with it being buried under several metres of fill to form the finished levels of the platform of the Stone Railhead.
- c. The segregation of HGV construction and local traffic is also dependent on HS2 being able to deliver the revised construction programme outlined in AP2, for which no evidence is provided in the supporting documentation. The AP2 programme assumes that the new Yarnfield Lane overbridge can be constructed in 18 months, instead of over a period of 2 years commencing at the very start of Phase 2a construction operations in July 2020. This is the same start date as the site preparation and set up period, which requires 9 months to complete, and is considered to be totally

unrealistic and unachievable.

- 2.4 The revised AP2 indicative construction programme is also considered completely unrealistic because several major construction activities relating to the use of Yarnfield Lane have been brought forward by 12 months to the very start of site operations in July 2020 and shortened in duration. This includes the Yarnfield lane underbridge and Yarnfield Lane IMB-R overbridge, both of which will rely on the advance establishment of the Yarnfield North Embankment satellite compound and the Yarnfield Lane Transfer Node, together with the completion of the signalised A34/Yarnfield Lane junction, all of which will commence construction at the same time.

3. What do you want to be done in response?

In the box below, tell us what you think should be done in response to your objections. You do not have to complete this box if you do not want to.

The committee cannot reject the Bill outright or propose amendments which conflict with the principle of the Bill. But it can require changes to the Government's plans in response to petitioners' concerns, which can take the form of amendments to the Bill or commitments by HS2 Ltd.

You can include this information in your response to section two 'Objections to the Additional Provision to the Bill' if you prefer. Please number each paragraph.

- 3.1 Stone Town Council request that HS2 Ltd provides substantive evidence to conclusively prove to the Select Committee that its proposals for amendments to the A34/A51 Stone Business junction and A34/Yarnfield Lane junction have been adequately modelled such that it can be proved that HS2's construction traffic would not cause significant traffic delays and congestion.
- 3.2 Stone Town Council also requests that HS2 Ltd provides substantive evidence that the indicative construction programme that it set out in Figure 2 of SES2/APES2 for the CA3 – Stone and Swynnerton is realistic and deliverable within budget, or alternatively provide a programme that is achievable to ensure that HS2 Ltd construction traffic and local traffic is adequately segregated on Yarnfield Lane to ensure the safety of all public road users.

If you have already petitioned against the High Speed Rail (West Midlands – Crewe) Bill, please give your petition number:

HS2-P2A-128
HS2-AP1-022

Next steps

Once you have completed your petition template please save it and go to our website to submit it during the petitioning period.

If you plan to submit your petition by post, email, or in person, please also complete the contact sheet and terms and conditions below.

Individual's details

First name(s)

Last name

Address line 1

Address line 2

Post code

Country

Email

☐ Check this box to receive updates from the High Speed Rail (West Midlands to Crewe) Bill Committee?

Phone

Who should be contacted about this petition?

Individual above ☐

Another contact ☐

If another contact, complete the ‘main contact’s details’ section.

Main contact’s details

First name(s)

Last name

Address line 1

Address line 2

Post Code

Country

Email

☐ Check this box to receive updates from the High Speed Rail (West Midlands to Crewe) Bill Committee?

Phone

Terms and conditions

Personal information

A copy of this petition and information provided in the online form will be:

- kept in the Private Bill Office and as a record in the Parliamentary Archives.
- sent to the Department for Transport and High Speed Two (HS2) Limited after the petition has been received by the Private Bill Office.

We will publish your petition on UK Parliament's website. This will include your name and address.

The personal information you have provided may be kept in a database by both Private Bill Offices.

Communications

Private Bill Office staff may call or email any of the people named in the petition to verify the information provided.

Communications may be stored in databases to keep track of information you have given or received. This information may be shared between the Private Bill Offices.

Consent and confirmation

The information you have provided in the petition and online form is accurate.

If you have completed the form on behalf of an individual, a group of individuals, an organisation, or a group of organisations, you have been authorised to do so.

☐ Check this box if you agree to the terms and conditions

“Town and Parish Councils are the elected bodies closest to the communities they represent. As such their opinion on planning applications should be given significant weight and consideration by Stafford Borough Council (SBC) when SBC is exercising its function as the Local Planning Authority (LPA). Having reviewed recent planning applications the Stone Area Parish Liaison Group is disappointed with the apparent lack of importance given by SBC to the opinions of the Town and Parish Councils in the Stone Area.

Town and parish councils consider carefully the planning applications for their areas of responsibility and their recommendations to the LPA should be respected. If such a council objects to a particular planning application SBC should approve such an application only when there are overriding, specific planning or strategic considerations. Equally, if such a council makes no objection to a particular planning application SBC should reject such an application, again, only when there are overriding, specific planning or strategic considerations. In each case where SBC’s determination is contrary to the recommendation of a town or parish council, SBC should send an explanation to the council concerned as both a matter of courtesy and for enlightenment.

Furthermore, when a planning application comes before the SBC planning committee the interested town or parish council is given no more chance to make representations than any member of the public. Moreover, a request to speak from a town and parish council is given no priority over a request from any other person or organisation and may thus be denied any opportunity to speak at all.

The recently-published ‘*Statement of Community Involvement 2018 Update*’ emphasises repeatedly SBC’s “commitment to engaging with local people and other stakeholders.” The document describes the planning application process including consultation activity with ‘relevant parties’. Town and Parish Councils are specifically included in the list of ‘Specific Consultation Bodies’ listed at Appendix 1 and Appendix 3 to this document.

The Stone Area Parish Liaison Group has the following suggestions for improvement to help SBC better meet its aspirations as set out in the ‘*Statement of Community Involvement 2018 Update*’ :

1. Whenever SBC’s determination of a planning application is contrary to the recommendation of a town or parish council, SBC should send an explanation to the council concerned.
2. Whenever a planning application comes before the SBC Planning committee the relevant town or parish should have an absolute right to address the committee for at least five minutes.

Would you please advise the process that the Stone Area Parish Liaison Group should follow to bring these improvement suggestions to the attention of SBC for consideration and action.”

Stone Town Council - Non-Cheque Payments

The table below lists 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 items can be seen by any Member on request.

Date	Reference	Supplier	Description	Amount	Month
02/01/2019	R053/18	Miscellaneous	Credit against account	-£2.08	Jan-19
02/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/021	Prism Solutions	Analogue line - FJC	£46.69	Jan-19
03/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/021	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - Market Square	£171.00	Jan-19
03/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/021	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - Northesk St Car Park	£116.00	Jan-19
03/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/021	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - STN	£216.00	Jan-19
03/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/021	Stafford Borough Council	Rates Crown Wharf Car Park	£267.00	Jan-19
03/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/021	Stafford Borough Council	Rates - FJC	£418.00	Jan-19
07/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/021	EE	Caretaker's mobile - STN	£25.32	Jan-19
07/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/021	EE	Caretaker's mobile - FJC	£25.32	Jan-19
08/01/2019	Elec 18/023	Miscellaneous	Safe for insurance purposes	£350.00	Jan-19
09/01/2019	Elec 18/023	Community Link	Signs for community bus	£45.00	Jan-19
10/01/2019	Elec 18/023	Current Electrical & Property Services	Setting up of marquees - Dec 18	£430.00	Jan-19
16/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/021	British Gas	Electricity FJC 24 Sept-23Dec 18	£457.38	Jan-19
21/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/022	British Gas	Gas - STN - Dec 18	£334.77	Jan-19
22/01/2019	R055/18	Miscellaneous	Mayor's Quiz tickets	-£25.00	Jan-19
22/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/022	British Gas	Elec-STN-Dec 18	£93.66	Jan-19
24/01/2019	R055/18	Miscellaneous	Mayor's Quiz tickets	-£20.83	Jan-19
25/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/022	Prism Solutions	ICT Provision	£481.54	Jan-19
31/01/2019	Elec 18/023	Miscellaneous	Call out to leak - Hub/ new stop cock	£202.93	Jan-19
31/01/2019	D/Dbt 18/022	NatWest	Bank charges	£55.92	Jan-19