

# Stone Town Council – Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee

## Minutes of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 13 August 2019

**PRESENT:** Councillor Mrs J. Hood in the Chair and  
Councillors: T. Adamson, I. Fordham, M. Green, R. Kenney, P. Leason and  
J. Powell

By Chairman's invitation: J. Hickling and T. Kelt

**ABSENT:** Councillors: A. Best, J. Davies and C. Thornicroft

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**TTP20/012**    **Apologies**

Councillors: A. Best, J. Davies and C. Thornicroft

**TTP20/013**    **Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensation**

None received

**TTP20/014**    **Representations from Members of the Public**

None

**TTP20/015**    **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

That the minutes of the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee meeting held on the 18 June 2019 (Minute Numbers TTP20/001 – TTP20/011), be approved as a correct record.

**TTP20/016**    **Music Festival**

Councillor Mrs Hood gave a report on the Annual Music Festival held on 13 July. She said the event had been well attended and very professionally organised. The morning had been most enjoyable with children singing and their families in attendance, but the bands performing in the afternoon had all played music of a similar genre which hadn't suited people with more mainstream preferences.

It was also stated that there were a disappointing number of buskers in attendance.

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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.

Councillor Mrs Hood said the Festival had been a good one and a review meeting would be held to consider the improvements that might be possible for next year.

**TTP20/017**     **Calendar of Events**

Councillor Mrs Hood provided information on the events to be held in Stone during August, and their publicity.

Thirty five members of the Le Réveil Sablonnais Serriérois' Wind Orchestra, which hails from France, would be performing twice in Market Square tomorrow (14 August), and the Burma Star Commemorative Service and Parade will be held in Stonefield Park on Sunday 18 August 2019.

A point was raised about the Stone Traders Group leaflet containing inaccurate information and that it implied the events in Stone had been organised by the Group directly.

It was confirmed that planning for the Calendar of Events 2020-21 had already commenced and it was hoped that the new Marketing Assistant, when appointed, would make further contributions to this exercise.

**TTP20/018**     **SSAFA Event in September**

Councillor Mrs Hood provided information on the SSAFA Military Charity event on 14 September at the Crown Hotel. The RAF Tactical Supply Wing have arranged to bring an Oshkosh wheeled tanker to the High Street on the day and many military charities will also be involved. The event starts at 10am and finishes at 3pm.

**TTP20/019**     **Stone High Street on Sundays**

The Sub Committee considered solutions to the potential dangers to tourists and residents, caused by traffic in the High Street. An increasing number of motorists are using the High Street to park up while visiting shops in town, and as a thoroughfare to avoid queuing traffic on Christchurch Way. These practises are illegal.

The Sub-Committee noted that the road closure for the 'Stone by the Sea' event had enabled people to wonder around the High Street freely for a number of days with only one complaint made about the restricted access. This raised the question of whether the High Street (including the access via Mill Street) could be closed on a Sunday and whether permanent road closure to motor vehicles might be a possibility.

The Sub-Committee acknowledged that shops and businesses require access to their premises for receipt of deliveries, and traffic wardens and police officers could be asked to assist in tackling the issue.

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RECOMMENDED: That the issue of the dangers created by traffic in the High Street is referred to the General Purpose Committee's Traffic Management in the High Street Working Group.

**TTP20/020**     **Reports from Working Groups**

To receive a report from the Chairman of the Sub-Committee and working groups:

**Town Centre Appearance and Environment Working Group**

Councillor Fordham informed the Sub-Committee that he continues to receive comments from people saying how good the town centre is looking, which recognises the hard work and commitment delivered by the many community groups.

Stone in Bloom was given as an example of a group that makes a huge contribution to the appearance and environment of Stone and Councillor Fordham asked that the Town Council's grateful thanks are forwarded to its members. Councillor Mrs Hood, as a member herself, said she would pass the message of appreciation on to her colleagues.

**Town Centre Events and Attractions Working Group**

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that Mr A. Hollinshead had resigned from the Working Group.

Councillor Fordham provided the following updates from the Town Centre Events and Attractions Working Group:

- Renewal of advertising boards (Minute Number TTP20/006) – this item has not yet been considered.
- Advertising upcoming events (Minute Number TTP20/007) – this item would be considered by the new Marketing Assistant postholder.

**Town Centre Partnership**

Councillor Fordham advised that a meeting was planned in the near future.

**Chairman**

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