

**Town Clerk** 

Les Trigg

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29 October 2024

Dear Councillor,

A meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL** will be held in the **Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone**, on **TUESDAY 5 NOVEMBER 2024** at **7:00pm** for consideration of the matters itemised in the following agenda.

Les Trigg Town Clerk

# <u>Agenda</u>

- 1. To receive apologies for absence
- 2. Declarations of Interest
- 3. Requests for Dispensations Received
- 4. 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.

5. **To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the Meeting of the Town Council held** on 1 October 2024, Minute Numbers C25/046 – C25/057 (attached).

# 6. To receive the draft minutes and decisions of the under mentioned Committees:

- a) General Purposes Committee meeting held on 1 October 2024, Minute Numbers GP25/054 GP25/075 (attached).
- b) Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 1 October 2024, Minute Numbers PC25/025 PC25/030 (attached).
- 7. Local Government Transparency Code 2015
  Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014

Information for Quarter ending 30 September 2024 (attached).

- 8. To receive the forthcoming Civic Announcements (attached).
- 9. To receive the Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Reports of Engagements (attached).

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Town Council meeting as observers and/or to make representations to the committee in accordance with the Council's scheme of public participation. Details of the scheme are displayed in the Council's notice boards and website.

Please access the Council Chamber from the rear of the building.

# **Stone Town Council**

# Minutes of the Meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 1 October 2024

**PRESENT:** Councillor P. Leason in the Chair and

Councillors: A. Best, J. Davies, L. Davies, K. Dawson, I. Fordham, J. Hood, T. Kelt,

B. Kenney, R. Kenney, J. Metters and C. Thornicroft

Officers: L. Trigg, R. Edwards and T. Williams

ABSENT: Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Burgess, A. Mottershead, J. Powell, N. Powell and

R. Townsend

#### **Prayers**

Before the meeting began, Licensed Lay Reader, Councillor Mrs Lin Davies, led prayers.

# C25/046 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Mottershead, N. Powell and R. Townsend

# C25/047 Declarations of Interest

None received.

# C25/048 Requests for Dispensations

None received.

# C25/049 Representations from Members of the Public

None

# C25/050 Minutes

**RESOLVED:** 

a) That the minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Town Council held on 6 August 2024 (Minute Numbers C25/036 – C25/045), be approved as a correct record.

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

#### C25/051 Committee Minutes

#### **RESOLVED:**

- a) The draft minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 6 August 2024 (Minute Numbers GP25/039 GP25/053), were noted.
- b) The draft minutes of the Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 6 August 2024 (Minute Numbers PC25/019 PC25/024), were noted.

#### C25/052 Allotment Awards

The Town Mayor invited Allotments Judge, Mr David Moreton, to come forward to share his and fellow judge, Miss Hannah Rigden's observations following their visit to the Town Council's allotment sites on Friday 26 July 2024.

The Town Mayor thanked them for taking on the allotment judging role which proved every year to be a very difficult task. Councillor Leason had accompanied the judges on the day and had witnessed firsthand the immaculate plots and wide variety of quality produce being grown.

David firstly thanked the Town Council for inviting him and Hannah to judge the allotment competition. He said they had felt privileged to be asked and had enjoyed spending a summer's afternoon looking over the gardens.

He paid tribute to their predecessor, Martin Robinson, who had been a hugely knowledgeable, discerning and fair judge. A very hard act to follow.

David advised the Town Council that it had felt almost intrusive to be making comments on individuals' hard work with gardens being very personal spaces, reflecting peoples' character, skills, tastes, time and priorities. He said it was clear to see what the plots meant to people, generating pride in what had been grown, health benefits of being outdoors and mental wellbeing from working with plants, or just being amongst them.

David pointed out that 2024 had been a difficult year for gardening. The wet start to the year and then the cold nights into the early summer meant slow growth and pest problems. Nevertheless, the lusciousness of the beans, brassicas courgettes, fruit and flowers were something to be envious of.

He and Hannah found traditional allotments with immaculate vegetables, tidy beds and exuberant flowers. They also found people who had held their plots for just a short time and were starting to make their mark. They were aware of the strong sense of community present.

David informed the Town Council that he and Hannah believed the allotments they had chosen were the best on the day, combining quality, diversity, kindness

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

to nature & the environment, and clearly demonstrating the enjoyment of the allotmenteer.

The Town Mayor accompanied by David, awarded prizes to the following allotment winners and congratulated each on their achievements:

Best Kept Allotment Winner at Newcastle Road – Mr & Mrs Hollinshead 'This was a standout allotment fulfilling all elements; vegetables, flowers, herbs, fruit, recycling and a place to sit and enjoy it. A real 'garden' feel'.

Best Kept Allotment Winner at Mount Road – Mr & Mrs Simpson 'This allotment had a good mix of vegetables, fruit and flowers, a patch of wildflowers and a place to sit. The overall feel was a great balance of friendly, productive, informal and kind to the environment'.

Best Kept Allotment Highly Commended at Newcastle Road – Mr Downing 'A beautifully kept allotment with quality vegetables, brassicas, sweetcorn and sweet peas. Clearly much loved'.

Best Kept Allotment Highly Commended at Mount Road – Miss Rushton 'An allotment full of personality, vegetables, flowers, use of recycled materials. It is obviously much loved'.

The Town Mayor expressed the Town Council's thanks once again to David and Hannah and congratulated the competition winners for their achievements.

#### **C25/053** Conclusion of Audit 2023-24

**RESOLVED:** 

The Town Council noted the External Auditor's Report\* and Certificate\* for the year ending 31 March 2024.

#### C25/054 Civic Announcements

The Civic Announcements, which had previously been circulated, were noted.

#### C25/055 Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's Reports of Engagements

The Town Mayor's and Deputy Town Mayor's reports of engagements, which had previously been circulated, were noted.

The Town Mayor drew the Council's attention to the recent flooding in Bagnacavallo and that a letter had been sent to the Mayor of Bagnacavallo expressing his and the Town Council's condolences and good wishes.

The Town Mayor informed the Town Council about the engagements he had recently attended. This included the Florence Brass Band Concert and Burma Star

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

Commemoration in Stone Field Park on Sunday 18 August, and the Summer Street Party on Saturday 31 August 2024 with the Silver Medal Olympians from Stone attending as guests of honour.

The Town Mayor had attended the BBC Radio Stoke 'Make a Different Awards' on Friday 6 September 2024 where he had been humbled to hear about the services given by individuals to their local communities.

The Town Mayor had attended two Battle of Britian events, one hosted by the RAF Tactical Supply Wing at Beacon Barracks on Thursday 12 September, and the other hosted by the Mayor of Stafford Borough Council on Sunday 15 September 2024, which were both enjoyable and moving experiences.

The Deputy Town Mayor had no report on this occasion.

The meeting was temporarily suspended and then reconvened after the public and private sessions of the General Purposes Committee, and the Planning Consultative Committee meetings had taken place.

# C25/056 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To resolve, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting whilst the next items of business are 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 next item of business.

#### C25/057 Confidential Minutes

The Confidential Minutes of the General Purposes Committee held on 6 August 2024, Minute Numbers GP25/039 and GP25/053 were noted.

**TOWN MAYOR** 

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

# Stone Town Council – General Purposes Committee

# Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 1 October 2024

**PRESENT:** Councillor R. Kenney in the Chair, and

Councillors: A. Best, J. Davies, L. Davies, K. Dawson, I. Fordham, J. Hood, T. Kelt,

B. Kenney, P. Leason, J. Metters and C. Thornicroft

Officers: L. Trigg, R. Edwards and T. Williams

ABSENT: Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Burgess, A. Mottershead, J. Powell, N. Powell and

R. Townsend

#### GP25/054 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Mottershead, N. Powell and R. Townsend.

Where a reason for absence is given, this reason was approved for the purposes of Section 85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972.

#### **GP25/055** Declarations of Interest

None

# **GP25/056** Requests for Dispensations

None

# **GP25/057** To receive the report of the County Councillors

# **County Councillor Jill Hood**

The Chairman invited Councillor Hood to address the Committee.

#### Road Resurfacing and Pothole Repairs

Councillor Hood advised the Committee that she had been contacted by several residents asking to know the reason Staffordshire County Council were resurfacing some roads when work didn't appear to be needed and many potholes in other areas of the town were badly in need of repair.

Councillor Hood said that programmed resurfacing works was organised to take place on an 11-to-15-year cycle, irrespective of the condition of the road, as a way of managing the network and hopefully ensuring it will last until the next resurfacing programme. In contrast, repairs to pothole and road defects depended on members of the public reporting them to the County. She said there had been a lot of complaints about the road surface in Mount Street which was in a bad way.

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

#### Endometriosis in Women

Councillor Hood advised the Committee that the County Council had been working on a paper about endometriosis, a condition suffered by females where tissue normally covering the inside of the uterus, grows outside (in areas such as the ovaries, fallopian tubes, intestines, bladder and bowel) causing pelvic pain and heavy bleeding.

The County has been working with agencies of the NHS to highlight the problem women are having in receiving late diagnoses (which is taking on average eight years and ten months) and to try to understand how women can manage their symptoms in the workplace.

Councillor Hood said that she would distribute the paper to Town Councillors when it became available.

#### **High Street Bollards**

Councillor Hood said she was thrilled the bollards at the top of the High Street were now being installed on Saturdays which was making a difference to the safety of pedestrians in the town. She said she was hopeful the bollards would soon be installed routinely on Sundays as well.

# **County Councillor I. Parry**

Councillor Parry was not in attendance at the meeting.

# **GP25/058** To receive the report of Borough Councillors

The Chairman invited Borough Councillors to address the Committee but there was no report presently.

# **GP25/059** Representations from Members of the Public

None

#### **GP25/060** Minutes

**RESOLVED:** 

That the minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 6 August 2024 (Minute Numbers GP25/039 – GP25/053), be approved as a correct record.

# **GP25/061** Minutes of Sub-Committees

- Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee held on 17 September 2024 (Minute Numbers TTP25/009 – TTP25/015), that the draft minutes be noted.
- b) Environment Sub-Committee held on 17 September 2024 (Minute Numbers ENV25/011 ENV25/018), that the draft minutes be noted.
- c) Estates Sub-Committee held on 17 September 2024 (Minute Numbers EST25/001 EST25/008), that the draft minutes be noted.

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

#### **GP25/062** Financial Regulations

The Committee considered new model financial regulations recently published by NALC for town and parish councils which were proposed by NALC for adoption following adjustments to accommodate local needs. A copy of the model financial regulations had been enclosed with the agenda for the meeting.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that after undertaking an initial review of the financial regulations, which seemed to be primarily aimed at smaller parish councils, he recommended that consideration of any changes to the Council's current Financial Regulations be deferred until February/March 2025 when the annual review of both Financial Regulations and Standing Orders would normally take place.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council adopts the recommendation of the Town Clerk to defer consideration of any changes to financial regulations until February/March 2025.

# GP25/063 Health & Safety Audit

The Committee considered the Town Council's updated Health and Safety Policy and Handbook prepared by health and safety consultants. Both documents had been enclosed with the agenda for the meeting.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that the Town Council employed health and safety consultants to provide advice and represent the Council on any health and safety issues that may arise.

RESOLVED: That the Committee accepts the updated Health and Safety Policy and Handbook without amendment.

# **GP25/064 Grievance Procedure**

The Committee considered the Town Council's updated Grievance Procedure which had been enclosed with the agenda for the meeting.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that from October 2024, employers will be under a new statutory duty to take "reasonable steps" to prevent sexual harassment within the workplace. One of these steps is to ensure that appropriate procedures are in place to deal with any allegations of sexual harassment.

Following guidance received from the Staffordshire Parish Council's Association regarding what a sexual harassment policy/procedure needed to contain, the Council's Grievance Procedure had been updated to meet the needs of the new statutory duty.

The Town Clerk advised the Committee that the updated Grievance Procedure also provided a better balance for the protection of the person accused as well as the accuser and set out the lines of reporting in the event of an issue.

RESOLVED: That the Town Council's updated Grievance Procedure is adopted without amendment.

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#### **GP25/065** Friendship Agreement Working Group

The Committee considered the appointment of members and a co-ordinator to a Friendship Agreement Working Group which had been recommended to the Committee by the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee at its meeting on 16 July 2024 (Minute Reference TTP25/007).

The Working Group will report to the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee and its purpose will be to develop a friendship policy between Stone and other towns, nations or bodies.

RESOLVED: That the following Members be appointed to the Friendship Agreement Working Group:

Councillors: J. Davies, L. Davies, J. Hood, J. Metters and R. Townsend. The Town Mayor and the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee are exofficio members of all committees, sub-committees and working groups.

RESOLVED: That Councillor J. Davies is nominated as co-ordinator to the Friendship Agreement Working Group.

# GP25/066 VE Day Working Group

The Committee considered the appointment of a VE Day Working Group which had been recommended to the Committee by the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee at its meeting on 17 September 2024 (Minute Reference TTP25/014).

The Working Group will report to the Tourism & Town Promotion Sub-Committee and its purpose will be to develop the Town Council's arrangements for the Victory in Europe Day on (known as VE Day) commemorating the end of World War II in Europe and celebrated on Thursday 8 May 2025.

RESOLVED: That the following Members be appointed to the VE Day Working Group:

Councillors: J. Davies, L. Davies and J. Hood.

The Town Mayor and the Chairman of the General Purposes Committee are exofficio members of all committees, sub-committees and working groups.

RESOLVED: That Councillor J. Davies is nominated as co-ordinator to the VE Day Working Group.

# **GP25/067** <u>Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service Consultation</u>

The Committee considered a Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service consultation on its Community Risk Management Plan 2025-28 outlining how the Service will manage the many different risks within the county.

An email from the Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service and a summary of the draft Management Plan 2025-2028 had been enclosed with the agenda for the meeting. A link to the draft Community Risk Management Plan 2025-2028 (in full) and survey had also been provided.

<sup>\*</sup> 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: That each Councillor be invited to put forward their own individual views on the Staffordshire Fire & Rescue Service Management Plan 2025-28 and that no collective Town Council response be submitted.

# **GP25/068** Policing and Fire & Rescue Consultation

The Committee considered a Policing and Fire & Rescue consultation on the key priorities in the Staffordshire Commissioner's Police & Crime Plan, and Fire & Rescue Plan 2024-28.

An email from the Staffordshire Commissioner and copies of the full draft Police & Crime Plan, and the Fire & Rescue Plan 2024-28, had been enclosed with the agenda for the meeting.

A member of the Committee questioned the withdrawal of the community room as a community facility at the Fire Station and whether this course of action was in in line with the Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract for its construction.

RESOLVED: That each Councillor be invited to put forward their own individual views on the Staffordshire Commissioner's consultations and that no collective Town Council response be submitted.

# **GP25/069** Heritage Centre

The Committee considered an update on Stone Heritage Centre.

The Town Clerk informed the Committee that he had received a progress report from the Heritage Centre Manager which included the following items:

- Building CCTV was in place, fire and gas safety assessments have been done, building insurance assessments have been made, the kitchen is fully equipped, tables and chairs have been received, the security system has been activated, display units are in place and the Heritage Centre Manager is first aid trained.
- Collections The Heritage Centre Manager is in discussions about collections and is calling a collections group meeting of the Steering Group within the next week or two.
- Loans The Heritage Centre Manager is recommending the Town Council take a loans approach to exhibitions rather than an owning one. The small room will be dedicated to the story of Stone and will always relate to Stone. The details of the process for loaning will be discussed with the Steering Group after the collections group meeting.
- Remembrance Sunday Opening The Heritage Centre Manager has
  proposed opening the Heritage Centre on Remembrance Sunday with a
  Remembrance display on WW1 and WW2. During the exhibition he will
  take the opportunity to ask people whether they have items they would
  like to loan to the Town Council for future display at the Heritage Centre.
- Photographic and Art Exhibition The Heritage Centre Manager is in discussion with the U3A Photographic Society with a view to creating an

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

exhibition of their work based on Stone. He is also talking to the Staffordshire Society of Artists for a similar artistic presentation, sometime next year.

- The Heritage Centre Manger has started the process of accreditation which takes three to four years.
- The visitor numbers now total 363 (and are getting closer to the target of 500 visitors by December 2024) following the recent photographic exhibition, Operation Overlord exhibition and school visits. Further invitations have been sent to the Scout and Guiding groups to visit the centre.

# **GP25/070** Town Council Payments

RESOLVED: To note the list\* of Town Council payments made during the period 1 July to 31 August 2024.

# **GP25/071 Update from Working Groups:**

#### **Stone Heritage Centre Steering Group**

There was no additional update from the Steering Group.

# **Engagement with Young People**

Councillor Dawson had no new information on the work of the working group, on this occasion.

# GP25/072 To receive reports from Town Councillors on attendance at meetings of local organisations and outside bodies as a representative of the Town Council

#### **Stone Area Parish Liaison Group**

Councillor J. Davies advised the Committee that he was looking to hold the next meeting of the Liaison Group at the Heritage Centre in November 2024.

#### **Stone ATC**

Councillor J. Davies advised the Committee that the Squadron was doing very well and was keenly attended by lots of cadets. The Town Mayor and Councillor Davies will be attending the 2352 Sqn, Air Training Corps Dinner in a few weeks' time.

# Age Concern Stone & District

Councillor Thornicroft advised the Committee that there had been no meeting of Age Concern Stone & District.

#### Stafford & Stone Access Group

Councillor Kelt advised the Committee that the next meeting of Stafford & Stone Access Group would be held on 28 October 2024.

#### **Stone Common Plot Trustees**

Councillor Hood advised the Committee that there had been no meeting.

# **Stone Community Hub Liaison Group**

Councillor Hood advised the Committee that no meeting of the Hub Liaison Group had taken place.

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#### **SPCA Executive Committee**

Councillor Kelt advised the Committee that the last meeting had taken place on 2 September, but he had not been able to attend. The draft minutes indicated that the topics discussed included working with the Government to reduce the speed to 40 mph on rural roads which wasn't supported by the group. The Committee also looked at the Local Transport Plan. The next meeting will take place on 2 December and the AGM will be held on 16 December 2024.

# **Stone Traders Group Directors' Meeting**

Councillor Hood advised the Committee that no meeting had taken place.

#### West Midlands Railway and other rail matters

Councillor Kelt advised the Committee that he had nothing new to report since the last meeting.

The meeting was suspended and reconvened after the Planning Consultative Committee meeting.

# GP25/073 Exclusion of the Press and Public

To resolve, pursuant to the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting whilst the next items of business are 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 next items of business.

# **GP25/074** Confidential Minutes

**RESOLVED:** 

That the Confidential Minutes of the General Purposes Committee meeting held on 6 August 2024, Minute Numbers GP25/039 and GP25/053 be approved.

# **GP25/075** Confidential Minutes of Sub-Committees

a) Estates Sub-Committee Meeting held on 17 September 2024, Minute Numbers: EST25/001 and EST25/007 and EST25/008.

RESOLVED: To note the draft Minutes.

<u>CHAIRMAN</u>

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

# **Stone Town Council – Planning Consultative Committee**

# Minutes of the meeting held in the Council Chamber at 15 Station Road, Stone, on Tuesday 1 October 2024

**PRESENT:** Councillor T. Kelt in the Chair, and

Councillors: A. Best, J. Davies, L. Davies, K. Dawson, I. Fordham, J. Hood,

B. Kenney, R. Kenney, P. Leason, J. Metters and C. Thornicroft

Officers: L. Trigg, R. Edwards and T. Williams

ABSENT: Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Burgess, A. Mottershead, J. Powell, N. Powell

and R. Townsend

# PC25/025 Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors: J. Battrick, A. Mottershead, N. Powell and R. Townsend

# PC25/026 <u>Declarations of Interest and Requests for Dispensations</u>

Councillor I. Fordham advised the Committee that as a member of Stafford Borough Council's Planning Committee, he would not speak or vote on the planning applications listed on the agenda.

#### PC25/027 Representations from Members of the Public

None

# PC25/028 Minutes

**RESOLVED:** 

That the minutes of the Planning Consultative Committee meeting held on 6 August 2024 (Minute Numbers PC25/019 – PC25/024), be approved as a correct record.

# PC25/029 Planning Applications

**Application Number** – 24/39448/LBC

**Applicant** – Mr P. Parsons

Location – Flat 4 Westbridge House, 22 Stafford Street, Stone

**Development** – Two like for like replacement windows (same style, number of glass panes, same materials (wood and glass), same colour and single glazed).

**Observations:** No objections

Application Number - 24/39468/FUL

Applicant - Ms K. Lavender

Location - 5 Globe Court, Newcastle Street, Stone

**Development** – Ground floor change of use from residential to business (pottery/teaching studio) and a painted sign to be painted on the front of the building (in conjunction with 24/39470/ADV).

**Observations:** No objections

**Application Number** – 24/39470/ADV

**Applicant** – Ms K. Lavender

Location - 5 Globe Court, Newcastle Street, Stone

**Development** – Ground floor change of use from residential to business (pottery/teaching studio) and a painted sign to be painted on the front of the building

**Observations:** No objections

Application Number – 24/39598/POTH

Applicant – Arthur Roberts and Sons Ltd

Location – 3 Joules Passage, Crown Street, Stone

Development – Change of use from nail bar treatment rooms (granted in 2019) to its original use as a 1-bedroom flat.

**Observations:** No objections are raised provided the applicant fulfils appropriate planning design guidelines for the storage of refuse bins outside the premises, and the necessary health and safety requirements in relation to access and mitigating the risks from fire.

#### PC25/030

To note the following items considered under delegated powers where no objections were forwarded to Stafford Borough Council due to no Member asking for the item to be considered by a special meeting of the Committee.

**Application Number** – 24/39472/HOU **Applicant** – Mr & Mrs B. Wheat **Location** – 1 Claremont Close, Stone

**Development** – Two storey and single storey extension to side with conversion of existing garage with internal alterations.

**Observations:** No comments have been made on this planning application.



Meeting: Council

Date: 5th November 2024

Report of: Town Clerk

Transparency Code and Openness of Local Government Bodies
Regulations - Information for Quarter Ended 30 September 2024

# **Local Government Transparency Code 2015**

#### **Procurement Information**

1. Invitations to Tender for Contracts Exceeding £5,000

None

2. Contracted Agreements Exceeding £5,000

None

# **Payment Information**

The attached appendix sets out all Council payments for the period over £250, excluding salary and related payments, payments from the Mayor's Charity and transfers between the Council's bank accounts.

# **Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014**

Decisions that would otherwise have been taken by the Town Council or one of its Committees that have been delegated to an officer:

- 1. Under a specific express authorisation; or
- 2. Under a general authorisation to officers to take such decisions and, the effect of the decision is to:
  - a. grant a permission or licence;
  - b. affect the rights of an individual; or
  - c. award a contract or incur expenditure which, in either case, materially affects the Town Council's financial position.

- None

Date: 15/10/2024 Time: 10:49:22

# Stone Town Council - Payments over £250

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The table below lists payments over £250 made by the Council in the period identified.

The table includes payments by cheque, direct debit, PayPal, payment card, 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. All amounts exclude VAT.

Payment Date From: 01/07/2024 Payment Date To: 30/09/2024

Payment Date	Reference	Supplier	Description	Amount (£)
02/07/2024	STC/DL14042024-2	The Puppet Tree	Puppet Tree Event 29.06.24	2,000.00
03/07/2024	SBC	Stafford Borough Council	SBC Rates FJC July 2024	279.00
09/07/2024	00906908	VALDA ENERGY	SSTN Elec Usage - 01/07 to 31/07/24	407.27
10/07/2024	713392024607887	Pozitive Energy	SSTN - Elec Usage - 01.06 to 30.06.24	454.70
11/07/2024	5320	Christmas Plus	Festive display hire 2023/2024	7,650.00
11/07/2024	Inv1786	The Secret Kitchen	Catering for Civic Sunday 2024	1,072.00
11/07/2024	SI-3896	Access Displays Ltd	HC Grant - Display cases	464.00
18/07/2024	INV-MCR2552	MICHAELS Civic Outfitters	Past Mayors/Deputy Consort badges	571.00
18/07/2024	50014	Panda Press (Stone) Ltd	Civic Order of Service 2024	271.00
19/07/2024	Cancel	VALDA ENERGY	Elec Usage FJC - 01.07 to 31.07.24	621.90
19/07/2024	INV0915	The Mill at Stone	Portuguese Evening July 24	1,242.62
20/07/2024	Cancel	Pozitive Energy	SSTN - Elec Usage - 01.06 to 30.06.24	454.70
24/07/2024	DPC - B&Q	Miscellaneous	Portable Tables and benches for town events	266.58
24/07/2024	24179	West Midlands Employers	WMEmployers Corp Mship Bronze 24/25	500.00
24/07/2024	24250265	bruynzeel	Heritage Centre - Storage shelving	1,292.00
25/07/2024	200990	Prism Solutions	Prism IT Managed Service - Aug 24	1,225.77
26/07/2024	6925	CIRCUS SENSIBLE	3 Day Circus workshop August 24	1,200.00
26/07/2024	10522256	Chubb Fire	FJC Fire ext service 24/25	402.21

Date: 15/10/2024 Time: 10:49:22

# Stone Town Council - Payments over £250

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Payment Date	Reference	Supplier	Description	Amount (£)
26/07/2024	10522179	Chubb Fire	SSTN Fire Ext Service 24/25	254.19
30/07/2024	76	PINK FACES	Facepainting on 19/20/21 Aug - Circus Skills Event	360.00
02/08/2024	50166	Panda Press (Stone) Ltd	HC - Operation Overlord Display Panel	264.00
02/08/2024	SIN2783086	PPL PRS Music Rights	PRS/PPL for High Street Events	342.71
16/08/2024	71510	Champions (UK) Plc	Real Magic Queen - Music Event 31.08.24	1,000.00
16/08/2024	INV19327116	Sage UK Ltd	Sage payroll Subscription 2024/25	420.00
18/08/2024	751600	WM Morrisons Supermarket Ltd	Cream Teas for Stonefield Park Event	290.83
19/08/2024	00944443	VALDA ENERGY	SSTN Elec 1 Aug to 31 Aug	459.54
19/08/2024	00944443	VALDA ENERGY	FJC Gas 1 Jul to 31 Aug	359.47
20/08/2024	STO00097233	West Midlands Employers	WMEmployers Ad for Marketing and Events Organiser	440.00
20/08/2024	0000208603	Canal & River Trust	Annual Rental- Waterpipe on towpath Newcastle Road	250.00
20/08/2024	CSST416329	Hylands	Grant HC - Fridge and Microwave	308.16
27/08/2024	202686	Prism Solutions	Prism IT Managed Service - Sept 24	1,238.64
29/08/2024	SIA541872	Reach Publishing	Reach Ad for Marketing and Events Organiser	675.00
30/08/2024	VZB06-290824	Miscellaneous	The Vanz Band - Music Event 31.08.24	300.00
30/08/2024	7070295264	Stafford Borough Council	Office Annual Service Charge 2023/24	6,053.79
02/09/2024	166418	Ritchie	Grant HC - Cups, mugs, plates for HC	793.80
03/09/2024	1560	Glawton Ltd TA XSEvents	Balance of Stage & Lighting Hire - Stone Music Event	1,400.00
03/09/2024	11512	CAM-TEC LTD	FJC - CCTV maint contract to 19.09.25	385.00
03/09/2024	STC01-024	Murphy's Marbles	Murphy's Marbles Performance at Music Event 31.08.24	475.00
03/09/2024	INV000220	Hearts Cross Medical	Medical Support at Music Event 31.08.24	425.00
05/09/2024	3108-24	J & S Security Services	10 Security Staff for Music Event 31.08.24	1,087.50
05/09/2024	556	Hazzard Promotions	Sound System hire for Music Event Aug 24	800.00
05/09/2024	INV-1051	CE & PS Ltd	Temp power supply and barriers for Music Festival Aug	696.60
05/09/2024	21115	ABSOLUTE MUSEUM AND GALLERY	Heritage Ctre - Picture rail hanging system	870.83

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# Stone Town Council - Payments over £250

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Payment Date	Reference	Supplier	Description	Amount (£)
09/09/2024	34	MJ Plant	Grounds Maint of Amp, Cm, MR, Abbey St and bridge -	1,732.00
09/09/2024	35	MJ Plant	Grounds Maint of Amp, CM, MR, Abbey St and bridge -	1,732.00
09/09/2024	36	MJ Plant	Grounds Maint of Amp, CM, MR, Abbey St and bridge -	1,732.00
09/09/2024	39	MJ Plant	Cleaning and Maint of CM benches	430.00
09/09/2024	5367	Christmas Plus	Replace Christmas lights at Walton Roundabout	650.00
09/09/2024	43	MJ Plant	Marquee setup - Aug 24	1,455.00
09/09/2024	42	MJ Plant	Marquee setup - July 24	597.50
09/09/2024	40	MJ Plant	Bench painting, along the canal opposite The Star	665.00
09/09/2024	41	MJ Plant	Marquee setup - June 24	877.50
09/09/2024	37	MJ Plant	Annual grass cutting - Crown Meadow	551.00
09/09/2024	00980978	VALDA ENERGY	SSTN Elec usage 01.09 to 30.09	403.54
12/09/2024	128417	B Hygienic Ltd	FJC Annual hygiene contract to 31.08.2025	644.00
19/09/2024	31082024	Samantha Lloyd Music	Compere - 31.08.24 Music Event	400.00
19/09/2024	00980978	VALDA ENERGY	SSTN Elec usage 01.09 to 30.09	403.54
19/09/2024	00980978	VALDA ENERGY	FJC Elec Usage 01.09 to 30.09.24	272.69
23/09/2024	INV0629012	Furniture@Work	Grant Heritage Centre - 3 x green floor screens	534.00
23/09/2024	400523750	Alfafado Ltd TA batterystation.co.uk	300 Christmas Tree Light Batteries	292.04
24/09/2024	INV0629195	Furniture@Work	Grant Heritage Centre - 40 Chairs	1,210.00
25/09/2024	204398	Prism Solutions	Prism IT Managed Service - Oct 24	1,231.05
30/09/2024	7070295450	Stafford Borough Council	Install/Remove Bollards - Jul - Sept 2024	471.90
				56,609.57

# 5 November 2024 CIVIC ANNOUNCEMENTS

# **Town Mayor**

Friday 8 November 2024	Crown Wharf Theatre Grand Opening at Crown Wharf Brewery Tap	
Saturday 9 November 2024	Stone Choral Society's Elgar's The Music Makers and Poulenc's Gloria	
Sunday 10 November 2024	Remembrance Sunday in Stone	
Monday 11 November 2024	Armistice Day Commemoration in Stone	
Tuesday 12 November 2024	4 <sup>th</sup> Stone Brownies visit to the Council Chamber	
Saturday 16 November 2024	Cheadle Christmas Lights Switch-On	
Saturday 16 November 2024	Ashbourne Christmas Lights Switch-On	
Friday 22 November 2024	Uttoxeter Christmas Lights Switch-On	
Sunday 24 November 2024	Army Benevolent Fund Stafford Curry Lunch	
Thursday 28 November 2024	Stone Flower Club's Diamond Anniversary	
1 to 24 December 2024	Christ Church Advent Window Openings which will take place every day at different locations in the town (see programme for locations)	
Tuesday 3 December 2024	Girlguiding Staffordshire Annual Review	
Sunday 8 December 2024	Stone Town Mayor's Civic Carol Service at St Michael & St Wulfad's Church	

# **Deputy Mayor**

No engagements on this occasion

#### TOWN MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS – 5 November 2024

# Monday 23rd September - Visit to the Council Chamber by 1st Walton Rainbows

The girls thoroughly enjoyed their visit seeing the things on display in the Chamber and they particularly liked sitting in the large chair and banging the gavel.

# Thursday 26th September - Staffordshire Moorlands Chairman's Curry Night

It is the first time that I have been to Thornbury Hall at Kingsley Holt. It was a relaxed and informal evening with superb food.

# Sunday 29th September - Cannock Chase Chairman's Civic Service

The Chairman's Civic Service was held in St. Luke's Church, Cannock, a very nice church with some interesting memorial windows of the 1st World War.

The tables at the reception afterwards were named after the former coal mines in the area and contained various mining artefacts. There was also a superb footballing trophy on display that the various miners teams competed for annually.

# Monday 30th September – Celebration of the work of Stafford & District Bereavement and Loss Support Service

Over the years I have been aware of the superb work that this group has undertaken, and more recently with a group that meets in Stone. It was therefore a real pleasure to attend the celebration of the work of the charity.

# Thursday 3rd October – Stone Alzheimer's Club 18th Birthday Party

I remember when this group was established, and I have attended a variety of their functions over the years. They really do a fantastic job helping and supporting both those suffering from this disease and their carers. They have recently started additional services including legal advice, hair dressing etc.

# Friday 4th October - Monday 7th October - H.M.S. St Vincent Association Weekend in Portsmouth

A superb weekend meeting members and attending their AGM, their annual dinner, and a boat trip around Portsmouth harbour and seeing the new aircraft carrier HMS Queen Elizabeth. I also attended Morning Service (which also happened to be Harvest Festival) in St. Ann's church in the Royal Naval Dockyard.

# Tuesday 8th October – Opening of the Michaelmas Term of Stafford Crown Court

An interesting ancient ceremony. It is good that Staffordshire is still one of the counties that holds such a ceremony for each legal term. It was a real honour to attend.

# Saturday 12th October – Fulford Community Choir Massed Voice event

A wonderful concert in Longton Methodist Central Hall. Six choirs from the area joined together with over 200 people taking part. A real fabulous evening and it was nice to see the Fulford Choir taking part - a number of members of which live in Stone.

# Sunday 13th October – Eccleshall Parish Council's Civic Service

Held in St. Paul's Church at Croxton.

# Friday 18th October - East Staffordshire Mayor's Charity Barn Dance

Held in Burton Town Hall with an Irish band and a caller. A fun evening which raised a substantial amount for the Mayor's charity.

# Saturday 19th October – Trafalgar Night Dinner at the Mill

A wonderful evening with superb food and entertainment from the Staffordshire Community Choir. It was attended by most of the Civic Heads in the County. Particular thanks must go to Trudy for all her hard work in arranging the evening.

# Tuesday 22nd October – Stone Scribblers' Staffordshire History Festival Event

The Scribblers are a group of people who meet in Stone Library and write short articles on various topics. As part of the History Festival a number of members wrote articles on various aspects of the town and county's histories. A most interesting afternoon.

# Friday 25th October - 2352 (Stone) Squadron ATC - Dinning In Event

Held at Aston Marina - a very enjoyable evening meeting various ATC cadets and their leaders. It is fantastic that the Cadets have the opportunity to take part in the variety of activities and learn new skills.

# Saturday 26th October - Stone Lions Club's "Last Night of the Proms" evening

The usual mix of patriotic songs and music and lots of flag waving. The music was provided by the Lea Hall Brass Band which was formerly the band from Lea Hall Power Station. The event was in aid of the Stone Community First Responders, and it is hoped the Band were able to raise a substantial amount for them.

#### **TOWN DEPUTY MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS – 5 November 2024**

No Deputy Town Mayor's report on this occasion