

## STAMFORD TOWN COUNCIL

### **MINUTES OF THE STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT MEETING HELD ON WEDNESDAY, 01 AUGUST 2018 AT 10.00AM IN THE TOWN HALL, STAMFORD**

**PRESENT** Councillor Andy Croft (Chairman)  
Councillor Bill Turner  
Councillor Mike Exton  
Councillor Tony Story  
Councillor Sheila Sismore

**Also in attendance:** Town Clerk  
Mary Davies – Tourist Information Centre  
Penny Rowley – Town Hall Guide  
Christine Berne – Town Hall Guide  
Chris Hunt – Town Hall Guide  
Lea Richard – Library Services

#### **TOURISM WORKING GROUP**

Apologies for absence were received from Annabel Morris and John Davis (Town Hall Guides)

**a. Stamford in Bloom**

Lea Richard confirmed that the Stamford in Bloom initiative has been a worthwhile project which has improved the cleanliness and attractiveness of the streets. The effort by the volunteers to nurture the plants is recognised and applauded. The feedback from the public has been very positive. It is understood that the scheme will continue throughout the year, so that next year's competition can build on the initial efforts.

**b. Browne's Hospital**

Mary Davies reported that the new Curator at Browne's hospital is investigating how best access can be increased. The Town Hall Guides offered to assist and support where possible.

**c. Heritage Weekend**

Chris Hunt reported on the various events which were supporting the Heritage weekend. It was noted that the Heritage Booklet was available and distributed to all at the meeting. It was suggested that the events could be included in the next edition of the Newsletter.

**d. Town Hall Tours**

Christine Berne believed that organised groups should not be scheduled on Friday when the free tours operated. In her opinion such tours should be chargeable. It was noted that the organised group in question were scheduled as such as it was in combination with a walking tour of Stamford. Organised tours are chargeable and scheduled on dates when guides were available.

Penny Rowley informed the meeting that the sale of the Guide Booklet is proving popular. During the Winter period there would be no tours operating between 29 November 2018 and 22 February 2019. It was suggested that during school holidays special children tours with activities may be arranged. It was recognised that the Malcolm Sargent Room remains out of commission pending redecoration. There was question as to whether the historic treasury chest would be relocated downstairs to the entrance hall. The Town Clerk understood that the Civic Officer has this matter already in hand with RAF Wittering. **Action:** Civic Officer

**10.25am** – the formal meeting commenced.

**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION** – None

**188. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE –**

Councillor H Bisnauthsing submitted his apologies; these were noted and accepted.

**189. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (Agenda Point 2)**

Councillor M Exton declared a Personal and Prejudicial Interest regarding any discussion relating to Browne’s Hospital as he is a Board Member.

**190. MINUTES**

The Notes of the Committee Meeting held on Wednesday, 04 July 2018, were confirmed as a true record of the meeting.

**191. ACTION POINTS**

The Committee considered the feedback on the following action points in hand:

- a. *Terracotta Coat of Arms* – The Chairman Councillor Andy Croft informed the meeting that he had spoken to Andrew Verona in respect of the provision of the surrounding stone, which would be free of charge. Discussion ensued, and it was recognised that a decision still had to be reached in respect of where the structure is to be installed. Councillor Exton suggested that the Cemetery would be the most suitable location but there was a consensus that it would not be the best location for the public viewing. Once all the details were collated a full discussion would need to be considered by the Skells Trustees as to whether St. Michael’s Churchyard should be a consideration. **Action:** Cllr Croft
- b. *Defibrillators* – The Town Clerk reported that all the freeholders of the buildings where the defibrillators are to be installed had granted permission and feedback from the Planning Authority is awaited before the devices could be fitted. **Action:** Town Clerk

**192. FEEDBACK ON MEETING WITH LAKESIDE HEALTH CARE**

Councillor Story informed the meeting that a meeting with Mr Simon Stitson – Hub Manager is scheduled on Friday 3 August and had requested that any points for discussion should be e-mailed to him. Councillor Sismore informed the meeting that a PPG meeting is due to be held early August. **Action:** Cllr Story

**193. TO CONSIDER HERITAGE WORKING GROUP PROJECTS**

- a. *Heritage Open Day and WWI Exhibition* – It was confirmed that the Town Hall would be open on Saturday 15 September between 10am and 4pm. Unfortunately, the inclusion of the dungeons may not be possible due to the renovation work. The Archivist will be consulted on the displays. Councillor Bill Turner informed the meeting that the Royal British Legion where holding a competition with Primary Schools related to WW1 and enquired whether the work submitted could be displayed at the Town Hall. It was the consensus that details should be communicated to the Town Clerk. The Town Clerk advised that the Administration Officer has requested assistance on the day and has had a few Councillors put their names forward and it was hoped that many more will come forward. In respect of the Malcolm Sargent Room, it was noted that confirmation

is anticipated in respect of a new contractor to undertake the work as the original contractor pulled out due to personal reasons. **Action:** Cllr Turner / Town Clerk /Administration Officer

**194. WEBSITE & NEWSLETTER**

- a. *Website* – The Town Clerk advised that this is updated by the Deputy Town Clerk and any new events should be directed to her to upload.
- b. *Newsletter* - The Chairman Councillor Croft confirmed that the next edition of the Newsletter is scheduled towards the end of August. He had consulted with the Civic Officer and it was understood that the content was nearly complete. There was suggestion that the next edition would carry a questionnaire to ascertain whether it was serving its purpose and the content was relevant. The Chairman suggested that Councillors could be involved in distribution within their wards. Feature items could be on the Heritage weekend; the recent Twinning event and forthcoming events. The Chairman stated that he would consult with the Civic Officer on his return from annual leave to prepare the document for proof reading.

**195. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

- a. *Browne's Hospital* – A letter from the Clerk to the Trustees of Browne's Hospital had been received and was discussed. The content was noted, and it was confirmed that arrangements at Browne's Hospital were being examined to see how they could be expanded. In the light of the resignation of the Stamford Mayor there was discussion as to what status the Deputy Mayor had at the quarterly Browne's meetings. It was noted that the Deputy Mayor was only present as an observer and could speak with the permission of the Chairman. It was agreed that the letter is acknowledge, the contents noted and the appointment of the new Curator is welcome. It was considered that he could be invited to a subsequent meeting with the Town Hall Guides who had offered their assistance if required.

10.50am - Councillor B Turner left the meeting

**196. MATTERS FOR CONSIDERATION AT NEXT MEETING**

Councillor Story asked whether the following two items which Councillor Sawyer had been managing were being pursued:

- i. Discussion with Cllr Kelham Cooke on the One Stop Shop initiative.
- ii. Additional flag poles at the War Memorial

The Town Clerk advised that in respect the One Stop Shop initiative, this is being taken forward by the Chairman of Finance under the Assets. In respect of the flag poles at the War Memorial, at the end of July the Town Council had determined that no decision would be taken until the British Legion had an opportunity to discuss the matter first.

**197. DATE OF NEXT MEETING:) – Wednesday, 05 September 2018 at 10am**

Chairman  
(The meeting closed at 11.00am)