

Councillor Jenny Barron (Mayor)

Present (for all or part of the meeting):-

Councillors:

Aspin K M
Beatty F E
Carter E L
Cooke R P
Cooper A G
Dodson M G
Edgeller A P
Edgeller P C
Fordham I D
Godfrey A T A
Hobbs A D
Hood J
James R A
Jones E G R
Jones P W
Kenney R
Loughran A M
McKeown B

McNaughton A R
McNaughton D M
Nixon A
Nixon J A
Nixon L
Pardesi G P K
Pearce A N
Pert J M
Phillips M
Powell J S
Read J P
Reid A F
Rose J T
Rouxel D P
Sandiford A J
Thorley J
Winnington M J

Officers in attendance:-

T Clegg	-	Chief Executive
I Curran	-	Head of Law and Governance
W Conaghan	-	Press and Communications Manager
J Dean	-	Democratic Services Officer

C34 Minutes

Minutes of the meeting held on 11 November 2025 were agreed as a true and correct record.

C35 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors B M Cross and P A Leason.

C36 Announcements

The Mayor thanked those Members who attended the charity appeal curry night on Tuesday 25 November 2025 which had raised over £500 for the charity appeal.

Continuing , the Mayor detailed the following forthcoming events for Members to note:-

- Borough Civic carol service to be held on Sunday 21 December 2025 at the Collegiate Church of St Mary, Stafford;
- Mayor's charity appeal 2025/26 charity quiz night to be held on Wednesday 4 February 2026, invites to be sent out shortly.

C37 Recommendations Referred from Cabinet

Council was requested to consider the recommendations from the Cabinet meeting held on 16 October 2025:

(i) Proposed Development of Rowley Park Sports Stadium Play Facilities - Minute No CAB34/25

“That:-

- (a) the allocation of existing off-site contributions under the terms of S106 agreements for the amount of £824,872, as laid out in paragraph 3.2 of the report for the enhancement of the above open space in Rowley Park be approved;
- (b) it be recommended to Council that the above sum be included within the capital programme and permission be granted to spend for the project, as detailed in paragraph 5.3 of the report;
- (c) progress so far be noted; that stage one public consultation had been completed, the master planning exercise had begun, and further public consultation was underway. In order to progress with the works through design, procurement, and delivery, officers were to proceed with the project as detailed within;
- (d) it be noted that further funding opportunities would be investigated, as detailed in paragraph 3.7 of the report”

Councillor G P K Pardesi proposed and Councillor A T A Godfrey seconded that the recommendations of Cabinet be approved.

On being put to the vote the matter was declared to be unanimously carried.

(ii) Play Area Improvement Programme Update - Minute No CAB35/25

“That:-

- (a) the prioritisation of the top five play areas for improvement from the eleven previously identified to inform the improvement programme sequence be agreed;
- (b) the works to the play areas over a three-year period be undertaken;
- (c) it be recommended to Council that funding for the play area improvements as detailed below be included in the Council's capital programme and permission to spend be granted;
- (d) transfer of £224,000 from working balances to capital resources to fund the works be agreed”.

Councillor G P K Pardesi proposed and Councillor A T A Godfrey seconded that the recommendations of Cabinet be approved.

On being put to the vote the matter was declared to be unanimously carried.

(iii) Parking Enforcement and Management Contract 2025-26 Award - Confidential - Minute No CAB37/25

“That:-

An increase of the parking services budget as detailed in confidential paragraph 3 of the report (plus indexation post 2025-26 financial year) to enable the award of the Parking Enforcement and Management Contract 2025-26 (following the outcome of the procurement process) be recommended to Council”.

Councillor I D Fordham proposed and Councillor A T A Godfrey seconded that the recommendations of Cabinet be approved.

On being put to the vote the matter was declared to be unanimously carried.

RESOLVED:- that the recommendations of Cabinet held on 16 October 2025, as detailed above, be approved.

C38 Community Governance Review of Stafford Town

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Governance.

Councillor R P Cooke introduced the report noting the detail in paragraphs 3 - 5 before concluding his comments by moving that the recommendations as set out in paragraph 2 be approved.

The proposal to approve the recommendation was seconded by Councillor R Kenney.

Members reiterated the importance of consulting with the appropriate parish councils and other partner organisations on this matter.

The Head of Law and Governance restated the aims of the report were to begin the process of said review and that further proposals could be put before Council, if required.

During the ensuing discussion, the following amendment was proposed by Councillor J M Pert and seconded by Councillor M J Winnington:-

“That the scope of the review be expanded to include those co-terminus areas which border Stafford town and increase the proposed budget so it be commensurate to the numbers of residents to be consulted”.

Members duly discussed the proposed amendment, which on being put to the vote was declared to have fallen.

On being put to the vote the substantive matter was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that:-

- (a) a Community Governance Review of Stafford town within the terms of reference set out in paragraph 4.5 of the report be conducted;
- (b) the Head of Law and Governance, in consultation with the Stafford Town Working Group, be authorised to take all actions necessary to progress and complete the review;
- (c) a budget of £36,000 be drawn from reserves for 2025/26 to fund consultation costs of the review.

MAYOR