

Councillor Gareth Jones (Mayor)

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

Councillors:

C A Baron	R A James
J A Barron	P W Jones
R J Barron	W J Kemp
F Beatty	R Kenney
A R G Brown	P A Leason
R P Cooke	A M Loughran
A G Cooper	A Nixon
B M Cross	J A Nixon
M G Dodson	L Nixon
A P Edgeller	G P K Pardesi
P M M Farrington	A N Pearce
I D Fordham	J M Pert
A T A Godfrey	M Phillips
M Green	J K Price
A S Harp	R M Smith
A D Hobbs	R M Sutherland
D Holbrook-Summers	C V Trowbridge
J Hood	M J Winnington

Officers in attendance:-

Mr T Clegg	-	Chief Executive
Mr R Simpson	-	Head of Operations
Mr I Curran	-	Head of Law and Administration
Mr W Conaghan	-	Press and Communication Manager
Mr A Bailey	-	Scrutiny Officer
Mr J Dean	-	Democratic Services Officer

C68 Minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 28 July 2020 were agreed as a correct record.

C69 Apologies

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors M V Holmes, B McKeown and P Roycroft.

C70 Announcements

The Mayor was pleased to announce that the total amount raised for the Mayor's Charity Appeal 2019/20 was £14,130.20. Both he and the Mayoress were delighted with the support given to their fund raising efforts;

VJ Day Service of Commemoration - the Mayor was pleased to have represented the Council at the event, organised by The Royal British Legion (Stafford Branch), at the Borough War Memorial. The event had followed strict Covid-19 regulations;

The Mayor concluded his announcements by reporting the due to the current Covid-19 restrictions this year's Battle of Britain Commemoration and Freedom Parade had been cancelled by the Tactical Supply Wing (RAF).

C71 Review of the Constitution

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Administration.

Councillor R P Cooke as Chairman of the Resources Scrutiny Committee introduced the report and concluded his comments by moving that the recommendations as set out in paragraph 2 of the report be approved.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor R A James.

No-one spoke against the motion and, by assent of the meeting, the motion was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that (a) the amendments to the Constitution as detailed in the appendix to the report be approved for implementation in the new Municipal year;

(b) Rule 5.2 of the Council Procedure Rules which restricts Members to serving no more than four consecutive years on the Planning Committee, be suspended for a further year until May 2021.

C72 Taxi Licensing Policy and Licence Conditions 2017 - Review and Amendments

Considered the report of the Licensing Manager.

The Cabinet Member - Environment Portfolio, introduced the report and detailed those changes made to the Policy. Councillor J K Price outlined the formal consultation carried out by Officers and concluded his comments by moving that the recommendations as set out in paragraph 2 of the report be approved.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor R M Sutherland.

Arising from the debate an amendment was proposed by Councillor G P K Pardesi and seconded by Councillor A T A Godfrey that “the Policy be deferred for consideration pending amendment and re-wording”.

Responding to points raised, Councillor Price highlighted the Equality and Diversity Section of the Policy and further detailed those statutory bodies and stakeholders who had been consulted on and subsequently supported said Policy.

On being put to the vote, the amendment was declared to be lost.

At the conclusion of the debate Members voted on the recommendations as set out in the report, which were declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that (a) the Policy and Licensing Conditions as detailed in appendix 1 of the report be approved;

(b) the implementation date for the Policy and Licensing Conditions of 16 September 2020 be agreed;

(c) delegated authority be given to the Head of Operations (in consultation with the Head of Law and Administration and the Cabinet Member for Environment) to make minor modifications to the Policy and Licensing Conditions to reflect changes in legislation or case law or to promote efficient administration in the licensing function without any other consultation if appropriate.

C73 Appointment of Honorary Recorder

Considered the report of the Head of Law and Administration.

The Leader of the Council introduced the report and concluded his comments by moving that the recommendation as set out in paragraph 2 of the report be approved.

The proposal was seconded by Councillor A T A Godfrey.

No-one spoke against the motion and, by assent of the meeting, the motion was declared to be carried.

RESOLVED:- that Her Honour Judge Kristina Montgomery QC be appointed as Honorary Recorder of the Borough of Stafford during her tenure as Resident Judge at Stafford Crown Court.

MAYOR