

**MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL**

**Held on Tuesday 13 November 2018**

**Commencing at 6.30 pm**

**In Room 1, The Speedwell Rooms, Inkersall Road, Staveley**

**Present:**

Councillor	K Ludlow (Chair)	A Hill
	S Bagshaw	P Hill
	J Barnett	S Hollingworth
	K Davis	C Ludlow
	L Derbyshire	D Parsons
	H Elliott	E Tidd
	S Hartley	

In Attendance: M Evans - Town Clerk and Financial Officer  
3 Members of the Public

		<b>ACTION</b>
	<b><u>PART I – NON-CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION</u></b>	
436/ME/18	<b>APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE</b> Apologies were received from Councillors J Bacon, D Collins, B Dyke and J Young.	
437/ME/18	<b>COUNCILLORS NOT PRESENT</b> There were no councillors not present.	
438/ME/18	<b>CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENT</b> The Chair read out a personal statement which he signed in the name Councillor K Ludlow. This statement is attached to these minutes.  It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that this statement be supported by the Council.	
439/ME/18	<b>CORRESPONDENCE</b> The Town Clerk and Financial Officer read out a letter from Mr A Rimmington praising the Council for its fireworks display. A similar communication had been received from Mrs J Hayes.  A letter had been received from the mother of Aaron Cobby, thanking the Council for its support of Aaron and advising that he had recently won gold in the European Taekwondo Championships.  A copy of a blog entry was read out from a writer who had attended an event at Staveley Hall, and who had praised the access for the disabled and facilities.	

440/ME/18	<p><b>VARIATION OF BUSINESS</b> None</p>	
441/ME/18	<p><b>DECLARATIONS OF MEMBERS' INTERESTS</b> Councillor S Hartley is related to a director of Conceptunet who are on the suppliers list.</p>	
442/ME/18	<p><b>PUBLIC SPEAKING</b> John Gerrard thanked the Council for allowing the British Legion to collect at the fireworks display. They collected £293.00 on site.</p> <p>Marion Gerrard stated that there had been a slight delay in the King George project but it would be going ahead. She praised Councillor E Tidd for her part in this project.</p> <p>Councillor B Bingham thanked the residents of Staveley for taking part in the recent remembrance services.</p>	
443/ME/18	<p><b>MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 9 OCTOBER 2018</b> It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the minutes of the Ordinary Meeting of Staveley Town Council held on 9 October 2018 be accepted as a true record.</p>	
444/ME/18	<p><b>MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES OF THE ORDINARY MEETING OF STAVELEY TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON 9 OCTOBER 2018</b> There were no matters arising.</p>	
445/ME/18	<p><b>TOWN CLERK'S REPORT</b> The Town Clerk and Financial Officer updated the meeting on a series of issues:</p> <p><b><u>Speedwell Rooms</u></b></p> <p>As part of the approved capital works programme the main hall has been decorated, the asbestos removed and cleaned from the cellar and, in December, the two new boilers will be installed. This will be followed up by a refurbishment of the floor in January 2019.</p> <p>The facility remains very busy. The last weekend saw a blood donor session (10.00am – 8.00pm), the Halloween disco (Saturday) and a birthday party (Sunday). Bookings are plentiful between now and Christmas.</p> <p>The Speedwell Eat Well Community Café is going from strength to strength and numbers attending remain over the 40 mark. The project has been running approximately a year now.</p>	

### **Staveley Hall and The Stables**

The event programme at the Hall is building up to Christmas. The Michael Bubl  tribute act took place on Friday 9 November. This followed a birthday party for 35 (afternoon teas) on the previous Sunday and a World War I poetry reading event the week before.

The coffee shop remains busy and an advert has just closed to appoint an apprentice.

Occupancy levels remain high with only one vacant office which is in The Stables.

The 2019 events programme is currently being finalised and will be presented to a future Leisure and Community Committee meeting. Council will be interested that four weddings have been booked for 2019.

### **World War I Commemoration and Remembrance Sunday**

The Council has recently placed two silent soldier statues (Speedwell Rooms and Staveley Hall). The third was sited in the Memorial Gardens after a licence was refused to position it on the mini roundabout.

As previously stated, the Council held an afternoon of commemoration at Staveley Hall which included poetry reading and a talk by the chair of the local branch of the British Legion.

A World War I exhibition is open in Staveley Hall until after Remembrance Sunday with displays of medals, letters and other artefacts associated with the Great War.

By the time of this meeting the Council will have held its remembrance parade and an update will be given to Members.

### **Budget**

Work is now underway on the 2019/20 budget and this will be discussed at the next Policy, Finance and Publicity Committee meeting and a recommendation made to Council in December 2018 or January 2019.

### **Other Events**

The Annual Christmas Market is on Wednesday 5 December 2018. The Market Place and High Street have 42 stalls booked and there are 15 booked at Staveley Hall.

There will be an ice rink, fairground and street entertainment including school choirs. The Hall will have a grotto and the coffee shop will be open.

The elderly persons Christmas buffet lunch is on Friday 14 December 2018.

The Council's pantomime is on Saturday 5 January 2019. This is an evening performance of Mother Goose.

	<p><b><u>Talgo Factory Bid</u></b></p> <p>Staveley has been shortlisted in the last two as a possible location for the Spanish train builder, Talgo, to have its factory site. This could create 1000 high quality jobs plus 4000 jobs in the supply chain. If successful, building work would start in July 2020 ready for the factory to open in December 2021.</p> <p><b><u>Health and Wellbeing</u></b></p> <p>The inactivity project aimed at Poolsbrook and other parts of Staveley is underway. Consultation has taken place and more is planned with the local schools and residents. Poolsbrook recently held a successful 'Time for You' café open day and an activity taster day. Other projects are planned and will be funded by the Health and Wellbeing Board.</p> <p>The Council recently concluded its October half term activities programme with most items on offer 'selling out'. A report will be presented to the next Leisure and Community Committee meeting.</p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the report be noted.</p>	
446/ME/18	<p><b>APPROVAL OF SUPPLIER PAYMENTS</b></p> <p>It was <b>RESOLVED</b> that the attached list of supplier payments be authorised.</p>	
447/ME/18	<p><b>APPROVAL OF BANK STATEMENTS</b></p> <p>Councillor H Elliott signed off the bank statements in the presence of the public.</p>	
448/ME/18	<p><b>WARD REPORTS BY COUNCILLORS</b></p> <p>Councillor A Hill stated in his role as a Chesterfield Borough Council councillor that Halloween and trick or treat went off well without any trouble in the Duckmanton area.</p> <p>Councillor D Parsons agreed that Halloween went well. He also thanked Marion and John Gerrard for their advice on the World War I commemoration. The children of Poolsbrook made their own poppies and he thanked Councillor A Hill for representing Staveley Town Council by laying a wreath at the Poolsbrook service.</p> <p>Councillor Parsons stated his disappointment at the decision by Derbyshire County Council in refusing a licence to site a silent soldier on the roundabout near Staveley Hall.</p> <p>Councillor C Ludlow is to meet the Police and Crime Commissioner at Inkersall shops and Ringwood Park about antisocial behaviour.</p> <p>Councillor A Hill stated that there has been recent trouble in other areas such as Bolsover and Shirebrook.</p>	

	<p>Councillor Elliott informed Council that youths have been trying doors in the Inkersall area. It is important that security measures are taken such as putting chains on doors.</p> <p>Councillor S Hartley asked if the new road signs in his ward can be repaired as they are too flimsy. Councillor Elliott said she would raise this at County.</p>	
449/ME/18	<p><b>CHESTERFIELD BOROUGH COUNCIL</b> Nothing to report.</p>	
450/ME/18	<p><b>FIXING OF THE COMMON SEAL</b> None.</p>	
	<p><b><u>PART II – CONFIDENTIAL BUSINESS</u></b></p>	
451/ME/18	<p><b>PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960</b></p> <p><b>RESOLVED</b> – That in view of the fact that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of representatives of the press be excluded from this meeting during the discussion thereof.</p>	
452/ME/18	<p><b>STAFFING MATTERS</b> The Town Clerk and Financial Officer gave an update on various staffing matters.</p>	

To Staveley Town Council

Something has come to my attention very recently that as an ex serveman and local councillor, I have felt the need to put down in writing my feelings on the matter.

There is a local group, some of whom are Ex Councillors, who are constantly taking swipes at the Council and trying to increase their political standing with the Council Tax payers of Staveley and the surrounding area. As elected councillors we are used to their behaviour.

However their latest "STUNT" has angered me way beyond the norm.

They have privately purchased and put up some of the large display Poppies that are available from the Royal British Legion, this is not an issue, it is their behaviour following this that has caused me so much offence.

They have chosen to use Social Media, to make their actions known to everyone. The response from local people to the way this post has been presented, is to believe that they are in fact responsible for all of the Poppies and other 100th anniversary displays that have been put up around the Staveley area. They have chosen not to correct any of these statements.

The responses include statements along the lines of "well done you guys, the Council do nothing" and "a superb show of respect"

Their actions do not "Show Respect" for the millions of Men, Women and children who died in the First World War and in all conflicts since, the very reason we have the Poppy. In fact I feel they have shown nothing but contempt for the Symbol of Remembrance. They have jumped on the backs of the memory of these people to try and score some cheap political points.

I ask:

How have they shown respect to Sgt Greaves, a local man, who single handedly stormed German Trenches armed with Grenades, attacking the Machine Gun positions that were decimating his comrades on the battle field. An action for which he was very rightly awarded the "Victoria Cross"

How have they shown any respect for my Great Grandfather, who died in 1916, eleven days after being wounded in the opening days of the "Battle of the Somme"

How have they show respect for my Wifes Father, a Paratrooper, who took part in the Glider born attack on "D DAY" that led to the Liberation of "Pegasus Bridge" and was involved in some of the fiercest fighting in the weeks following the Invasion, including the defence of one Village in France, where over 100 men went in to defend it, and 18 of them came out.

Too misuse the memory of these men and millions of others like them, to try and up their own political standing in the local community is scraping the bottom of the barrel. This has

to rate as the most disgusting action they have ever carried out to gain favour with the local Electorate.

I call upon them to apologise, not just via Social Media but in writing, not to this Council, since we are used to their behaviour, but to the following:

Firstly: To The Royal British Legion, for misusing the "Poppy", a well known "NON POLITICAL symbol of remembrance and respect", to try and score cheap political points.

Secondly: To the hard working Staff of Staveley Town Council, who put up the poppies in and around Staveley, who planted the Flower beds which display the message 1918/2018, who put up the Silent Soldier Statues, and who put a great deal of time and effort in supporting the Royal British Legion and other excellent local organisations in the putting together and running of what is widely regarded as one of the best local Remembrance Parades in Derbyshire.

And last but not least: To the Council Tax Payers of Staveley and the surrounding area for attempting to gain their support by a tatty political stunt done in a disgusting non respectful way.

Thankfully Politics in this country are changing, people no longer want the dirty tricks, snide remarks, miss information and twisting of the truth that has prevailed for far too long. They have made it very clear, they want open transparent and honest politics from Local councillors of all parties right up to the Prime Minister.

I respectfully request that this statement is entered into the minutes and records of Staveley Town Council.

Councillor Kevin Ludlow

