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UTTOXETER TOWN COUNCIL

RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE ARISING FROM ITS MEETING HELD IN THE ALAN DEAN SUITE, UTTOXETER TOWN HALL ON TUESDAY, 28 JULY 2026 AT 10.00 AM

Chair – Councillor B Houlihan

Councillors: T Ashby (Vice-Chair), J Glandfield, P Krupski, Z Krupski (ex-officio)

Officer in attendance – T Jeffery, Town Clerk

It was noted that UVE CIC was in attendance in the meeting for Item No. 7.

1. CHAIR'S WELCOME

The Chair provided a brief on the fire procedure in the event of a fire, provisions of the Filming of Meetings as in accordance with "The Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014", a reminder that the Council had Signed up to the Civility and Respect Pledge and the use of mobile phones during the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

- (a) The Clerk reported receipt of approved apologies from Councillors D Boot, A Johnstone, A Noyes, L Sylvester, A Mansfield (ex-officio).

RECOMMENDED that the same be accepted and approved.

- (b) The Clerk reported that all other Members were in attendance in the meeting.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted.

3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

In accordance with Standing Order 3(e-h), the meeting be adjourned for up to 15 minutes to allow for public participation where members of the public may make representations, answer questions and give evidence at a meeting which they were entitled to attend in respect of the business on the Agenda. The period of time designated for public participation at a meeting as in accordance with standing order 3(e) shall not exceed (3) minutes unless directed by the Chair of the meeting.

It was noted that UVE CIC would be addressing Council under Item No. 7

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declaration of any disclosable pecuniary interest in a matter to be discussed at the meeting, and which was not included in the register of interests. Members were reminded that they were required to leave the room during the discussion and voting on matters in which they had a disclosable pecuniary interest, whether or not the interest was entered in the register of members' interests maintained by the Monitoring Officer.

None received.

5. ESBC - PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Committee gave consideration to the following Planning Applications:

- (a) P/2026/00098 - Outline planning application for the erection of up to 295 dwellings (Class C3), with access, landscaping, sustainable drainage features and associated infrastructure. All matters are reserved except for vehicular access from Stafford Road (ADDITIONAL INFORMATION - for Five Year Housing Land Supply, ecology, drainage, conservation, landscaping, highways and additional plans) at Land At Stafford Road.

RESOLVED that with respect to P/2026/00098, Council notes the applicants revised submission documents but maintains its strong objections to this application. The comments below should be read in conjunction with the

Council's objections submitted to ESBC from its meeting held on 10 February, as follows:

- (i) Council wishes to remind the Planning Authority that the application is contrary to national, local and neighbourhood plan policies. To allow this application would set a dangerous precedent for the following reasons:
 - (a) It is entirely within the strategic green gap a designation in the Uttoxeter Neighbourhood Plan and adopted Local Plan;
 - (b) The site is also entirely grade 3 agricultural land. The applicant has failed to demonstrate that it is not 'best and most versatile' (BMV) and therefore the presumption is that it remains BMV and there is no justification to allow development on a greenfield site. Development of this site would be contrary to the recent DEFRA Landuse Framework that seeks to protect BMV for food security. A copy of the extent of BMV land is included for reference from Natural England in this representation.
- (ii) Furthermore, ESBC maintains a 5-year strategic land supply and therefore the tilted balance simply does not apply.
- (iii) The application must be refused as there is no material consideration that would support departure from relevant policy.
- (iv) The Council further requests that this application be included for consideration by the Borough Council's Planning Committee at its next available meeting.
- (v) Objections as previously issued to ESBC which remain relevant:
 - (a) Principle of Development:
 - The site is not a sustainable location, isolated and disconnected from the town and its services.
 - Should the development include affordable homes these would have limited access to public transport and not be within walking distance of services in the Town Centre.
 - (b) Highways:
 - The proposed site only includes one ingress and egress for all vehicular movements. As the development exceeds 200 units it would need at least 2 points of access.
 - Stafford Road is already exceptionally busy and the proposed development would have a severe impact on highway safety.
 - The development would create unsafe access and increased congestion on Stafford Road, which conflicts with Local Plan Policies SP1, SP35 and DP7 requiring safe and sustainable transport impacts.
 - The local Community Speedwatch Team have carried out a number of Speedwatch sessions within Stafford Road which currently records over 600 vehicles using Stafford Road per hour at peak times which is prior to the additional vehicles this development would generate.
 - (c) Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA):
 - The crucial document in regard to future housing development is the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment (SHLAA) which identifies land that has potential for residential development in the Borough. The results of the SHLAA are used to identify strategic sites capable of allocation in the Local Plan. The Council's sustainability appraisal further refines the SHLAA sites to arrive at a strategy underpinned by sites that are sustainable.
 - Though Blounts Green Farm is included in the long list of potential plots of housing land in the Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment 2021 this is no indication of it being an appropriate site, and indeed it is listed (item 56 in the SHLAA Trajectory document) as being not achievable, deliverable,

suitable or developable. A timescale of at least 15 years is given for it, not least as it is not within the Settlement Boundary and would seem to require changes to both the Local Plan and the Neighbourhood Plan before it could be developed.

- The most recent update to the SHLAA is the ESBC Note on 5 Year Land Supply Methodology 31st March 2025. 5YLS - Mar25 (using 637 SM & Inc C2)_FINAL.pdf This confirms that the Council have been able to demonstrate that a 5 year housing land supply has been maintained since the Local Plan was adopted in October 2015, and that identified deliverable sites more than cover the estimated housing needs figure (3271 total supply/637 annual to meet the Local Housing Need requirement = 5.13 years). These do not include the Blounts Green Farm site which is not mentioned in this document.

(d) Flooding:

- The development would worsen flooding around the cemetery, within adjacent land and within Bramshall Park which would be contrary to SP27 and DP2, which require developments not to increase flood risk.
- The Town Council wishes to express its serious concerns that, as advised by its Contractor carrying out the works to the Cemetery Extension, any further development of greenfield sites in proximity to the Cemetery (and adjacent greenfield) could have a detrimental impact on the site in terms of surface water and site drainage. The submission documents have not taken this into account in respect of impact of surrounding land uses and the impact of the scheme. The drainage strategy only considers on site matters, rather than the cumulative impact in the wider area which this development would significantly have.

(e) Uttoxeter Neighbourhood Plan:

- The Public Consultation on the plan enabled residents to have their say in relation to the environment. The outcome demonstrated that the public were opposed to development in the Picknall Valley. Uttoxeter residents suggested that:
 - Picknall Valley should provide a green link for cyclists and walkers from the town centre through the JCB site, Hockley Road to the countryside.
 - It is understood that over 3,000 residents have signed a petition stating that The Picknall Valley should be protected from inappropriate development. Access to open spaces and the countryside should be protected to allow residents of Uttoxeter to maximise their enjoyment of their rural surroundings and provide an attraction for new residents and visitors to the town. Green corridors, trees and green spaces should all be protected and where possible enhanced to protect habitats for flora and fauna and improve biodiversity.
- When asked how the Neighbourhood Plan can sustain and improve the natural environment the public wanted the Neighbourhood Plan to:
 - Help to sustain and create a network of green spaces and corridors within the town and to the surrounding countryside, and protect the landscape setting of the town, including the sensitive landscapes and valleys of the River Tean, River Dove and Picknall Brook.
- This ambition was realised in Policies E1 and E2 of the Plan itself:
 - Policy E1 – Uttoxeter's Network of Green Infrastructure:
 - The Neighbourhood Plan seeks to establish a network of green infrastructure, including existing trees, hedgerows, historic field patterns, the Strategic Green Gap and other such

assets across the town linking the landscape setting with the urban area. Applications which retain and enhance such features and take the opportunity to re-introduce them into key sites, will be supported.

- Clearly this proposed application would neither retain nor enhance these features.
- The proposed development would cause substantial loss of habitat for local wildlife, including bats, swifts, swallows, house martins, badgers and other small mammals, and would not enhance the natural environment. The Picknall Valley is a major biodiversity resource as a whole, and development in one area damages biodiversity in the whole valley which forms the spine of the wildlife corridor through the town. There would be a severe impact on the decades old trees and hedges which, even where retained, would no longer form a joined-up habitat for wildlife.
- This development would not maintain or enhance the biodiversity of the Picknall Valley and it would not leave the area in a measurably better state. Overall, the proposed development contributes little to the benefit of the countryside, and any suggested or implied benefits to the countryside are greatly outweighed by the disbenefits.
- Policy E2 – Landscape and Setting:
 - New development should protect and where appropriate enhance the landscape setting of the town, and with a particular emphasis on the Picknall, Tean and Dove valleys. Planning applications that would result in the loss or fragmentation of this setting will not be supported. [....] All planning applications should demonstrate the extent to which they have respected and reinforced historic landscapes in general, and field patterns in particular.
 - This proposal would clearly lead to the loss and fragmentation of the Picknall Valley landscape. It cannot demonstrate how it would respect and reinforce the historic landscape.
 - The proposed development would permanently remove important green space, harming local character and conflicting with SP30 and DP1, as well as the Uttoxeter Neighbourhood Plan's Design and Environment Policies, which are in place to protect green infrastructure and local distinctiveness.
 - The proposed development includes Uttoxeter Town Footpath No. 20 which is well used by local residents and local Walking Groups.

- (b) P/2026/00762 - Removal of existing conservatory, and single story rear extension at 41 Westlands Road, ST14 8DJ.

RESOLVED that with respect to P/2026/00762, Council had no comment to make at this stage.

- (c) P/2026/00782 - Display of 1no. externally illuminated fascia sign and 1no. externally illuminated projecting sign at 37-39 Market Place, ST14 8HF.

RESOLVED that with respect to P/2026/00782, Council had no comment to make at this stage.

- (d) P/2026/00798 - Crown reduction of one Silver Birch by 2-3 metres and removal of 3 lowest branches (T1 of TPO 97) at 39A Carter Street, ST14 8EY.

RESOLVED that with respect to P/2026/00798, Council had no comment to make at this stage.

6. POLICY AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING – 11 AUGUST 2026

Committee was asked to give consideration to holding a Committee meeting on 11 August 2026 to consider any planning applications received, if required. Committee instruction was sought. Following due debate, it was

RECOMMENDED that:

- (i) Due to August Recess and Councillor/Staff holidays, no Policy and Planning Committee take place in August.
- (ii) The Clerk be tasked forthwith with liaising with ESBC's Planning Officers to seek an update for any planning applications received, to be included for consideration by Council on 8 September 2026.

7. COMMUNITY LAND TRUSTS

The Chair reminded Committee of its Recommendation from 23 June 2026 he reported that UVE CIC were in attendance to progress discussions with Committee on logistics of when/how the Council could move forward with proposals, etc which could include redevelopment of Trinity Square for a possible Healthcare Hub/Centre .

The Chair welcomed UVE CIC to the meeting and he Suspended Standing Orders. UVE CIC reported that:

- *The Social and Affordable Homes Programme (SAHP) delivered by Homes England is now open.*
- *Grants of up to £10,000 were available which could be used for carrying out a feasibility study.*
- *She had spoken with the Co-ordinator for the West Midlands applications. There was an opportunity to deliver the wider masterplan for the Trinity Square site to include the indicative proposed concept of social and market housing, a variety of ground floor compatible town centre uses and a Neighbourhood Health Hub and sufficient car parking to support the mixed-uses.*
- *As the Council progresses in exploring the projects viability with landowners, it may be an opportunity to maintain discussions with the relevant NHS contact so that they can be part of the developing concept, without the commitment at this stage of delivery.*
- *This would give certainty to the NHS about the commitment as a Town Council to explore and deliver a masterplan, seeking relevant funding, whilst allowing the NHS the flexibility to take account of relevant funding opportunities as and when they arise.*

The Chair expressed his thanks to UVE CIC for their informative update and reported that the information provided would be shared with his contact at the NHS at their next meeting. He Reinstated Standing Orders. Committee instruction was sought. Following due debate, it was

RECOMMENDED that the same noted.

8. WAR MEMORIAL REFURBISHMENT PROJECT UPDATE

Committee was advised that:

- (a) Following a site meeting with ESBC's Conservation Officer and the Stonemasons of Worcester, ESBC's Conservation Officer had requested additional works to the top of the War Memorial, work to part of the bullnose section and mortar analysis.

Committee was informed that following the meeting, the Stonemasons of Worcester and Council's Architect had updated the Heritage Statement incorporating a Statement of Significance, Heritage Impact Assessment and Justification Statement and Condition Survey as prepared by Stonemasons of Worcester Ltd together with the Design & Access Statement to be read in conjunction with the Heritage Statement, as amended and issued to ESBC's Conservation Officer on 21 July 2026.

The Clerk reported receipt of Listed Building Consent on 23 July 2026 as issued to Members and the RBL.

RECOMMENDED that the same be accepted and approved.

- (b) The Stonemasons of Worcester had advised that they had revised the original quotation to include the additional works to the top of the memorial within the original order placed (£13,014) and that the additional works required to the bullnose section at the lower ground level (2 metres) would be in the sum of £1,125 plus vat, to ensure no further delays, as reported to and approved by the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chair and Vice-Chair of F&GP and the Chair of P&P, to be funded by the War Memorial budget allocation contingency and the War Memorial EMReserve. Committee instruction was sought.

Committee was advised that the Clerk had continued to keep the RBL Chair and Secretary updated.

RECOMMENDED that the same be accepted and approved.

9. **EAST STAFFORDSHIRE TOGETHER ACTIVE**

The Clerk reported receipt of an email on 14 July 2026 from Place Lead for East Staffordshire Together Active (Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent) inviting the Clerk (and the Chair of We Love Uttoxeter) to form part of the Partnership following a recent meeting due to *'expertise in the local area, knowledge of community work, and navigating systems, as well as championing Uttoxeter as well'*. Committee is advised that the next Partnership Meeting was scheduled to take place on 15 September 2026 10am-4pm (location TBC). Committee instruction was sought.

RECOMMENDED that the Clerk be authorised to form part of East Staffordshire Together Active Partnership.

10. **SPCA - WMCALC TRAINING CAMPAIGN PACK AND DRAFT MOTION**

As Deferred by Council on 14 July 2026, the Clerk reported receipt of an email on 3 July 2026 from SPCA's County Executive Officer advising Council that 'SPCA were pleased to share their Training Campaign pack, designed to help Council's influence the discussions around Councillor training. Council was advised that the pack provides a briefing for Councillors, a draft Council Motion, a template letter to the MP and an updated Members Training Policy', as forwarded to Members on 6 July 2026.

Committee was asked to give consideration to SPCA's Draft Motion for 'Mandatory Training for Local Councillors' (*proposed wording*) as follows:

- *'This Council notes:*
 - *That parish and town councillors increasingly make decisions with significant legal, financial, and community impact.*
 - *That councillors are responsible for complex statutory functions, including financial oversight, planning representations, and governance compliance.*
 - *That, unlike many public office roles and principal authority councillors, there is currently no statutory requirement for elected or co-opted councillors to undertake core training.*
- *This Council further notes that councils regularly take decisions that require legal and procedural understanding, including:*
 - *Setting and approving the annual precept and budget*
 - *Submitting and determining planning consultations and objections*
 - *Entering into contracts and procurement decisions*
 - *Managing assets and land holdings*
 - *Handling complaints, codes of conduct, and standards issues*
 - *Employing staff and complying with HR law*
 - *Improving social, health and economic wellbeing*
- *This Council believes:*
 - *That mandatory induction and ongoing training would improve governance, transparency, and public trust.*
 - *That better-trained councillors reduce the risk of legal challenge, maladministration, and financial mismanagement.*

- Accordingly, this Council resolves to:
 1. Call on the UK Government to introduce legislation requiring all local councillors to undertake core training within 1 year of election/co-option.
 2. Request that this includes training on:
 - Roles and responsibilities
 - Finance and audit
 - Planning and code of conduct
 - Social, health and economic wellbeing
 - Employee protection and employer responsibilities.
 3. Write to Jacob Collier MP asking to support this change.
 4. Encourage the National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and County Associations to advocate for this reform.
 5. Adopt a members training policy.'
- Committee instruction was sought.

It was noted that Members understood and encouraged Training for its Members however raised their collective concerns that mandatory training may put some potential candidates off standing for Council. It was noted that higher tiers of Councils would require more extensive comprehensive training to be in place than a Parish/Town Council.

The Clerk reported that upon appointment, the Mayor, Deputy Mayor, Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Committee attended relevant Chairmanship training provided by SPCA and Members of the Planning Committee were encouraged to attend 'Planning for Non-Planners' training provided by SPCA. The Clerk enquired if a specific Town Council Training Policy should be produced. Following due debate, it was

RECOMMENDED that the Clerk liaise with SPCA to advise that Council:

- (i) Does not accept that the training for Councillors should be mandatory given this may put off potential candidates standing for a Town or Parish Council.
- (ii) Does acknowledge and support that Training should be highly recommended in particular to the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Council and its committees.
- (iii) Request that SPCA explore a tiered system being in place guided by the size/complexity of the individual Council, noting 'one size does not fit all'.
- (iv) Currently offers training to its Chair, Vice-Chair of the Council and its Committees and encourages members of the Policy and Planning Committee to attend SPCA's 'Planning for Non Planners Training'.
- (v) Going forward, Members of the Personnel Committee undertake basic HR Training from Council's HR Provider.

11. **STAFFORDSHIRE CELEBRATING DIFFERENCE CAMPAIGN - INCLUSIVE TRAVEL**

The Clerk reminded Committee of its Recommendation from its meeting on 23 June 2026 and she reported receipt of an email on 3 June 2026 from SCC's Engagement and Participation Co-ordinator advising Committee that:

- 'SCC are pleased to share its co-produced Celebrating Difference campaign, which focuses on Inclusive Travel and aims to promote accessible, welcoming, and inclusive travel experiences for all across Staffordshire.
- Resources for the campaign include a leaflet and dedicated webpage via <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/community-support-and-safety/celebrating-differences-inclusive-travel>
- We would really value your support in helping us extend the reach of this important message. We kindly ask if you could:
 - Share the campaign across your networks both internal and external
 - Support the campaign promotion via your social media channels
 - To make this as easy as possible, we've included everything you need in the partner pack, including ready-made social media posts and key messaging for you to use.
 - By working together, we can raise awareness and encourage more inclusive travel opportunities across our communities', as forwarded to Members and Staff.

Committee instruction was sought.

RECOMMENDED that the Clerk liaise with SCC's Engagement and Participation Co-ordinator to advise that as part of the more inclusive travel opportunities, Council would like to see the following for the town:

- Toilet provisions being provided at Uttoxeter Train Station.
- Additional benches and bins within the town centre including Carter Street. Market Place and Market Square.
- Benches being provided next to bus stops.
- Additional benches and bins being located within green spaces and residential areas including the larger housing estates within the town.
- Mobility scooter charging provisions at a number of locations within the town (*included for consideration by the Council's Town Centre Forum at its next meeting*) which could include the town centre (Carters Square and at local cafes), the library, the leisure centre, Wilfred House, Heath Community Centre.

12. **SCC - GRITTING BINS HE109**

The Clerk reminded Committee of its Recommendation from its meeting on 26 May and she reported receipt of an email from SCC's Maintenance Manager on 26 June 2026 providing Council with a response as follows *'Thank you for your email dated 11 June regarding the above mentioned. Thank you for confirming that Uttoxeter Town Council does not provide any bins for community use on the highway. With regard to the location of SCC provided grit bins, this information can be found together with all information on winter gritting via <https://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/highway-maintenance/winter-driving> and Gritting via <https://map.staffordshire.gov.uk/publicmap/en-GB/PublicMap/Gritting#/frontPage> SCC is aware that other bins are provided by third parties such as Parish Councils and Councillor Mason's of the 6th May outlines the actions to address any confusion.'* Council's instruction was sought.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted.

13. **ENFORCEMENT OF THE PLANNING CONDITIONS FOR BRAMSHALL MEADOWS/ST MODWEN DEVELOPMENT FOR THE LINK ROAD**

The Clerk reminded Committee of its Recommendation from its meeting on 23 June 2026 and the Chair reported that at this time, no further update was available.

RECOMMENDED that this matter be included for further consideration by Committee at its next meeting.

14. **ESBC - NEW LOCAL PLAN FOR EAST STAFFORDSHIRE BOROUGH 2025-2043 - EARLY NOTIFICATION OF SCOPING CONSULTATION**

The Clerk reported receipt of an email on 2 July 2026 from ESBC's Planning Policy advising Council that *'During July and August this year ESBC will be asking for views to help shape the vision for the next Local plan for East Staffordshire. A local plan sets out how planning can deliver sustainable development by managing the use and development of land and the new Local plan is looking to guide new development to 2043. An online survey and background evidence will be published and through our online consultation portal you will be notified of the online survey so you can have your say now and at future consultations on the Local plan. The consultation portal is operated by Objective Keystone and these contact details have been added to this database as you are a consultee in the preparation of the Local Plan process. You can access the consultation portal by following this link: <https://eaststaffsbc-consult.objective.co.uk/kse/> to update your details or add additional consultees. All your data will be stored in accordance with the GDPR for more details see our Privacy Notice on the ESBC website at: <https://www.eaststaffsbc.gov.uk/council-and-democracy/gdpr-and-privacy-notice>. We are also looking to give a presentation at the forthcoming Parish Forum. Any queries, please in the first instance can you send these to: planningpolicy@eaststaffsbc.gov.uk'* as forwarded to Members. Council's instruction was sought.

RESOLVED that the Clerk liaise with ESBC's Planning Policy Manager to advise that Council:

- (i) Requests ESBC maintain the green space between villages and towns.
- (ii) Wishes to emphasise the importance of availability of public services when new development takes place.

15. UTTOXETER NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN – UPDATE

The Clerk reported that as Resolved by Council on 14 July 2026, the Updated Neighbourhood Plan had been submitted to ESBC for Screening. It was anticipated that a response would be received from ESBC mid-September/early October.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted, with thanks to UVE CIC for their assistance and guidance.

16. DOVE WAY - SPEED LIMIT

The Clerk reported receipt of an email from County Councillor Allen on 20 July 2026 providing Committee with the following update:

'Thank you for your email. I have made enquiries with SCC Highways regarding this matter. The advice received is that speed limit reviews are evidence-led and take account of factors such as recorded vehicle speeds, collision history, road function and the likelihood of driver compliance. Officers have advised that reducing a speed limit does not necessarily result in lower vehicle speeds and that any proposed change would need to be supported by the relevant evidence and assessment.

I am also advised that Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) are generally considered a supporting measure rather than a justification for a speed limit reduction in their own right. In addition, SIDs are not normally permitted on roads subject to a 50mph speed limit.

With regard to new SID installations, Staffordshire County Council is currently reviewing its approach to ensure greater consistency in the quality, specification and standards of SIDs used across the county. As a result, approval for new SID installations is currently limited whilst this work is completed. I will be happy to provide a further update once the review has concluded and decisions have been made regarding the preferred standards and equipment.

The wider route and pedestrian connectivity between Uttoxeter and the retail and employment areas to the north of the town have previously been identified for consideration as part of future transport and active travel assessments. At present, however, I have not received any officer recommendation supporting a change to the current 50mph–40mph–50mph arrangement on Dove Way.

I trust this provides the Committee with an update on the current County Council position. Please do not hesitate to contact me if the Committee requires any further clarification.'
Committee instruction was sought.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted, with thanks.

17. A50/A500 UPDATE

As Recommended by Committee on 26 May 2026 that the A50/A500 Updates remain as a Standing Item on future Committee Agendas.

The Clerk reported that no correspondence had been received from Jacob Collier MP at this time.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted.

18. CLIMATE EMERGENCY UK

The Clerk reported receipt of the following emails from Climate Emergency UK, as forwarded to Members:

- (a) Welcome to Climate Emergency UK's Community! Dated 7 July 2026.

- (b) Get involved with Climate Emergency UK dated 9 July 2026.
- (c) Over half of UK councils have started their Right of Reply dated 22 July 2026.

RECOMMENDED that with respect to 18(a)-(c), the same be noted.

19. **NATIONAL ALLOTMENT SOCIETY (NAS) – JULY NEWSLETTER**

The Clerk reported receipt of the following emails received from the National Allotments Associations dated:

- (a) 2 July 2026 Re: NAS July Newsletter, as forwarded to Members.
- (b) 12 July 2026 Re: National Allotment Society West Midlands Region Quarterly Meeting, as forwarded to Members.
- (c) 20 July 2026 Re: NAS WM Photographic Competition 2026, as forwarded to Members.

RECOMMENDED that with respect to 19(a)-(c), the same be noted.

20. **PARISH ONLINE**

The Clerk reported receipt of an email on 16 July 2026 from Parish Online providing Council with it Parish Online Newsletter #67, as forwarded to Members.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted.

21. **TRENT RIVERS TRUST**

The Clerk reported receipt of an email on 15 July 2026 from Trent Rivers Trust Re: It's getting hot - how you can help your river, as forwarded to Members.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted.

22. **RURAL SERVICES NETWORK**

The Clerk reported receipt of the following email from Rural Services Network, as forwarded to Members:

- (a) The Rural Bulletin dated 23 June 2026.
- (b) The Rural Bulletin dated 30 June 2026.
- (c) RSN Rural Funding Digest July Edition dated 1 July 2026.
- (d) The Rural Bulletin dated 7 July 2026.
- (e) The Rural Bulletin dated 14 July 2026.
- (f) You're Invited dated 17 July 2026.
- (g) The Rural Bulletin dated 21 July 2026.

RECOMMENDED that with respect to 22(a)-(g), the same be noted.

The Chair expressed his thanks to UVE CIC for their participation in the meeting and it was noted that they left the meeting at this time.

23. **COMMITTEE IN PRIVATE – PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960**

Pursuant to Section 1(2) of the above Act it was requested that the public and press were not present due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted and were asked to withdraw.

RECOMMENDED that the same be accepted and approved.

24. **FUTURE SPORTS PROVISIONS FOR THE TOWN**

The Clerk reported receipt of an email on 26 June 2026 from the FA's Head of Delivery advising Council that '*the FA are continuing to work on the ecology issue but nothing is confirmed as yet.*' Committee instruction was sought.

RECOMMENDED that the same be noted.

25. **SUPPORT IMPROVEMENTS TO HEALTH PROVISIONS FOR THE TOWN RESIDENTS – UTTOXETER NEIGHBOURHOOD HEALTH CENTRE**

The Chair provided Committee with an update on progress since the date of the last meeting which included the following:

/2026-2027

Signed:

Date:08/09/2026

- Uttoxeter is on the list of potential locations. However, it does not rank as highly as others.
- Noted that it is government policy that all Neighbourhood Health Centres will have a GP practice at their core.
- The 16 April policy document identifies three levels of NHC: Core, Core+ and Core++. Centres will be expected 'to be open at least 12 hours a day and 6 days a week providing access to coordinated services'.
- Core+ is likely to be the model that meets our ambitions. The required population for a Core+ NHC is between 30-50,000.
- Key criteria for determining the location of NHCs are access to GP/primary care services and deprivation metrics. The ICB has already undertaken an analysis all bids to create an order of priority.
- If the Uttoxeter bid is successful work is expected to start by October 2027 and be completed by March 2028.
- Decisions about supporting NHC bids (and how far down the priority list support will be provided) depends on the level of funding. HA expected the announcement on funding to be made 'soon'.
- The Director of Place offered to come to Uttoxeter after the funding announcement and talk to the Town Council and the Neighbourhood Health Hub/Centre working group. Depending on the funding outcome this meeting would be a good opportunity for us to consider our next steps.

Committee instruction was sought.

RECOMMENDED that the Chair continue to provide Committee with updates, at this stage, in private.

The meeting closed at 11.20am.