

Information Statement

Stone Neighbourhood Plan Referendum

A Referendum relating to the adoption of the Stone Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2031 will be held on Thursday 6 May 2021.

The question which will be asked in the Referendum is:-

“Do you want Stafford Borough Council to use the Neighbourhood Plan for Stone Town to help it decide planning applications in the neighbourhood area?”

The Referendum area is identified on the attached map.

The Referendum area is identical to the area which has been designated as the Stone Town Neighbourhood Plan area.

A person is entitled to vote in the Referendum if, on Wednesday 28 April 2021

- he or she is entitled to vote in a local government election in the Referendum area; and
- his or her qualifying address for the election is in the Referendum area. A persons qualifying address is, in relation to a person registered in the register of electors, the address in respect of which he or she is entitled to be registered.

The Referendum expenses limit that will apply in relation to the Referendum is £3145.82. The number of persons entitled to vote in the Referendum by reference to which that limit has been calculated is 13,285.

The Referendum will be conducted in accordance with procedures which are similar to those used at Local Government elections.

A copy of the specified documents, that is those documents listed below, may be inspected on line:- <http://www.staffordbc.gov.uk/stone-neighbourhood-plan-referendum>

The availability of hard copy documents in public buildings for members of the general public to view may be challenging at this current time due to the Government's requirements in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to be socially distant. Whilst the following locations are currently fully or partially closed to the public if arrangements change prior to the referendum date hard copy documents may be available at the individual venues listed below. Please follow all COVID secure requirements being applied at these locations:-

- Stafford Borough Council, Civic Centre, Riverside, Stafford, ST16 3AQ.
Monday - Thursday 8.30 am - 5.00 pm, Friday 8.30 am - 4.30 pm.
- Frank Jordan Community Centre, Lichfield Road, Stone ST15 8NA
- Stone Library, High Street, Stone ST15 8AT
- Stone Town Council Ground Floor, 15 Station Road, Stone ST15 8JP
- Walton Community Centre, Whitemill Lane, Stone ST15 0EQ

The specified documents are:-

- The Stone Neighbourhood Plan 2019-2031;
- Report of the independent examiner;
- The representations submitted to the independent examiner;
- Statement by the local planning authority that the draft plan meets the basic conditions and complies with the relevant legislation;
- *This information statement*;
- A statement that sets out general information about town and country planning including neighbourhood planning and the referendum.

Dated: 22 March 2021

Tim Clegg
Chief Executive
Stafford Borough Council
Civic Centre
Riverside
Stafford
ST16 3AQ