

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Pat Fairclough



Town Clerk
KAREN ROPER B.A (Hons),DMS
Civic Offices
Larkin Way
Wellington
Telford TF1 1LX
Tel: 01952 567697
E Mail: wellington-shropshire.gov.uk

WELLINGTON FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held via Zoom, on **4th December 2020** commencing at 11:30am.

Present

Cllr A Lowe (Chairman)	Paola Armstrong
Cllr J Pierce	
Apologies	Cllr J Alvey

- 1. Welcome and Introductory remarks.**
Cllr Lowe welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 2. Declaration of Interest**
None received
- 3. Apologies for absence:**
John Alvey. Apologies accepted.
- 4. To confirm the 'notes' from the last meeting 20th November 2020**
Cllr A Lowe confirmed and Cllr J Pierce seconded
- 5. Matters arising from those minutes**

It was decided that the name for the festival should be "The VirtuWelli Festival" (suggested by JP) and that the theme should be "Wellington – Our Home Town" (suggested by AL)

PA had a zoom meeting with Helen Donaghue with regards to the Peggy Harrison Poetry Competition (see attached).

It was decided that there should also be a short story competition for adults only 16+ (£100 to spend in Wellington for the winner) maximum of 300 words with a suggested first line

JP stated that it must be stipulated that they must not have been published or have won any other competitions previously.

It was agreed £135 prize money for poetry and £100 for the adult short story competition

JP suggested as a first line - "At last the day I had been waiting for had arrived. Finally I could....."

ACTION: PA to ask Darren Bailey from Wrekin Writers to judge (with 2 others) and to decide on whether we should have a first line and to let him know what the theme is and also ask to write a draft for the competition for the This Is Our Wellington magazine.

PA contacted Steve Harrison, who is happy to do Poems and Pints (if on Zoom, will need a technical host) and also interested in finding out more about the Wellington Resident Poet – to be discussed separately

PA contacted John Clayton – agreed to do Zoom book club

ACTION: PA to let John Clayton to know the theme

PA contacted Julie Phillips – happy to schedule a socially distanced Meet The Author in library.

ACTION: PA to contact Julie to ensure that there are a smaller number of authors in order to accommodate the socially distancing rules and perhaps introduce some new authors.

PA contacted Diane Saxon – happy to do a Zoom or live readings and Q&A session

PA contacted Darren Bailey (Wrekin Writers) – happy to run a morning workshop

PA contacted the History Group – Neil Clarke – happy to organise a talk

ACTION PA to let him know the theme

Also contacted Deb (Festival Website), Liam (video producer) and Damian (The Orbit) – mini film festival – all happy to be involved.

It was decided that we would very much like to include a number of Wellington festival supporters in this process, wherever we can.

ACTION: PA to invite to the next meeting

Wellington's Resident Poet

ACTION: PA to arrange a separate meeting with Amanda Jenkins to discuss further

Art Gallery – JP thinks it's a great idea but queried how people would submit their artwork. It was decided that photos of the artwork, with details of the artist would be emailed to WTC, who would then pass on (via PA) to be put into a video montage to music to be put on the Festival page on the WTC website. It was also suggested to ask Severn Harmony to record the background music/songs to accompany the Gallery. To be discussed at the next meeting (no action at present).

It was decided that a draft for the Poetry Competition, Short Story Competition and the Art Gallery should be put together in time for the next edition of This is Our Wellington

ACTION: AL to write draft for the Art Gallery (PA will speak to the relevant people about drafts for the other 2 areas)

It was decided to name the art gallery "VirtuWelli Gallery" – all entries would be encouraged including all type of art including sculpture, photographs, paintings, drawings etc. All creative entries would be welcome.

ACTION: JP to find out art clubs in Wellington that we could approach to let them know

Other areas:

Mural Trail talk and walk

ACTION PA to contact Marc Petty about doing the Mural Trail walks

Discussion about whether to include music:

Severn Harmony (local barbershop group)

Understories (sing about Shropshire stories)

ACTION: JP to contact Understories to get some idea of prices etc

Discussion about Ann Easthope (Wellington author) written a children's book on climate change and Jean Harris, who has written a book on poems about lockdown

ACTION: AL to speak to Ann to see if she's interested

ACTION: PA to speak to Jean Harris for more information

6. Date and time of future meetings

The date of the next meeting was confirmed to be held on Wednesday 6th January 2021 at 11:30am.

LIST OF ACTIONS:

ACTION: PA to ask Darren Bailey from Wrekin Writers to judge (with 2 others) and to decide on whether we should have a first line and to let him know what the theme is and also ask to write a draft for the competition for the This Is Our Wellington magazine.

ACTION: PA to let John Clayton to know the theme

ACTION: PA to contact Julie to ensure that there are a smaller number of authors in order to accommodate the socially distancing rules and perhaps introduce some new authors.

ACTION PA to let him know the theme

ACTION: PA to invite to the next meeting

ACTION: PA to arrange a separate meeting with Amanda Jenkins to discuss further

ACTION: AL to write draft for the Art Gallery (PA will speak to the relevant people about drafts for the other 2 areas)

ACTION: JP to find out art clubs in Wellington that we could approach to let them know

ACTION PA to contact Marc Petty about doing the Mural Trail walks

ACTION: JP to contact Understories to get some idea of prices etc

ACTION: AL to speak to Ann to see if she's interested

ACTION: PA to speak to Jean Harris for more information