

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Anthony Lowe
B.A (HONS)



Town Clerk
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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the virtual meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 2nd June 2020 commencing at 7.00pm

Cllr S. de Launey (SDL) Chairman	Cllr A. McClements (AM)	Cllr S. Hall (SH)
Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE (PMJ)	Cllr M. Hosken (MH)	Cllr J. Gorse (JG)
Cllr L. Carter (LC)		

In attendance – Cllrs. Roberts and Lowe, Andrew Roberts- Deputy Town Clerk and Karen Roper – Town Clerk (KR).

- 158/19 Chairman's Welcome** – Cllr. de Launey welcomed everyone to the third virtual meeting of P&R confirming that this meeting would be live streamed on Facebook.
- 159/19 Apologies for Absence** – There were no apologies for absence.
- 160/19 Declaration of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest at this point on the agenda.
- 161/19 Discussion on Live Streaming Town Council Meetings** – The Chairman reported that the Shropshire Star had enquired as to how the Town Council were intending to comply with open and transparent decision making when holding virtual meetings. Following discussion with the Clerk, it was agreed to trial live streaming initially at the Planning Committee. This seemed successful and positive comments were received from observers, livestreaming had therefore continued at all virtual Town Council meetings. Cllr Roberts said a decision of this magnitude that impacts on Councillors' privacy and personal space and should have been democratically debated at Full Council. She described alternative arrangements and said that since live streaming more items seem to be discussed in closed session which was not democratic. Members responded stating that as far as possible all decision making should be open and transparent although there are clearly instances where this is not possible due to commercial sensitivity or personnel issues. The Chairman said he did not feel Standing Orders had been breached and ordinarily anyone was welcome to attend any physical meeting of the Town Council. Cllr McClements said these were extraordinary times and the response from people had been positive so she proposed to move to next business. Her proposal was seconded by Cllr Gorse and put to the vote resulting in 6 votes for and 1 abstention.

Cllr Roberts left the meeting following the above discussion.

- 162/19 Approval of the Minutes of the meeting held 5th May 2020** – Cllr McClements asked for the following addition to the minutes at Ref 154/19 that '*Cllr McClements had additionally forwarded her own suggestions for naming roads on the new Arleston development.*' Accepting this amendment Cllr Morris-jones MBE proposed the minutes to

be recognised as a true and accurate record. This was seconded by Cllr Gorse and agreed by members.

163/19 Matters Arising

a. **Speed Indicator Device (SID)** – The Clerk had received a quotation from Idverde and was working with them to initially install units in the following areas.

- Haygate Road
- North Road
- Holyhead Road

The Clerk said Herbert Ave would require a socket and post installation and she had not yet received a quotation for this.

b. **Gateway Signs** – The Clerk reported that the Apley Avenue sign was now installed. Cllr McClements was confirming the location of the Dawley Road sign with T&W.

c. **Bins** – The Clerk reported that Cllr Carter had been working on this issue. Cllr Carter said he would continue to work with T&W Officers to find a resolution. Cllr Morris-Jones MBE thanked the Clerk and Cllr Carter for their efforts.

d. **Kindle Kindness** – The Deputy Clerk said that he had encountered technical problems transferring the money. Cllr Gorse asked this problem is resolved as a matter of urgency. Cllr Morris-Jones asked for details of where the units will be distributed.

e. **Planters** – The Clerk said that our contractor had installed the hanging baskets and would be providing a quotation for the planters.

f. **Grants** – The Clerk asked for confirmation of the date for the next local grants consideration meeting. Members agreed this would be in October.

164/19 Finance - Reports had previously been sent to members.

The Chairman said that work was being done on budget headings and April reports were received and approved last month with the exception of budget comparisons. Cllr Hosken proposed agenda items, 7a & 7b for acceptance. The proposal was seconded by Cllr de Launey and approved by members.

Agenda Item 7c, the Deputy Clerk reported that arrangements were being made for the internal auditor to inspect the accounts in time for approval at the July meeting.

165/19 Re-opening the retail sector – A meeting was scheduled for Friday 5th June with Officers from Telford and Wrekin to look at arrangements for the safe re-opening of the retail sector. Cllr Lowe requested an invitation.

166/19 The Chairman asked the Clerk to quote the meeting closure notice under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 section 5, to enable exclusion the public and press during consideration of Agenda items 6b and 10. Cllr Hosken proposed the exclusion, this was seconded by Cllr Gorse and all members were in agreement. The Deputy Clerk confirmed the meeting was no longer being live streamed on Facebook

167/19 Date and time of the next meeting was agreed as Tuesday 7th July 2020 at 7.00pm.

Chairman.....7th July 2020

