

# 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 WORKING PARTY

Minutes of the meeting held via Zoom, on **6<sup>th</sup> January 2021** commencing at 11:30am.

Present

Cllr A Lowe (Chairman)	Paola Armstrong
Cllr J Pierce	Cllr J Latter
Cllr P Davis	
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 4<sup>th</sup> December 2020**  
Cllr A Lowe confirmed and Cllr J Pierce seconded
- 5. Matters arising from those minutes**

PA emailed Darren on 9/12/20 to ask if he would be a judge for the short story competition and would write a short paragraph for the magazine to explain what was required and how to enter (PA given details) so that we can announce the winner during the festival.

PA emailed John on 9/12/20 to let him know the theme

PA emailed Julie on 9/12/20 to request a max number of 10 authors and to request some new or up and coming authors

PA emailed Neil Clarke (History Group) on 9/12/20 to let him know the theme

PA has contacted Amanda Jenkins (email on 9/12/20) to invite her to discuss further the Wellington Resident Poet position

AL written draft for how people submit their entries to the Virtual Art Gallery. PA asked Helen/Sue to write the same for the Poetry Comp and also asked Darren Bailey to write details for the short story comp. PA to ask if this can go in This Is Our Wellington magazine – next edition.

PA emailed Marc Petty on 9/12/20 about doing the Mural Trail walks (discussion had on 16/12/21)

AL spoken to Ann Easthope (author of climate change children's book) who is interested in being involved

PA spoken to Jean Harris regarding her lockdown poetry book and she is interested in being involved

Art clubs around Wellington: Methodist Church Art Group, The Belmont, The Belfry and the new club in between Gratitude and Retro Shack.

## **6. Update from Marc Petty**

A separate meeting/discussion was had with Marc on 16<sup>th</sup> December.

Marc to let us know costs of the following:

- Mural Tour
- Virtual talk on Literary Guide to Wellington
- Film for 25 years of the festival – exploring the cultural history of Wellington (title to be decided)

Marc was unable to make the meeting but will update us when he has more information.

## **7. Discuss the name VirtuWelli Festival**

It was decided to scrap the new name of "VirtuWelli", to avoid confusion, but wishing to celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, it was decided to call it Wellington 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Festival.

Theme is "Wellington Our Home Town".

## **8. Discuss festival committee group and numbers**

As the group is no longer a committee, it was decided that the name should now be the Wellington Festival Working Group.

A discussion was had concerning Festival volunteers and it was decided that since the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary will be largely virtual, we will be liaising individually with volunteers from representative groups within the town who will be participating in the virtual festival.

## **9. Schedule of events**

PA went through the schedule of events. PD asked if we could broadcast live some of the events, and it was agreed that this would engage more people.

Real time filming of socially distanced "Meet the authors", winners of short story, winners of poetry competitions, writer's workshop were considered a good idea to widen the audience and engage viewers on Saturday May 8<sup>th</sup> in particular.

Details to be discussed at next meeting. (Summary of events to be sent with the minutes).

**ACTION: PA to schedule informal discussion with Amanda Jenkins to discuss the role and search for the Wellington Resident Poet/Poet Laureate.**

**ACTION: PA to ask Liam (The Orbit) if he would be able to do a live quiz as part of the festival**

## 10. Any Other Business

What to put in the magazine:

History of the Wellington Festival – over the last 25 years. Marc Petty to draft.

Details of the competitions: Short Story, Poetry Competition, Resident Poet, Art Gallery

Details of where to find the festival page on WTC website.

How to follow on social media (WTC facebook)

**ACTION: PA to circulate AL's words regarding the Virtual Art Gallery for the This Is Our Wellington magazine.**

**ACTION: PA to chase Marc Petty regarding writing a short piece on the History of the Wellington Festival**

PD asked if we are including photography section. This will be part of the Art Gallery.

Prize Money

Discussion about prize money. It was decided to increase the prize money of the

Poetry competition to a total of £270 (9 prizes)

Short story - £100 (JP stated that there must be a disclaimer about not being published before)

Wellington Resident Poet - £300 (plus the £200 from Amanda Jenkins)

Virtual Art Gallery - in order to encourage more entries, it was decided that there would be 5 prizes of £100 each for the winners "to be spent in Wellington". To be judged by Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

JP suggested that the winners' work could be displayed somewhere in Wellington, after the festival.

Reminder that the theme is "Wellington: Our Home Town" and that anyone can enter.

Poetry Competition to include Primary and Secondary Schools.

Short story open to all.

Virtual Art Gallery open to all, all visual arts accepted including amateur photos taken on mobile phones, provided the festival theme is respected.

All prizes will be a cash amount "to be spent in Wellington"

Finance

A brief discussion was had concerning finance and budgets for this festival.

**ACTION: AL will provide a brief report for the E&C Committee**

**ACTION: PA to send AL details of the bucket collection amount from the festival in 2019.**

Demographics

How to attract different demographics – to be discussed at next meeting

11. **Date and time of future meetings: The date of the next meeting was confirmed to be held on Wednesday 3rd February 2021. This meeting began at 11:30am and was concluded at 1:00pm.**

## **ACTIONS:**

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