

# WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Mayor  
Cllr Paul Davis



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Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Wellington Town Council, held at Civic Offices on Tuesday, 12<sup>th</sup> October 2021 starting at 6.15pm.

## Present

P. Davis (PD) Mayor	J. Alvey (JA)	L. Jinks (LJ)	J. Gorse (JG)
P. Fairclough (PF)	P. Morris-Jones (PMJ) MBE	L. Carter (LC)	C. Barker (CB)
S. de Launey (SdL)	G. Luter (GL)	U. Ahmed (UA)	A. Lowe (AL)
J. Pierce (JP)	A. McClements (AMcL)	G. Cook (GK)	

**Also in Attendance;** Anthea Lowe, Karen Roper and Andrew Roberts

6.15pm	<b>Welcome</b> - The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and introduced Anthea Lowe – Associate Director Policy and Governance at Telford and Wrekin to present training on the updated Code of Conduct.
7.20pm	<b>Prayers</b> - Cllrs. Cook and McClements joined the meeting and the Mayor sincerely thanked Anthea Lowe for her presentation. He then called on Nick Brook, Parish Mission Enabler to lead prayers.
7.22pm	<b>Public Open Session</b> – Mr P. Kalinauckas and one other member of the public wished to present a petition to the council relating to the closed car park at the Bowring Park. Mr Kalinauckas gave members background information and said he had 1086 signatures in favour of opening the car park. The Mayor said that the Town Council had no influence over this matter and advised the applicants to approach the Borough council directly. The Mayor explained there would be no debate on this matter as this was not the appropriate authority to deal with the issue and he thanked the members of public for attending the meeting. PMJ said the members of the public were asking for the support of local councillors and they were entitled to do so. The Mayor said he had taken advice and the matter had been previously discussed at the Town Council and so he proposed to move to accept apologies.
47/21	<b>Apologies</b> - were received and accepted from Cllrs. S. Hall, M. Hosken, J. Latter, C. Brittain, D. Roberts and K. Tomlinson
48/21	<b>Declarations of Interest</b>
49/21	<b>Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021-</b> The minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Alvey, 2 <sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Luter and agreed by all members

50/21	<p><b>To receive and note the reports of the following Wellington Town Council Committees.</b></p> <p>a) <b>Policy and Resources 5<sup>rd</sup> October</b> – Cllr de Launey said the minutes had been circulated and asked if members had any questions;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cllr Jinks asked for an update on Georges' Rock – Cllr de Launey gave an overview of the history and said that quotations were now being sought for transport.</li> <li>• <b>Grants Panel</b> – Cllr de Launey was asked why the Stay and Thrive application for £300 was turned down. He explained that the organisation appeared to have large resources and no indication of how they were to be used. Cllr Gorse said she had looked at the papers and agreed there was a lot of money going in but also a lot was going out. The Group provide Arts &amp; Craft and cooking classes helping many people. She proposed the application is reconsidered and was seconded by Cllr McClements. The vote was carried so the application would be referred back to P&amp;R. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Cllr Carter proposed that the names of councillors and the way they are voting should be noted and recorded in the minutes. He was seconded by Cllr Ahmed. A vote was taken 12 voted in favour Cllr de Launey abstained.</li> <li>○ Cllr Alvey said the public have a right to know and supported the policy of naming Councillors.</li> <li>○ Cllr Barker said he was elected in May but did not know how the grants panel works and requested further information.</li> <li>○ Cllr Jinks said she would like to put the record straight and felt that some of the comments made tonight were disrespectful and members just want to see a fair process and proper procedures being adhered to.</li> <li>○ Cllr de Launey said the grants panel process is open and fair, anyone can apply.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>b) <b>Planning Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> Oct</b> - Cllr Luter presented the minutes – there were no questions.</p> <p>c) <b>Events &amp; Communications Committee held on 28<sup>th</sup> Sept</b> – Cllr Lowe presented the minutes. Cllr Gorse referenced minute 51/21 saying she couldn't understand the comments regarding means testing and the percentage of Wellington residents in attendance relating to the use of tax payers money for the Orbit cinema event for pensioners. Cllr McClements said other town councils do things for their pensioners such as lunches and trips to the seaside. Wellington was the only one doing nothing and after the pandemic we needed to do something. Cllr Carter said he was amazed as we were supporting a local organisation the cost of the event was about 6p per head per tax payer per annum and we should be doing more of this not less. Cllr Barker said he was at the meeting and members were expressing concern as to the best use of tax payer's money as many pensions could easily afford to pay. Cllr Davis said there was £2k in the budget to help older people and bring them together.</p>
51/21	<p><b>To receive the Recommendation from P&amp;R to accept the Report from the External Auditor.</b> – The Clerk had circulated the response to all members. Cllr de Launey said the External Auditor had highlighted two issues, one a clerical error and that the return was late, both of which had been previously documented. Cllr de Launey proposed acceptance of the External Auditors' Report, he was seconded by Cllr Lowe, all members voted in agreement.</p>
52/21	<p><b>Wellington Regeneration Partnership Meeting held 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021-</b> Cllr de Launey said the redacted minutes had been circulated to all members because some of the contents were commercially sensitive but any councillor can ask questions.</p>

	<p>Katherine Kynaston had agreed to attend the November Full Council meeting to outline the process and give an update. Cllr Carter gave an overview of the funding so far including support for the Orbit, the Market food quarter, the investment in Market Street and the High Street Fund totalling near to £5m. Cllr Alvey asked about the Post Office, Cllr Carter said discussions to upgrade the premises were underway following the appointment of a new permanent Post Master. Cllr de Launey said a consultation would be carried in the forthcoming newsletter 'Our Wellington' relating to the permissions allowing the Town Council to borrow £500k to contribute to the regeneration.</p>
53/21	<p><b>Climate Change Emergency Working Group meeting of 7<sup>th</sup> October 2021</b> – The Clerk had circulated the report. Cllr Luter as acting chairman said there had been a stand in the Square for Green Week. A steering group was being set up consisting of councillors and a wider group of people to look at how we can approach the challenges. Cllr Lowe said the event in the Square was busy and is a good way of engaging with the public, he suggested it should be a bi weekly event. There was an open invitation to all councillors to get involved.</p>
54/21	<p><b>To agree date of next meeting as 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021</b> – To include a presentation on the Towns Fund from Katherine Kynaston and Kathy Mulholland from Telford and Wrekin.</p> <p>The Clerk reminded members the Police and Crime Commissioner would be visiting the Policy and Resources Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> November.</p>

Chairman.....9<sup>th</sup> November 2021