

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr P. Fairclough



Town Clerk
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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday 6th April 2021 commencing at 7.00pm.

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

Also In attendance – Cllr P. Fairclough ex officio, Cllr P. Davis ex officio, Cllr A. Lowe, A. Roberts-Deputy Town Clerk and K. Roper- Town Clerk.

- 83/20 Chairman's Welcome** – Cllr. de Launey welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed the meeting is being live streamed on Facebook.
- 84/20 Apologies for Absence** – There were no apologies for absence.
- 85/20 Declaration of Interest** – There were no declarations of Interest made at this point.
- 86/20 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the meeting dated 2nd March 2021-** The minutes were proposed by Cllr Gorse as a true and accurate record. She was seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and all members voted in favour.
- 87/20 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting dated 2nd March 2021**
- a Haygate Ward Election 6th May 2021**– The Clerk reported the notices were in place.
- b Speed Indicator Device-** The Deputy Clerk had circulated to members the data downloaded from the SID.
- c Communications Strategy and Protocol** – The Clerk reminded members to comment on these documents. The Clerk was asked to circulate the date of the next Events and Communications Committee.
- 88/20 Finance** – Members had received papers, Cllr Hosken proposed the finance reports referenced 6a – 6d be accepted subject to clarification of a postage budget figure. The Deputy Clerk responded to the question and the proposal from Cllr Hosken was seconded by Cllr Gorse. Members voted unanimously in favour of acceptance of the financial reports referenced 6a-d.
- 89/20 George Evans Tribute** – The Clerk reported the Evans family had been contacted and were really pleased the rock means so much to other people and had agreed it should therefore stay in place. The area around it was being cleared by the West Team so it could again be used as meeting place and seat. The family had indicated they would be happy to choose another rock from the Ercall. It was proposed by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and 2nd by Cllr McClements to organise a meeting with the family to choose a rock.
- 90/20 Regeneration Board Meeting of 17th March 2021** – Cllr de Launey gave the following update to members.
- £2,200 had been allocated so far to assist with opening the High Street and a package was being put together that will include pavement stickers, hanging wellington boots, large trees in planters and a Telford wide video commissioned by the Borough.

- Letters had been written to support the application to the Towns Investment Fund. The Clerk was asked to send a copy of the letter to all members and the MPs.
- £1m of up front funding was being used to assist with gap funding to update 2,3, & 4 Crown Street, and the Planet of Beauty in Walker Street.

Cllr Hosken said it was wonderful this money was being spent in Wellington and he hoped the work done would be of a high standard using appropriate materials as the work done previously had not worn well. Cllr Carter said work done 10-15 years ago was being put right using the right materials and colours.

91/20 Community Action Team (CAT) Proposal - The Clerk said a suitable candidate had been identified for the position of Location Officer and HR were currently processing but no starting date had been identified. The Chairman proposed acceptance of the Service Level Agreement costing £15,508.00 over 3 years and was seconded by Cllr Hosken. All members were in agreement and made the following comments.

- LC said we now have the opportunity to enforce parking, litter and dog fouling laws with CCTV positioned for fly tipping and we should be communicating this at every opportunity
- PD said before and after pictures of work done by the team needs to be advertised at every opportunity
- AMc said there was excitement at the Arleston neighbourhood watch that work would be covered outside of the town centre. Thought needs to be given to how to involve neighbourhood groups.
- PMJ said localised knowledge needs to be passed on.

92/20 Climate Change Emergency Group (CEEG) – The Chairman invited Cllr Lowe to report. The meeting report of 1st April was noted. Cllr Lowe then presented details of a solar panel project for the Parade Toilets. He had been working closely with Telford and Wrekin Officers and an application could result in funding to offset £5k of the costs leaving a funding gap of around £2k that could be recouped within 2 years through savings on electricity bills. Members asked about extending the project to the Bowring toilets, the deterioration rate / expected life of the panels and the maintenance costs, AL agreed to circulate the information. LC proposed the project be accepted. He was seconded by Cllr Hosken and all members voted in favour. AL said it was great to have the Town Council leading from the front.

93/20 Events and Communications (E&C) Committee Meeting of 1st April 2021– The minutes had been distributed. There were no comments made.

94/20 Office 365 Accounts for Members – The Clerk asked members to consider purchasing 365 accounts to assist with greater compliance with the GDPR requirements. The Chairman asked for this item to be deferred to the May meeting to allow time for costs to be updated. Members agreed.

95/20 Continuation with the GDPR support – The Clerk presented the quotations and requested members extend the contract for GDPR support at the Gold level. Cllr Gorse proposed acceptance of the contract and was seconded by Cllr Hosken, all members voted in favour.

96/20 Format of the Annual Town Assembly Meeting - The Clerk had circulated a draft agenda for the meeting to be held on 5th May. It was proposed for acceptance by Cllr de Launey, seconded by Cllr Hall and agreed by members.

97/20 Review of Future Meeting Arrangements – The Clerk had circulated a risk assessment for returning to face to face meetings explaining that everyone would still need to be distanced by 2 meters and wearing masks etc. The following comments were made:

- A McClements said these measures are about the safety of Councillors and no one should be put at risk

- It is hoped the legislation will be extended by Government beyond the May 7th deadline
- P&R could continue to have delegated powers and act on behalf of Full Council
- Full Council meetings could be postponed until July
- The Annual General Meeting of the Council due to be held on 11th May could be postponed
- LC said hybrid meetings may be the way forward

The Chairman proposed this item be deferred to the next meeting of P&R in anticipation of the receipt of further information on remote meetings. He was seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and members voted in favour.

98/20 West Team Report – The Deputy Clerk had circulated a written report to members. PD asked for an update on a request relating to Fowler Close which was being chased by the Deputy Clerk.

99/20 The Next Virtual Meeting Date was agreed as 4th May via Zoom link.

100/20 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Cllr de Launey proposed that items 19 on the agenda are taken in closed session in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Local Government Act 1972, he was seconded by Cllr Gorse and members voted in favour. At 20.33 hrs the live streaming of the meeting was stopped.

Chairman.....4th May 2021