

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr P. Davis



Town Clerk
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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting of the above named Committee held at Civic Offices on Tuesday 5th October 2021 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present

Cllr S. de Launey (SDL) Chairman	Cllr S. Hall (SH)
Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE – (PMJ) Deputy Chairman	Cllr J. Gorse (JG)
Cllr A. McClements (AMcC)	Cllr M. Hosken (MH)

Also in attendance – K. Roper, Town Clerk.

76/21 Chairman's Welcome. – Cllr de Launey welcomed everyone to the meeting.

77/21 Apologies for Absence – Were received and accepted from Cllr L. Carter.

78/21 Declarations of Interest – Were given and noted in respect of item 12 on the agenda by Cllr Morris-Jones.

79/21 Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 7th September 2021 – The minutes were proposed by Cllr Hosken as a true and accurate record, he was seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones and all members voted in favour

80/21 Matters Arising

- a. **George Evans Tribute** – The Clerk reported that one quotation had been received and staff were waiting for an alternative quote for transportation of the rock.
- b. **Speed Indicator Device (SID)** – The Clerk said there were units installed at Dawley Rd, North Rd and Holyhead Rd. Cllr Morris-Jones MBE said the unit when installed in Apley was on the wrong side of the road. The Clerk said displays were now smiley and frowning faces and frames were installed carrying the name of Wellington Town Council. She said that solar panels to power the signs had been quoted at £450 per unit. Cllr de Launey proposed the units are converted to solar power, he was seconded by Cllr McClements and all members were in agreement. Members requested that applications to cover the costs are made to the PCC and/or any other appropriate climate saving fund.
- c. **Cyclist Dismount Signs** - The Clerk had circulated artwork for signs that were being installed at South Water Square and could also be suitable for Wellington. Cllr Hall asked if people will understand the images include electric vehicles. Cllr McClements said she thought the visuals were clear and enforceable, she was grateful to Lee Carter and Paul Fenn for bringing them to us. The proposed locations had been forwarded to all members and the Clerk had asked for any additions / alterations to the list.
- d. **Bank** - The Clerk reported the Deputy Clerk had an appointment at the TSB to discuss moving the account.

- e. **Planters** – The Clerk said she had received communications from the public and members expressing concern that the planters were not being watered and the plants were dying. The WEST Team had therefore been watering and enquiries were being made to our existing hanging basket supplier for replanting and watering next summer. For the Christmas period arrangements had been made to move the planters into the market to make way for the Christmas Tree.

81/21 Finance

- a. **To agree receipts** for Aug 2021
- b. **To agree payments** for Aug 2021
- c. **To Agree Petty Cash** for Aug 2021
- d. **Receipts/Payments** compared with budget as at 31st Aug 2021

Cllr Hosken proposed acceptance of the above documents referenced a-d, he was seconded by Cllr Gorse and all members voted in agreement.

- e. **External Auditor**

The Clerk had circulated to all members the report from the External Auditor indicating the error where a 6 and 0 had been transposed and that the accounts were presented after the closing date.

Cllr de Launey proposed acceptance of report from the External Auditor, he was seconded by Cllr Hosken and all members voted in favour.

82/21 Report from the Grants Panel held at 6.30pm.

The Chairman gave an overview and indicated that the following 2 applications had been turned down.

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| 1. Stay - Thrive | |
| 2. Wellington Methodist Church – Art Group | |

A third application from the Interfaith Group had been received after the closing date and would be put forward to the next grants panel meeting in spring 2022.

Cllrs Gorse and McClements expressed their disappointment that the Art Group application had been refused as it was more than a hobby to many people offering a lifeline to some. After Covid many people were isolated and suffering with their mental health and groups like this were having a positive impact on the health and wellbeing of many people.

The Chairman said the Grants panel were a sub-committee of Policy and Resources so members could move an amendment.

Cllr Gorse proposed the committee reconsider their decision relating to the Wellington Arts Group. She was seconded by Cllr McClements. The matter was put to the vote resulting in 2 for and 3 abstentions so the Chairman announced the proposal was carried and the grant of £370.00 was awarded to the Wellington Arts Group.

83/21 Regeneration Partnership Meeting held 15th September 2021 – The written report was circulated to members.

Cllr Morris –Jones MBE asked about the old job centre facility. KR explained has opened as a drop in business centre where small businesses can access meeting rooms, workspace and internet. T&W had explained that once the trial period had taken place and any problems resolved a bigger promotion would be held and more information would be available.

KR said a redacted regeneration report will be circulated to full council. MH said in his view this was totally wrong and all Councillors had the right to know about all aspects of the Regeneration Partnership.

The Chairman explained there are instances where for commercial or personal reasons it is necessary to keep some information out of the public domain. He added that Wellington Town Council members can ask questions at any time.

Cllr de Launey gave an explanation on the workings of the Towns Board and how the government grant will be managed in accordance with the business cases already used to get the funding.

It was proposed by Cllr McClements to invite Katherine Kynaston to give a report on the Town Fund to Full Council she was seconded by Cllr Gorse.

- 84/21 Community Action Team Update** – The Town Clerk had distributed 3 x reports and explained that the WEST team were currently off sick with a heavy cold. Cllr Hosken thanked staff for acting quickly to resolve the Pidgeon problem in the Square. Cllr Gorse asked if Chris Hallum could attend a future full council meeting.
- 85/21 Purchase of additional Mobile Camera** – The Clerk had attached a quotation to part fund an additional mobile camera to support safer communities funded 50/50 with the Borough. Cllr McClements proposed acceptance of the quote, she was seconded by Cllr Gorse and all members voted in favor. Cllr Morris-Jones MBE asked if the camera could be used in any location – the Clerk confirmed this was the case but it had been suggested that a view towards the night club would be most useful as they start to open up. Cllr Hall asked who owned the camera after 3 years – the Clerk would find out.
- 86/21 Hire of Lesleys' Room** - The Clerk was asked to find information on how often the room is booked over the last 6 months. The issue was referred to next meeting
- 87/21 Orbit** – A request pay the pavement license had been received and the Chairman suggested the issued be referred to the Regeneration Partnership
- 88/21 E&C** – Request of funding for events to celebrate the Queens Jubilee. Members agreed the requested £2210.00 be included in the budget preparation for next year.
- 89/21 The date of the next meeting was agreed as 2nd November 2021**
- 90/21 Closure of Meeting** – The Chairman proposed closure of the meeting in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the local Government Act 1972. Members were unanimously in agreement.
- 91/21 Personnel Committee dated 5 October 2021** – The Chairman gave an oral report covering the following issues;
- Return of Office – Staff have agreed a rota starting on 1st November after the installation of an intercom system and an upgrade of signage for Planning.
 - Staff appraisal results were considered by members.
 - A pay review and job evaluation was agreed for a member of the WEST team
 - Succession planning was discussed. Cllr McClements asked for clarification that posts would be advertised and the correct process would be followed. Cllr de Launey confirmed this to be the case.
- 92/21 Bowring** – The Clerk gave a verbal update on a meeting held at the Café. The Tenants had purchased new equipment to cope with the increased volume of customers and requested a meeting to discuss a new tenancy agreement. Cllr Morris-Jones said they were doing a great job.

Chairman.....2nd November 2021