

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Lesley Street



Town Clerk
HOWARD R PERKINS
LL.B, I.C.S.A, Dip LG.
Civic Offices, Larkin Way
Tan Bank, Wellington
Telford TF1 1LX
Tel: 01952 567697
Fax: 01952 567690

Email: wellingtontowncouncil@telford.gov.uk
www.wellington-shropshire.gov.uk

FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes for the meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on **Tuesday, 11th October 2011** commencing 7:00pm.

Present:

Cllr Mrs L Street, Mayor	Cllr F Burns, Deputy Mayor
Cllr R Aveley	Cllr Mrs C Brittain
Cllr D Chaplin	Cllr Mrs K Tomlinson
Cllr S deLauney	Cllr P Fairclough
Cllr A Forster	Cllr J Gorse
Cllr M Hosken	Cllr C Lewis
Cllr P McCarthy	Cllr Mrs A McClements
Cllr P Morris-Jones	Cllr R Perkins
Cllr G Riley	Cllr Mrs D Roberts
Cllr R Sloan	Cllr B Tillotson

In attendance: Eight members of the public
Howard Perkins, Town Clerk
Anni B Potts, Assistant to the Town Clerk

109/11 Prayers

Prayers were said by Revd Mark Ireland. Revd Ireland announced that the refurbished Parish Hall would be opened on 6th November by the Bishop of Shrewsbury and thanked the Mayor for her contribution towards the project, at the Civic Service.

110/11 Introduction and welcome

The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and made a presentation to Mr Allan Frost, local author and historian, to thank him for everything that he has done for Wellington town to date. She expressed the hope that he would continue his work and presented Mr Frost with a shield bearing the town crest.

111/11 Apologies

Mr Graham Cook - holiday
Apologies accepted.

112/11 Declarations of Interest

Members only need declare any interest they may have in items of business in this Agenda. Cllr Sloan declared an interest in the WELLINGTON CIVIC & LEISURE CENTRE (Agenda Item 9) as the Borough Councillor on that Committee. No other declarations of interest were received.

113/11 Public Session:

- (i) Mrs Emma Gledhill rose to speak on the following subjects:
 - o MILLENNIUM CLOCK: Mrs Gledhill thanked Wellington Town Council for the return of the Millennium Clock and asked for assurance that it would continue to chime and if the volume could be increased.

- TRAFFIC IN LEEGOMERY AND SURROUNDING AREAS: Mrs Gledhill reported that residents would like the 20mph speed limit to be a permanent speed limit due to the lack of pavement, particularly in Leegomery Road, and the number of families and children walking those routes. However, she mentioned problems of visibility of speed limit and no entry signs, and lack of road markings.
- BICYCLE RACKS, MARKET SQUARE: Mrs Gledhill asked if the bike racks in Market Square could be relocated further away from the clock and who was enforcing the prohibition of cycling in the pedestrianised areas.
- CHRISTMAS 2011: Mrs Gledhill suggested a Victorian Christmas and market for 2011.

The Mayor duly responded that

- Traffic issues were on the agenda for current meeting (Agenda Item 12)
- The clock had been serviced and it was chiming. Joyce's, who made and serviced the clock, had assured the Council that the clock was in full working order.
- The positioning of the cycle racks had been determined by the Police, Telford & Wrekin Council and Wellington Town Council. The Police were the traffic enforcement authority.
- The prohibition of cycling was missing one sign and thus was not currently fully enforceable. However, this was being addressed and thus would soon be properly enforceable.
- An excellent agenda of Christmas events had already been organised for this year, including the Switching on of the Christmas lights, Lantern Parade, Carol service. The Mayor also mentioned the Remembrance Day event on 11th November and Remembrance Day Parade and Service on 13th November.

(ii) Mr John Alvey rose to speak on the following subjects:

- HAYGATE ROAD: DURING Mr Alvey's terms of office as a Borough Councillor, six years ago, he had been assured this road would be resurfaced, but to date these works had not been completed. At the time, he was assured the developers had set aside money to complete these works and thus asked if the Council could look into this matter.
- HAYGATE ROAD, BOWRING PARK CROSSING: As this was such a busy road which families needed to cross on a regular basis, Mr Alvey asked if it would be possible to install a crossing here.
- PARKING RESTRICTIONS: He had noted on a number of occasions that the parking restrictions were not being enforced and were unenforceable due to worn or broken yellow lines. He asked if the Council could address this issue with Telford & Wrekin Council.
- 20MPH SPEED LIMIT IN THE TOWN: Mr Alvey suggested that a 20mph speed limit through the town was overdue.
- CARNIVAL: Mr Alvey asked if the Carnival could be revived.
- NO. 2 MARKET STREET: This condition of this property was an 'abomination' and a disgrace to the town. Allegedly, the owners had received a grant to aid in the refurbishment of the property, thus he asked if the Council could investigate the situation.

The Mayor asked if Mr Alvey would allow the Council a few weeks to investigate and answer some of those points, to which he agreed. Additionally, some members were able to respond to other items immediately:

- Cllr Morris-Jones confirmed that the Carnival was to be revived.
- The Clerk confirmed that the Town Council had been in talks with Telford & Wrekin Council about the yellow lining. There was a lot of work to be done on this issue throughout the Borough, but Telford & Wrekin Council had moved Wellington near to the top of the list since its refurbishment.

114/11 To receive a presentation from Suleena Kaul, Telford & Wrekin Council on Community Resilience Planning

Representatives from the Community Resilience Team gave a presentation covering their functions which include maintaining the contingency plans for Telford & Wrekin Council, dealing with emergencies, the aftermath and aftercare. The Government wanted to publicise the initiative to parish/town councils and encourage parishes to put together emergency plans. They provided details of the Cabinet website which contained templates and guidance. Some concerns were expressed from Councillors about liability (for instance when clearing snow) and also the difficulty of getting the public to take part in such projects. The Clerk suggested that, as this was such a complicated issue, perhaps the Town Council should invite a Highways Engineer from Telford & Wrekin Council to advise on some of these issues (such as the replenishment of grit bins). This was agreed.

115/11 To receive and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2011

Proposed: Cllr Gorse, seconded: Cllr Sloan and RESOLVED that these be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

116/11 Matters arising from those Minutes:

- MINUTE 97/11 WELLINGTON HEALTH CENTRE: Cllr Sloan reported this application had been unanimously rejected by the Plans Board.
- MINUTE 99/11 ERCALL WOOD SCHOOL: Cllr Hosken mentioned the need for a great deal more discussion on the proposals for redevelopment of the school playing fields following receipt of letters of complaint from residents by all the Town Councillors.
- MINUTE 100/11: TOWN CLOCK: The Clerk reported the clock was now in place as per Option 2 (Option 1 being impossible due to location of some cellars), which benefited from lower installation costs of £1700. It was proposed by Cllr McClements, seconded by Cllr Gorse and RESOLVED that letters of thanks go to the Tick-Tock Campaigners and Mary Lewis, who had helped bring this to fruition. QUEEN'S JUBILEE: Stemming from the discussion regarding the clock, the possibility of providing a second clock was raised by Cllr Hosken, to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. Whilst it was agreed the Town should do something for the Queen's Jubilee, a second clock might not be appropriate and consultation with the residents of Wellington could be undertaken. It was AGREED UNANIMOUSLY this matter be referred to the PROMOTIONS & LIAISON COMMITTEE for further consideration.

To receive the Minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations therein.

117/11 Planning Committee

- Cllr Tillotson presented the minutes of the meeting of 12th September 2011. Proposed: Cllr Tillotson, seconded: Cllr Lewis and RESOLVED that the Minutes be received and action taken be endorsed.
- Cllr Gorse presented the minutes of the meeting of 26th September 2011. Proposed: Cllr Gorse, seconded: Cllr Roberts and RESOLVED that the Minutes be received and action taken be endorsed.

118/11 Promotions & Liaison Committee

Cllr Morris-Jones presented the minutes of the meeting of 15th September 2011.

Proposed: Cllr Morris-Jones, seconded: Cllr McClements and RESOLVED that the Minutes be received, the recommendations be approved and action taken be endorsed with the following amendments.

- MINUTE 34/11 WELCOME & INTRODUCTORY REMARKS: The Chairman welcomed members not the Deputy Chairman.
- MINUTE 41/11 WALKERS ARE WELCOME: Walks would be held monthly not weekly, on the first Sunday of each month.

Matters arising from those minutes

- MINUTE 40/11 CHRISTMAS PARADE EVENT PROGRAMME: The Clerk reported that the lights for the tree had been ordered as previously agreed, the cost being £731.00 + VAT and storage £426.00 + VAT (approved by the Chairman) agreed.

119/11 Policy & Resources Committee

Cllr deLauney presented the minutes of the meeting of 4th October 2011.

Proposed: Cllr deLauney, seconded: Cllr Chaplin and RESOLVED that the Minutes be received, the action taken be endorsed and the recommendations be approved with the following amendment and notation:

- MINUTE 57/11(IV) FINANCE: that £172,29 should read £172.29.

Matters arising from those minutes

- Minute 54/11 Grants Panel: To confirm the minutes of the meeting of the Grants Panel held on 27th September 2011: Copies of the minutes were circulated to each member at the meeting, the recommendations contained therein being AGREED UNANIMOUSLY.

- MINUTE 57/11(VI) FINANCE: The Clerk was thanked for his work ensuring that the Audit had been successful and was clear. Each member had before them a copy of the audit certificate and the Certified Statements of Accounts and Governance.
- MINUTE 58/11 TOWN CLOCK: Cllr Burns reiterated the need for the DECLARATION OF TRUST. This would help reassure the public as to the future of the clock.
- Minute 62/11 Railway Station: Cllr Hosken expressed concern over the state of the railway station and its cleanliness.
- MINUTE 63/11 ANNUAL PLANTING OF SPRING BULBS: the Clerk asked for suggestions from members for locations.
- Minute 64/11 New Grit Bins: Additional bins were suggested for Harley Close and Woodlands Avenue/Steventon Road. Further suggestions to be emailed to the Clerk, all to be considered by the POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE.

120/11 Personnel Sub-Committee

Cllr deLauney presented the minutes of the meeting of 4th October 2011.

Proposed: Cllr deLauney, seconded: Cllr Burns and RESOLVED that the Minutes be received, the action taken be endorsed and the recommendations be approved.

121/11 Conservation Working Group

Cllr Morris-Jones presented the minutes of the meeting of 15th September 2011.

Proposed: Cllr Morris-Jones, seconded: Cllr Brittain and RESOLVED (with three abstentions) that the Minutes be received, the action taken be endorsed and the recommendations be approved.

Matters arising from those minutes

The structure of the Working Group and its voting rights were confirmed by the Clerk for all members.

122/11 Civic & Leisure Centre Management Committee

Cllr Riley presented the minutes of the meeting of 15th October 2011.

Proposed: Cllr Riley, seconded: Cllr Burns and RESOLVED that the Minutes be received, the action taken be endorsed and the recommendations be approved.

Matters arising from those minutes

- MINUTE 6.2 CAR PARKING: The Clerk and Mayor confirmed that the Town Council had been involved in an extensive consultation with Telford & Wrekin Council regarding car parking. Of the two car parks the Town Council had asked to be considered as short-stay car parks, Telford & Wrekin wanted one of them to be long-stay. The Town Council had rejected this and were awaiting a decision. It was discussed and agreed that pressure must be maintained to ensure adequate car parking was maintained. The Clerk offered to ask for a statement from Telford & Wrekin regarding the latest position and/or ask a representative from Telford & Wrekin to advise.
- MINUTE 7 KITCHEN/TOILET REFURBISHMENT: The Clerk reported it had been agreed works would commence as soon as the main contract had finished and this would be the beginning of December. Works should therefore be finished by mid January 2012.
- MINUTE 8 FUNCTION ROOM: The Clerk confirmed works would proceed on the kitchen, toilet and the function room simultaneously. With regard to the works on the heaters/coolers and two new heaters, the total cost of the works of £20,000 would, if the Council agreed to fund them, be split 50:50 between Telford & Wrekin Council and the Town Council making Wellington Town Council responsible for meeting £10,000 which could become payable over two years (based upon tendered figures not budgeted). It was proposed by Cllr Morris-Jones, seconded by Cllr deLauney and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that this be agreed with the Borough Council and the works be carried out by them, the Town Council's contribution to be a grant.

123/11 To receive relevant correspondence:

- TELFORD & WREKIN COUNCIL: LARKIN WAY: Noted.
- NALC: OPPORTUNITY TO LOBBY - NATIONALLY AND LOCALLY - LOCAL COUNCILS' SECTOR POSITION ON BUSINESS RATES: It was agreed that the Town Council wished to support

this proposal and appropriate letters of request be sent to the Borough Members of Parliament.

124/11 “£££ for Projects” for Shawbirch & Dothill: Consultation

Cllr Tomlinson discussed the above project and asked for ‘matched funding’ for her ward. As there were a number of wards, the members for which could submit similar proposals, it was proposed by Cllr deLauney, seconded by Cllr Aveley and RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that the matter be referred to the POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE for consideration together with a similar request to the Council by Cllr McClements.

At this point in the meeting, Cllrs Hosken and Aveley gave their apologies and left the meeting.

125/11 Proposition/Resolution: To consider the following proposition/resolution of which proper notice has been given:

“Wellington Town Council:-

- request that Telford & Wrekin Council apply the 20mph traffic restriction only on those roads that need such a reduced speed limit surrounding Wrekin College, and reinstate the 30mph restrictions on all other relevant streets which are subject to the traffic calming measures implemented by the Borough Council in 2010;
- request Telford & Wrekin Council to introduce digital speed warning signs, and not build outs or chicanes to effect traffic control in the streets around Wrekin College which have the worst speeding problems, i.e. Sutherland Road and Roslyn Road (because these would provide a cheaper, more effective solution and would have a less detrimental effect on the street environment), and that additional signage be placed upon the roads and attached to the lampposts;
- given the extreme findings of excessive speeding on Sutherland Road request the Borough Council request, through official channels, the Police undertake speeding checks on all the main feed roads to Wrekin College.”

Proposed by Cllr McCarthy. Seconded by Cllr Riley.

With the consent of Cllr McCarthy, an amendment was proposed by Cllr Sloan, seconded by Cllr Burns that the final proposal be amended to read:

- given the extreme findings of excessive speeding on Sutherland Road the Town Council request the Police undertake speeding checks on all the main feed roads to Wrekin College.

It was RESOLVED by vote (sixteen votes for the resolution and one abstention) this proposal (as amended) be agreed.

126/11 To receive a report from our representative on the Wellington Town Partnership

Cllr Lewis reported, inter alia, Andy Smith or Runtime had briefed the Partnership about the website which would act as a portal for the Town. It was reiterated that this website was not to be confused with the Town Council’s website which was a local government site and not a site for tourism (although it did contain relevant links to tourism). The Clerk then responded to a suggestion he had received that the Town Manager could perhaps run the site, stating that this would be unwise as the Town Council would then be effectively taking responsibility for it. Cllr McClements reminded the Council that Katy Foster had recommended such a site be the responsibility of retailers and the local Chamber of Commerce and Cllr Roberts supported this approach.

127/11 To agree the date of the next meeting

The date for the next meeting was agreed as **8th November 2011**

Signed