

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Denis Allen



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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 9th January 2018 commencing at 7:05pm.

Please note the December meeting of the council was cancelled due to extreme weather conditions.

Present:

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| Chairman - Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE | Cllr A. McClements | Cllr J. Gorse |
| Cllr S. Hall | Cllr J. Alvey | Cllr C. Brittain |
| Cllr F. Burns | Cllr A. Lowe | Cllr P. Fairclough |
| Cllr D Roberts | Cllr L. Jinks | Cllr M. Hosken. |
| Cllr L. Carter | Cllr S. deLauney | Cllr S Fikeis |
| Cllr P. McCarthy | Cllr G. Cook | Cllr G. Luter |

- 73/17 In attendance** -Reverend Tim Carter and Charlotte Cheshire from All Saints Church, Jonathan Eatough - Assistant Director: Governance, Procurement & Commissioning Telford & Wrekin Council, Karen Roper– Town Clerk and 3 members of the public (see signing in sheet).
- 74/17 Introduction and Welcome** – The Clerk said she had received apologies from the Deputy Mayor and asked for nominations to act as Chairman for the meeting from amongst Members. Cllr Hosken proposed Cllr Phil Morris-Jones MBE this was seconded by Cllr Roberts and agreed by Members.
Cllr Morris Jones MBE acting as Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He then called on Reverend Carter to address the meeting. Reverend Carter introduced Charlotte Cheshire who was appointed as Curate for a 12 month period and then he took prayers.
- 75/17 Presentation by Jonathan Eatough - Assistant Director; Governance, Procurement & Commissioning, Telford & Wrekin Council.** - Mr Eatough delivered a presentation on Governance training covering:- The Governance Structure, Code of Conduct, Interests, Complaints, Criminal Offences, Management Meetings, Useful Rules, Defamation and Social Media. Members asked the following questions:
- Cllr Gorse asked about Social Media, Defamation, Slander and Libel and in particular around members responding to letters and social media postings who may either be expressing a personal view or representing the view of the Council. Mr Eatough said that it would not concern him if responses indicated they were Wellington Town Councillors or responding as an individual. Some members said they do indicate the views they express are their personal view. Mr Eatough urged caution on re-tweets appearing to endorse the content and reminded members they should not post anything without carefully considering the impact. Cllr McCarthy felt that people had a right to know his views as they were his electors and the Mayor and Clerk should be representing the view of the Council.

- Cllr Fairclough said that SALC were providing social media training which members could book onto. She also said with the elections happening in 2019, younger people do not wish to be contacted on the doorstep or leaflets and will engage through Social Media going forward.
- The final point made by Mr Eatough was that work related to induction information for aspiring / new Councillors at the next election would be available on UTube, members thought this was a great idea.
- Members thanked Mr Eatough for his presentation.

76/17 Apologies – Were received from Cllr C. Mason-Morris, Cllr K. Tomlinson for family commitments and Cllr D. Allen because of illness. It was proposed by Cllr Hosken 2nd by Cllr Gorse and agreed by members to accept the apologies.

77/17 Declarations of Interests – None were declared at this time.

78/17 To receive and approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 14th November 2017 – The December meeting was not held due to weather conditions therefore minutes of 14^h November were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Gorse, 2nd by Cllr Alvey and agreed as a true record.

79/17 Matters arising from those Minutes:

a) Presentation of Grant Cheques - Cllr Gorse said she had received feedback from the recipients of the grants cheques who said that there was no opportunity to network and asked that consideration be given to holding a specific event for the next presentation.

b) People of Wellington Event (POW) - ref: minute 66/17 - Cllr Fikeis said that no further information had been received by POW. The Chairman said this would be looked into and reported back at the next meeting.

c) Pedal Bike Accident – Cllr Alvey reported that there had been an accident and a lady had been hurt. The Clerk said she had raised this with our PCSO's who had visited the victim. The Integrated Community Management (ICM) group were also aware of the incident and were looking at the by-laws and improving signage.

d) Promotions and Liaison meeting dated 1st November 2017 - Cllr Gorse said she was not on this Committee so could not 2nd the minutes.

e) Letter to the West Midland Train Company – Cllr McClements said a letter had been drafted, received by the Clerk and would sent shortly.

80/17 To receive the minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations therein.

a) Planning Committee meeting of 08.11.17 - Cllr Alvey presented the minutes, these were 2nd by Cllr de Launey and agreed by members as a true record.

b) Planning Committee meeting of 29.11.17 Cllr Alvey commented on application 0643 REVISED LAYOUT PLAN. Members wished to record that they were concerned that not enough provision for access and egress to the proposed development had been planned and that there should be two access points and not just the single point. The minutes were 2nd by Cllr Gorse and agreed by members as a true record.

c) Planning Committee meeting of 20.12.17 - Cllr Alvey presented the minutes, 2nd Cllr Roberts and agreed by members as a true record.

d) Promotions & Liaison Committee held 29.11.17- the minutes were presented by Cllr Fikeis and 2nd by Cllr Carter.

- Minute Ref 74/17. Cllr Fikeis reported Nathan Muench had hand delivered a grant application from the Community Food Project to the Town Council Office but stated it had been lost. She sought confirmation that office procedures were in place to ensure this situation does not occur again. The Town Clerk said that there were procedures in place.
- Cllr Alvey said both the fruit and veg and clothing stalls at the top of New Street had been encroaching on the public highway with their stalls. The Clerk said this issue had been reported to the ICM group. The enforcement officer had been in contact resulting in the Fruit shop complying with the regulations. The clothing stall will receive a personal visit from the Enforcements Officer. Cllr Alvey said these were not the only shops causing and obstruction on the High Street and others should be included.

81/17 Wellington Festival Committee meeting of 16.11.17 - Cllr Fairclough presented the minutes Which were 2nd by Cllr Gorse. Ideas were discussed for next years' festival. Cllr Gorse Stated that it had been agreed that people and Councillors that cannot attend the meeting can put forward ideas which would be followed up by Staff. Cllr Fikeis asked that the Committee review the timings of the meetings because meetings in the middle of the day are difficult for those who work full time.

82/17 Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 05.12.17 – Cllr Lowe presented the minutes; these were 2nd Cllr Hosken and agreed by members as a true record.

Policy & Resources Committee meeting held on 02.01.18 – Cllr de Launey presented the minutes these were 2nd by Cllr Lowe and agreed by members as a true record. The following comments were made;

- Office Move** – Alterations are now underway and progressing well
- Traffic flow and parking Minute Ref 108/17** – Cllr Gorse said short stay parking was working well, and a meeting date needed to be identified to discuss long term car parking. The Clerk would confirm a meeting date as soon as practicable.
- Electronic Banking New Arrangements-** The system was working well. 2 councillors need to approve every payment but it was felt to be advisable to add another Councillor to authorise payments in case of any difficulties so a volunteer is required.
- Town Council Newsletter-** The Clerk said Staff were reviewing how we communicate and a draft of the newsletter should be presented to the next P&R meeting.

83/17 Budget – Cllr de Launey presented the final draft budget which had received all party support. There were some changes due to savings and the Integrated Community Management scheme being deferred for a year. The savings were allocated to appropriate headings including communications and unallocated expenditure but this action did not alter the final figures. The budget was seconded by Cllr Burns. Cllr Hosken spoke in support of the budget stating that people need to see that Wellington Town Council is efficient effective and active to help to eradicate the concerns and worries of a number of people particularly around regeneration. He felt it is an exciting prospect to support a project which will hopefully contribute to Wellington's renewal. Cllr Morris-Jones also expressed his support for the budget with the proposal to take action to help to regenerate the town. The budget was put to the vote and there were 2 abstentions. The vote was carried by the remaining 16 members.

It was proposed by Cllr deLauney, seconded by Cllr Burns and RESOLVED that the Town Council:

- accepts, approves and adopts the draft budget for 2018/19 (copy attached to the signed minutes) and
- in consequence, raise a precept of £399,060 against a forecast expenditure of £450,850
- request Telford & Wrekin Council to pay a grant of £1,790 from the Council Tax Support Scheme for 2018/19.

84/17 To Receive Urgent Matters For Information Only.

- **Report from Fay Easton** – Cllr Burns asked the document is deferred to the next meeting for comment so it could be studied in greater detail. Cllr Carter asked that the documents is brought back to the Regeneration Board
- **Chamber of Commerce** - Cllr Roberts commented that she felt the Chamber has become a virtual organisation because of Town Councils' support of Team Wellington. Cllr deLauney said that funding and support for the Chamber had been given previously and he considered it was inappropriate to blame their situation on Team Wellington support.
- **WEST Report.**- The Clerk had tabled a report of the team's activities. Cllr Hosken said the report was very positive the team seem effective and to be working very hard for Wellington. Cllr Burns said he would hope in the future that our team would be doing planting hedge trimming etc. The Clerk said our apprentice is studying horticulture and will be able to perform these duties when he has completed his course.
- **Integrated Community Management Team and Pubwatch** -The Clerk reminded everyone of the presentation to be made at the next Council meeting.
- **Signage** – Cllr Burns asked that a review of signage be considered. He felt there was a noticeable need to update signs when approaching Wellington from Whitchurch and Shrewsbury. Cllr deLauney said a discussion had already taken place at P&R and Ward Funding may be available together with match funding from the Town Council. The Chairman asked for this item to be added to the P&R agenda.
- **'Aspirations' Official Opening** – Cllr Alvey had attended the opening of the new facilities on Saturday morning and said he was amazed and very proud of the amenities available there.

85/17 To agree the date of the next meeting as – 13th February 2018

Signed13th February 2018