

# Wellington Town Council

**Town Mayor**  
**Cllr Cindy Mason-Morris**



**Town Clerk**  
**KAREN ROPER**  
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## FULL COUNCIL MEETING

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018 commencing at 7:05pm.**

**Present:**

Cllr C. Mason Morris – Mayor (for part)	Cllr P. Fairclough	Cllr J. Gorse
Cllr A. Lowe – Deputy Mayor	Cllr J. Alvey ( for part)	Cllr S. Fikeis
Cllr M. Hosken	Cllr L. Jinks	Cllr S. Hall
Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE	Cllr P. McCarthy	Cllr J. Harris
Cllr F. Burns	Cllr G. Luter	Cllr S. deLauney
Cllr C. Brittain	Cllr G. Cook	

**In attendance:** Karen Roper, Town Clerk, 1 member of the public and Reverend Tim Carter.

- 60/18 Welcome** - The Mayor welcomed everyone and called on Reverend Carter to lead prayers.
- 61/18 Mayor's Report** – The Mayor gave an update on the health of one of our regular attendees at these meetings saying he was improving, a card and flowers had been sent wishing him a speedy recovery. She had attended the following engagements and would be leaving to attend a Festival Event at 8.00pm. The Deputy Mayor would continue with the meeting following her departure.

### MAYOR'S ENGAGEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2018

Wed.2th September 2018	WTC Grant Photo	Orbit
Wed.12th September 2018	Telford @50 - The Forest City	Wellington Library
Sun.16th September 2018	Touched By Suicide - Memorial	Lilleshall Church
Tue.18th September 2018	Ceremony Captain White VC	Morden
Thu.20th September 2018	Friends of Bowring Park AGM	Red Lion, Wellington
Fri. 21st September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Julia Weston Lettings
Thu.27th September 2018	Opening of New Stall	Wellington Market
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Telford Whitehouse
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Parry & Carver
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	The Pheasant Inn
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Buckatree Hotel
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Gratitude Café
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Gymphobics
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Care Bureaux, Tan Bank
Fri. 28th September 2018	Charity Fundraiser	Escape Hairdressers
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Medivet Shawbirch
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Farcroft Residential Care Hc

Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Wellington Market	
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning	Arleston Guides and Brownies	
Fri. 28th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning Wellington Swimming Club	RKM Wools	
Fri. 28th September 2018	Awards	Telford Whitehouse	7.30p
Sat. 29th September 2018	MacMillan Coffee Morning Telford Lions 50th Anniversary.	Red Lion, Wellington	7.30p
Sat. 29th September 2018	Dinner RAFA Battle of Britain Memorial	Telford Whitehouse	
Sun. 30th September 2018	Service	St Georges Church	7PM
Sat. 6th October 2018	Open Exhibition - TMRG	Severn Drive, TMRG	11am

**62/18 Apologies** – Were received from Cllrs Carter & McClements ( annual leave) and Cllrs Tomlinson and Roberts.

**63/18 Declarations of Interest** – None were forwarded at this point in the meeting

**64/18 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2018** - It was proposed by Cllr Alvey, seconded by Cllr Hall and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 11th September 2018, be approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

**65/18 Matters Arising from those minutes:**

- A) **Street Signage** – The Clerk had distributed further design options to members for consideration. Following brief discussion relating to the quoted cost of £4,000.00, Cllr deLauney suggested the matter is further discussed at P&R Committee and to approach T&W for funding towards the project. Cllr Hosken proposed the matter is referred to P&R, was seconded by Cllr Jinks and members were in agreement.
- B) **Bowring Café** – The Clerk reported that tender documents had been sent to the 9 people who had expressed interest. The closing date was Friday 12<sup>th</sup> October 2018.
- C) **GDPR.** – The information sessions were offered on 31<sup>st</sup> October between 5-6pm and 6.30-7.30pm. Members were asked to confirm which session they would like to attend.

**66/18 Princess Royal Hospital** - Proposal by Cllr Gorse and seconded by Cllr Luter.

*Wellington Town Council condemns the decision to close the Accident & Emergency (A&E) Unit at the Princess Royal Hospital, between 8pm-8am, from November. It can never be acceptable for our residents, and visitors, to have to travel to Shrewsbury/Wolverhampton or possibly further across the West Midlands. We are especially concerned that the A&E at the RSH does not have the facilities or trained staff to handle paediatric cases and our children will be forced to travel an even greater distance e.g. Birmingham Children’s Hospital. We call on the Health Secretary to intervene immediately with a Government-led rescue plan.*

Cllr Gorse said she felt Councillors had a responsibility to all our residents to try to stop the closure of the A&E as it will create anxiety and distress for residents and further strain on our Ambulance service. The increase demand will impact on neighbouring hospitals at Stoke, Wolverhampton and Birmingham that are open 24 hours. This Council should fully support the need for 24 hour care 7 days a week at the Princess Royal Hospital. Cllr Luter said he felt this was the most serious issue to affect our community in his lifetime and he felt we should intervene immediately to try and prevent the resulting loss of life. Cllr McCarthy commented that we should be working arm in arm with other communities and

asked the Council reconsider its support for Future Fit. The Clerk was unanimously instructed to write to the Health Secretary and MP's.

**67/18 To receive the minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations therein.**

- A) **Policy & Resources Committee 02.10.18** - Cllr deLauney presented the minutes for 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2018 for acceptance, these were proposed Cllr Fikeis 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Gorse and agreed by members. Cllr Alvey commented that Cllr Carter was listed both as present and absent. The Clerk said this would be corrected at the next meeting of Policy and Resources.

The following comments were made;

- **Public Works Loan Board** – The Chairman reported the Business Case can now be finalised using the property valuation received from Barbers. The Mayor asked about the timeframe and Cllr deLauney confirmed this was in the hands of the Department of Communities and Local Government.
  - **External Audit** – The Chairman reported that the External Audit had been completed and there are no problems with the accounts but a clear audit certificate has not been given because of a challenge from a member of the public. Following advice from NALC's Financial Advisor, the system to value the Councils' assets previously was incorrect and had been annually overstating their worth. On 31<sup>st</sup> March 2019 they will therefore be re-valued in accordance with advice received and new (much lower) value will be stated in the asset register.
  - **Grants Panel Meeting** – The Clerk said the minutes were not yet available due to volume of work. Members asked for them to be circulated as soon as they are completed.
  - **Regeneration Board** – The Chairman outlined the proposal from the Regeneration Board to approve expenditure to appoint a specialist to assist in the regeneration of the town centre. The Mayor said the proposal has not been on an agenda to give the public 3 working days' notice as specified in the LGA 1972 Act. Cllr Hosken proposed to refer the matter back to P&R committee. This was seconded by Cllr Alvey and agreed by members, there were 4 abstentions. The Clerk was asked to produce written guidance to the Chairman of working committees.
  - The Mayor left the meeting at 8.00pm and the Deputy Mayor took the remainder of the meeting.
- C) **Planning 19.09.18** – Cllr Jinks presented the minutes which were 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and agreed by members.
- D) **Promotions and Liaison Committee 26.09.18** – Cllr Fairclough presented the draft minutes which were 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Alvey and agreed by members. Cllr Morris-Jones MBE referred to Matters Arising Over 60's activities stating this was a big project that in his view was not well thought through. He was informed that this was still a scoping exercise and no decisions had been made. Cllr McCarthy asked for consideration of holding a green day at Bowring Park. It was suggested the idea be referred to Friends of Bowring Park Group. Cllr Fikeis asked to attend any committee meeting where People of Wellington (POW) is being discussed because they had a new secretary and the old secretary was therefore unable to answer questions on behalf of POW. Cllr Fikeis said the Square was booked 12 months in advance of the POW event yet there were others using it on the day. There has been no mention in the Council 's diary of

events.

**68/18 To note the minutes of Wellington Festival Committee and Regeneration Board.**

- A) **Wellington Festival Committee 20.09.18** – Cllr Luter said he was stepping down from the committee because he was unable to attend daytime committee meetings. Cllr Fikeis said she had stepped down for the same reason. Discussion around committees setting suitable times and dates ensued. Cllr Alvey thanked Cllr Luter for his contribution to the committee. Cllr Gorse said every Councillor could be part of this committee which has volunteers. Cllr Lowe volunteered to take Cllr Luter’s place on the committee, this was moved by Cllr Hosken and 2<sup>nd</sup> Cllr Morris-Jones MBE.
- B) **Wellington Regeneration Board 26.09.18** – Minutes were noted by full council.

**69/18 Proposal to carry out disclosure and barring checks for Staff, Members and Volunteers representing Wellington Town Council.** Discussion ensued on the issue, of when it would be appropriate, the costs involved and whether individuals should pay. It was proposed by Cllr Hosken, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr deLauney and agreed by members that DBS checks should be carried out on behalf of the Council.

**70/18 Publishing Draft Minutes** – The Clerk requested clarification in relation the current custom and practice for Full Council draft minutes which are not currently published until agreed by at the next meeting as a true and accurate record. She also said the legal position is that she is required only to record the decisions of the council. Cllr Burns said he felt the minutes were fine as they are because they give a flavour of the discussion but are not a verbatim record. Cllr deLauney said he felt the minutes should have a watermark of ‘draft’ across them until they are confirmed at the next Full Council meeting. This was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Burns and agreed by members.

**71/18 The date of the next Full Council Meeting** – was agreed as 13<sup>th</sup> November 2018, commencing at 7:05pm.

Chairman.....13<sup>th</sup> November 2018