

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Cindy Mason-Morris



Town Clerk
KAREN ROPER
B.A (HONS) DMS
Civic Offices, Larkin Way
Tan Bank, Wellington
Telford TF1 1LX
Tel: 01952 567697

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

COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday
11th September 2018 commencing at 7:05pm.

Present:

Cllr A. Lowe – Deputy Mayor	Cllr A. McClements	Cllr J. Gorse
Cllr D. Roberts	Cllr J. Alvey	Cllr S. Fikeis
Cllr M. Hosken	Cllr L. Jinks	Cllr S. Hall
Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE	Cllr P. McCarthy	Cllr J. Harris
Cllr P. Fairclough	Cllr L. Carter	Cllr K. Tomlinson

In attendance: Karen Roper, Town Clerk, 5 members of the public, Reverend Tim Carter and Rev. David Sims

46/18 **Welcome** - The Deputy Mayor in the absence of the Mayor welcomed everyone and called on Reverend Carter to lead prayers. Reverend Carter introduced Rev. David Simms who would be working in Wellington and attending some of our meetings. He reported Rev. Charlotte had moved and members wished her well in her new Parish. Rev. Carter took prayers. The Deputy Mayor then called on the Clerk to read the Mayor's report.

47/18 **Mayor's Report** – Read by the Clerk. The Mayor thanked everyone who attended the Mayor's Civic Service on Sunday 15th July 2018 especially the Officers of the Council who helped organise the event and all those who took part including the Wellington Brass Band. It was a huge success with standing room only and several people commented at the time and contacted us afterwards to say how much they had enjoyed the Service. Special thanks was offered to Sue Falder, the Humanist Celebrant who officiated the Service.

Since the last Full Council, I have attended a total 19 Events, (listed below) all of which have been within Wellington and have contributed to my aim to promote the Town's business and to support our many local voluntary groups, societies. I currently have 14 events scheduled for the month of September although, this will obviously increase.

<i>Saturday 14th July 2018</i>	<i>Opening AFC Telford Fun day</i>	<i>AFC Telford</i>
<i>Sunday 15th July 2018</i>	<i>Wellington Mayor Civic service</i>	<i>Registry Office</i>
<i>Friday 20th July 2018</i>	<i>Orbit Dinner</i>	<i>Buckatree Hotel</i>
<i>Saturday 21st July 2018</i>	<i>Festival Gala Concert</i>	<i>Ironbridge</i>
<i>Sunday 22nd July 2018</i>	<i>Arleston Community Day</i>	<i>Arleston</i>
<i>Wednesday 1st August</i>	<i>Open New Premises</i>	<i>YMCA New street</i>
<i>Sunday 5th August 2018</i>	<i>Civic Society Lunch</i>	<i>Buckatree</i>
<i>Saturday 11th August</i>	<i>PDSA</i>	<i>Community event</i>
<i>Wednesday 15th August</i>	<i>Telford Red Box Project</i>	<i>Wellington Library</i>

<i>Wednesday 15th August 2018</i>	<i>Community Fun Day</i>	<i>Arleston Community Ctr</i>
<i>Saturday 18th August 2018</i>	<i>Charity Event</i>	<i>Bayley club</i>
<i>Sunday 19th August 2018</i>	<i>Handover Defibrillator</i>	<i>Bowring Park</i>
<i>Monday 20th August 2018</i>	<i>Telford Samaritans AGM</i>	<i>King Street, Wellington</i>
<i>Friday 24th August 2018</i>	<i>Orbit Launchpad Opening</i>	<i>Market Square</i>
<i>Friday 24th August 2018</i>	<i>House of Prayer Tour</i>	<i>Market Place</i>
<i>Sunday 26th August 2018</i>	<i>Shawbirch Community Fun Day</i>	<i>Woolpack Pub</i>
<i>Friday 7th September 2018</i>	<i>Wrekin Arts Photography Club</i>	<i>Belfry Arts Centre</i>
<i>Saturday 8th September 2018</i>	<i>Ichthyosis Fundraiser</i>	<i>All Saints Parish Ctr</i>
<i>Monday 10th September 2018</i>	<i>Litter Pick</i>	<i>Buckatree</i>

The Deputy Mayor had attended a part of a 50 mile walk to mark Telford's 50th Anniversary wearing the Deputy Mayors' Wellington chain of office. He had also attended Wrekin College Speech Day and an event at Lakewood Court, Dothill.

48/18 **Apologies** – Were received from Cllrs Mason-Morris, deLauney and Brittain due to ill health and Cllrs Cook, Burns and Luter due to holiday commitments.

49/18 **Declarations of Interest** – None forwarded at this point in the meeting

50/18 **To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2018**

It was proposed by Cllr Alvey, seconded by Cllr Gorse and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2018, be approved and signed by the Deputy Mayor as a true and accurate record.

51/18 **Matters Arising from those minutes:**

- A) **Integrated Community Management Report** – The Clerk had tabled the latest report. Cllr Morris-Jones commented on the measures being taken in relation to drugs, anti-social behaviour, cyclists and improved signage. He also emphasised that the council should continue to reinforce the message for the public to ring 101 to report incidents.
- B) **Street Signage** – The Clerk had distributed a design to members for consideration. Cllr McClements felt the sign was underwhelming. Cllr Carter said the signs should be more inspirational. Cllr Tomlinson reminded members of the green and gold Apley Avenue sign that had been discussed whilst the former Clerk had been in post but not erected. Members agreed they required a WOW factor and that the issue should be considered by P&L. Cllr Hosken suggested the schools hold a competition to design new road signs, Cllr McCarthy suggested Tcat students were also involved.

52/18 **To receive the minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations therein.**

- A) **Policy & Resources Committee 07.08.18** – Cllr Morris-Jones in the absence of Cllr deLauney presented the minutes which were seconded by Cllr Gorse and agreed as a true record.
- B) **Policy & Resources Committee 04.09.18** - Cllr Morris-Jones in the absence of Cllr deLauney presented the minutes for 4th September 2018 for acceptance, these were seconded by Cllr Hosken and agreed by members.
The following comments were made;
 - **Police** – Cllr Gorse commented the answer from the Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) in relation to poor response times for 101 telephone calls was weak. She felt it was blaming the public for switchboard inefficiencies.

Cllr Fikeis said she could investigate further. Cllr Hosken said he had also brought this matter to the attention of the PCC who said these are teething problems and the situation was improving. Cllr Carter said he was concerned about Police Resources in

general and listed the reduction of services in Wellington including the closure of the Station to the public in Wellington. Cllr Roberts commented that station is still used by Police Officers. Cllr McCarthy said the real problem of lack of resources was not being identified or addressed. Cllr Tomlinson said she put residents in touch with the PCSO's if they complained to her. It was proposed by Cllr McClements, 2nd by Cllr Alvey and agreed by members to invite the Police and Crime Commissioner to a meeting of this Council at the earliest opportunity.

- **Bowring Café** – Cllr Alvey proposed that the future leasing of the Bowring Café is put with professional agents to save Officers' time. Members suggested this be brought to a future meeting as a motion.
- C) **Planning 18.07.18** – Cllr Alvey presented the minutes which were 2nd by Cllr Jinks and agreed by members – the following comments were made
The fire evacuation details were questioned regarding the nightclub being redeveloped into accommodation.
- D) **Planning 08.08.18** - Cllr Alvey presented the minutes which were 2nd by Cllr Jinks and agreed by the committee – Members were not happy with the response in relation to street traders.
- E) **Planning 29.08.18** - Cllr Alvey presented the minutes which were 2nd by Cllr Jinks. Cllr McClements had received a communication from Cllr Luter stating that he felt the minutes did not accurately reflect his view. Cllr Gorse requested clarification on the reference to 'over development' in this context. Cllr Morris-Jones expressed concerns in relation to access and egress from the A442. It was established that the planning committee would agree any amendments to the minutes at their next meeting.
- F) **Promotions and Liaison Committee 19.07.18** – Cllr Carter presented the draft minutes which were 2nd by Cllr Alvey and agreed by members.
- G) **Promotions and Liaison Committee 22.08.18** – Cllr Fairclough presented the minutes which were 2nd by Cllr Hall and agreed as a true record. Cllr Alvey said he had given his apologies but they were not recorded. Cllr Roberts asked about the over 60's activities and commented that many are still working at 60 so perhaps the target age should be reviewed. Cllr Fairclough said the demographics had been taken into consideration. Cllr Carter said this was still essentially a scoping exercise to bring forward suggestions. He brought to members' attention the Orbit launch event on 12.09.18 and that the Orbit Café is now open in the Square.

53/18 To note the minutes of Wellington Festival Committee and Regeneration Board.

- A) **Wellington Festival Committee 19.07.18** – Cllr Alvey presented the minutes and requested that members help with hosting the events. Cllr Lowe commented that he understood there was a delay in the printing of the programme and some events were already being reported as sold out.
- B) **Wellington Regeneration Board 15.08.18** - Cllr Morris-Jones presented the minutes, there were no questions asked.

54/18 Proposal from P&R Committee to Consider forming a Bowring Park Committee.

The Clerk explained that this item had been brought forward from a discussion at P&R that was not on the P&R agenda. Cllr Alvey said the Friends of Bowring Park have 300 members and their AGM is due to take place on 20th September 2018. He felt that two committees might duplicate work and suggested that Councillors become active members negating the need for extra committees. Cllr Carter suggested that the Friends of Bowring Park are asked how they would like the Council to engage with them, members agreed. Cllr Roberts proposed that the Council does not reform the Bowring Working Group at this time and was seconded by Cllr Hosken. This was put to the vote and was carried with 3 abstentions.

55/18 Proposal from Cllr Fikeis, 2nd Cllr Morris-Jones that Wellington Town Council support The People of Wellington (POW event) in putting on two multi-cultural events per year. One for the Christmas period and one for Summer to bring communities together and recognise their hard work.

Cllr Fikeis reported that although the date for the POW this year had been booked for many months the Market Square was occupied when they arrived to set up on the day. They had to negotiate with the other organisation(s) to move to a different area. She explained that POW is a very different event that engages with minority groups and brings the community together. By holding POW this year they had increased business in the town by 30% and averted an EDL march. POW is not asking for money but to be included in the calendar of events and should involve all political parties as all Councillors are invited.

Cllr Morris-Jones said he took pleasure in 2nd this proposal to wholeheartedly support POW in Wellington in the same way as we support other community organisations such as H2A and the Lions Club of Wellington.

Cllr Roberts commented that POW have representative(s) on Promotions and Liaison that can already feed information into the Council.

The Chairman suspended standing orders for a member of the public to speak, she informed the Council that all members of the population have embraced POW and they enjoy putting something back into the community. Standing orders were reinstated.

Cllr McCarthy said he agreed in principle but was concerned at the focus of the proposal i.e. bringing an increase in business of 30% when we have a racist, divisive community and the motivation should be to bring people together, look at the problems and address them. Cllr Fikeis said she knew what the problems were in her community and POW unites and brings people together.

Cllr Carter felt that the word 'support' needs clarification because town council officers do not have the time to take on the administration of this event. P&L would define 'support' at their next meeting.'

Cllr Alvey confirmed to members that he was not involved in POW as he had not received any communication from the organisers about any activities.

The proposal was put to the vote and was carried with 1 vote against and 2 abstentions.

56/18 To agree information session date and time for GDPR – Members asked the Clerk to circulate dates.

57/18 To agree purchase and positioning of the digital noticeboard - Members had received information prior to the meeting. They asked if the unit it was vandal proof and how it would be updated. Cllr Carter confirmed the unit would be as robust as possible and that the office staff would be in control of the content. Cllr Morris-Jones said that if Telford and Wrekin are putting up to £4k to the project then the Town Council should support it and agree to purchase the 49" screen and fund installation costs, was seconded by Cllr Jinks. Members were in agreement.

58/18 Wellington Conservation Area Working Group – Cllr Tomlinson reported there had been a mix up with the date of the meeting. All activities undertaken relate directly to and are cross referenced to the Management plan. Volunteers had been working hard and had removed old metal railings and would be recycling them. It had been decided not to reinstall a kissing gate because of restrictions on disabled access. The new Bailiff is a fantastic lad and overall progress was really exciting. Cllr Morris-Jones 2nd by Cllr Jinks requested a letter of thanks is sent to the volunteers for all their hard work.

59/18 The date of the next Full Council Meeting – was agreed as 9th October 2018, commencing at 7:05pm.

Chairman.....9th October 2018

