

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Paul Davis



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EVENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held on **Tuesday 19th September 2023** commencing at 6.00pm.

Present:

Cllr Snell	Cllr Pierce	Cllr Lowe	Cllr Barker
Cllr Holding	Cllr Day		

In attendance: Caroline Mulvihill and Paola Armstrong

- 23/23** **Welcome and Introductory Remarks** – Cllr Barker welcomed members to the meeting.
- 24/23** **Apologies for Absence**
Cllr Tomlinson. Apologies accepted.
- 25/23** **Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest received relating to items on the agenda.
- 26/23** **To confirm the minutes from the meeting dated Tuesday 25th July 2023.**
Proposed by Cllr Snell, seconded by Cllr Lowe and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** that the minutes of the 25th July were a true and accurate record.
- 27/23** **Matters arising from those minutes:**
- ACTION: Caroline to liaise with The Orbit on the Senior Citizens film event – Done and all in place for 28th Sept with the Marigold Hotel
- ACTION: Cllr Lowe would speak with Paola Armstrong and enquire as to where the Wellington Festival signage was and if it could be used at each event - Done and was used at the events in the square.
- ACTION: Caroline to move the LW agenda item to after the Wellington Festival agenda item - Done agenda has been updated.
- ACTION: Cllr Lowe to speak with Paola Armstrong regarding the purchasing of x3 green festival banners - Done and Paola provided a report to members.

21.9.23

28/23

Correspondence: Matters for consideration

- Community Production funding
Paola explained to members that the last two community productions (Godspell and Joseph) had been successful. They bought the community together by not only having an 'open cast' - so that anyone interested could take part, but also everyone was able to attend the two showings. They were organised by a lady called Sue Pointon and supported by WTC. The theme this year was 'The Children of Eden'
To produce a community production for 2024 it would cost £2500.

Members discussed the possibility of a production with a more inclusive theme as The Children of Eden would be the third consecutive Christian-based production. However, it was thought to be best to make any changes after 2024.

Proposed by Cllr Lowe, seconded by Cllr Snell and agreed unanimously that the 2024 funding for the proposed community production of £2500 would be requested from P & R and that future production themes would be considered to reflect an all inclusive theme.

ACTION: Caroline to approach P & R for £2500

Cllr Pierce took this opportunity to congratulate the Wellington Walkers are Welcome on another successful walking festival and thanked all the volunteer's and organisers. This was echoed by members who also expressed their thanks.

29/23

Past events

Caroline and Paola briefed members on the following events:

- Six Saturdays in the Square
A detailed report by Paola had been tabled.
All events had been successful and drew footfall to the town which was the main objective. Unfortunately the Green festival was cancelled due to the weather but was hoping to take place in 2024.
- Bowring park fun days
Caroline reported that all 5 fun days had gone well, some rain on a few days but overall they were thoroughly enjoyed by many families.

2 complaints were raised against one performer. Members discussed these complaints and agreed that other local contacts / groups would be used as a replacement in 2024.

Members thanks Caroline and Paola for all their hard work in organising and delivering these events over the summer.

21.9.23

30/23

Future (fixed events)

- **Mayors Civic Service 1st October**
Caroline was unable to provide members with the details of this event due to the meeting planning them being held on Wednesday.
Members all felt that this event should be postponed to allow for the appropriate co-ordination and to allow the public to have notice in their diary of the date.
ACTION: Caroline to speak with Cllr Paul Davis on Wednesday and recommend that the event is postponed.

- **Remembrance day – 11th and 12th November**
Caroline explained that the Wellington branch of the RBL had now folded due to lack of volunteers. This left us with no RBL contact or representative.
Tim Carter and Caroline had been working together on this and Caroline updated members that she had a meeting scheduled next week with an ex RBL contact who could hopefully provide a standard bearer and some support.

ACTION: Caroline to have the meeting about Remembrance and feedback to members.

- **Christmas Light Switch on 25th November**
After meetings with the Police, who previously expressed concerns over crowd safety, Caroline had slightly changed the format of the Christmas lights event to hopefully address and alleviate crowd concerns. The proposed plan was as follows:

All Saints:
Santa's Grotto and Face painters
Silly Santa Science Show

Market Square
Shuttsie, Kerry Nostalgic music, Wellington (Telford) brass band and the snow machine

At 4.50 Santa will appear on the stage with LED lit up fairies and a Nutcracker. The lights will be switched on by the Mayor.

The late night market has changed its date so that will be on the same evening now but Shuttsie will announce a separate market entrance is available down Market Street to move the crowds away from the square and market approach quicker.

21.9.23

- Mayors Carol Service 10th December

31/23

Planning and Priorities

Caroline tabled 2 documents. The first detailing the proposed events for 2024, along with their associated costs, and the second a calendar version showing the events per quarter.

Members discussed in some detail the proposed events.

Cllr Lowe suggested that the branding of the Wellington Festival is 'parked' and the six Saturdays continued.

The total cost to coordinate and produce the 2024 events totalled £23K.

Members agreed that contingency funding is needed to enable responsiveness to unanticipated developments in order for the committee to consistently meet its objectives.

Proposed by Cllr Lowe, seconded by Cllr Snell and agreed unanimously that Caroline would approach P & R for a total amount of £30k in funding for the 2024 events.

ACTION: Caroline to ask P & R for a total of £30k

32/23

Love Wellington report

The report had been previously circulated.

Members thanked Sally for her hard work compiling this monthly.

33/23 Date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 24th October at 6pm

ACTIONS:

ACTION: Caroline to approach P & R for £2500 for the 2024 community production

ACTION: Caroline to speak with Cllr Paul Davis on Wednesday and recommend that the civic service event is postponed

ACTION: Caroline to have the meeting about Remembrance with ex RBL contact and feedback to members

ACTION: Caroline to ask P & R for £30k for the 2024 events

21.9.23