

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr D. Roberts



Town Clerk
KAREN ROPER
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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th SEPTEMBER 2022.

Held face to face at Civic Offices commencing at 7.00pm and livestreamed on Facebook.

Present

Cllr S. de Launey (Chairman)	Cllr J. Gorse	Cllr M. Hosken
Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE	Cllr S. Hall	Cllr. P. Davis

Also in attendance: K. Roper – Town Clerk

- 45/22 Welcome** – Cllr de Launey welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 46/22 Apologies for Absence** – Members noted and approved apologies from Cllr Carter.
- 47/22 Declarations of Interest** – Members noted that Cllr Morris-Jones MBE declared his interest relating to Wellington Orbit.
- 48/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 2nd August 2022** – The minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Hosken he was seconded by Cllr Gorse. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr S. Hall and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 49/22 Matters Arising**
- George Evans Tribute** – The Clerk reported that the signs had arrived. She had asked the Evans' family to write a tribute to George for the storyboard and was waiting for their response.
 - SIDs** – The Deputy Clerk would download the data from the SID's and send to the Police and the Highways Department to inform their decision making. The Clerk said Ideverde had promised to move the SIDs to Holyhead Road and Haygate Road within the next week. The Police and Crime Commissioner had agreed to fund £3,500 towards additional units. Cllr. P. Morris-Jones proposed the purchase of 2 additional SIDs, he was seconded by Cllr Davis. Any additional units would be considered in the next financial year. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr S. Hall and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions
 - Planters** – It had been agreed at E&C that the trees would move to the Dothill Nature Reserve and the wooden surrounds repurposed for use as bug hotels and bio diversity projects. Members were in agreement with this decision.
 - Cyclists Dismount Signs** – The Clerk said installation of the signs was promised to be within the next month. Telford and Wrekin Council had agreed to pay 50% of the cost, amounting to £1,500. Members were very grateful to T&W for the funding.

- e. **Shopwatch and Pubwatch** – The Clerk reported there had been a proposed new way of sharing information with businesses through Smartphones which may mean that only one **software** disc would be needed. She would report further information back to the next meeting.
- f. **Old Chapel Electrical Work** – The electrical work would start on 13th September subject to moving the **pews** and **altar**. Cllr Hosken asked if the **Diocese** had been contacted regarding the protocol / permissions to move alters in churches. The Clerk said she would check.
- g. **Digital Board** - Cllr Davis said E&C Members discussed the matter and alternative options and quotations were being evaluated, more information would be available at the next meeting.
- h. **Police and Crime Commissioner (PCC) to attend September Full Council Meeting** – The Clerk reminded members that the PCC had agreed to attend the September Full Council Meeting.

50/22 Finance – Cllr M Hosken proposed and Cllr J. Gorse seconded acceptance of items a-d listed below subject to receiving a satisfactory answer to why there were 2 x identical entries for Water Rates at Bowring Park toilets. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr S. Hall and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

- a. **To agree receipts** for July 2022
- b. **To agree payments** for July 2022
- c. **To agree Petty Cash** for July 2022
- d. **Receipts/Payments** compared with budget as at 31th July 2022.
- e. **Borrowing Approval Update** – The Town Clerk had provided further information and sent the updated motion as agreed at the Extraordinary Full Council meeting held in August. She was asked to chase the application as interest rates were increasing.
- f. **End of Year Accounts Update** – The Clerk informed members that the External Auditor had remarked that the Public Rights Inspection period for 2019/20 had not started on the required date. Members commented this was because of Covid and face to face meeting restrictions. There was no comment on this years' Year End Accounts and no challenges.
- g. **Friends of Wellington Station Project** – The Chairman asked members to approve a payment of £1,500 to Telford and Wrekin in support of the secret garden project which included improving the steps from the **Bus Station to the Railway Station**. Cllr Gorse proposed acceptance of the payment and was seconded by Cllr Hosken. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr S. Hall and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

51/22 To receive the Regeneration Board Report – The Chairman reported that the minutes of the August Board meeting were sent out with the agenda and members were invited to ask questions. Cllr Gorse said these minutes were very full and included details on property, public realm and proposed projects that will come back to P&R for agreement. Cllr Gorse said that a lot of work is undertaken by this committee. Rob Francis and the T&W Officers are excellent and should be formally recognised for their achievements which includes delivery of grants for new businesses and applications for Government funding opportunities. Cllr Morris-Jones wished to endorse the statement from Cllr Gorse stating that the skills and expertise of the T&W officers were essential for Wellington and that they are doing a really great job.

- 52/22 Market Street Project** – Work had started this week and would run through to November. Cllr Morris-Jones said traders were unhappy, reporting they were suffering financially and may not survive. Members said this project had been on the agenda for 34 years and it should be monitored to ensure it is completed as quickly as possible. The signage for the diversion was reported as being helpful and appropriate at this time although some cars were still needing to turn around at Station Approach.
- 53/22 The next meeting date was agreed as 4th October 2022 commencing at 7:00pm**
- 54/22 Closure of Meeting** – The Chairman proposed closure of the meeting in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Local Government Act 1972, this was seconded by Cllr Davis and resolved accordingly. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P Morris-Jones, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr S. Hall and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

Chairman.....4th October 2022