

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr P. Davis.



Town Clerk
KAREN ROPER
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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th June 2023.

Held face to face at Civic Offices commencing at 7.00pm.

Present

Cllr de Launey (Chairman)	Cllr. Carter	Cllr. Pierce	Cllr. Gorse	Cllr McGinn	Cllr Luter
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Also in attendance: K. Roper – Town Clerk.

01/23 Election of Chairman – The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting and called for nominations for Chairman for the year 2023-24. Cllr McGinn nominated Cllr Carter, he was seconded by Cllr Gorse and the following members voted in favour, Cllrs de Launey, Carter, Pierce, Gorse, McGinn and Luter. There were no votes against and no abstentions

Cllr Carter then chaired the remainder of the meeting.

02/23 Apologies for Absence – Were received and accepted from Cllr. Cook. The following members unanimously voted to accept his apologies Cllr Carter, Cllr Pierce, Cllr Gorse, Cllr McGinn, Cllr Luter and Cllr de Launey. There were no votes against and no abstentions

03/23 Declarations of Interest – No declarations of interest were notified relating to the agenda.

04/23 Election of Deputy Chairman - The Chairman called for nominations, Cllr Gorse nominated Cllr de Launey, she was seconded by Cllr Pierce. The following members voted in favour Cllrs de Launey, Carter, Pierce, Gorse, McGinn and Luter. There were no votes against and no abstentions

05/23 Election of the Personnel Committee - Cllr Pierce nominated Cllrs Carter, Gorse and de Launey, she was seconded by Cllr McGinn. The following members voted in favour Cllrs de Launey, Carter, Pierce, Gorse, McGinn and Luter. There were no votes against and no abstentions

06/23 Regeneration Partnership –

a) Review the terms of Reference. – Cllr de Launey proposed the following changes to the TOR,

Ref: 1.0 VOTING Membership - that the Town Council elect the Chairman and Deputy Chairman - The following members voted in favour of the change to be presented to the Partnership Cllrs de Launey, Carter, Pierce, Gorse, McGinn and Luter. There were no votes against and no abstentions. The Clerk was asked to circulate the Revised TOR at the next regeneration meeting for Partnership members to agree the change,

- b) **Election of 3 x Regeneration Partnership Members** - Cllr Carter Proposed Cllrs McGinn, Gorse and de Launey, he was seconded by Cllr Luter and the following members voted in favour, Cllrs de Launey, Carter, Pierce, Gorse, McGinn and Luter. There were no votes against and no abstentions
- c) **Election of Chairman** - Cllr Carter nominated Cllr de Launey as Chairman of the Partnership for 2023-24, he was seconded by Cllr Gorse. The following members voted in favour Cllrs de Launey, Carter, Pierce, Gorse, McGinn and Luter. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

07/23 To approve the minutes and the confidential minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 2nd May – The minutes were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Gorse, she was seconded by Cllr de Launey. The following members voted in favour Cllrs de Launey, Carter, Pierce, Gorse, McGinn and Luter. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

08/23 Matters Arising

- **Toilets-** The Clerk reported that the Parade toilets were closed again due to vandalism. The repair quote is likely to be £2,500 and will include for new hand dryers and soap dispensers. Members asked for a report to include the following information since we changed to coin operation.
 - The 'normal' running costs
 - All of the additional costs due to vandalism and whether we went out to tender for repairs
 - Normal opening times,
 - Normal cleaning times and schedules
 - A note of the times closed because of vandalism
 - A description of the problems experienced
 - The income received,
 - Anything else relevant
- **Speed Indicator Devices** – The Clerk reported she had two new units in the office waiting for deployment on the Haygate and Holyhead Roads. The Clerk confirmed there were now 4 units, 2 to be permanently situated and 2 to be mobile and deployed in areas where the need is identified. Members asked the Clerk to review the current protocol and liaise with T&W highways to ensure the deployments are appropriate and there is no duplication.
- **Orbit** - The Chairman advised members that the Levelling Up Funding will enable the Orbit to buy back the 50% ownership from the Town Council. The Orbit were working with a consultant to ensure they were implementing a sure and safe business process to obtain and utilise the funds.
- **Police and Crime Commissioner's request for regular articles to be placed in This is Our Wellington Magazine** - Members considered the request and agreed information on local Policing is important and should include contact details but they were not in favour of the inclusion of advertising material from the PCC. They requested information about the plans for the future of the Police Station.
- **Letter from Mark Pritchard MP** – the letter was regarding the one way travel system at the Wrekin suggesting it should be revoked. Members declined to comment.

- 09/23 Finance** – The Clerk said the reports were circulated together with an additional report highlighting significant changes in income and expenditure, late payments, budget forecast and current financial position. Members commented that they found this new report much easier to read. The Chairman called for a proposal to accept items a-d listed below. Cllr J. Gorse proposed acceptance she was seconded by Cllr de Launey. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr de Launey, Cllr Carter, Cllr McGinn, Cllr Luter, Cllr J. Pierce and Cllr J. Gorse. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- a. **To agree receipts** for April 2023
 - b. **To agree payments** for April 2023
 - c. **To agree Petty Cash** for April 2023
 - d. **Receipts/Payments** – compared with budget as at 30th April 2023.
 - e. **Insurance Renewal** – The Clerk informed members the insurance renewal had been paid on 1st June 2023. Members asked that time is spent next year to explore alternative options.
 - f. **Appointment of 3 members to.**
 - Authorise payments
 - Be Bank account signatories
 - To be CCLA account signatories

Cllr Carter proposed Cllrs Lowe, Gorse and McGinn and was seconded by Cllr Pierce. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr de Launey, Cllr Carter, Cllr McGinn, Cllr Luter, Cllr J. Pierce and Cllr J. Gorse. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

- 10/23 Internal Audit Report of the 2022/23 Accounts from BSS & Co Accountants** – Members had been sent the report and details of the findings. Cllr de Launey gave a detailed explanation of the end of year accounts and the AGAR form. There were 2 areas on the Internal Audit form on page 3 ref; K & L which had been identified by BSS as issues, members were previously aware of these and were satisfied that the matters would be resolved in the 2023/24 year end accounts. Members then gave consideration to page 4 of the Annual Governance Statement approving sections 1-8 and would recommend that Full Council indicate yes on the form in answer to these questions. Question 9 was not applicable.

The following proposal to Full Council was agreed as:

Full Council to resolve to accept the recommendation from Policy and Resources Committee that Full Council approves and authorises the Mayor's signature on the Annual Accounting Statements for 2022/23.
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Full Council to resolve to accept the recommendation from Policy and Resources Committee that Full Council approves and authorises the Mayor's signature on the Annual Governance Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2022/23.
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Cllr Gorse proposed to recommend the above resolutions / acceptance of the accounts to Full Council and that Full Council authorises the Mayor's signature on the Annual Accounting Statements and Annual Governance Accountability Return (AGAR) she was

seconded by Councillor de Launey. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr de Launey, Cllr Carter, Cllr McGinn, Cllr Luter, Cllr J. Pierce and Cllr J. Gorse. There were no votes against and no abstentions

- 11/23 Receive Report from the Regeneration Partnership on 19th April 2023** - Cllr de Launey indicated this would be available for the July Meeting.
- 12/23 CAT Report** – The ‘usual’ reports had been circulated to members, Cllr Carter commented that he felt there should be a wider discussion about this service, how people engage and how to manage people’s expectations with the limited resources available. Cllr Pierce expressed her concern that taxis were entering the bus station area and parking on zig zag makings to collect fast food making it difficult for buses to manoeuvre and creating a dangerous situation. The Clerk was asked to bring a report back to Full Council describing the current working of the service including the roles of the Police and Telford and Wrekin. This would be an item for discussion at the next meeting.
- 13/23 The next meeting date was agreed as 4th July 2023 commencing at 7:00pm**
Cllr Carter said he would not be available for this meeting.
- 14/23 Closure of Meeting** – Cllr Carter proposed closure of the meeting in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Local Government Act 1972, he was seconded by Cllr de Launey. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr de Launey, Cllr Carter, Cllr McGinn, Cllr Luter, Cllr J. Pierce and Cllr J. Gorse. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

Chairman.....4th July 2023