

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr P. Davis.



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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 5th MARCH 2024 at CIVIC OFFICES COMMENCING at 7.00pm.

Present

Cllr Carter (Chairman)	Cllr. Pierce	Cllr. Gorse	Cllr. Luter
Cllr de Launey	Cllr McGinn	Cllr Cook	

Also in attendance: P. Davis - Town Mayor, Karen Roper CEO.

106/23 Welcome from the Chairman – Cllr Carter welcomed everyone to the meeting.

107/23 Apologies for Absence – There were no apologies.

108/23 Declarations of Interest – Cllr Pierce declared an interest in the grant request forwarded by the Friends of Wellington Station as a member of the group. The Chairman agreed she could contribute to the debate but not vote.

109/23 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 6th February 2024 and confidential minutes of 6th February 2024 (appendix 1 & 2). These were proposed by Cllr Gorse, seconded by Cllr McGinn and the following members Cllrs Carter, Pierce, Gorse, Luter, de Launey, Cook and McGinn **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** that both sets of minutes for the meeting held on 6th February were approved as a true and accurate record.

Matters Arising

110/23

- **DBS responses** – The list of outstanding DBS applications was noted by members, it was agreed that group leaders would be approached to resolve the remaining missing applications.
- **Christmas Lights** – The CEO reported that the DCEO was still researching suppliers and a full report would be brought back to the April meeting.
- **Hanging Basket Display** – The CEO had confirmed the contract for 2024 with Limetree and asked for a map of hanging baskets locations. She had let them know that there were two councillors wishing to be involved in relocation of some of the baskets. There had been no response from the supplier and Cllr McGinn said he would make contact directly. Cllr Carter said there would be an improvement programme in Church Street including street furniture and hanging baskets so there needed to be a discussion with the supplier.
- **Parade Toilets** – The CEO issued a brief written report providing an overview of electricity usage prior to and after the installation of solar panels. The evidence was that the panels had significantly reduced electricity consumption, but costs had risen following Covid and the Ukraine war. She then gave an overview of the additional problems being experienced with the toilets and it was agreed that a full report including options would be presented to the next meeting. Enquiries would be made to ensure CCTV cover is adequate.

Finance Report -

a) To agree payments for January 2024, the CEO provided the bank statements, a list of

111/23 payments and tabled the physical invoices that had been paid in January 2024. These were balanced back to the bank statement.

b) To agree receipts for January 2024 the CEO provided a list of receipts that had been balanced back to the bank statement.

Items a & b were proposed for acceptance by Cllr de Launey, seconded by Cllr Cook and the following members Cllrs Carter, Pierce, Cook, de Launey, Gorse, Luter and McGinn RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY that items a & b, are approved.

c) To agree Petty Cash for January 2023 - The CEO said there had been no movements on this account.

d) Unity Bank Application – The SUN number is still outstanding and is likely to be a further 8-10 weeks. Access to online banking was now achieved and bills were being paid.

e) Payroll transfer to Telford and Wrekin - The process is complete apart from the SUN number that will allow T&W to pay staff directly.

f) Councillors Allowances – The CEO said as the payments to all Councillors need to be set up on the T&W payroll system the timeframe is just not achievable for March. The forms had gone out to members and some had been received but the payment would now be made in April.

g) Consideration of Grants –

- **Friends of Wellington Station** - Following careful consideration it was agreed that this group met the criteria and had provided the required information. Cllr Carter suggested this group could be offered free use of Lesley's Room for the forthcoming financial year and a grant of £450.00. Cllr de Launey proposed to accept Cllr Carters' recommendations and was seconded by Cllr McGinn. The following members Cllrs Carter, Cook, de Launey, Gorse, Luter and McGinn RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the proposal. Cllr Pierce abstained.
- **Telford and Wrekin Interfaith Council** - Following careful consideration it was agreed that this group had NOT provided the required information. The CEO was asked to contact them and request the missing documents before the end of the financial year.
- **Wellington History Group** - Following careful consideration it was agreed that this group met the criteria and had provided the required information. It was proposed by Cllr de Launey and seconded by Cllr Gorse to award a grant of £100.00 towards the printing costs of the Wellingtonia magazine. The following members Cllrs Carter, Pierce, Cook, de Launey, Gorse, Luter and McGinn RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the proposal.
- **Eyton and Wellington Women's Institute** - Following careful consideration it was agreed that this group met the criteria and had provided the required information. It was proposed by Cllr de Launey and seconded by Cllr Cook to award a grant of £500.00 towards the purchase of microphone and speaker equipment. The following members Cllrs Carter, Pierce, Cook, de Launey, Gorse, Luter and McGinn RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the proposal.
- **House of Prayer**- Following careful consideration it was agreed that this group met the criteria and had provided the required information. It was proposed by Cllr Gorse and 2nd by Cllr Cook to award a grant of £1,500 to provide support to community and asylum seeker refugees. The following members Cllrs Carter, Pierce, Cook, de Launey, Gorse, Luter and McGinn RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY to accept the proposal.

The Chairman commented that this would be the last grant awarded by the Council in

this financial year. It had been agreed that for the financial year starting 1st April 2024 members had resolved to deliver CPR training for 100 residents in its place.
Cllr Pierce commented that grants for funding were available elsewhere.

- 112/23 Renting Out of Lesley's Room** – Following the decision taken last month to charge rent for use of Lesley's room, members were asked to consider if they would be charging the T&W Healthy Start Group who have the room FOC for 1.5 days per week. The Chairman asked that staff negotiate with T&W Healthy Start Group and the Leisure Centre Manager on this matter to achieve a mutually agreeable resolution.
- 113/23 Letters from the MP Mark Pritchard regarding the Princess Royal Hospital and the Wrexham, Shropshire and West Midlands Railway (WSMR) proposals**
Members noted the contents of the letters.
- 114/23 Update on CPR Training** - Cllr Davis said discussions had been held with officers from Telford and Wrekin to confirm costs and training dates as everything else was in place. He also reported he had been working with our website provider to allow us to host forms on our website. He said that everything was set up and geared up ready to go.
- 115/23 Church Street Task and Finish Group** - Cllr Carter said he would contact officers Adam Brookes and Nathan Lyttle who are leading on the Church Street project to ask them to liaise/engage with himself, the Clerk, Cllrs Davis, McGinn, de Launey, Luter and Pierce.
- 116/23 The date of the next meeting was agreed as Tuesday 2nd April 2024.**
- 117/23 To consider closure of the meeting in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Local Government Act 1972, to discuss the remaining items on the agenda.** This was proposed by Cllr de Launey, seconded by Cllr Gorse. Cllrs Carter, Pierce, Gorse, de Launey, Cook, Luter and McGinn UNANIMOUSLY AGREED that the meeting would now move into closed session for the remaining items on the agenda.

Chairman..... 2nd April 2024