

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr D. Roberts



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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 6th DECEMBER 2022.

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

Present

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

Also in attendance: Cllr A. Lowe and K. Roper – Town Clerk,

- 83/22 Welcome** – Cllr de Launey welcomed everyone to the meeting and proposed to move agenda items 7 & 9 to the end of the agenda and take in private session due to contractual matters. He was seconded by Cllr P. Davis and the following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr S Hall, Cllr L Carter, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr P. Davis. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 84/22 Apologies for Absence** – Members noted and approved apologies from Cllr Hosken due to illness. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr S Hall, Cllr L Carter, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr P. Davis. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 85/22 Declarations of Interest** – Members noted that Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and Cllr A. Lowe declared their interests relating to Wellington Orbit. The following members unanimously accepted their declaration of interest, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr S Hall, Cllr L Carter, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr P. Davis. There were no votes against and no abstentions
- 86/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 1st November 2022 and the Confidential Minutes of 1st November 2022** – The minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE, he was seconded by Cllr J Gorse. The following members voted unanimously in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr L Carter Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr P. Davis. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 87/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Confidential Extraordinary Meeting held on Tuesday 22nd November 2022.** The minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr P. Davis, he was seconded by Cllr S. Hall. The following members voted unanimously in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr L Carter Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr P. Davis. There were no votes against and no abstentions
- 88/22 Matters Arising**
- **Regeneration** – The Chairman confirmed the next Board meeting date was planned for 21st December 2022. He said he was pleased with the additional Christmas lights and the work that had taken place in Market Street so far.
 - **George Evans Memorial** – The Clerk tabled the wording for the plaque received from the Evans' family. Members discussed and agreed that they preferred the lower case version and suggested some minor adjustments adding a few words explaining the town council had funded the project. The Chairman hoped a presentation / dedication ceremony could be arranged together with the family early in the New Year.

- 89/22 Finance** –Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE proposed acceptance of items a-d listed below. Cllr L. Carter seconded and the following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr L. Carter, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr. P. Davis and Cllr S. Hall. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- a. **To agree receipts** for October 2022
 - b. **To agree payments** for October 2022
 - c. **To agree Petty Cash** for October 2022
 - d. **Receipts/Payments** – compared with budget as at 31st October 2022.
- 90/22 CCLA Deposit of Funds** - The Clerk confirmed that two accounts had been opened one for the borrowed regeneration funds and one for surplus funds for ease of accounting, both attracting approx. 2.1% interest. Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE said this is an excellent idea and asked why it had not been done before. The Chairman said that no interest was being paid on any bank accounts until recently, he also confirmed that the funds placed with CCLA were accessible on the same day as long as the request is made before 11.00am.
- 91/22 Live Streaming Council Meetings** – Cllr J. Gorse said that there had been some negative comments online. She felt we were not projecting a professional image because not everyone in the meeting could be seen using the equipment we have, or heard against background noise. Live streaming was started during Covid and now we are meeting normally and are again open to the public she felt it was time to stop livestreaming streaming. The following points were made;
- We do get good comments as well as bad
 - People do not have to turn out to attend meetings if they are online
 - There may be accusations that we are try to do things on the ‘quiet’
 - Councillors have to be more guarded and choose their words carefully when online
 - Livestreaming and being accountable is good and if we are going to do it we need to get it right
 - It helps those who have mobility issues and may be unable to get out to physically attend meetings
 - Members were interested in a hybrid meeting situation if there is a demand for it.
- The Chairman said Full Council should consider if there needs to be a policy change to consider if there is a demand to end routine live streaming of meetings. He was seconded by Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE and the following members voted in favour, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr L. Carter, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr. P. Davis and Cllr S. Hall. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 92/22 Market Street Works** – Cllr L. Carter said the project was on time and phase one would end as planned on Friday to support local businesses. Phase 2 would start in January and would be completed in February. Great feedback was being received from the public and the new Christmas lights were excellent. Members commented that the project was long overdue and they expressed concern at the poor and very dangerous condition of the privately owned former ‘Wilkos’ car park at the bottom of Market Street. It was hoped that a way forward with the owners could be negotiated to bring it up to a safe standard. Cllr Gorse said the great work on Market Street had been achieved by working in partnership with Borough.
- 93/22 The next meeting date was agreed as 3rd January 2022 commencing at 7:00pm**
- 94/22 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 J. Gorse and resolved accordingly. The following members voted in favour, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr L. Carter, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr. P. Davis and Cllr S. Hall. There were no votes against and no abstentions

Chairman.....3rd January 2023