

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 7th March 2023.

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

Present

Cllr de Launey (Chairman)	Cllr. Hosken	Cllr. Hall	Cllr. Gorse	Cllr. Davis
Cllr Morris-Jones MBE	Cllr. Carter			

Also in attendance: K. Roper – Town Clerk.

- 118/22 Welcome** – The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 119/22 Apologies for Absence** – There were no apologies for absence.
- 120/22 Declarations of Interest** – Members noted that Cllrs de Launey and Morris-Jones MBE declared their interests relating to Wellington Orbit. The following members unanimously accepted their declarations of interest, Cllr L. Carter, Cllr S Hall, Cllr M. Hosken, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr P. Davis. There were no votes against and no abstentions
- 121/22 To approve the minutes and the confidential minutes of 07th February 2023** – Both sets of minutes were proposed as true and accurate records by Cllr M. Hosken, he was seconded by Cllr J Gorse. The following members voted unanimously in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr L. Carter, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr M. Hosken, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr P. Davis. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 122/22 Matters Arising**
- **Toilets**- The Clerk reported that there had been further vandalism at the Parade toilets. The hand dryers had been ripped away from the walls so the toilets were again closed whilst quotations for repair were being sought.
 - **George Evans Memorial** – The Clerk reported the plaque had arrived and the family had been contacted to agree a dedication ceremony date.
 - **Speed Indicator Devices (SID)** – The Clerk said delivery of 2 additional units was promised for the end of March and a request for a calibration check had been made.
 - **Voter ID Event** - The Clerk said a briefing on the new Voter ID regulations was taking place at the Civic Offices on Thursday 9th March at 3.30pm.
 - **Market Street and Parking** - Members said the lining work in Market Street had not been delivered as per the original plan. The signage was now complete and enforcement officers were active on those parking illegally. T&W were continuing to negotiate with Wilkinsons to reopen their car park.
- 123/22 Finance** – The Clerk said the reports were circulated with the agenda. Cllr Hosken proposed acceptance of items a-d listed below. Cllr J. Gorse seconded and the following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr L. Carter Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr M. Hosken Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr. P. Davis and Cllr S. Hall. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- To agree receipts** for January 2023
 - To agree payments** for January 2023
 - To agree Petty Cash** for January 2023

- d. **Receipts/Payments** – compared with budget as at 31st January 2023.
- e. **Street Tables Trading License** - The Clerk reported the License had been paid at a cost of £285.00. The following members unanimously voted in agreement of her action, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr. L. Carter, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr M. Hosken, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr. P. Davis and Cllr S. Hall. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- f. **Digital Board** - Cllr Davis said he had researched the options for replacement of the digital board with the potential to offer an interactive unit for visitors but this would require a minimum budget of around £8k. Cllr Hosken proposed the decision is deferred to the June meeting when the newly elected councillors would be in place, he was seconded by Cllr Davis. The following members voted in favour Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr. L. Carter, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr M. Hosken, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr. P. Davis and Cllr S. Hall. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

124/22 Regeneration Board Meeting held on 15th February 2023- The Clerk confirmed the report had been circulated with the agenda, there were no comments from members and the report was noted.

125/22 West Midlands Police Charter – The Clerk had circulated the papers and members made the following points;

- There was no disagreement with the contents of the documents but members felt the Police have a long way to go to get to grips with the serious crime in our area
- It was commented that we need to see a far more robust plan for policing our area
- 'Specials Officers' do not appear to be used
- We need more officers on the beat
- Feel the documents are jargon
- Suggest a strongly written letter is sent to the PCC to explain why we are worried, concerned and disappointed.

Following discussion Cllr de Launey proposed we do not sign up to the charter at this time and he was seconded by Cllr Gorse. The following members voted in favour Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr. L. Carter, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr M. Hosken, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr. P. Davis and Cllr S. Hall. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

126/22 Community Action Team – Cllr Morris-Jones MBE said vehicles were still parking in a way that obscures the line of sight for traffic turning out of Ladycroft resulting in a recent minor collision. Cllr Carter said that he and Cllr Tomlinson had written to the Police and had worked with T&W resulting in a Traffic Regulation Order which was currently in a 6 week consultation period. Following which, double yellow lines will be installed and officers will be able to enforce parking offences. He added the Environment Agency were also enforcing their regulations at the site.

Cllr Hosken said the Cycle Lanes on Haygate Road had significantly narrowed the traffic lanes on this through route and were confusing to motorists who have described them as horrendous and dangerous. Cllr Carter said that one of the objectives was to slow down the traffic which has worked, but concerns have already been raised with Telford and Wrekin and they are monitoring the situation.

Cllr Hosken reported the smell of cannabis on Crown, Duke and Bell street should be investigated by the CAT team and the leaf debris in the area behind Bowring Park Café reported last month have not yet been removed.

127/22 The next meeting date was agreed as 4th April 2023 commencing at 7:00pm

128/22 Closure of Meeting – Cllr S. de Launey proposed closure of the meeting in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Local Government Act 1972, he was seconded by Cllr P. Davis. The following members voted in favour, Cllr S de Launey, Cllr L Carter, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr M. Hosken, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr. P. Davis and Cllr S. Hall. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

Chairman.....4th April 2023