

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Anthony Lowe



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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 9th July 2019 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present:

Cllr P. Fairclough - Deputy Mayor	Cllr. J. Latter	Cllr J. Gorse
Cllr D. Roberts	Cllr J. Alvey	Cllr G. Luter
Cllr P. Morris-Jones	Cllr F. Burns	Cllr A. McClements
Cllr S. de Launey	Cllr S. Hall	Cllr L. Jinks
Cllr M. Hosken	Cllr L. Carter	Cllr C. Brittain
Cllr P. Davis	Cllr J. Pierce	Cllr U. Ahmed.

In attendance: Rev. David Sims, 2 Members of the public and Karen Roper, Town Clerk.

31/19 Welcome – In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr Fairclough, warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting and called upon Rev. Sims to lead prayers.

32/19 Mayor's Engagements – The Clerk read a report on the Mayor's Civic Sunday event held on 30th June 2019 which celebrated local heroes. Cllr Alvey said the service was excellent and it was nice to see young people recognised.

The following list indicates events attended by the Mayor in June.

Mayors Civic Service
Opening of Flying Juice Tattoo Studio
Opening of The Walnut Restaurant
Shropshire in London 120th anniversary Service at Shrewsbury Abbey
Opening of Bowring Park Family Wellbeing and Picnic Day
Love Wellington meeting at The Orbit
1st showing of a film at the Orbit
Purchased a seat at the Orbit
Wellington Civic Society trip to National Trust Property (Croft Castle)
Twinning visit to Chatenay Malabry including speeches at arrival Reception, in Luxembourg Gardens after WBB performance and at Farewell dinner.
Mayoress attended Wrekin College Speech Day in my stead
Old Hall School end of term Celebration Day on Wed 10th.

33/19 Apologies - There were apologies received from Cllr A. Lowe, annual leave, Cllr. K. Tomlinson, family business and Cllr Cook due to illness.

34/19 Declarations of Interest – None were received at this point in the meeting.

35/19 To Receive and Approve Minutes of the Meeting Held 11th June 2019

Cllr Morris-Jones proposed an amendment to the minutes at Ref: 25/19, stated as *double*

taxation and should be corrected read **double insurance**. Following this amendment, it was proposed by Cllr Alvey, 2nd by Cllr Hosken and RESOLVED by members that the minutes be signed and approved as a true and accurate record.

36/19 Matters Arising from the Above Minutes

- **Defibrillator for Shawbirch** – The Clerk informed members that the defibrillator unit is to be donated, free of charge but the box that houses the equipment has been priced at around £550 plus the installation costs.

Councillor Jinks said she would like to apply for a defibrillator for Dothill and that other wards may also wish to have these installed. Members made the following comments:

- Would like to know some background on the usage and effectiveness of the units
 - This Council has previously decided against installation of these units so how many lives could have been saved?
 - There was discussion around the way the unit functions and the ease of use
 - The Clerk was asked to explore the possibilities.
- **Friends of Dothill Public Liability Licence**
 - The Clerk said this issue was being investigated and she would report back to the next full council meeting.
 - **Bowring Tenancy Agreement**
 - The Clerk said the tenancy agreement had been given to the tenants
 - Cllr Jinks asked for the agreement to be signed within 14 days
 - Cllr de Launey said the matter had been referred to P&R for resolution and they had appointed members to deal with the matter. He would update members of Full Council at the appropriate point during the P&R report.
 - Cllr Morris-Jones said there had been another addition of a bar on the outside.

37/19 To receive and note the Minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations.

A. Policy and Resources meeting dated 02.07.19

Cllr de Launey raised the issue of treatment of committee minutes. Explaining the procedure traditionally used by this Council was that Committee Chairman presented their minutes to Full Council which were proposed, seconded and approved by Full Council. This process has been challenged because Full Council cannot approve Committee Minutes. NONETHELESS, Full Council still needs to accept the actions from these minutes because other than Planning, the Committees themselves do not have delegated powers to act without the approval of Full Council. He suggested that for the future, committee minutes will not be moved and voted on by Full Council. Full Council will **approve** or can challenge all of the committee's recommendations / actions but not vote on the accuracy of the minutes. Members agreed.

Cllr de Launey presented the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee meeting of 2nd July 2019 highlighting the following recommendations to full Council.

- **Election of the Regeneration Board Members** (this item for information only, P&R is empowered to appoint members to this sub-committee) the former members were re-elected, namely, Cllrs Burns, de Launey and Morris-Jones.
- **Ref 21/19 Staffing health problems** - were reported and P&R proposed the following actions to deal with the situation if necessary;
 - Close the office
 - No staff member to be left on their own with the door open to the public
 - Provide cover for toilets if needed

- **Asset Register Policy** – A draft policy had been circulated to members and the Clerk was asked to seek advice from NALC in relation to this matter.
- **DRB checks** – Cllr McClements said it would have been ideal for members to have undertaken DRB checks following the elections in May. It was stated that the policy document needs to be agreed first and would be sent to members for comment.
- **Tenancy agreement for the Café** – Cllr de Launey said P&R's view is this is not a simple matter as we do not wish to lose the tenants. Cllr Jinks said this is a successful team who are making alterations to the buildings and benefitting from taxpayer's support. Cllr Hosken asked about the interior design taking place asking if planning enquiries had been made to enable this to happen legally. He and Councillor Morris-Jones agreed with Cllr Jinks on the urgency to get the agreement signed. Cllr Gorse commented that the 12 months free of charge rental period is not yet up (due in November) and she felt it might be premature to be too demanding as there were still 4 months to go. Cllr Roberts said obviously in the good weather the Café will do well but this position changes dramatically on cold rainy days. Cllr Burns said a group of Councillors are charged with resolving this issue and they should be allowed to do so and report back to Full Council.
- **Regeneration Board – 'Love Wellington' project** – Cllr de Launey said that the 'Love Wellington' project was going really well and now included pages in the Wrekin News at no further cost. The first part of the contract with Sally Themans finishes at the end of June and was reviewed by the Regeneration Board. They considered the cost to date as value for money. Members were therefore asked if they were in agreement with going forward to the 2nd phase but extending it to the end of the financial year 31st March 2020 at a cost of £16,000. Cllr Gorse said 'Love Wellington' was reaching many people in many areas and around the world. Cllr Davis echoed the sentiments commenting that the Social Media project was well received. Cllr Carter said it was a gamble to commission a project to talk positively about Wellington but it is working by attracting businesses into the Town.
- **Orbit** - Cllr Alvey said the Orbit is a great facility and it must be used. Cllr Morris-Jones said the daytime sessions are not as popular as the evening sessions which are generally 75-80% full.
- **Civic Regalia and Award Shields** - The Clerk was asked to go ahead and purchase these.

The recommendations / actions recorded in the Policy and Resources committee minutes were proposed for acceptance and agreed by the full council.

B. Planning Committee Meeting held on 19.06.19 - Cllr Alvey proposed the minutes for the meeting held on 19th June to be noted by Full Council, this was seconded by Cllr Burns and agreed by members.

- Cllr Roberts commented on the covenant that exists on the Cottage Hospital and hoped that the purchaser will preserve the existing building. Cllr Hosken said that Mr & Mrs Bowring left the land and the cottage hospital to the people of Wellington.
- Cllrs Alvey and Fairclough reported they had attended an in depth planning presentation lasting 2.5 hours. The position regarding clarification of green carding applications confirmed that anyone can green card an application.
- Cllr Burns asked that T&W report back to town council on the decisions made. He also reported that the application for 16 & 17 Market Square Wellington was rejected by members due to inappropriate access, inadequate parking provision and that the immediate locality was commercial in nature.

- C. **Promotions and Liaison Committee 26th June 2019** – Cllr Carter presented the Minutes. Cllr Davis said that the cost of each event for the Festival was being reviewed and things were moving forward. Cllr Alvey asked if the brass band event had been cancelled and if contingency planning was in place. It was reported that all the events, including the venues were being appraised. The minutes were 2nd by Cllr Davis with actions noted and agreed by Full Council.

38/19 ICM Meeting held 11th June 2019 – Members had received two written reports from the meeting. Cllr Burns reported that people need to take responsibility and call 101 to report incidents happening on the streets to create an evidence base. He commented that no names and addresses are needed. Members made the following remarks:

- Cllr Latter said he had called 101 recently and received a quick response, the system worked well.
- Cllr Jinks said the passageway / gateway from the bus station and the high street was being used by rough sleepers which she felt gave poor impression on arrival to the town. She asked if they could be referred to the agencies that could help.
- Cllr Carter said this passageway was earmarked for artwork but the owners, Weatherspoons refused to give their permission.
- Cyclists - Members requested that persistent offenders need to be pressurised to stop the problem of riding through the pedestrianised area.
- Cllr Alvey said the 101 profile is not high enough to tackle things like begging on the streets. The more people report the more it builds up a picture of the problems.
- It was reported that the new CCTV system in Wellington should help and in Dawley there was CCTV in the arcade.
- Cllr Carter suggested a letter be written to the Police and Crime Commissioner requesting more officers on the beat in Wellington.

39/19 Wellington Environmental Services Team (WEST)

- **Hollies Estate** – Cllr Alvey said that people on the Hollies estate were delighted with the work done by the Environmental team
- **Golf Links Lane** – Cllr Hosken said they had also done a great job at Golf Links Lane.
- **Arleston** – A thank you letter from Arleston Community Centre had been received for the work done at the playing fields by the WEST team and copies were distributed to members.
- Members were asked to identify projects within their ward.

40/19 Closing Comments - The Deputy Mayor thanked everyone for their contributions evening.

41/19 The next meeting date was agreed as Tuesday 10th September starting at 7.00pm

Chairman.....10th September 2019