

# Wellington Town Council

**Town Mayor**  
**Cllr Anthony Lowe**  
B.A. (Hons)



**Town Clerk**  
**KAREN ROPER**  
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## FULL COUNCIL MEETING

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 12th November 2019 commencing at 7.00pm.**

### **Present:**

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

**In attendance:** Rev. David Sims, 3 Members of the public and Karen Roper, Town Clerk.

**75/19 Welcome** – The Mayor warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting he then called upon Rev. David Sims to lead prayers.

**Meeting with local business** – The Mayor explained that there had been a meeting between himself, Cllrs Carter, de Launey and Anthony Nicholls from Ken Francis Butchers to discuss the issues he wanted to raise such as street cleanliness and parking. Members explained these issues are being picked up through the work of various committees. It was decided the conversation needed to be outside of Full Council because of the current purdah restrictions.

**Remembrance** – Cllr Lowe commented on the success of Remembrance Sunday and Armistice celebration on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> November which this year included a singer who sang The White Cliffs and We'll Meet Again. He thanked those involved in the organisation of the Events. The Mayor had also attended the event with George Evans following the official Remembrance Service. Cllr Morris-Jones also complimented staff as they have taken over from the British Legion to ensure these events continue. Cllr Davis said there was no real guidance to new Councillors in relation to this event. He had also received an envelope this evening containing tickets to an event on Sunday. He asked that in future more courtesy is extended to new members.

**76/19 Mayor's Engagements** – The Mayor gave members the following written report detailing his engagements from October to November 2019.

Oct	
1	ICM + P&L + P&R
2	Photo Opportunity Friends of Wellington Station/Walkers are Welcome, launch of new map with James Baylis of Wrekin News
2	Meeting with Help our Heroes at The Plough ref VE Day Celebrations.
4	Events meeting at WTC
5	Model Railway Club at Charlton School . Twinning Association Quiz Dothill.
7	Meeting with Rev Tim Carter ref Christmas Carol Service
8	Grants Panel + Council
9	Parking Comm Meeting

10	Meeting Sally Themans Love Wellington
12	Start of Wellington Festival (Stamp & Coin Fair). Mural inauguration Wellington Market
13	Market Drayton Civic Service
14	Refill Project action morning
15	Festival Comm
16	Regen Board
17	Beatons coffee shop opening + Well Festival event
18	Consultation with Planners (Penny McKnight and Martha Bailey) ref Wrekin House auction bid by potential developer Adam Gauchan
19	Wellington Festival event at Charlton School
21	Meeting with Jenny Joy ref Halfway House possible Community Interest Company
22	Thomas Telford School presentation of Peggie Harrison poetry award.
22	Wellington Towns Woman's Guild Harvest Supper Belmont Hall
23	Meeting with Sally Themans
24	Opening of Hills Butchers at new location within Market. 2 x Wellington Festival events
25	Wellington Festival event
26	Wellington Festival event
27	Presentation of cheques at The Plough pub ref Help for Heroes
29	P&L and Love Wellington networking event at Q Commerce, Haygate Rd.
<b>November</b>	
3	T&W Borough organised Festival of Dance and Culture Oakengates Theatre
5	ICM Meeting. P&R
6	Launch of Children of Eden Community Musical at All Saints Church
8	Meeting with Idverde
10	Festival of Remembrance parade and Service at All Saints. Evening T & W Borough Festival of Remembrance at Oakengates
11	Silence in Market Square to mark 11 <sup>th</sup> hour of 11 <sup>th</sup> day of 11 <sup>th</sup> month.
12	Full Council

The Mayor said he had also attended the unveiling of Jacob Chandler's sculpture and he urged members to go and look. It is situated outside the fashion quarter in Telford Southwater.

**77/19 Apologies** - There were apologies received and accepted from Cllr M. Hosken and Cllr C. Brittain due to illness and Cllr K. Tomlinson who is on holiday. Cllr McClements said she may be late due to another meeting.

**78/19 Declarations of Interest** – None were received at this point in the meeting.

**79/19 To Receive and Approve Minutes of the Meeting Held 8<sup>th</sup> October 2019**  
Cllr Alvey proposed the minutes for acceptance and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Usman, members voted unanimously to approve the minutes as a true and accurate account.

**80/19 Matters Arising from the Above Minutes**

- **DBS Checks** - The Clerk said that there were still some members had not completed the process. The Clerk was asked to contact those members who have not engaged individually.

**81/19 To receive and note the Minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations.**

**A. Policy and Resources meetings dated 05.11.19**

Cllr de Launey presented the minutes of the above Policy and Resources Committee meetings highlighting the following issues to full Council.

- **Personnel Matters**

- An appointment had been made to a new post of Events Co-ordinator which would support the Festival and Sally Themans from Love Wellington. The new member of staff would start in January. Cllr Carter asked if staff monitor who calls into the Reception, how many times individual Councillors call in not on work related issues. The Mayor suggested signage could be improved to prevent callers for Planning, and the Registry Office. Cllr Carter said that monitoring would allow us to decide whether or not to invest in improved signage. Cllr de Launey said he felt that people do not read signs and would walk through the door anyway.
- **The Idverde Meeting** - The working party met on Friday and the notes would go to P&R in December.
- **End of Year Accounts 2018/19** - the 30 day Public Inspection Period ended on 25<sup>th</sup> October and so far there has been no notification of any challenge.
- **Grant Funding** - Full Council had received a copy of the minutes, no questions were asked.
- **Defibrillators** – The recommendation from P&R was to initially install defibrillator units in Shawburch and Brooklands. Further installations would take place in the subsequent financial year. The following comments were made:
  - The Clerk said the only 2 units in Wellington that were registered with the Ambulance Service these were situated at the Glebe Centre and the Bowring Park.
  - Cllr Luter asked if the owners of the other private defibrillator units identified following the shout out on social media could be approached to install their units on the outside of their premises.
  - Cllr deLauney said that P&R had the desire to develop a programme to install up to date units available 24/7 hrs per day in the most accessible locations.
  - There was not currently a unit in the town centre, the closest being either the Leisure Centre or the Glebe Centre.
  - The Clerk was asked to contact the Leisure centre to ask if they would install their unit on the outside of the building and register it with the Ambulance Service.
  - The Clerk was asked to advertise the units and their availability on the Town Council website.
  - The Bowring unit was still serviceable but not as up to date as the current market models.
  - Members had decided not to have a demonstration from Heartstart due to the present workload of the Council.

Cllr McClements arrived at 7.25pm

- **Regeneration Report** – The Police had approached the Town Council to buy the Shopwatch Disc which would enable every business in town to be linked up via the system and allows 2 way communication. Members agreed the decision to purchase.
- **Bowring Lease** – Cllr de Launey reported there had been a meeting with the Tenants and had agreed the rent and other matters. The Solicitor had been informed and the final document would include the list of alterations and a reassignment of the business clause. Cllr Jinks moved that the agreement should be signed straight away and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Alvey. There was then a debate and the following points were made.
  - The Mayor would sign the document on behalf of the council and he would be looking to make sure it is as good as we can get it to be
  - Cllr Morris –Jones said that local Government is known for taking a long time to make decisions, the document should be signed straight away and he could not understand the delay.
  - Cllr Jinks said we are responsible for tax payers money and need to ensure the building is protected with a full repair covenant.

- Cllr Gorse said it was unfair to put pressure on the Mayor and felt the document should be signed as soon as possible but time should be given to properly add the addendums.

Cllr Carter proposed the lease should be presented to the tenants as soon as the legal work had been done. This was put to the vote and carried.

- **Parking Working Group** – A meeting had been held on 9<sup>th</sup> November and a further meeting would be held on 20<sup>th</sup> November. Two members said they had not been informed of the meeting. The Clerk said she would investigate how this had happened. The meeting on 9<sup>th</sup> November discussed the following:
  - Long stay parking ticket machines – these would not be installed until after the effect of decriminalisation of parking has been analysed.
  - Cllr Carter was concerned about the probable displacement of parking to other areas
- **Gateway Signs Project** – Cllr deLauney reported this project had been led by Cllr Burns. The Clerk had ascertained there were no additional cost implications to installing signs individually rather than all together. P&R had therefore agreed that this financial year we would install one at Bennetts Bank and one at Princess Royal Hospital, Apley Avenue. Cllr Burns said the draft sign had been previously circulated to members and no comments had been made. He felt the new signs would assist in creating civic pride when they are installed all around Wellington and acknowledged that there may be some slight changes when it came to areas such as Shawbirch. Cllr Fairclough said she thought that people in Ketley also see Wellington as their town centre.
- **The minutes** - Were proposed for acceptance by Cllr deLauney 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Morris-Jones and agreed by all members.

B. **Planning Committee Meeting held on 09.10.19** - Cllr Alvey proposed the minutes of the above meeting be noted by Full Council and was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Jinks. He made the following comments to members:

**TWC/2019/0701** – Site of former Charlton School, Severn Drive Dothill – members opposed the application and considered that the development needed to be sympathetic and acceptable to the immediate locality.

**TWC/2019/0753** – Land between Arleston Lane and Dawley Road, Extra Care Facility Arleston – Cllr McClements said this application is still contentious because of increased numbers of houses and therefore increased traffic, she would keep Councillors informed.

**Planning Committee Meeting held on 23.10.19** – Cllr Alvey thanked Cllr Burns for chairing this meeting in his absence and the following comments were made.

**TWC/2019/0802** – 5 high Street, Wellington TF1 1JW – Change of Use from existing offices to HMO - the planning committee felt this might be over development given the number of units proposed and was therefore against this application.

**TWC/2019/0827** – Former British Sugar Site, Allscott – members welcomed the development and felt the layout and drawings look good.

**Minute ref 99/19- Street Trading Consents** – Cllr Luter explained that licences operate on a rolling contract. Planning members had asked for further information from the Licensing Service at Telford and Wrekin Council.

C. **Promotions and Liaison meeting** – Cllr Carter said the minutes of 1<sup>st</sup> October included in the information for this meeting were moved at the last meeting. There had been a further meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October and these minutes were not included in the pack. The Clerk said they would be distributed as soon as possible. Cllr Carter said the Christmas Light Switch On event, taking place on 23<sup>rd</sup> November, would include street food and a prosecco horse box bar. Nanny's bakery would be staying open late.

**82/19 Appointment of one Member to the Planning Committee** - Cllr Gorse proposed Cllr

Cook and was seconded by Cllr Davis. Members agreed the appointment.

**83/19 ICM Meeting held on 05.11.19** – Members had received a written report from the meeting. Cllr Burns said this meeting must continue. Officers are being pressed hard on issues such as signs to deter bike riding through the central area. Cllr Jinks said there were a number of people congregating outside the Methodist church drinking alcohol and some members of the public had felt threatened by this. It was agreed to be an issue raised at the next meeting. Cllr Roberts felt that there had been an increase in Police presence in Wellington and asked the Clerk to check if there was an increase in numbers of Officers. Cllr Burns said that Inspector Wade had sent additional officers to help the shops over the festive period. The Report was noted.

**84/19 Conservation Working Group Report 6<sup>th</sup> November 2019** – This report was tabled for information and members noted its content.

**85/19 West Team Report** – The Clerk said this was unavailable and would be sent at a later date.

**86/10 Mayoral Portraits** – Cllr Burns proposed the Mayoral Portraits are moved from the Hallway to the Council Chamber for reasons of Civic Pride. This was seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones and agreed by members.

**87/10 Flagpole** – Cllr Burns proposed more use is made of our flagpole and a flag bearing Wellington's Coat of Arms is commissioned. Members agreed and asked the Clerk to update the policy.

**88/19 Comments for information**

- Cllr Fairclough reminded members that the Christmas lights event commences with the Mayor opening the event at 3.00pm on 23<sup>rd</sup> November with Olaf, Children's workshops, street entertainment including the Brass Band, the Old Hall Choir, Santa and fireworks.
- Cllr Davis extended an invitation to members to join him sleeping rough for charity on 22<sup>nd</sup> November.
- Cllr Roberts reported that Walkers are Welcome have issued their publication and had attracted visitors from as far away as Chicargo.
- Cllr Gorse said there had been no mention of the Festival at this meeting. Cllr Lowe explained that the Festival Committee hadn't met since the festival had finished so there hadn't been a 'wash up' meeting. He felt that the attendance was adequate but lower than expected. Wellingtons War drew in an audience of 80, which was double what he had expected. The venue was changed for three men in a bow tie to allow for larger numbers and 77 attended. The two raffles raised over £250 which was a great result. The History day saw 5 people attend, so this might mean changing the format of this event going forward. The Acoustic pub crawl attracted 73 in total, and Cinderloo 13. The Reading Group was considered the best yet and was enhanced by Dr Mark Baldwin attending before he started his talk at 7.30pm to which 93 attended. Jack the Ripper at the White House Hotel attracted 72 people and the concert with Wellington Brass band and Shawbury Military Wives Choir attracted 96. 185 entries were received for the children's poetry competition and the children were delighted with their prizes.

In total 524 people enjoyed the festival with £634.00 collected in donations.

A 'crowd puller' is needed to start the festival off. It has been suggested to use QR codes around the town to attract the younger generation. It was also suggested that flyers could be created as well as the brochure. It was felt that the festival may have been diluted by having two during the year and it should return to one festival so more funds are available for a 'big name'.

**89/19 The next meeting date was agreed as Tuesday 10th December 2019 starting at 7.00pm**

**Chairman.....10th December 2019**