

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Cindy Mason-Morris



Town Clerk
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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

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

Present:

Cllr C. Mason-Morris – Mayor	Cllr P. Fairclough	Cllr J. Gorse
Cllr D. Roberts	Cllr J. Alvey	Cllr S. Fikeis
Cllr P. Morris-Jones	Cllr F. Burns	Cllr K. Tomlinson
Cllr A. McClements	Cllr S. Hall	Cllr L. Jinks
Cllr M. Hosken	Cllr P. McCarthy	Cllr S. deLauney

In attendance: Rev. Tim Carter, Insp G Wade West Mercia Police, Dave Hanley T&W, Patrick Phillips from Idverde, Sally Themans, 4 Members of the public, Alex Moore from the press and Karen Roper, Town Clerk. The Town Clerk informed members of voice tracking microphone that was being trialled at this meeting.

128/19 Welcome – the Mayor warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting and called upon Reverend Carter to lead prayers

129/18 Apologies - There were apologies from Cllrs Luter and Carter due to other obligations, Cllr. Lowe due to holiday, Cllrs Cook and Brittain due to illness.

130/18 Declarations of Interest – None were received at this point in the meeting.

131/18 a) The Mayor invited Inspector G Wade to address the meeting

Insp Wade updated members in relation to the forthcoming EDL event. Police intelligence was suggesting that numbers attending would be low and the Police were confident they would be able to field more than enough resources to deal with any problems. The proposed 'Diversity' event supported by the P&R committee had been dropped because of the opposing groups with amplified sound systems. It was felt that this competitive atmosphere could incite problems and counter demonstrations. The Mayor closed the lively discussion at 7.20pm and Inspector Wade left the meeting

b) The Mayor invited D. Hanley from Telford & Wrekin and P. Phillips from Idverde to address the meeting.

Dave Hanley reported that Idverde had taken over the 10 year environmental neighbourhood services contract worth £4.2 million following an intense procurement process. The company had won the contract because of their communication skills, knowledge and use of technology. The opportunities going forward would be around the green spaces, Bowring Park, Dothill pools etc and Idverde would like to discuss improved services once the core service has bedded

in. Patrick Phillips explained to members that the company had won contracts all over the country and would be keen to improve things for Wellington so he was delighted to be engaging with the parishes at this early stage. Members made the following comments:

- One of the busiest times for litter/ other problems is a Saturday in the Market Square. Dave Hanley said as a Zone 1 classification, the service would be working from 6.30am – 4.30pm on Saturdays and Sundays and would respond to any issues including bodily fluids and bedding from rough sleepers.
- Fly tipping – Dave Hanley said these incidents will be dealt with within a 2 hour time frame
- What can be done about fly tipping on private land such as in ‘Urban Gardens’ and private building contractors who don’t do the job properly?
- Building site mud residue left on main roads from visiting lorries was highlighted as a problem.
- Overhanging growth from trees was raised as an issue
- Members were pleased that Idverde wish to work closely with friends of groups.
- A Frequently Asked Questions Page might be helpful on Idverde the website
- A liaison group/working party might be useful, it was agreed to discuss this suggestion at the next P&R committee.

Members were informed that Street sweeping frequency would be improved and were invited to contact the Clerk to refer issues for resolution which will include use of CCTV and prosecution including problems on private land.

Dave Hanley and Patrick Phillips left the meeting at 7.45pm

c) The Mayor invited Cllr deLauney to introduce Sally Themans on behalf of the Regeneration Board.

He explained that the Board had looked at ways of promoting the town and were aware that Sally had been very successful in marketing Bridgnorth and so she had been approached to do the same in Wellington.

Sally delivered a presentation which explained her ‘Love Bridgnorth’ campaign and that she had achieved the Great British High Street award in 2016. She identified national problems such as internet and retail parks, absent landlords and unfair rating systems and suggested how things could be turned around by:

- Creating a different customer experience
- Offering a great service
- Embracing the digital transformation
- Looking after the environment
- Making people feel good about where they live
- Turning negativity into positivity
- Celebrate what’s good, history, volunteers, people, market, Wrekin, Bowring Dothill, transport links etc
- Create the brand ‘Love Wellington’
- Made in Wellington website to transform into ‘Love Wellington site’
- Facebook ‘Love Wellington’ site carries only good news and is building up and reaching people steadily through the work of local volunteers posting to the site.

Members commented on the attractiveness of the gateway to Bridgnorth and said the diversity of Wellington community should also be celebrated. Sally was thanked for her presentation and left the meeting with Cllr McCarthy at 8.20pm

It was proposed by Cllr Alvey, 2nd by Cllr Gorse and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 12th March 2019 be approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

133/18 Matters Arising from the Above Minutes

- **Post Office** – The Clerk reported that the Post Office was open on Monday because of work done by Cllr Carter and funding provided by the Borough to employ CMK electrical Services to make the building safe. Temporary Post Office staff were providing the counter service prior to permanent appointments being made.
- **Voice Tracing Microphones** – Cllr Morris–Jones said that he could hear every word this evening and asked people at the back of the room if they were able to hear everything that was going on? They confirmed this to be the case.

134/18 To receive and note the minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations therein.

a) Policy and Resources Committee meeting of 2nd April 2019

- **EDL** – Cllr deLauney said he was very disappointed that the diversity event was no longer taking place on 13th April as it was a different approach that may just have worked.
- **Bowring Café** – Cllr Jinks said she was most concerned that the lease had not yet been signed. The Clerk was instructed to again chase this with the Café occupiers.
- **Short Stay Parking Contribution** – The Borough had asked for a contribution towards the parking machines, members had agreed to offer £5k which was the cost of one machine. Cllr Jinks questioned the return for the Town Council investment. Members agreed that short term parking had been solved because parking was not allowed all day on the short term car parks. They also commented that if the Town Council were to ask for a share of the fines collected then we would be asked to pay towards the maintenance, personnel and running costs. Cllr Morris – Jones said he was disappointed that the long stay parking had not been resolved yet. It was reported this would be resolved in the summer and a maximum of 9 hrs free parking would be implemented.
- **Personnel** - Cllr deLauney reported that as of 1st April we have a fully functioning Environmental Maintenance Team, members were asked to report any issues within their wards that would be suitable for the team to tackle.

b) Planning Committee Minutes dated 27th March 2019

- Cllr Alvey presented the minutes, Cllr Roberts said she was not in attendance. He reported the Haygate pub should have had planning permission to be demolished, he quoted as case in Surrey where they were required to rebuild a building because they did not have the correct permissions to demolish.

c) Promotions and Liaison Committee 27th March 2019

- **Cllr Fairclough** presented the minutes and commented that the **over 60's activity** was now agreed and would offer lunch and a cinema viewing event at the Orbit.
- **Wellington Festival** – almost all tickets are gone
- **Friends of Bowring Park** – table top sale had been well supported

d) Conservation Working Group 13th February 2018

- **Cllr Tomlinson** gave an overview of activity at the Dothill Nature reserve, and highlighted the following points:
 - The Chairman of the group is stepping down
 - The circular path giving access to wheelchairs and pushchairs is now complete
 - Cllr Jinks said this is a beautiful area, a success story
 - Cllr Gorse suggested Sally Themans should be informed.

135/18 Council to consider instructing Officers to apply for listed building status for the Cottage Hospital' to ensure preservation of the building.

Cllr Hosken, explained that further to the previous Full Council Meeting held on Tuesday 12 March 2019, regarding the Pre-application Planning Enquiry: PE2019/099: Former Cottage Hospital, 79 Haygate Road, Wellington where it was resolved that the Town Clerk should investigate the listed building application process further and to report back to Full Council. This action had been taken and the results reported back to the Town Council Planning Committee.

It is now proposed that the Town Council should instruct the Town Clerk to proceed with a formal application to Historic England seeking the listing of the Former Cottage Hospital, 79 Haygate Road, Wellington. This should be a free of charge process but if there is an emergency situation and the application has to be fast tracked then approval be given to the Town Clerk to spend up to a maximum of £3,000 in order to secure the application and that a report be referred back to Full Council in due course. Motion proposed by Cllr Hosken 2nd by Cllr Alvey, Cllr Jinks said she understood the Conservation Officer had thought the request would be refused and was the proposal therefore a gamble with ratepayer's money? Cllr Gorse said she would support the resolution, Cllr Morris-Jones agreed we should try to get the building listed, a vote was taken, there was one abstention and the remainder (14) voted in favour so the motion was supported.

Telford Hospice – Cllr McClements reported that they had had no increase in funding for the past 10 years and now faced cuts of £250,000.00 from the CCG. It was proposed by Cllr McClements that the Clerk write to the CCG to express the Council's absolute regret at this decision, this was 2nd by Cllr Hosken and agreed unanimously by members.

136/18 Council to consider provision of a Defibrillator at Shawbirch Community Centre. Proposed by Cllr Tomlinson 2nd by Cllr deLauney. It was agreed to refer the issue to the next P&R Committee.

137/18 Council to consider provision of Personal and Public Liability Licence for Dothill Nature reserve volunteers. Proposed Cllr Tomlinson 2nd by Cllr deLauney. It was agreed to refer this item to the next P&R committee.

138/18 To receive urgent matters - Note Annual Assembly Meeting date- Tue.16th April 2019 at 7.00pm.

139/18 To agree the date of the Annual Meeting of Council – WEDNESDAY 15th May 2019. Starting at 6.30pm

Chairman.....15th May 2019