

Wellington Town Council



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PROMOTIONS & LIAISON COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on **Tuesday 1st October 2019** commencing at 4.30pm.

Present:

Cllr Tomlinson	Mary Rogers
Cllr Alvey	Jean and Sheila – Lions
Cllr Lowe	Kath Howard
Cllr Fairclough-in part	John Sweetland
Cllr Hall	Bob Coalbran
	Sheila Horton

In attendance: Caroline Mulvihill – Communications & Events Manager

28/19 Welcome and Introductory Remarks

Cllr Tomlinson welcomed the Committee in Cllr Carters absence.

29/19 Apologies for Absence

Cllr Carter, Cllr McClements and Sally Themans
Apologies accepted.

30/19 Declarations of Interest

None received

31/19 To confirm the minutes from the last meeting – Wednesday 26th June 2019.

Proposed by Cllr Alvey, seconded by Cllr Hall, and **RESOLVED UNANIMOUSLY** that the minutes of 26th June were a true and accurate record.

32/19 Matters arising from those minutes:

- **Minute 17/19 (i) Positioning of the Mkt Sq Christmas Tree** – Caroline told the Committee that since the last meeting in June CMK had managed to source a solution which would allow the Christmas tree to be positioned safely and central.
- **Minute 19/19 (ii) Re-Print of Wellington Map** – Caroline was delighted to report the map re-print had been completed. Members were handed a copy and thanks were given to Bob Colbran, Sally Themans, James Baylis and Caroline for completing the project.
Cllr Lowe stated that a photoshoot was taking place at 10.00am Wednesday morning at Wellington train station to promote the new brochure.
- **Minute 20/19 (i) Hootsuite** – Thanks to Cllr Davis WTC had been signed up to a software programme called Hootsuite. This now meant that Caroline could upload social media posts to three streams all at once. This meant that time was saved and a generic message could be sent to all three instantly.
- **Minute 20/19 (ii) Websites** – Caroline confirmed that a third party was now being used to update the WTC and Wellington Festival websites. Both sites were now refreshed and content up to date.

33/19 Correspondence

- **Tourist Information Point:**

Cllr Tomlinson reported that there had been some expression of interest to have a dedicated Tourist Information Centre. No building had been acquired by WTC therefore no space was identified to host such centre.

Members suggested that the Digital Noticeboard under the Town Clock could be utilised more with tourist information.

Bob Coalbran thought that as part of the Orbit funding it was agreed that they would have a Tourist Information Point within their venue. As no one in the meeting could confirm or deny this it was agreed for Caroline to contact the Orbit for clarification.

Cllr Fairclough arrived at this point

34/19 Forthcoming events calendar and additional events for 2019 / 2020

- Wellington Festival 12th – 26th October
- Remembrance Parade and Service 10th November- Caroline showed member the poster detailing the event. Mary Rogers asked as to if a reading, based on the Wellington Remembers project, would be included in the service again this year – Caroline would look into this.
- Armistice Day – 11th November
- Christmas Light Switch on – 23rd November – Caroline reported that the poster detailing this event was being designed this week and that the Mayor would be switching on the lights.

35/19 Wellington Festival:

Cllr Alvey thanked Caroline for picking the festival back up and co-ordinating the brochure and events.

Cllr Lowe said that he, and a member of three men in a tie, had been on Radio Shropshire last Friday for approx. 30 minutes.

Cllr Alvey mentioned that there was a meeting taking place Wednesday evening at the Plough with Eddie Lowe to discuss the Help for Hero's day on Friday 7th May (VE Day). He also expressed his disappointment and concern over the attendance levels at the Festival meetings. At the last meeting only 7 people were in attendance out of 21. It was agreed that Cllr Lowe would send an email to volunteers reminding them how important and greatly appreciated their role as a volunteer was along with a request for additional volunteers via social media and the Wrekin News.

Sheila Horton was asked, as a recently departed festival volunteer, what her reasons were for resigning and what could be done to help this matter. She said that volunteers wanted to be felt valued and an explanation on voting rights would help. Sheila would also like to see the festival more diverse. Cllr Lowe then read out a paragraph from the previous festival meeting minutes that confirmed a 'unity/diversity' day was being planned.

It was agreed by all that younger people still needed to be catered for within the festival. Jean from the Telford Lions agreed and stated that the Lions Group had a junior section called the Telford Leo Club and that they were struggling for members too. Kath Howard also agreed that getting 'hands on' volunteers was hard. It was suggested that uniform groups and the Duke of Edinburgh (Service award) could be contacted.

The final venue for the acoustic pub crawl was confirmed as 'The Walnut' and the venue for 'Three men in a tie' was at the Charlton School. A raffle would also take place for the Mayors charity at this event and refreshments provided at a suggested fee of 50p.

Cllr Lowe stated that this year no tickets were needed and doors would be open 30 minutes prior to the event starting. He also mentioned that there had been lot of ideas for the May Festival and Caroline was researching them. At the start of the festival we have the French Twinning Association coming Thursday to Sunday, Help for heroes VE day on Friday and the WTC VE day celebration on the Saturday 9th May.

36/19 Walkers are Welcome:

Bob reported that the Walking Festival had been a great success and handed his report to all members (copy attached to this email). Bob highlighted that no one under 35, who completed feedback, attended the walking festival.

There were concerns over the Friends of the Wellington Station as they have now lost the license to work on the station as they have now expired. This means only litter picking and watering is permitted.

These licenses need re-newing urgently to prevent all the hard work of the group being wasted. Bob had met with Cllr Carter initially but no further meetings had taken place.

02.10.19

Cllr Tomlinson was under the impression that Cllr Pierce had agreed to be the Councils representative for the FOWS group. Caroline was actioned to clarify if this was correct.

37/19 Friends of the Bowring Park:

Kath Howard handed to members the latest FOTBP newsletter. Lots of action was taking place to include 2 x first aid sessions. The Wellbeing Picnic back in June was a great success with families' enjoying free entertainment and activities.

U3A group are regularly having croquet sessions in the park.

The café continues to be popular.

Shortwood primary school enjoyed looking after their flower plugs and then planting them in the park on the last day of term.

The WTC 6 week summer fun days were used to bolt on cricket and tennis sessions and were enjoyed by all.

The community payback team had done a good job of clearing the footpaths.

The bird boxes and hedgehog houses were still on order from TEN in Horsehay but due to workload there had been a delay.

FOTBP now had 930 Facebook followers, 70 members but unfortunately only a half dozen or so 'hands on' members.

A discussion then took place regarding the condition of the metal fences, Kath had contacted the relevant officers and was looking into this.

38/19 Orbit

In Sophie Eades absence there was no update report.

39/19 Matters for information only:

Cllr Alvey said that the Cottage Care hospital was not being knocked down but made into apartments / residential units.

John Sweetland reported:

Wrekin Arts Photographic Club. Wellington Town Council Mayor, Cllr Anthony Lowe opened the new season exhibition on 30 August. Very enthusiastic about the club and Arts Centre and has promised to help club secure an exhibition for next year's Wellington Festival. The new kitchen roof is fine and the floor has now started to dry out. The club will represent the West Midlands in the national print championships in Blackburn on 27 October.

Wellington Theatre Company. The Theatre Company is very busy at the moment. "Murder on the Nile" will be performed from 24 to 26 October. The 46th Wellington Drama Festival runs from 2 to 9 November when 3 full length and 5 One-act plays will be performed. Rehearsals are taking place for this year's pantomime "The Little Mermaid." Performances will take place on 31 January to 2 February and 7 to 9 February 2020.

Sharon's Pottery School Sharon has had 2 very successful exhibitions recently. She and Rasa will represent the Belfrey Arts Centre at Telford Senior Citizens Forum "Celebrating Age 2019" <http://celebratingagetelford.uk/clubs-groups/> on 9 October at Whitehouse Hotel. Both are also involved in the Secret Severn Art Trail <https://secretsevern.co.uk> between 20 and 29 September. There is a possibility that next year's trail could include the Belfrey Arts Centre. Rasa should have more information for next meeting.

The Ceramics Studio Restarted after the Summer break in September with a new beginners group.

40/19 To agree date and time of next meeting – Tuesday 15th October 2019 at 4.30pm.