

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Anthony Lowe
B.A (HONS)



Town Clerk
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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the virtual meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 21st April 2020 commencing at 7.40pm following the virtual Full Council Meeting.

Cllr S. de Launey – Chairman (SD)	Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE (PMJ)	Cllr S. Hall (SH)
Cllr L. Carter (LC)	Cllr M. Hosken (MH)	Cllr J. Gorse (JG)

In attendance – Cllr. Lowe, Andrew Roberts- Deputy Town Clerk and Karen Roper – Town Clerk (KR).

- 136/19 Chairman’s Welcome** – Cllr. de Launey welcomed everyone to the first virtual meeting of P&R commenting that Cllr Burns would be missed by this Committee.
- 137/19 Apologies for Absence** – There were no apologies for absence.
- 138/19 Declaration of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest at this point on the agenda.
- 139/19 To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2020** – The minutes were proposed by Cllr Carter, seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and RESOLVED by members as a true and accurate record.
- 140/19 Matters Arising**
- Speed Indicator Device (SID)** – The Clerk reported that just before the social distancing laws the Borough’s Street Lighting Team had completed an audit of the lighting columns in the identified areas. The Clerk said some areas are suitable for immediate SID installation but other areas will need additional posts. The Clerk was asked to send the audit to members to prioritise locations to get the project started. Costs to be sought for fixing additional of posts.
 - Defibrillator Report** – The Clerk said that agreement had been reached on the Brooklands location and she was waiting for confirmation of installation date.
 - Bowring Lease** – The Clerk reported that the documentation had been sent by our Solicitor on 22nd March. The Tenants had been chased for a response and they said their Solicitor is in lockdown during the pandemic. Members were unhappy and felt that these were delaying tactics. The Chairman said the document had been amended so as to be effective from the date of signature and any delays would have no financial impact on the Town Council. He added the Tenants are also responsible for their own electricity costs as of 31st March 2020. Members agreed a strongly worded letter be sent insisting action is taken.
 - Gateway Signs** – The Clerk reported that the order for the Apley Avenue sign was not processed by the contractors and therefore a new instruction had been sent.

The Clerk had also placed the orders for signs the following locations;

- **Dawley Road** – Cllr Gorse reported Cllr McClements was discussing the actual location with Traffic Officers.
- **Holyhead Road** – Traffic Officers are checking the actual location of this sign.
- **Admaston Road** - into Wellington a cantilever post has been suggested for this location, the costs may change and we are waiting for a quotation.

- e. **Idverde** – The Clerk reported because of the current situation no meetings had been held, but she was getting a great response from Ben Frederico and the Idverde team to any problems she raised.
- f. **Bins** - Cllr Morris-Jones MBE asked if the issue of the household refuse bins, belonging to residents in the first floor flats in Market Street being permanently left out on the street had been dealt with. Cllr Carter said that David Jones from Planning Enforcement be contacted to help to resolve this long term issue through Planning Policy.

141/19 Finance

Reports, with the exception of the Receipts and Payment Budget comparisons had previously been sent to members.

Agenda items, 6a to 6c and 6e to 6g were proposed for acceptance by Cllr Hosken, seconded by Cllr Gorse and approved by members. Cllr Lowe said he had not received the reports, the Deputy Clerk would send them to him and answer any resulting questions.

Cllr Carter asked about the financial impact of the current pandemic on the Town Council. The Chairman said that the possibility of some staff being put on the Government furlough scheme was being investigated. Additionally there was less revenue being received from the toilets and no room hire income. The Chairman and Deputy Clerk would report back to the next meeting.

- 142/19 Corona Virus Emergency Assistance** – The Chairman suggested the usual application process for grants be suspended so cash can be provided quickly to deal with applications for personal protective clothing, hand sanitisers etc. by volunteer groups. The Clerk said Staff were already helping groups to access the Police and Crime Commissioner’s fund payable through Town and Parish Councils.

The Clerk reported that because of the impact of the pandemic, VE day celebrations had been cancelled and the Events Manager had forwarded the idea of providing cream teas to elderly residents distributed with help from the Wrekin Housing Trust. Cllr Carter supported the idea in principle and suggested some ward funding could be available. Cllr Morris Jones suggested other funding opportunities for this project.

The Chairman proposed that members support in principle the Covid emergency grant scheme, (full details to be brought to the next meeting) and the provision of VE day Cream Teas to older residents in Wellington.

- 143/19 Delegation of Personnel Function** - Cllr de Launey suggested the personnel function is temporarily delegated to the Clerk and Chairman of P&R. Cllr Hosken proposed the delegation he was seconded by Cllr Gorse and members all voted in favour.

- 144/19 The date and time of the next meeting was agreed as** Tuesday 5th May 2020 at 7.00pm. Members felt this virtual meeting had gone well.

Chairman.....5th May 2020

