

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Usman Ahmed



Town Clerk
KAREN ROPER
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Annual Public Meeting of Wellington Town Council held in the Wellington Library on starting at 6.30pm on Tuesday 13th May 2025.

Cllr R. Snell- Deputy Mayor	Cllr J. Pierce	Cllr J. McGinn	Cllr M. Jobe	Cllr L. Jinks
Cllr S. de Launey	Cllr. L. Woolley	Cllr J. Latter	Cllr S. Day	
Cllr L. Carter (arriving at 19.05)	Cllr J. Gorse	Cllr G. Luter	Cllr G. Davis	
Cllr. S. Williams	Cllr. E. Holding	Cllr A. Lowe	Cllr P. Davis	

Also in attendance; Reverend Nick Brooke, 26 members of the public, 5 staff members and the Town Clerk/CEO.

01/25 Welcome - the deputy mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting

02/25 Deputy Mayor to call on Rev. Nick Brooke to lead prayers

03/25 Apologies - were received from councillors Tomlinson, Ahmed, Barker and Cook.

04/25 Deputy Mayor to make presentations to commemorate the service of the following former Councillors

John Alvey
Chris Brittain
Pat Fairclough
Sylvia Hall
Miles Hosken
Anglela McClements
Phil Morris-Jones
Dorothy Roberts

05/25 Members to approve the minutes of the Annual Public Meeting dated 24th April 2024 - Cllr P. Davis proposed the minutes as a true and accurate record, he was seconded by Cllr Pierce and the following members voted in favour, Cllrs Snell, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, McGinn, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis and Cllr Jinks.

06/25 Deputy Mayor presented the Annual Report for 2024/25 - There were no questions from those present. Cllr de Launey proposed acceptance of the Annual Report he was seconded by Cllr Davis, the following members voted in favour Cllrs Snell, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, McGinn, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis and Cllr Jinks.

The Deputy Mayor then invited everyone to take refreshments and at 7.00pm move from the Library area to the Committee Room for the Annual General Meeting followed by the May full council meeting.

Chairman.....Dated.....

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Annual General Meeting starting at 7.10 pm in the committee room Civic Offices **followed by the Full Council Meeting dated 13th May 2025**

Cllr R. Snell- Deputy Mayor	Cllr J. Pierce	Cllr J. McGinn	Cllr M. Jobe	Cllr L. Jinks
Cllr S. de Launey	Cllr. L. Woolley	Cllr J. Latter	Cllr S. Day	
Cllr L. Carter (arriving at 19.05)	Cllr J. Gorse	Cllr G. Luter	Cllr G. Davis	
Cllr. S. Williams	Cllr. E. Holding	Cllr A. Lowe	Cllr P. Davis	

Also in Attendance : 15 members of the public, 5 staff members and the Town Clerk/CEO.

Police Report - The Deputy Mayor invited Sgt Ian Cole and Simon Webb to provide members with a Police report - Sgt. Cole said he had good news that an application had been made to uplift the numbers of PCSO's and Officers allocated to the Town Centre. This was a national project to introduce a Town Centre Policing Team to focus on anti-social behaviour and solving crime in the town centre resulting in some areas reducing ASB from 10% to up to 30-40%. He did not have actual dates or numbers as the project was still in the early stages.

Cllr Carter joined the meeting.

07/25 Election of Mayor – The Deputy Mayor called for nominations for the election of Mayor for 2025/26. Cllr. Carter said he took great pleasure in proposing Cllr Snell as Mayor for the ensuing year as he had been a very successful and passionate Deputy Mayor. Cllr Holding said it was her great pleasure to 2nd the nomination and the following members voted in favour Cllrs Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, McGinn, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis and Jinks. There were no abstentions and votes against.

08/25 Presentation of the Chain of Office – The Clerk assisted in the presentation of the chain of office and the newly elected Mayor signed the Acceptance of Office form.

09/25 New Mayor's Address - Cllr. Snell thanked members for electing him as the 23rd Mayor of Wellington Town Council. He had lived in Wellington since 1988, his children were educated here all going on to have successful careers. He said that it is an honour and a privilege to be the Mayor of Wellington and would work hard to promote the town to continue to make this a welcoming place to live and work. He would continue to work with the schools and educational facilities to foster civic pride and acknowledged the hard work of local groups and volunteers. He thanked his Wife for her and family and friends for their support.

10/25 Tributes to the outgoing Mayor - Cllr Gorse rose to pay tribute to Cllr Ahmed who was suffering with serious health problems and she proposed he is sent best wishes from the Town Council and hoped he will be able to recover enough to return in the Autumn.

All members were in favour.

- 11/25 Election of Deputy Mayor-** The Mayor called for nominations for Deputy Mayor. Cllr Carter said he had great pleasure in nominating Cllr. McGinn, who, since his election in 2023 had volunteered for many local groups and proven himself to be a great public servant. He was seconded by Cllr. Lowe and the following members voted in favour Cllrs Snell, Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis and Jinks. There were no abstentions and votes against.
- 12/25 Presentation of the Deputy Mayor's Chain of Office** – the Mayor presented the Deputy Mayors' chain to Cllr McGinn who signed the acceptance of office form.
- 13/25 Apologies** - were received from councillors Tomlinson, Ahmed, Barker and Cook. The following members voted to accept their apologies; Cllrs Snell, Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis, McGinn and Jinks. There were no abstentions and no votes against.
- 14/25 Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest indicated at this point in the meeting.
- 15/25 Election of Town Council Committees**
- a) **Policy & Resources (P&R) Committee** (7 vacancies + Mayor & Deputy Mayor *ex officio*). The following members were proposed and seconded, Cllrs, Carter, Holding, Pierce, Gorse, P Davis, Luter, de Launey.
 - b) **Election of Independent Grievance Panel** (3 vacancies + Mayor as Chairman)
The following members were proposed, seconded and agreed by members Cllrs, G. Davis, Day and Jobe.
 - c) **Members to agree the variation of committee membership of the Planning committee** - reducing from 7 to 5 places. The following Cllrs voted in agreement Cllrs Snell, Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, Latter Luter, Lowe Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis and McGinn. Cllr Jinks abstained, there were no votes against.
 - d) **Election of Planning Committee** (5 vacancies + Mayor & Deputy Mayor *ex officio*)
The following members were proposed seconded and agreed by members, Cllrs Woolley, Cook, Williams, Latter and de Launey.
 - d) **Members to agree the variation of committee membership of the Events and Communications committee** reducing from 7 to 5 places. Cllrs Snell, Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis and McGinn. Cllr Jinks abstained and there were no votes against.
 - e) **Election of Events & Communications Committee** (5 Councillor Vacancies + Mayor Deputy Mayor *ex officio*) The following members were proposed, seconded and agreed by members, Cllrs Holding, Day, P. Davis, Gorse and Lowe.
 - f) **Members to agree the formation of a Library Management Committee** – Cllr de Launey proposed the title Library Management Committee is amended in line with the P&R committee suggestion to be known as the '**Library Committee**'. He was seconded by Cllr P. Davis and the following members voted in favour, Cllrs Snell, Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis, McGinn and Jinks, there were no abstentions and no votes against
 - g) **Election of Library Committee** (5 Councillor vacancies + Mayor and Deputy Mayor *ex officio*). The following members were proposed, seconded and agreed by members, Cllrs Jobe, Holding, P. Davis, Gorse and Luter.

16/25 Election of Town Council representatives on Wrekin Area Committee – (2 Vacancies)
The following councillors were proposed seconded and agreed by members, Cllrs Latter and McGinn.

17/25 To Elect members to serve on the Conservation Working Group (4 vacancies).
The following councillors were proposed seconded and agreed by members, Cllrs Tomlinson Jinks, McGinn and Pierce.

18/25 To Confirm the Appointment of the Internal Auditor for 2025/26 - Cllr de Launey proposed that BSS & Co are appointed as Internal Auditors for 2025/256 He was seconded by Cllr Davis and voting in favour, Cllrs Snell, Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis, McGinn and Jinks, there were no abstentions and no votes against

19/25 Resolution for the General Power of Competence
The Mayor read out the following three conditions for eligibility for the Town Council to be enabled to exercise the General Power of Competence are as follows:

Resolution: the council must resolve at a meeting that it meets the criteria for eligibility relating to the electoral mandate and relevant training of the clerk.

Electoral mandate: at the time the resolution is passed, at least two thirds of the Council must hold office as a result of being declared elected (i.e. not co-opted).

Qualified Clerk: At the time that the resolution is passed, the clerk must hold a recognised professional qualification (e.g. Certificate in Local Council Administration, Certificate of Higher Education in Local Policy) AND pass the 2012 CiLCA module relating to the General Power of Competence.

As a result of satisfying the above criteria Wellington Town Council is requested to pass the following resolution: Cllr de Launey proposed the following resolution.

The Town Council resolves from 13th May 2025 until the next relevant Annual Meeting of the Council, that having met the conditions of eligibility as defined in the Localism Act 2011 and SI 965 The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012, to adopt the General Power of Competence.

He was seconded by Cllr P. Davis and the following members voted in favour, Cllrs Snell, Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis, McGinn and Jinks, there were no abstentions and no votes Against.

20/25 To approve minutes of the last Full Council Meeting dated 8th April 2025 – Cllr Jinks Proposed acceptance n the minutes as true and accurate record, she was seconded by Cllr Williams. The following members voted in favour Cllrs Snell, Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis, McGinn and Jinks, there were no abstentions and no votes against.

21/25 Matters Arising from those Minutes – There were none as all are covered in the Committee Reports.

22/25 To receive the Minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to note the Recommendations therein.

- a) **Policy and Resources Committee minutes and Confidential minutes dated 6th May 2025 -** Cllr de Launey presented the public minutes – there were no questions from members.

- b) **Planning Committee meetings dated 2nd & 23rd April 2025** – Cllr McGinn presented the minutes – there were no questions from members.
- c) **Events and Communications meeting dated 22nd April 2025** – Cllr Holding presented the minutes commenting on the success of VE Day celebrations – There were no questions from members.

23/25 To receive the minutes of the Conservation Working Group meeting dated 9th April 2025 – Cllr Pierce presented the minutes – there were no questions from members.

24/25 To receive the report from the Community Action Team – The report had been circulated There were no comments from members.

25/25 To note the date of the next Regeneration Board meeting as 15th May 2025 and the minutes of the last meeting held on 20th March 2025 - Cllr de Launey presented the minutes commenting that meetings were now being held bi – monthly. There were no comments from members.

26/25 The date of the next Full Council Meeting was agreed as Tuesday 10th June 2025.

27/25 Cllr P. Davis proposed closure of the meeting in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Local Government Act 1972 to discuss the last item on the agenda, he was seconded by Cllr de Launey, and the following members voted in favour Cllrs Snell, Carter, de Launey, Williams, Pierce, Woolley, Gorse, Holding, Latter, Luter, Lowe, Jobe, Day, G. Davis, P. Davis, McGinn and Jinks, there were no abstentions and no votes against.

The meeting closed to members of the public at 7.45pm

Chairman.....10th June 2025