

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Town Mayor
Cllr Paul Davis



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Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Wellington Town Council, held face to face in the Council Chamber on Tuesday, 12th April 2022 starting at 7.00pm.

Present

Cllr D. Roberts – Deputy Mayor	Cllr U. Ahmed	Cllr L. Jinks	Cllr J. Alvey
Cllr P. Fairclough	Cllr C. Brittain	Cllr L. Carter	Cllr C. Barker
Cllr A. McClements	Cllr J. Latter	Cllr J. Pierce	
Cllr S. de Launey	Cllr A. Lowe	Cllr J. Gorse	

Also in Attendance; Karen Roper Town Clerk.

111/21	Welcome – In the absence of the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor, Cllr D. Roberts welcomed everyone to the meeting and especially Cllr Brittain as she has been unwell.
112/21	Public Open Session –This meeting was livestreamed on Facebook.
113/21	Apologies –Had been received for health issues from the following Councillors, Cllr S. Hall, P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr K. Tomlinson, Cllr G. Cook, Cllr M. Hosken and Cllr G. Luter. Cllr P. Davis gave his apologies as he was on leave. Voting in favour of acceptance of these apologies were; Cllrs: D. Roberts, A. McClements, S. de Launey, P. Fairclough, J. Pierce, J. Latter, L. Jinks, L. Carter, J Gorse, J. Alvey, C. Barker, C. Brittain, U. Ahmed and A. Lowe. There were no votes against and no abstentions
114/21	Declarations of Interest – None were received.
115/21	Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 8th March 2022- The minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr J. Alvey, 2 nd by Cllr. L. Jinks. A vote was taken to approve the above minutes and in favour were Cllrs: D. Roberts, A. McClements, S. de Launey, P. Fairclough, J. Pierce, J. Latter, L. Jinks, L. Carter, J Gorse, J. Alvey, C. Barker, C. Brittain, U. Ahmed and A. Lowe. There were no votes against and no abstentions
116/21	Matters Arising From those Minutes – There were no matters arising.
117/21	To receive and note the reports of the following Wellington Town Council Committees. a) Policy and Resources meeting of 5th April 2022 – Cllr S. de Launey confirmed the minutes had been circulated and raised the following points. 1. Minute Ref: 160/21; P&R voted to return decision making powers to Full Council and agreed that the Council Chamber is the preferred venue for meetings.

2. **Minute Ref: 163/21:** Discussion was held on trees and planters previously positioned in Market Square and funded by the Local Enterprise Partnership. Following installation there had been issues with watering and maintenance in addition to being used as ashtrays and litter bins by the public. The main problem encountered was moving them to make way for the Christmas tree as they are very heavy and costly to move. Following discussion P&R decided the following:

- The Christmas Tree would continue to be positioned in Market Square
- The planters would not return to the Square
- The trees would be removed from the planters and relocated
- The planters would be utilised at the train station for floral displays

Cllr Alvey asked who would assume responsibility for the planters and was assured this would be confirmed at a later date. Cllr Jinks suggested the trees could be relocated to the Dothill nature reserve.

3. **Grants Panel** – Cllr S. de Launey said the panel who had met prior to P&R had agreed to pay the following grants.

Applicant	Information	Outcome	Amount
6th Wellington Brownies	Amount applied for £ £150.00	Approved	£150.00
T&W Age UK	Amount applied for £500.00	Approved	£500.00
Belmont Community Hall	Amount applied for £500.00	Approved	£500.00
Help for Heroes Fund	Amount applied for £1200.00	Approved	£120.00
Telford Street Pastors	Amount applied for £500.00	Approved	£500.00
Telford VIG	Amount applied for £250.00	Approved	£250.00
Wellington H2A	Amount applied for £1500.00	Approved	£1500.00
Wellington LA21	Amount applied for £275.00	Approved	£275.00
Total			£4,875.00

Cllr Pierce asked if an application had been received from Walkers are Welcome, Cllr de Launey said he had not seen an application from them.

Cllr Gorse asked the date of the next grants panel – Cllr de Launey said this is yet to be determined but is usually around September / October. He added P&R can consider grants outside of the normal panel meetings depending on the circumstances.

	<p>4. Actions around support for the Ukraine – P&R confirmed the actions directed by the March Full Council.</p> <p>5. Public Works Loan Board - Cllr de Launey reported on communications with CLG to obtain permission to borrow £500,000 for regeneration within the town. Following negotiations and a further public consultation exercise an updated application had been approved by P&R. Cllr Carter said as Cabinet Member for Neighbourhood Services, Regeneration & the High Street, he is fully supportive of the regeneration efforts which are now showing results proven by the vacancy rates down from 15% to 9% and we need to keep pushing forward. Cllr Lowe asked if within the application we had been precise / specific in how the money would be spent. Cllr de Launey said this was not possible due to commercial sensitivity. Cllr Carter said it is important that the Town Council shows its commitment to regeneration and the loan would be in addition to the Government's Towns Fund money. Cllr Alvey requested an update on the Post Office. Cllr Carter said that the Post Office remains open the franchise is being published and there is a commitment to remain in the Market Street premises. The Borough is fully supportive and the position of Post Master is currently being advertised.</p> <p>b) Planning Committee held on 2nd March 2022 – Cllr L. Jinks presented the previously circulated minutes commenting that the application for parking regulations on Haygate Road outside Bowring Park were fully supported by the Committee. Planning reference application TWC2021 1071 the Steeraway Farm Lime Kiln Lane application was not supported by the committee and had since been turned down at the Borough. There were no questions.</p> <p>Planning Committee Meeting held on 23rd March 2022 - Cllr L. Jinks presented the previously circulated minutes and there were no questions.</p> <p>c) Dothill Nature Reserve – Conservation area working group meeting held on 30th March – the previously circulated minutes were presented by Cllr L. Jinks. There were no questions from members.</p> <p>d) Wellington Festival Committee meeting dated 30th March 2022 – Cllr Lowe presented the minutes and made the following comments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - This is the 26th Festival and is action packed over 3 days 6th – 8th May - All face to face events - He hoped that Councillors would try to attend as many events as possible - Hosts for the events are needed and he urged members to volunteer to welcome everyone, introduce the acts and thank everyone for attending - This is our Wellington magazine dedicated 4 pages detailing the events and he was most grateful to the editors - His closing comments were this is the public face of the Town Council so he urged members to attend, attend, attend
118/21	<p>Regeneration Partnership Meeting held 16th March 2022 – Cllr S de Launey presented the minutes. Cllr Lowe asked for details of the timetabling of the Towns Fund. Cllr de Launey said there are detailed plans / business case that need to be produced by the Borough and presented to Government by June. Cllr Gorse asked about the old job centre. Cllr de Launey explained this was now available to hire and was aimed at new businesses or anyone who needed a professional office space to hold a meeting or access to a working environment. The conversion had been funded using money provided by the initial Towns Fund Grant of around £1m. There were no further questions.</p>
119/21	<p>Climate Change Emergency Working Group meetings of 30th March 2022 – The minutes had been previously circulated. Cllr Lowe said things were progressing as a steering group had now been formed which included representatives from schools, traders, businesses and individuals. The Borough Council were keen for the plastic</p>

	<p>free initiative to move forward quickly but it takes time to engage 30 community organisations such as schools and community groups plus at least 12 traders. They will then need to demonstrate their involvement to show how they had replaced single use plastics by using bamboo or paper alternatives. Therefore a request had been made for the timetable to be pushed back to next Spring. He asked if there were any members who were involved in community groups and feel they could help to come forward. The then thanked the editors of the 'This is our Wellington' magazine as they had dedicated space in the current edition for the Climate Change Emergency Working Group. He also commented that the group would probably be looking for a new Chairman in May. There were no questions from members.</p>
120/21	<p>CAT Team Meeting – The Clerk had circulated the reports for March including the points made by the Group Leaders and action is being taken on the problems listed in the report. She said that all issues reported by the Group Leaders had been included but if anyone had anything they would like to raise she was happy to do so at the meeting due to take place on 25th April.</p> <p>Cllr. A McClements said in Arleston issues are generally raised directly with Telford and Wrekin following their ward walks. Cllr L. Jinks commended the work done by the WEST team in Dothill stating they are responsive and efficient. Cllr Pierce said she has regular ward walks with Cllr John Thompson and agreed the WEST team are very responsive and do excellent work.</p>
121/21	<p>To consider the Location of the next Full Council Meeting – Cllr S. de Launey asked if members felt safe and comfortable with the room set up this evening. Members agreed they did so he proposed that the next meeting was held in this room in the same format as tonight explaining that if members of the public were in attendance they could be accommodated in Lesley's Room and connected via an audio system. He was 2nd by Cllr L. Jinks. A vote was taken and in favour were Cllrs: D. Roberts, A. McClements, S. de Launey, P. Fairclough, J. Pierce, J. Latter, L. Jinks, L. Carter, J Gorse, J. Alvey, C. Brittain, U. Ahmed and A. Lowe. There were no votes against and one abstention from Cllr C. Barker.</p>
122/21	<p>Annual Assembly Meeting would be held on Wednesday 4th May 2022 at 7.00pm – Cllr Lowe asked about the room set up for the meeting and was informed the chairs would be in rows. Cllr Pierce asked if committee chairmen gave reports and it was commented that reports were necessary to allow members of the public to ask questions. A written annual report would also be available.</p>
123/21	<p>The date of the next Full Council meeting was agreed as 10th May 2022 and this would be the Annual Meeting of the Council.</p>

Chairman.....10th May 2022