

# Wellington Town Council

**Town Mayor**  
**Cllr Anthony Lowe**  
B.A. (Hons)



**Town Clerk**  
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## FULL COUNCIL MEETING

**Minutes of the virtual Full Council Meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April 2020 commencing at 7.00 pm.**

### **Present via zoom:**

Cllr A. Lowe – Mayor	Cllr D. Roberts	Cllr P. Davis	Cllr K. Tomlinson
Cllr G. Cook	Cllr J. Latter	Cllr J. Gorse	Cllr J. Alvey
Cllr A. McClements	Cllr J. Pierce	Cllr G. Luter	
Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE	Cllr M. Hosken	Cllr S. Hall	
Cllr L. Jinks	Cllr S. de Launey	Cllr L. Carter,	

**In attendance:** Andrew Roberts – Deputy Clerk, Karen Roper Town Clerk.

<b>147/19</b>	<b>Welcome</b> – The Mayor welcomed everyone to the first virtual Town Council meeting which will enable the Council to function and comply with social distancing directives due to the Covid19 pandemic.
<b>148/19</b>	<b>Tributes to Councillor and former Mayor – Frank Burns</b> The Mayor called upon Cllr Gorse to lead the tributes to Cllr Burns following his passing on 1 <sup>st</sup> April.  Cllr Gorse said Frank was a Governor at Dohill School and the former Headmaster of the Bridge School. Everyone in Wellington seemed to know him and over the years he helped many children. Frank was a dedicated Town Councillor with a passion to help with the regeneration of the town. He was a larger than life character and is a very sad loss to Wellington and the Council. There would be a memorial service at St Patricks Church when things return to normal.  Cllr Morris-Jones MBE said he and Frank did not always see eye to eye but he did admire his dedication to the Town and the Town Council. He hoped that Frank rests in peace.  Cllr Hosken said he had known Frank for a great number of years and they shared a love of trout fishing. He said that Frank was diligent and very capable and it was a shame we could not honour him in the usual way because of the Covid 19 situation. He will be missed.  Cllr deLauney said Frank was a valued member of this Council and active in Policy and Resources Committee with projects such as boundary review and boundary signs which would be a lasting memorial to him.  Cllr Davis called for one minute silence in his honour and was seconded by Cllr McClements.  All members honoured Cllr Burns with one minute silence and the Clerk said the Wellington flag was flying outside the Office at half-mast.

149/19	<p><b>Apologies</b> – Were received from Cllr Brittain, Cllr Fairclough and Cllr Usman who was unwell. The apologies were accepted.</p>
150/19	<p><b>Declarations of Interest</b> – None declared at this point.</p>
151/19	<p><b>To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held 10<sup>th</sup> March 2020</b> - Cllr Davis proposed the minutes for acceptance and was seconded by Cllr Jinks, members voted unanimously to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record.</p>
152/19	<p><b>To consider the temporary delegation of powers from Full Council to the Policy and Resources Committee.</b></p> <p>Cllr deLauney proposed an amendment adding the following words to the end of the above proposal.</p> <p><i>‘Full Council will continue to meet monthly and receive reports from Planning and Policy &amp; Resources, retaining the right to refer matters back to Committees’.</i></p> <p>The amendment was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Hosken and members voted unanimously in favour.</p> <p>Cllr Hosken proposed to accept the substantive motion and was seconded by Cllr de Launey. Members then voted unanimously in favour.</p>
153/19	<p><b>Item 6 on the agenda was rendered irrelevant following the above decision</b></p>
154/19	<p><b>To consider postponing the Annual Council Meeting to July 14<sup>th</sup> and the Annual Town Assembly to a date yet to be determined. The arrangements for both meetings to be reviewed in June.</b></p> <p>Cllr deLauney proposed the following amendment; to replace July 14<sup>th</sup> with <i>‘September 8<sup>th</sup>’</i></p> <p>He explained the change was so that hopefully we are clear of the current pandemic and the Mayor has time to reschedule his fundraising event.</p> <p>The above amendment was seconded by Cllr Hosken and unanimously agreed by members.</p> <p>Cllr McClements proposed acceptance of the substantive motion and was seconded by Cllr de Launey. Members then voted unanimously in favour.</p>
155/19	<p><b>To consider suspension of the following meetings until further notice.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Integrated Community Management Group (ICM)</li> <li>• Parking Working Group</li> <li>• Dothill Conservation Group</li> </ul> <p>Cllr deLauney proposed the following amendment that would negate the need for item 12 on the agenda.</p> <p><i>Add the following meetings to the above list ‘ Promotions and Liaison (P&amp;L) Committee and Festival Committee’</i></p> <p>Cllr Lowe explained there is no planned Festival for Autumn this year the next one will be Spring 2021 so meeting before September seems unnecessary.</p> <p>Cllr Carter said he had already had a conversation about P&amp;L and he felt there would not be a problem for the next 2 months.</p>

	<p>Cllr de Launey said P&amp;R will pick up and deal with any issues from the committees and working groups.</p> <p>Cllr Roberts said she would be against Parking decisions being made by P&amp;R when virtual meetings could be held. Cllr Carter said that the Parking working group is reliant on Telford and Wrekin Officers attending meetings, advising and acting on any decisions made. Therefore, during the current crisis, the Officers are fully deployed elsewhere so he felt there would not be a problem. Cllr Tomlinson agreed with Cllr Carter.</p> <p>Cllr Carter seconded the amendment proposed by Cllr deLauney, members then voted unanimously in favour.</p> <p>Cllr deLauney proposed the substantive motion for acceptance and was seconded by Cllr Jinks. Members voted to accept the motion unanimously.</p>
<b>156/19</b>	<b>To note the Planning Committee will continue to meet virtually –</b> Cllr Alvey requested confirmation that the Planning Committee would continue to meet ‘virtually’ every 3 weeks. Cllr de Launey confirmed this is the proposal and Cllr Jinks said the first meeting had already successfully taken place.
<b>157/19</b>	<b>To note that Policy and Resources (P&amp;R) Committee will continue to meet virtually –</b> There was a discussion around the most appropriate virtual tool to be used for P&R in relation to its security and the confidential nature of the business that can be debated at this committee. Cllr Davies said that Zoom had recently improved its security and a briefing paper had been issued. He suggested a further conversation was held with IT at the Borough.
<b>158/19</b>	<b>To note the Regeneration Board will continue to meet virtually via Microsoft Teams–</b> Cllr Lowe confirmed there was a meeting planned for Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April at 10.00am
<b>159/19</b>	<b>Item 12 on the agenda was subsumed into the amendment at minute Ref; 155/19</b>
<b>160/19</b>	<b>Walkers are Welcome (WW) -</b> Cllr Roberts said WW are going ahead with their 10 <sup>th</sup> walking festival in September. They would like to celebrate this with a reception held at the Civic offices inviting the Mayor. Members were supportive of this suggestion. It was also agreed that individuals are recognised by the Town Council for their hard work.
<b>161/19</b>	<b>Recognition –</b> Cllr Hosken asked that the Council officially thanks the Deputy Clerk for the organisation of tonight’s’ successful meeting, members were all in agreement.
<b>162/19</b>	<b>The next meeting date (Virtual) would be called for 7.00pm on 12<sup>TH</sup> May 2020</b>

Chairman.....12<sup>th</sup> May 2020