

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr R. Snell



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Full Council Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 13th January 2026 at Civic Offices commencing at 7.00pm

Cllr. R. Snell - Mayor	Cllr. L. Jinks	Cllr. G. Cook	Cllr. L. Carter	Cllr. G. Luter
Cllr. G. McGinn	Cllr. P. Davis	Cllr. M. Jobe	Cllr. U. Ahmed	Cllr. J. Gorse

Also in attendance; Rev. T. Carter, K. Roper CEO/Town Clerk and one member of the public.

101/25	Welcome – The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited Rev. Carter to lead prayers. Rev. Carter wished everyone a happy new year and asked members to look back over the previous year's successes and then look forward with hope and positivity to what can be achieved 2026. The CEO/Town Clerk had tabled a resume of the Mayors' attendance at events The meeting started at 7.05pm
102/25	Apologies – Were received from Cllrs de Launey, Pierce, Latter, Williams, G. Davis, Holding, Woolley, Sanders, Lowe, Tomlinson and Day. The following members voted in favour of these apologies, Cllrs Snell, Jinks, McGinn, P. Davis, Cook, Jobe, Carter, Ahmed, Luter and Gorse, there were no votes against and no abstentions.
103/25	To receive and approve declarations of interest – None were forwarded at this point in the meeting.
104/25	To approve the minutes of the meeting held on 9th December 2025 - The minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Davis, he was seconded by Cllr Jinks and the following members voted in favour Cllrs Snell, Jinks, McGinn, P. Davis, Cook, Jobe, Carter, Ahmed, Luter and Gorse, there were no votes against and no abstentions.
105/25	Matters Arising from those Minutes – None all are covered in committee reports.
106/25	To receive the Minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to note the Recommendations therein. a) To note the Policy and Resources Committee minutes and confidential notes dated 6th January 2026. Cllr Davis presented the minutes and confidential minutes page by page and commented the confidential minutes reports that the committee voted in favour of a balanced budget for 2026/27. b) To note the minutes of the Planning Committee meeting of 04.12.25. Cllr Cook presented the minutes page by page. Cllr Davis thanked the committee for objecting to TWC2025 / 0480 which proposed development of 40 dwellings on the site of the former Wrekin Endeavour as there had been a number of objections online. Cllr Jinks also thanked the committee for objecting to this application as it was on the border of Dothill and many of her electors had indicate they were against it.

	c) To note the minutes of the Events and Communications meeting of 16.12.25 - Cllr Gorse presented the minutes page by page. She thanked Adrienne, Caroline and Ami for the many events that took place this year. She said the new Christmas Lights supplier had delivered a great display and many positive comments had been received from members of the public. Cllr Gorse said for next year the Flora 250 event will centre around William Withering and celebrate 250 years since the publication of his book which made such a difference to medical science. Cllr Jinks said we have a great mural on the railway bridge but the passageway from the bus terminus into the town is dismal and she wondered if something similar could be done there. Cllr Gorse said she agreed with her view, and this was something that the committee were looking to do. They were hoping to work in conjunction with the William Withering pub and other local organisations. d) To note the minutes of the Community Library and residents Hub committee meeting on 11th December 2025. - Cllr Davis said the minutes were action based and he presented them page by page making the following comments. • The committee were looking at recruiting volunteers and will do the appropriate DBS checks. • Provision of a digital display would be revisited at a later date as the initial quotations were cost prohibitive. • The multicultural room had been cleared so it can be used as a community room. Models for Heroes will be the first group to take advantage of this. • A number of workshops and craft events have been popular for both young and older people funded by Pride Funding given by Cllrs Cook and Davis, residents were thrilled to be attending these events at the Library. Social media posts were successful in informing residents. • Cllr Luter wanted to say how great the Library staff have been, showing real enthusiasm and now, working with the committee, they were delivering great events. Their engagement on social media has been excellent. Comments from residents have confirmed taking on the Library is a really, really positive move for the Town Council.
107/25	Budget Statement for 2026/27 – Cllr Paul Davis At last week's P&R Committee meeting members voted unanimously in favour of setting a balanced budget for year 2026/27. The proposed budget represents a significant investment into the future of our town, with a modest weekly precept rise of just 37p for a Band D property. This contribution will unlock a wealth of positive developments, directly benefiting residents, visitors, and local businesses alike. Enhanced Events and Community Projects – the budget will enable us to host more frequent and larger-scale events, bringing people together and fostering a stronger sense of community. A dedicated £20,000 project fund will enable us to deliver community led projects that make our town more welcoming and attractive while drawing in visitors who support our local economy. Library Expansion and Literacy Promotion – additional resources will allow us to extend library staffing hours and opening times, making it easier for residents to participate in drop-in sessions and literacy events. This commitment to reading and creativity not only enriches lives but also builds a foundation of lifelong learning. We are also keen to explore Saturday openings and welcoming library volunteers, further strengthening our support for education and access for all to literacy, culture and the arts. Strengthening the WEST Team – To keep our streets clean and our green spaces accessible by adding a new member to the WEST team, we will be better positioned to expand existing operations and prepare for the upcoming changes following the

conclusion of the Boundary Review. This will ensure a smooth transition as Haygate Fields, Admaston, and Bratton become part of the future of Wellington – allowing us to deliver improved services to these areas. The budget also supports the replacement of the WEST Team vehicle with a larger model. These changes will improve efficiency and support our teams as they work to maintain and enhance our community spaces.

Investing in Wellington's Future – The budget gives us the flexibility to invest further in Wellington's properties, driving our long-term strategic aim to regenerate the high street, by taking ownership of buildings and offering secure business tenancies, we can help to keep money circulating locally and discourage land banking, thereby supporting the growth of our local economy.

Revitalising Duke Street – The planned refurbishment of Duke Street properties will facilitate the relocation of the Post Office and develop high-quality residential accommodation. By providing more living spaces in the heart of town, we seek to increase footfall and support both the market and our high street businesses.

Responsible Fiscal Management - The budget reflects rising operating costs whilst remaining balanced and robust thanks to the diligent work of our Responsible Finance Officer. She is just brilliant and has in the last year updated our financial systems and delivered valuable training to colleagues as well as delivering this budget ensuring that every penny is accounted for and spent wisely.

In summary, for just 37p per week extra on a Band D property, residents will benefit from improved services, richer community life, and a thriving local economy. This is an investment in both our present and our future—a step forward for Wellington that delivers outstanding value for money.

Parish Name	Band D council tax (£) 2025-26	Band D council tax (£) 2026-27
Wellington	£ 108.85	£ 131.52
Newport	£ 148.11	113%
Stirchley and Brookside	£ 155.15	118%
Ketley	£ 157.70	120%
Madeley	£ 164.21	125%
Hollinswood and Randlay	£ 185.20	141%
Oakengates	£ 280.74	213%
Great Dawley	£ 317.00	241%

The table above demonstrates Band D precept figures for comparable town councils, shown in bold. The figure of £131.52 is the proposed precept for a band D property for financial year 2026/27 in Wellington, the percentages in the last column are calculated as a percentage of Wellingtons' increased precept – based on no change against last years (2025/26) comparable band D precept across other towns and Parishes and assuming no cuts in precept from the comparable town councils. Wellington will remain the lowest precept amongst neighbouring towns in the borough.

Cllr Luter thanked our excellent RFO and Cllr Davis for putting this budget together and delivering exciting things for Wellington. It shows we are extremely competitive and that having a professional RFO has really helped this Town Council. The WEST team are doing a great job in all wards. The library is delivering an excellent service for residents, and all of this is really positive news. He said he is fully supportive of this balanced budget.

Cllr Ahmed said he would like to thank Cllr Davis and our Finance Officer for their work and professionalism. By accepting this balanced budget we still maintain the lowest council tax in comparison to other town councils in the borough.

	Cllr Gorse thanked everyone for their work on the budget and felt it is really exciting that we now have the Community Library and a great team of supportive staff who just love to be involved in delivering the community events. The Mayor said at a recent meeting of community managers the enthusiasm of the Library team leader shone through. The Mayor asked members to vote on the budget. Cllr Luter proposed acceptance of the budget, he was seconded by Cllr Davis. The following members voted in favour Cllrs Snell, McGinn, P. Davis, Cook, Jobe, Carter, Ahmed, Luter and Gorse, there were no votes against, and Cllr Jinks abstained.
108/25	To consider and agree a precept for 2026/7- Cllr Davis proposed to set the precept at £968,754.00, as recommended by the Policy and Resources Committee. He was seconded by Cllr Luter. The Mayor asked members to vote on the precept. Councillor Cllr Luter proposed acceptance of the precept, he was seconded by Cllr Davis. The following members voted in favour Cllrs Snell, McGinn, P. Davis, Cook, Jobe, Carter, Ahmed, Luter and Gorse, there were no votes against, and Cllr Jinks abstained.
109/25	CAT reports – These were circulated by the CEO/Town Clerk with the agenda. Cllr Jinks said she was very grateful to the enforcement officers who now attend on a daily basis to deal with parking issues in Ladycroft and this is welcomed by residents.
110/25	Wellington Conservation Area Working Group - To note the next meeting date as 21st January 2026.
111/25	The date of the next Full Council Meeting was agreed as Tuesday 10th February 2026 The Mayor thanked Rev. Carter for all his help over the Christmas period and Cllr Gorse thanked the Mayor for representing the Council so well at all of the events.

Chairman.....10th February 2026