

# Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor  
Cllr D. Roberts



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## POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2022

Held face to face at Civic Offices commencing at 7.00pm and livestreamed on Facebook.

#### Present

Cllr S. de Launey (Chairman)	Cllr J. Gorse	Cllr M. Hosken
Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE	Cllr S. Hall	Cllr. P. Davis

Also in attendance: Cllr. D. Roberts, Cllr A. Lowe and K. Roper

- 1/22 Election of Chairman** - The Chairman called for nominations to serve as Chairman of Policy and Resources for 2022/23. Cllr Hosken proposed Cllr de Launey and was seconded by Cllr Gorse. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, S. Hall, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- Cllr de Launey welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked members for his election.
- 2/22 Election of Deputy Chairman** – The Chairman called for nominations for Deputy Chairman for 2022/23. Cllr de Launey nominated Cllr Morris –Jones MBE and was seconded by Cllr Hosken. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, S. Hall, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 3/22 Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were accepted from Cllr L. Carter (work commitments) The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, S. Hall, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 4/22 Declarations of Interest** – Members noted that Cllr Morris-Jones declared his interest relating to the Orbit.
- 5/22 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2022** - The minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr Hosken, he was seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 6/22 Matters Arising**
- George Evans Tribute** – The Clerk said the Evans’ family had approved drawings for the signage.but there were still challenges around fitting the plaque which need to be worked through. .
  - SIDs** – The Clerk said the Deputy Clerk has sent data from the units by email to members today.
  - Mayoral Chain of Office** – The Clerk said the extender chain had a lobster clasp fitted which allows the Mayor to wear the official chain of office without the previous problems.
  - Planters** – AL said Sally Themans had been offered a cheaper way of moving the planters.

The Chairman reported the Friends of Wellington Station no longer require the planters or trees but had taken the plants. Assuming that we can use an economical way of transporting the planters, the trees and planters would move back into Market Square, replanted with appropriate flowers and then watered and maintained by our hanging basket supplier.

**7/22 Finance** - Cllr M Hosken proposed and Cllr de Launey seconded acceptance of items a-d listed below. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

- a. **To agree receipts** for April 2022
- b. **To agree payments** for April 2022
- c. **To agree Petty Cash** for April 2022
- d. **Receipts/Payments** compared with budget as at 30<sup>th</sup> April 2022 - Cllr Hosken asked why an engravers in Newport had been used rather than in Wellington.

Cllr A. Lowe commented on the cost of the door entry system – the Clerk said it was a necessary addition for staff safety.

- e. **To Confirm Members to Authorise Electronic Payments** – Members agreed the following Councillors to remain in place to confirm the monthly payments, Cllrs; Davis, Lowe and Fairclough.
- f. **Insurance Renewal** – The Chairman said we had enjoyed favourable terms for the past 5 years averaging at £5,500, the latest renewal had come through at £7,800 due to market forces. It was proposed by Cllr Gorse who was seconded by Cllr Davis to confirm support for the previously made payment. The Clerk said our insurance brokers had obtained quotations looking for the best cover but she would also approach SALC in time for next years' renewal. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions
- g. **Borrowing Approval** – The Clerk reported that a new form had been requested signed by the Mayor and the Clerk. This had been done and sent off for approval.
- h. **End of Year Accounts** – The Chairman said the AGAR and Internal Auditors report had taken place and was clear. Cllr Hosken said this was very good and the Deputy Clerk should be congratulated formally for doing an excellent job. It was proposed by Cllr de Launey to recommend acceptance of the accounts and supporting documents to Full Council, he was seconded by Cllr Hosken. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr P. Davis, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions
- i. **Grants & Town Band Funding Contract** – The Chairman said these matters needed to be deferred to the July meeting because of the workload relating to the end of year accounts and annual leave there was no update available tonight.

**8/22 Appointment of New Town Crier**- The Clerk said a gentleman called Steve Warwood had applied and had been appointed as our new Town Crier. She said he was very enthusiastic and had already been on duty at the Platinum Jubilee celebrations. AL said he had acted as Town Crier in Godspell and it was suggested he apply as he was perfect for the role.

**9/22 To Consider an Honourarium for the Ale Taster and Town Crier** – Following discussion Cllr Hosken proposed an annual sum of £200.00 each he was seconded by Cllr Gorse and the following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr Davis, Cllr S Hall, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr M Hosken. There were no votes against and no abstentions. It was agreed that the money will be paid in 2 x tranches and subject to PAYE. It was agreed that Events and Communications will decide which events the Ale Taster and Town Crier would be invited to attend.

- 10/22 Members Allowances** – This subject would be added to the July agenda for discussion.
- 11/22 Parking Fines.-** The Clerk explained that some members were fined at the Mayors Charity event held at the Whitehouse Hotel. Letters had been written and phone calls made but there had not been any response either from the Hotel or the car park company. Cllr Lowe said his Wife had stopped for 20 mins only to collect him from the venue and had been fined but he would be fighting the charge. There had been a suggestion that the Town Council resolve not to use the venue in the future. The Clerk was requested to establish the clear facts and bring a report back to the July meeting.
- 12/22 To receive the Regeneration Board Report** – The Chairman said the report had been circulated and he welcomed questions from members. AL asked the Chairman for confirmation of the amount of investment that would be available from the Towns Fund grant. The Chairman gave an explanation and the report was noted.
- 13/22 To receive a report from the Community Action Team (including WEST)** – The Clerk had circulated the written reports from the Wellington CAT for May 2022 and the latest report of the Environment Community Liaison Officer. The following comments were made by members.
- Cllr Morris–Jones MBE said the Orbit deserves a higher priority because of the inconsiderate and illegal parking giving an example of a lady trying to navigate a wheelchair and careless parking was making access really difficult.
  - He requested appropriate double yellow lines and pavement flashes to be installed / renewed.
  - Belmont Car Park – Cllr Morris – Jones MBE said the disabled parking bays should be moved from the night club parking area to the Belmont Hall.
  - Restoring the Parking Group Meeting – Members requested the Clerk call a meeting of the Parking Group.
  - Cllr Davis – requested that joint patrols of Police and NEO’s are carried out at night between 7-11pm and on the weekends. He gave examples of incidents of double parking in Church Street . The Clerk would make the request.
  - Cllr Hall requested information on how many disabled parking spaces were in Wellington.
- 14/22 Update on Market Street Proposals** – The Chairman said the scheme would be extended to the old taxi rank to provide disabled parking bays. Cllr Morris-Jones said arrangements need to be made to allow lorries to unload.
- T&W were currently liaising with the various utility companies to overcome clashes with their underground services and finalise initial proposals for materials and costs. The proposals should be available for the July P and R meeting.
- Cllr Roberts asked if consideration had been given to reversing the direction of the traffic flow at the bottom of Market Street. The Chairman explained why this was not possible although access will be potentially allowed to the car park at the bottom of Market Street. Cllr Gorse commented that Queen Street was a difficult junction. Cllr Lowe suggested a 20 mph speed limit be considered. The Chairman said these issues could be further discussed when the plans officially come to the Town Council. He also said the Borough would be looking for a financial contribution from the Town Council.
- 15/22 The next meeting date was agreed as 5<sup>th</sup> July 2022**

Chairman.....5<sup>th</sup> July 2022