

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr P. Davis



Town Clerk
KAREN ROPER
B.A (HONS) DMS
Civic Offices, Larkin Way
Tan Bank, Wellington
Telford TF1 1LX
Tel: 01952 567697
Email: wellingtontowncouncil@telford.gov.uk
www.wellington-shropshire.gov.uk

POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 1st MARCH 2022

Held face to face at Civic Offices on Tuesday 1st March 2022 commencing at 7.00pm and livestreamed on Facebook.

Present

Cllr S. de Launey	Cllr J. Gorse	Cllr S Hall
Cllr A. McClements (arriving 19.10)	Cllr L Carter	Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE

Also in attendance: K. Roper

- 144/21 Welcome** - The Chairman, Cllr S de Launey welcomed members to the meeting.
- 145/21 Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were accepted from Cllr M. Hosken and ex officio member D. Roberts. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr L. Carter, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr J. Gorse. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 146/21 Declarations of Interest** – Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE declared an interest in respect of agenda item 13 relating to the Orbit. The following members voted to accept his declaration, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr J. Gorse, Cllr S De Launey and Cllr L Carter. There were no votes against and Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE abstained.
- 147/21 To Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on Tuesday 1st February 2022** - The minutes were proposed as a true and accurate record by Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE he was seconded by Cllr J. Gorse. The following members voted in agreement Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr S. de Launey, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr J. Gorse and Cllr L Carter. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 148/21 Matters Arising**
- George Evans Tribute** – The Clerk had circulated an email from the Evans' family confirming they were very happy with the rock and location. They had also forwarded a dedication to be attached to the rock. The Chairman suggested he and the Clerk consider the new signs for the Peace Garden. Cllr Hall asked for confirmation of the budget for the purchase, the Clerk said the original budget for a sculpture would be used and the Chairman said any spending would be within that budget. The Chairman also expressed his concern about having a policy where anyone may decide to put remembrance stones in the garden, but he was not proposing to change the dedication.
 - SIDs** – The Clerk confirmed that the units are still situated in North Rd. Dawley Rd. and Holyhead Rd. They are all working, as far as she was aware and they were due to be moved on to the next location in April. The Clerk confirmed the policy was to move the units every 3 months and asked if members have a burning request for a location in their ward to contact her. Cllr Morris-Jones MBE asked if the solar panels were achieving greater reliability – the Clerk said there were fewer complaints so they seem to be working well.
 - Office 365** – Installation is ongoing.

- d. **Railway Station Signs**- The Clerk had circulated a letter sent to Network Rail and confirmed she was waiting for their response. Cllr P. Morris – Jones MBE asked about the signs, the Clerk said she would resend the report.
- e. **Grit Bins** – The Clerk confirmed a request for an audit of grit bins had been forwarded to Telford and Wrekin.
- f. **Defib Mapping ‘The Circuit’** – The Clerk said she had been working with Heart Start to set up a Town Council account for the Circuit although this process was not yet complete. Cllr Gorse asked if there could be a link on our website to the Circuit - the Clerk said she would ask for this to be done.

Cllr McClements joined the meeting

Queens Jubilee Trees – Minute Ref/ 135/21, Cllr Gorse said that at the E&C meeting some members had expressed their disappointment that the trees had been planted within their wards but they felt they had not been given the opportunity to agree the site or type of tree. The Clerk said originally the trees were to be planted by the WEST team but this had changed and T&W had asked Balfour Beattie to do the planting. A map of intended locations had been sent to P&R members but members said that some trees were already in place by the time they had received the map. The Clerk said there appears to have been a breakdown in communications and following a discussion with T&W we could have some further trees that can be planted in the Autumn in November / December as the planting season had now finished. The Clerk said she had been informed that T&W were expecting delivery of the tree guards and plaques this week. She had also been contacted to arrange photo opportunities for members once the guards and plaques are installed. The Chairman asked for in house photographs as well as the T&W publicity.

149/21 Finance - Cllr S de Launey proposed acceptance of items a-d listed below, he was seconded by Cllr Gorse. The following members unanimously voted in agreement, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr L. Carter, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr A. McClements, Cllr S. de Launey and Cllr J. Gorse. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

- a. **To agree receipts** for January 2022
- b. **To agree payments** for January 2022
- c. **To Agree Petty Cash** January 2022
- d. **Receipts/Payments** compared with budget as at 31st January 2022
- e. **Members Allowances** – Cllr Hall said she had discussed the Deputy Mayor’s Allowance with Cllr Roberts. The Chairman said payment to the Mayor / Deputy Mayor should be automatically made in full at the beginning of their year of office. The recipient was free to use the money as they see fit including giving it to charity if they so wished. Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE said the allowances were there to ensure that no member would be excluded from standing for election as Mayor or Deputy Mayor regardless of their financial position. The Clerk said she understood allowances to members had been paid and she would inform members of the payment dates for next year. Cllr Gorse asked the Clerk to ensure the Mayoral allowances are paid at the beginning of their year in office.

150/21 To Agree the format and Location of Future Full Council Meetings - Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE said he thought we should be meeting face to face, setting an example and getting back to normal as soon as possible. Cllr McClements said she felt safe tonight with an acceptable distance between us, the door was open and she was not wearing a mask. She felt we were now in a transition period with infection numbers coming down but still need to be careful to protect both ourselves and to avoid the possibility of passing on the infection to vulnerable people. She said she was very uncomfortable at the January full council meeting and would still like members to wear masks if the decision is to meet face to face in April. Cllr Gorse agreed she did not feel safe at the last face to face full council meeting and also agreed we will be in a much better position to make a decision in April.

Cllr de Launey proposed Full Council meeting for March be online as previously agreed and that meeting should decide if the April meeting will be held Face to Face. Cllr Gorse 2nd his proposal and the following members voted in agreement, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr L. Carter, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr A. McClements, Cllr S. de Launey and Cllr J. Gorse. There were no votes against and no abstentions.

- 151/21 To sign up to the Town and Parish Partnership Agreement** – The document had been circulated to members at the end of January and was intended to update the Town and Parish Charter. Following brief discussion it was proposed by Cllr S. de Launey and 2nd by Cllr Carter to sign up to the agreement and the following members voted in agreement, Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE, Cllr L. Carter, Cllr S. Hall, Cllr A. McClements, Cllr S. de Launey and Cllr J. Gorse. There were no votes against and no abstentions.
- 152/21 To receive an oral report from the Regeneration Partnership-** Cllr S. de Launey reported there had not been a meeting in February and the next meeting was agreed as 16th March. The Clerk had circulated a Love Wellington report from Sally Themans.
- 153/21 To consider Purchasing Enhanced Community Action Team Services -** Cllr S. de Launey said a meeting would be set up with Dean Sargeant to discuss this matter and a report brought back to the April meeting.
- 154/21 To receive a report from the Community Action Team (including the WEST)** – The Clerk had circulated the written reports there were no further questions from members. The Clerk said she was working with the new officer and has requested the Police presence to the CAT meetings. The Chief Superintendent has offered to visit Full Council at least twice a year. Cllr P. Morris – Jones MBE asked for the parking outside of the Orbit to be highlighted as vans were pumping fumes onto the café. Cllr Carter said actions at Esplay Close should be reported back to Love Wellington as it was raised in Sally’s report.
- 155/21 To receive an update as loan guarantor for the Orbit.** – Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE said the Orbit team were waiting for the agreement which would brought to P&R when it arrived.
- 156/21 The next meeting date was agreed as 5th April 2022**

Chairman.....5th April 2022