

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr P Davis



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Minutes of the Full Council meeting of Wellington Town Council Dated 13th June 2023, starting at 7.00pm in the Council Chamber.

Present.

Mayor P. Davis	Cllr. J. Gorse	Cllr J. McGinn	Cllr L. Woolley
Cllr. L. Carter	Cllr. E. Holding	Cllr. J. Pierce	Cllr. A. Lowe
Cllr G. Cook	Cllr. L. Jinks	Cllr. R. Snell	Cllr. G. Luter
Cllr. J. Latter	Cllr. M. Jobe	Cllr. S. Williams	Cllr. K. Tomlinson

This meeting was live streamed on Facebook.

Also in attendance: Rev. Tim Carter – All Saints Church, 2 members of the public and Karen Roper, Town Clerk.

6.55pm Public Open Session

Welcome from the Mayor – Cllr Davis welcomed everyone to the meeting and commented on the success of the Midsomer Fare held at the previous weekend. He then invited Rev. Carter to lead prayers.

Rev. Carter thanked everyone for their support for the Midsomer Fayre and congratulated town council staff, businesses and volunteers on their brilliant organisation skills which made it again a great successful event for Wellington. He asked members to pray for peace and justice in the Ukraine and for those who had lost loved ones in the pandemic and still bear the scars as the national enquiry begins.

7.00pm Full Council Meeting AGENDA

19/23 Mayor – Cllr Davis proposed to vary the agenda by moving item 8 (d) in accordance with standing order 10 (a) sections 6 and 11 into closed session at the end of the meeting. He was seconded by Cllr Carter and the following members voted in favour. Cllrs Davis, Carter, Cook, Latter, Gorse, Holding, Jinks, Jobe, McGinn, Pierce, Snell, Williams, Woolley, Lowe Luter and Tomlinson.

20/23 Apologies – Apologies were received and approved from Cllrs Hosken, de Launey, Ahmed, Barker and Day.

21/23 Declarations of Interest – No declarations of interest were received.

22/23 a) To receive the Resignation of Cllr Luter from the Planning Committee.

Members were made aware that Cllr Luter had been appointed as Deputy Planning Chairman at Telford and Wrekin and this may create a conflict of interest situation.

- b) **To agree the number of places on the Planning Committee is reduced to 6** – Cllr Carter made the above proposal, he was seconded by Cllr Cook.

Cllr Jinks proposed to self-nominate herself to serve on the committee as she could offer years of valuable experience as Deputy Chair of Planning Committee. There was no seconder so the motion fell.

The Mayor called for a vote on the following matters as proposed by Cllr Carter and 2nd Cllr Cook

- 1) The acceptance of Cllr Luter's resignation due to a possible conflict of interests.
- 2) Reducing the number of members on the planning committee to 6

The following members voted in favour. Cllrs Davis, Carter, Cook, Latter, Gorse, Holding, Jobe, McGinn, Pierce, Snell, Williams, Woolley, Lowe, Luter and Tomlinson. Cllr Jinks voted against. The motion was carried.

Cllr Carter asked members to note the agendas for each and every committee are published at on the website within the required legal time framework and at no time has any councillor suggested that officers should do otherwise.

23/23 To approve minutes of the Annual General Meeting dated 16th May 2023

Cllr Pierce proposed the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting, she was seconded by Cllr. Jinks. The following members voted in favour Cllrs Davis, Carter, Cook, Latter, Gorse, Holding, Jobe, McGinn, Pierce, Snell, Williams, Woolley, Lowe, Luter and Cllr Jinks. Cllr Tomlinson abstained as she was not present on 16th May. The motion was carried.

24/23 Matters arising from those minutes.

Agenda item

7 a – Nomination to Wrekin Area Committee – Cllr Pierce nominated Cllrs Ahmed and Latter she was seconded by Cllr Snell. There were no further proposals so the nominations were carried.

7 b - Proposal: Cllr Carter proposed The Town Council devolve the authority to P&R and the Clerk to examine the most effective way for the Council engage in the following issues or with the following groups. He commented that this is an opportunity to address the priorities for the council commenting that the list included Dothill Conservation group within the bullet point noting 'green space conservation'. PR will as a matter of urgency look at the best way to engage.

- Bus use and other Public Transport
- Climate Change
- Town Centre & Green Space Conservation
- Walkers Are Welcome
- Town Centre Car Parking
- Access to local GP services.
- Tackling Crime and enhancing Community Safety
- Creating and Promoting Opportunities for young People in Wellington.

He was seconded by Cllr Gorse and the following members voted in favour Cllrs Davis, Carter, Cook, Latter, Gorse, Holding, Jobe, McGinn, Pierce, Snell, Williams, Woolley, Lowe, Luter, Jinks and Tomlinson. There were no votes against and no abstentions. The motion was carried.

7 c - To Receive a Report of the removal of the No. 17 Bus – The Clerk had circulated written responses from T&W transport and Arriva. Cllr Luter verbally reported the no 17 bus had been withdrawn by Arriva and in response the Borough council had funded the 101 service which creates a link from the Holyhead Road area to the PRH. Unfortunately, this will not continue to Shrewsbury but T&W has called on the Government to allow the Borough to run its own bus services. Cllr Tomlinson said there had been many complaints as this service offered a lifeline to some. Cllr Cook said Arriva had let us down and should be held to account. Cllr Williams said that Arriva is a profit-making organisation and if it is not a cost effective and / or an environmentally friendly service and they will not run it.

7 d - Twinning Report. - The Clerk had circulated reports and information to members prior to the meeting. Cllr Lowe explained, for the benefit of new councillors, that for the past 22 years Wellington has been twinned with the town of Chatenay- Malabry and has a thriving relationship. There will be another annual visit on the Whit weekend next year and it is proposed that 48 children with 6 members of staff will be coming to Wellington and staying at the Coalport youth hostel. The Twinning Chair is working with Dothill school to build a reciprocal relationship. He urged Councillors to read the reports and added that there had been an approach from an Italian town called Bracciano near Rome. They have been twinned with Chatenay-Malabry for the last 12 years and have expressed interest in twinning with Wellington. He requested this approach be formally discussed and a response agreed at the July council meeting.

25/23 To receive the Minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to note the Recommendations therein.

a) Policy and Resources Committee dated 06.06.23.

Councillor Carter presented the minutes and gave details of the internal audit statement declaring that members had considered the matter in detail and were previously aware of the two matters raised prior to receiving the report.

- **Cllr Carter proposed that Full Council vote to accept the Resolutions 1 & 2 from Policy and Resources listed below, he was seconded by Cllr Tomlinson.**

3) Full Council to resolve to accept the recommendation from Policy and Resources Committee that Full Council approves and authorises the Mayor's signature on the Annual Governance Accountability Return (AGAR) for 2022/23.
4) Full Council to resolve to accept the recommendation from Policy and Resources Committee that Full Council approves and authorises the Mayor's signature on the Annual Accounting Statements for 2022/23.

The following members voted in favour Cllrs Davis, Carter, Cook, Latter, Gorse, Holding, Jobe, McGinn, Pierce, Snell, Williams, Woolley, Lowe, Luter, Jinks and Tomlinson. There were no votes against and no abstentions. The motion was carried.

- **Regeneration Partnership Terms of Reference** – The Clerk had circulated an updated draft Terms of Reference and Cllr Carter explained the reasons for the changes to members.
- **Election of Members to the Regeneration Partnership** – Cllr Carter reported that P&R had elected Cllrs de Launey, Gorse and McGinn. Cllr de Launey had been re-elected as Chairman.
- **Election of members to the Personnel Committee** - Members were asked to note the following members were elected to serve on the above committee; Cllrs Carter, Gorse and de Launey.

b) **Planning Committee** - Minutes of the meetings held on 17.05.23 and the 07.06.23 were presented by Cllr Snell and there were no further comments from members.

26/23 To receive the reports from the Community Action Team. The Clerk had distributed reports. The Clerk was also asked about the reporting process and she said that members were welcome to contact her with any problem and she would raise it at the monthly meeting which was due to take place next week. Cllr Jinks asked that consideration be given to reformatting the action plans to include outcomes, dates visited and actions taken i.e. number of tickets issued. She referred to Ladycroft TRO and asked the Clerk to confirm it is in place and to find out the number of tickets issued in that area.

27/23 The next Full Council Meeting was agreed as Tuesday 11th July 2023 – The Mayor said this would include presentations to past members. Cllr Snell asked for clarification of upcoming meetings for August including planning committee meetings. These would be circulated. Cllr Jinks requested an agenda item be included to discuss holding an additional Full Council meeting in August as there were matters to discuss.

28/23 The Mayor proposed the meeting is now closed to the press and public in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Local Government Act 1972 to discuss Resolution 3 from Policy and Resources. He was seconded by Cllr Cook and the following members voted in favour Cllrs Davis, Carter, Cook, Latter, Gorse, Holding, Jobe, McGinn, Pierce, Snell, Williams, Woolley, Lowe, Luter, Jinks and Tomlinson. There were no votes against and no abstentions. The motion was carried.

Chairman.....Date.....