

# Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor  
Cllr Anthony Lowe  
B.A (HONS)



Town Clerk  
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## POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October 2019 commencing at 7.07pm.

<b>Cllr S. de Launey (SDL)</b> Chairman	<b>Cllr. P. Morris-Jones MBE (PMJ)</b> Vice Chairman	<b>Cllr J. Gorse (JG)</b>	<b>Cllr S. Hall (SH)</b>
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**In attendance** – Cllr A. Lowe (AL) (ex Officio) and Karen Roper- Town Clerk (KR).

- 58/19 Chairman** - Cllr de Launey welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 59/19 Apologies for Absence** – Were received and accepted from Cllrs. Hosken for holiday, Burns for a funeral and Carter due to illness.
- 60/19 Declaration of Interest** – None were declared at this point.
- 61/19 To approve the minutes of the meetings held on 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2019** – The minutes were proposed by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE, seconded by Cllr Hall and RESOLVED by members as a true and accurate record.
- 62/19 Matters Arising**
- a. **Defibrillator Units** – The Clerk reported that following a shout out on social media ten units had been identified in Wellington. There is a National Database to map defibrillators but it is currently under construction and does not show any units in Wellington because none have been registered. A representative from Heartstart Midlands who also works as a Paramedic for WM Ambulance Service has offered to pull information together including relevant statistics, signposting and quoting for the best units for Wellington. He has also offered to attend a Full Council meeting to demonstrate the equipment. Members asked the Clerk to invite him to Full Council.
- b. **Speed Indicator Device** – The Clerk reported she had made enquiries of other parishes and of T&W Highway officers and had been advised to approach a company called Morelock. The quotation for the total cost for a complete kit was £2623.00 excl. VAT. Highways had promised to provide information on the areas of greatest need in accordance with their statistics. The Clerk had also been asked to contact the Police regarding appropriate installation sites.
- 63/19 Finance**

Agenda items, 6a to 6d were proposed for acceptance by Cllr de Launey, seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and approved by members.

### The following comments were made.

- AL asked for a cost analysis to be done on the franking machine
- Wrekin News – 2 entries for this month and could this be checked to ensure it there is no duplication
- Explanations were given for the following entries
  - ADT Alarm Systems
  - Kalidescope

- NNDR payment
- Printed Bags
- Any entries that were shown as being over / under Budget estimate

It was suggested that AL and Cllr Davis meet with the Chairman and Deputy Clerk to consider options relating to the future presentation of the accounts / budget and signing off of payments.

#### **64/19 Councillors Allowances**

The Chairman explained the role of the Parish Remuneration Panel and said that as Wellington Town Council has the General Power of Competence it therefore does not need refer its decision on Councillor Allowances to the Panel.

SDL said that allowances for Wellington Town Councillors had not been increased since 2010/11 and therefore he proposed the following:-

- All members' allowances are paid twice per year by BACS and the relevant paperwork is sent to each member following the payment.
- All members of the Council to have their allowances increased from £500-£600 gross per annum
- Mayor's allowance to remain at £2,000 gross per annum
- Deputy Mayor's allowance to remain at £1,000 gross per annum
- Chairmen of the Councils' 3 main committees; P&R, Planning and P&L all to receive an additional allowance for the first time of £500.00 gross per annum
- PMJ proposed that for the first time the work of the Deputy/Vice Chairmen of the 3 main committees P&R, P&L and Planning all to receive an allowance of £250.00 gross per annum. The Chairman said he would accept this amendment.

Members commented that

- It is reasonable that the extra work falling to chairmen and deputy /vice chairmen of committees is recognised
- SH asked if the increase had been budgeted for.

The Chairman said the increase would amount to approx.1% of the total council budget and although it had not been a specific item when the budget was set, there were contingencies that would cover the sum.

The Chairman's proposal including the amendment was seconded by PMJ and put to the vote, resulting in 2 x for and 2 x abstentions.

#### **65/19 Personnel Report**

The Chairman reported the following key recommendations from the Personnel Committee;

- Agree to fund CiLca Certificate and training for one staff member
- Offer voluntary redundancy for one post subject to legal advice gained from T&W.
- Create a post to include the following responsibilities
  - Organise and deliver the Festival
  - Support the Love Wellington Project and to continue the work when the contract ends
  - Support Wellington Regeneration Work
  - Support the Mayor
- Confirm the Christmas break period as;

Office closes on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 5.00pm

Staff are off from Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> December returning at 9.00am on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> January

2020, staff to use 3 x days' holiday or time owing during this period.

- It was confirmed that the Council would give a £50.00 voucher to each member of staff for Christmas 2019.

**66/19 Regeneration Board**

Members had received the written report and the Vice Chairman, Cllr Morris-Jones said he was happy to answer any questions.

The following comments were made;

- The Great British High Street Judges day could not have gone better
- The Judges seems impressed particularly with the community groups and the number of volunteers.
- Judges commented that Wellington also treasures its past as well as its future
- It was confirmed that free parking was mentioned
- Sally Themans deserves credit for her organisation of the day
- Feel as much as could be done, had been done
- Voting stops on 7<sup>th</sup> October
- The outcome is due mid-November

**67/19 ICT Working Group**

The Chairman said he had given this matter further consideration and if members were agreeable, he proposed working with the Clerk and presenting a report to P&R in December. Cllr Morris –Jones MBE 2<sup>nd</sup> the proposal and members were all in agreement.

**68/19 Bowring Park Lease**

The Chairman reported that an independent rent evaluation had been received and the Town Councils' Solicitor was updating the Lease. There needed to be a final meeting with the Tenants once the Lease was finished and all would need to be concluded by November 2019.

**69/19 ICM Report**

Members confirmed the attendance of shop owners and Maninplace , the notes to the meeting would be circulated and would be on the agenda for discussion at the next meeting.

**70/19 Decriminalisation of Parking Working Group**

A date for the meeting had been agreed as Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2019 at 10.00am, venue, Wellington Civic Offices. It was proposed by Cllr de Launey, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Cllr Gorse and agreed that members previously involved in the group i.e. Cllrs McClements, Gorse, Roberts, Morris-Jones MBE and de Launey would be invited plus the Mayor and Deputy Mayor as ex Officio participants. T &W officers already invited are Adam Brookes, Paul Fenn, and T&W Cllrs David Wright and Lee Carter.

**71/19 To agree date and time of the next meeting as Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7.00pm**

Chairman.....5<sup>th</sup> November 2019