

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr P. Davis



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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held face to face on Tuesday 1st June 2021 commencing at 7.00pm. The meeting was also recorded on Facebook.

Present - Cllr S. de Launey (SDL) - Chairman, Cllr S. Hall (SH), Cllr M. Hosken (MH), Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE (PMJ), Cllr J. Gorse (JG), Cllr L. Carter (LC), Cllr A. McClements (AMcC)

Also In attendance – K. Roper, Town Clerk, Cllr P. Davis and Cllr D. Roberts ex officio.

- 1/21 Election of Chairman** – Cllr. de Launey welcomed everyone to this face to face meeting and called for nominations for Chairman for 2021-22. Cllr Morris-Jones MBE nominated Cllr de Launey and he was seconded by Cllr Hosken. All members voted in favour. The Chairman thanked members for his election.
- 2/21 Election of Deputy Chairman** – The Chairman called for nominations for Deputy Chairman. Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and Cllr Carter were both nominated and seconded. A vote was taken resulting in a tie so the Chairman gave his casting vote in favour of Cllr Morris-Jones MBE.
- 3/21 Variation of the Agenda** – The Chairman asked members to withdraw item 15 on the agenda as there was insufficient information available to report this evening.
- 4/21 Apologies for Absence** – There were no apologies received.
- 5/21 Declarations of Interest** – There were no declarations of interest made at this point in the meeting.
- 6/21 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the meeting dated 27th April 2021** – The minutes were proposed by Cllr Hosken as a true and accurate record, he was seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and all members voted in favour.
- 7/21 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting dated 27th April 2021**
- a George Evans Tribute** – The Clerk reported Ercall Quarry may have a suitable rock following a recent fall. A meeting has been arranged with Paul Evans to check suitability following which appropriate transport will be arranged.
 - b Speed Indicator Device** – The Clerk said that requests for the relocation the SIDs units have been made. A request to add Crescent Road to the locations list has been made. A further quotation of £3276 including VAT for an extra unit has been received. Members said the units on Churchill Rd and Whitchurch Rd were not working.
- 8/21 Finance** – Members had received papers. Cllr Hosken proposed the finance reports referenced 6 a-d be accepted, he was seconded by Cllr Gorse and members voted unanimously in favour of acceptance of the financial reports.

The Chairman reported the end of year accounts and the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) both needed to be signed off by Full Council by 30th June each year. This year we have agreed not to hold a Full Council meeting in June because of Covid and being unable to find a suitable venue to accommodate 22 people socially

distanced at a council meeting. Members agreed P&R will meet on 6th July to receive the internal auditors report, AGAR and accounts. These will be signed off at the next Full Council meeting on 13th July 2021. The External Auditors have been informed of the position and have confirmed that they will make a note of it in their final report. Members asked that the problem is clearly explained to the External Auditor.

- 9/21 Insurance-** The Chairman reported that the insurance quotation has been received and the amount was lower than last year's figure due to changing providers. Cllr de Launey proposed acceptance of the quotation and was 2nd by Cllr Hosken, members were in agreement and asked the Clerk to circulate the full quotation and papers for information and to clarify the tax base figure.
- 10/21 Regeneration Board Meeting –** The minutes of the meeting had been circulated and the Chairman asked if members had any questions. Cllr deLauney informed members of the name changing to 'The Wellington Town Centre Regeneration Partnership' using 'Wellington Regeneration Partnership' as a shortened version. It was felt that the name change better describes the purpose of the group.
- Cllr Carter asked if Love Wellington could be requested to promote the new food quarter at the Market. He would like to see partnership working with the market to improve maps and signage. Support for the 'Opening of the High Street' events on 10th July had been requested from T&W the Clerk had responded. There was no news on the wrapping of the plastic planters and watering arrangements needed to be confirmed with Idverde. Cllr Carter said closer partnership working arrangements are needed between the Town Council with T&W. Cllr Roberts said she was unable to share Love Wellington Facebook posts. The Clerk was asked to approach Sally Themans to resolve this.
- 11/21 Community Action Team (CAT) –** The Clerk had circulated the action plan to members, Cllr Gorse asked for the plan to be circulated to all members of Full Council.
- The Chairman said he had reconsidered the suggestion made at Full Council and proposed the three Group Leaders should be involved in the CAT team for the time being. He was seconded by Cllr Hosken and members voted in agreement.
- 12/21 To receive a report on the work of the WEST team –** The Clerk reported on the activities of the Team since the previous meeting. Members again requested that before and after photos were taken of their activities and these are promoted via social media. The Clerk said a works phone will be needed as the team were using their personal devices. Members requested a posting on social media every day and that we should learn from Great Dawley and their communications.
- 13/21 Bowring Cafe –** The Clerk reported the tenants had contacted the Clerk in respect of further internal reorganisation of the building. Cllr Gorse asked if the tenants were paying for the changes themselves and the Clerk confirmed this was the case. Cllr Carter commented this was an opportunity to look at the building footprint as a whole, Cllr Morris-Jones MBE agreed. The Chairman and the Clerk had a meeting organised with tenants on Thursday evening to discuss the issue.
- 14/21 Amendments to Committee Membership –** The Chairman said the Labour Group had changed their representation on the Events and Communications Committee which needs confirmation at Full Council. Cllrs Carter, Gorse and Davis said that advice had been taken via our legal officer (The Clerk) prior to the action being taken. Cllr de Launey said this item was on the agenda tonight to confirm the change as P&R had retained the powers of Full Council and proposed acceptance. He was seconded by Cllr Carter and all members were in agreement.
- 15/21 Events and Communications Committee Report of the meeting held 25th May 2021 –** Members had received a written report. Cllr Carter had been elected as Chairman and the committee had discussed forthcoming events.

- 16/21 Wellington Festival working group meeting held of 12th May** - Cllr Carter thanked Cllrs Lowe and Pierce who together with staff and volunteers had delivered a very successful virtual festival. Cllr McClements said she agreed they did a fantastic, really professional job. Cllr Davis said he wished to go on the record to say thanks to all those volunteers who had given their skills and expertise to make this Festival such a success, attracting many viewings and creating a lasting record on social media. He added in the future we will need to record all of our face to face events and festivals to create a lasting record which can be accessed on line at any time.
- 17/21 Climate Change Emergency working group meeting held on 13th May**– Cllr Davis said a revised motion to achieve a plastic free community will need to go to the next Full Council meeting. Cllr Luter had been elected as Chairman and discussion had been held on the application for a solar farm, the successful bid for installation of solar panels onto the Parade toilets roof and a spring clean had been organised for 12th June starting at 10.00 am.
- 18/21 To consider entry to ‘Shropshire’s Outstanding Community’** - The Clerk had circulated a draft application and invited members to add any ideas or comments.
- 19/21 To note the 4th May AGM Meeting Minutes-** Members had received the draft minutes and made no comments.
- 20/21 To note the 5th May Annual Assembly Meeting Minutes** - Members had received the draft minutes and made no comments.
- 21/21 WEST Team** – The Clerk reported on the work of the WEST team and members said that the public need to know what they are doing every day. Cllr Gorse said this issue has been brought up at every meeting recently, photos and communications to the public across all 7 wards are needed to show how the precept is being used. Cllr Davis said it was a massive waste of resources if additional members of staff are having to go out to take photographs and the WEST should be equipped to take before and after photos via a suitable phone as soon as possible.
- 22/21 To Consider Arrangements for Future Meetings of the Council** – The Chairman said that members should be aware that the Government may not lift restrictions as planned on 21st June due to the current Covid variant.
- 23/21 The next meeting date was agreed as 6th July 2021**

Chairman.....6th July 2021