

# Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor  
Cllr P. Fairclough



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## POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday 2nd February 2021 commencing at 7.09pm.

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

**Also In attendance** – Mr. P. Kalinauckas (PK) member of the public, Cllr P. Fairclough ex officio, Cllr P. Davis ex officio, A. Roberts- Deputy Town Clerk and K. Roper- Town Clerk.

- 52/20 Chairman's Welcome** – Cllr. de Launey welcomed everyone to the meeting and informed members that he was recovering from an eye operation that was limiting his vision and that 2 members of staff had been unwell with Covid. He reminded participants that proceedings are being live streamed on Facebook and invited Mr Kalinauckas to address the meeting at the public open session.
- 53/20 Parking at the Bowring Park-** Mr. Kalinauckas (PK) said the Bowring Park was becoming more popular increasing the demand for parking. There was a car park by the changing rooms accessed via Herbert Avenue which was generally locked but opened for occasional events. Mr Kalinauckas had approached the Borough with a petition signed by 165 people in favour of opening the car park and the request had been refused with no right of appeal. The Borough reports it has a long term arrangement with home owners that the situation would remain unchanged. A FOI request had not found any physical agreement between the Borough and homeowners. PK said there seems to be no logical reason for the car park to remain closed when extra parking is needed. Cllr Morris-Jones MBE asked about the objections from householders and it was reported that strong objections had been made as they had in the past experienced damage to their property and insulting behaviour. PK said the situation is about risk management and as the Café was extending with the addition of a porta cabin it makes no sense for the car park to remain closed. Cllr Carter said he had listened to PK and the Borough had listened to the concerns of the residents who were alarmed and upset by the proposal. He would therefore not support just opening the car park but would support a wider review on parking and traffic management in the area. Cllr Hosken said the policy made by the Borough in response to the concerns of worried residents and he would agree with the Borough Councils' decision. The Chairman said this item is not on the agenda for discussion tonight and agreed that there should be an entire review of traffic, access and parking in the area. He thanked PK for his attendance. PK commented that the issue will not go away as there is a car park and it should be used.
- 54/20 Apologies for Absence** – There were no apologies.
- 55/20 Declaration of Interest** – There were no declarations of Interest made at this point.
- 56/20 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the meeting dated 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021-** The minutes were proposed by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE as a true and accurate record. He was seconded by Cllr Hosken and all members voted in favour.

**57/20 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting dated 5<sup>th</sup> January 2021**

- a Tribute to George Evans** – The Clerk said the Evans family had responded to the designs submitted for their consideration. They had indicated that they would prefer an altogether simpler tribute and wished to have a rock that they used to play on as children placed in the Peace Garden. The Clerk had asked for their suggestions for the inscription and would try and locate the rock.
- b Climate Change Emergency Group** – Notification of next meeting date: 4<sup>th</sup> February 2021

**58/20 Finance** – Members had received papers, Cllr Hosken proposed the finance reports referenced 6a – 6d be accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Gorse and members voted unanimously in favour.

**59/20 External Auditors Report Relating to the year ending 31.03.20** – There were no issues with the figures, all balanced to the penny. The Auditor had highlighted that an amount was put in the wrong box on the form which would be rectified. Also that the signatures of the Mayor and Clerk were not done simultaneously. This was not the case as the papers were signed at the online meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> July 2020 and witnessed by Councillors referenced by minute 190/19 and 191/19. It was not possible to have signatures on the same document due to COVID restrictions. The documents were scanned and sent to the External Auditor at the same time. Cllr Hosken said the issues raised were minor administrative points therefore the Deputy Clerk had done a great job and should be congratulated. The Chairman said the Council as a whole should be congratulated for coping so well with the whole COVID situation. Members agreed.

**60/20 Community Action Team (CAT) Proposal** - The Chairman explained that the CAT would take over from the Integrated Community Management meetings currently held with Borough, Police and Town Council representatives. From April 2021, the Borough were offering 50% towards enhancing services for Wellington over a 3 year period with the following proposal:

CCTV x1 5 day NEO (cost split with T/P Council) 0.5 Locality Officer	£44,280.00
Cost share (50/50)	£22,140.00

The Locality Manager and Enforcement Officer would report to the Town Clerk and take instructions from the Town Council and CAT.

The Locality Officer will also manage the WEST team. The Chairman said this will foster a better understanding of where the duties of Idverde start and finish and therefore add value.

The monthly CAT meetings will continue to have Councillor representation as well as the Clerk. Cllr Gorse said this looks like a good proposal that brings things together. Cllr de Launey said he felt that the proposed new arrangements would be making a better use of resources and the addition of the mobile CCTV camera will allow deployment anywhere within the area. Cllr Carter asked if there was scope to scale things up if the new arrangements work e.g. could additional cameras be purchased later at the same subsidy. Cllr de Launey said services could be expanded next year. Cllr Davis asked for confirmation that the WEST team would remain WTC employees and remain the responsibility of the Town Council, Cllr de Launey confirmed they would remain WTC employees under the direction of the Town Council.

Cllr de Launey proposed acceptance of the Community Action Team Proposal, he was seconded by Cllr Gorse and all members voted in favour.

- 61/20 Regeneration Board Meeting** - The Clerk had circulated the minutes. The Chairman reported the outcome of the Towns Fund Proposal will not be known until March. The Town Council had previously agreed to borrow £500,000 for regeneration purposes and there would be a meeting of Town Council representatives next week to discuss possible projects.
  
- 62/20 ICM Report** – The Clerk had distributed a report of the meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> January, Cllr Morris-Jones said he felt we were getting the full co–operation of Officers. The cycling signs were still not in place but he was satisfied efforts were being made to resolve this. The Chairman reminded the Clerk that Council had agreed to pay for the signs. Cllr Carter offered his help but said the Highways team had been busy with Covid, flooding and snow.
  
- 63/20 Speed Indicator Device (SID)**– The Clerk had issued a draft SIDs policy, additions were being made by the Police and Borough. Cllr Hosken asked the Clerk about the positioning of speed monitoring in Ercall Lane. The Clerk said she would make enquiries. A quotation had been received for the installation of posts to hold the SID devices. Cllr Gorse proposed posts are installed in Herbert Avenue and Bailey Road. She was seconded by Cllr McClements and the proposal was agreed by members.
  
- 64/20 Events and Communications (E&C) Committee Meeting of 26<sup>th</sup> January 2021**– The minutes has been distributed Cllr Davis said there was nothing to add. Cllr Carter asked about the Communications Policy and the Clerk said this was currently incomplete. He requested a draft be available for the next E&C meeting.
  
- 65/20 Member Officer Protocol** – The Clerk had circulated the draft and said she had not received any comments. Cllr Hosken said he thought it was an excellent document and thanked the Clerk. Cllr de Launey asked for members to read and bring their comments to the March meeting.
  
- 66/20 Review of Future Meeting Arrangements** – The Chairman said that Full Council had delegated its powers to P&R in April 2020 when Covid lockdown restrictions were imposed. He suggested that the decision be reviewed at the next meeting. Cllr Hosken proposed the decision is reviewed at the March 2021 meeting and was seconded by Cllr Hall. Members voted in favour of the proposal.
  
- 67/20 The Next Virtual Meeting Date was agreed as 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 via Zoom link.**

Chairman.....2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021