

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr P. Fairclough



Town Clerk
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POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday 2nd March 2021 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present - Cllr S. de Launey (SDL) - Chairman, 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 – Cllr P. Fairclough ex officio, Cllr P. Davis ex officio, A. Roberts- Deputy Town Clerk and K. Roper- Town Clerk.

- 68/20 Chairman's Welcome** – Cllr. de Launey welcomed everyone to the meeting and confirmed the meeting is being live streamed on Facebook. He referred to item 8 on the agenda, the Service Level Agreement for the Community Action Team, would not be signed tonight as adjustments had been requested to take account of the request to upgrade the Location Officer post to a Location Manager.
- 69/20 Apologies for Absence** – Apologies were received and accepted from Cllr Carter due to work commitments.
- 70/20 Declaration of Interest** – There were no declarations of Interest made at this point.
- 71/20 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the meeting dated 2nd February 2021**- The minutes were proposed by Cllr Gorse as a true and accurate record. She was seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and all members voted in favour.
- 72/20 Matters Arising from the Minutes of the meeting dated 2nd February 2021**
- a ICM** – The Clerk reported no meeting had been held and the final meeting will be held prior to the handover to the Community Action Team in April.
 - b Tribute to George Evans** – The Clerk reported the rock has been located in sodden ground and specialist equipment will be needed to remove it. T&W have evaluated the situation and have agreed that until the ground has dried out heavy equipment will be unable to access the site. A further assessment will be made in May / June and a decision will need to be made as to its position in the Peace Garden.
 - c Market Street** – The Chairman said the consultation had now been received by T&W and there would be a joint meeting called once the implications of each option had been assessed.
- 73/20 Finance** – Members had received papers, Cllr Hosken proposed the finance reports referenced 6a – 6d be accepted, this was seconded by Cllr Hall and members voted unanimously in favour.
- 74/20 Cast Iron Signage Around the Peace Garden** – Cllr Davis suggested the signage be upgraded and Cllr de Launey said this could be part of the overall project for the George Evans memorial.
- 75/20 Community Action Team (CAT) Proposal** - The Chairman explained that there may be a slight delay with the project because of the request to upgrade the Locality Officer role to Manager. Cllr Davis asked if there would be any financial implications with this. The

Chairman said there may be a slight difference in pay grade. Cllr Gorse questioned item 6 on the Service Level Agreement and the Chairman said this would be altered to suit the Structure in Wellington.

76/20 Climate Change Emergency Group (CCEG) Meeting 4th February 2021 – The meeting report was noted. The request for additional resources was raised and the Chairman commented that the Chairman of CCEG was also the Chairman of the Festival Committee and he should decide how the hours of the support staff are allocated between the group and the committee. It was noted that the member of staff also has duties on the Regeneration Board and Reception once the offices are open.

77/20 Events and Communications (E&C) Committee Meeting of 23th February 2021– The minutes had been distributed. Cllr Gorse requested information on the Festival. Cllr Davis said the events would be online and there would be a report sent to Full Council.

78/20 Communications Strategy and Protocol – The Clerk had circulated a first draft of these documents and was inviting comments from Members.

79/20 Member Officer Protocol – The Clerk had circulated the document and no comments had been received. Cllr Hosken proposed to accept it as policy, he was seconded by Cllr Morris-Jones MBE and all members voted to adopt the protocol. Cllr Gorse asked for confirmation it would be subject to amendments in the future. Cllr de Launey confirmed it was a living document that could be amended at any time.

80/20 Notification of Local Election Date - The Clerk confirmed the Haygate Ward vacancy would be subject to an election, if called for on Thursday 6th May 2021.

81/20 Review of Future Meeting Arrangements –

a. **Annual Town Meeting** - The Chairman said that we were expecting that the legislation that allowed virtual meetings for local councils would be extended past the current deadline of 7th May but at this point in time we were not aware of any change. Cllr de Launey proposed that the Annual Town Meeting is held before 7th May and was seconded by Cllr Gorse, all members voted in agreement. Cllr Gorse said the meeting had not been well attended in previous years and it was requested that P&R agree a format at the April Meeting.

b. **Full Council Powers** - The Chairman reminded members that Full Council had delegated its powers to P&R in April 2020 when Covid lockdown restrictions were imposed. He suggested that the time was now right to hand back powers to Full Council. This would mean that reports from Events and Communications Committee and the Climate Change Working Group would be presented directly to Full Council. P&R would retain all decisions about finance and Personnel except for setting a precept. Full Council would be responsible for policy.

Cllr de Launey proposed that at the Annual General Meeting in May, powers are handed back to Full Council. He was seconded by Cllr Hosken and members voted in favour of the proposal.

c. **The Next Virtual Meeting Date was agreed as 6th April 2021 via Zoom link.**

82/20 Exclusion of the Press and Public

Cllr de Launey proposed that items 16a and 16b on the agenda are taken in closed session in accordance with paragraphs 2 and 3 of the Local Government Act 1972, he was seconded by Cllr Hosken and members voted in favour. At 7.45pm the live streaming of the meeting was stopped.

Chairman.....6th April 2021