

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Anthony Lowe
B.A. (Hons)



Town Clerk
KAREN ROPER
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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the virtual Full Council Meeting held via Zoom on Tuesday 14th July 2020 commencing at 7.04 pm.

Present:

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| Cllr A. Lowe – Mayor | Cllr D. Roberts | Cllr P. Davis | Cllr S. Hall |
| Cllr P. Fairclough | Cllr J. Latter | Cllr J. Gorse | Cllr G Luter |
| Cllr A. McClements | Cllr J. Pierce | Cllr J. Alvey | Cllr L Jinks |
| Cllr S de Launey | Cllr M. Hosken | Cllr L. Carter | |

In attendance: Rev T. Carter, Andrew Roberts – Deputy Clerk and Karen Roper Town Clerk.

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| 19:04 | Livestreaming of the meeting began |
| 182/19 | Welcome – The Mayor welcomed everyone to this virtual Town Council meeting which would be live streamed to give public access and transparency to the decision making process of the Council. He then invited Rev. Carter to take prayers; Rev Carter thanked members for the invitation and for continuing the work of the Council through the COVID pandemic. |
| 183/19 | Mayors Diary of Events – These had been circulated by email prior to the meeting and there were no comments made by members. |
| 184/19 | Apologies – Were received from Cllrs Cook, Brittain, Usman, Tomlinson and Morris Jones MBE. The apologies were accepted. |
| 185/19 | Declarations of Interest – None declared at this point. |
| 186/19 | To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held 9th June 2020 - Cllr Roberts proposed the minutes for acceptance and was seconded by Cllr Gorse, members voted unanimously to approve the minutes as a true and accurate record. |
| 187/19 | Matters Arising – There were no matters arising that were not covered by the agenda. |
| 188/19 | To receive and note the minutes of the following Wellington Town Council Committees and Consider the Recommendations made. a. Policy and Resources Committee dated 7th July – Councillor de Launey highlighted the following points from the minutes: |

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| 189/19 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bowring Lease – He asked that members noted that the lease had been signed by the Mayor on behalf of the Council. Cllr. Jinks said she thought this had been reported at last month’s meeting. Cllr deLauney said the lease had been signed by the Tenants last month now the Mayor had signed on behalf of the Council and witnessed by members of P&R to complete the process. Cllr Alvey said the Bowring lease had been a long saga and he wanted to thank everyone involved for bringing this to a positive conclusion. <p>b. Extraordinary Meeting 23rd June – Cllr Roberts said she wanted to discuss the toilets. Cllr deLauney said this item can be discussed in closed session at the end of this meeting. Members agreed.</p> <p>c. Planning Committee dated 10th June 2020 – Cllr Luter presented the minutes for the meeting, there were no issues raised.</p> <p>d. Planning Committee dated 1st July 2020 - Cllr Alvey presented the minutes for the meeting, there were no issues raised.</p> |
| 190/19 | <p>Annual Governance Statement - To accept the recommendation from Policy and Resources Committee that Full Council approves and authorises the Mayor’s signature on the Annual Governance Statement for 2019/20. In accordance with the findings of the Internal Auditors’ report, the Clerk responded to the questions on the Annual Governance Statement. It was proposed by Cllr de Launey and seconded by Cllr Roberts that both the Mayor and the Clerk sign the Annual Governance Statement on behalf of the Council. This was unanimously agreed and the papers were signed and witnessed by the Councillors present</p> <p>Cllr Alvey said huge thanks were due to the Officers involved in preparing the reports.</p> |
| 191/19 | <p>Annual Accounting Statements for 2019/20 - 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 2019/20. The Deputy Clerk explained that the internal Audit was carried out remotely and the report had been circulated to members. It was proposed by Cllr de Launey and seconded by Cllr Roberts that both the Mayor and the Clerk sign the Annual Accounting Statements on behalf of the Council. This was unanimously agreed and the papers were signed and witnessed by the Councillors present.</p> |
| 192/19 | <p>To Note the Reports on the Re-Opening the Retail Sector- The reports had been circulated and there were no comments received.</p> |
| 193/19 | <p>To consider the recommendation from Policy and Resources Committee for the Date of the Annual Meeting of the Council to be held on 8th September 2020.</p> <p>The following comments were made by members;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A request was received that the meeting is held in person with members adhering to social distancing rules. Cllr de Launey said P&R had considered this option but it was felt that it would be a problem to socially distance in the Council Chamber. • Members commented that they would not be happy to be in one room together as there is much talk about a 2nd wave of the COVID 19 virus hitting in Autumn/Winter. • It was suggested that a larger venue such as the Belmont Hall could be used as it would be far easier to socially distance and comply with recommendations such as one way systems in a bigger space. |

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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cllr Latter said that we would need to wear face masks if the meeting was held physically. • Cllr McClements said the safety of all Councillors was paramount and it is also about people moving around the space safely. She would support a virtual meeting and commented that more people attend online than at our physical meetings. • Cllr Davis said we have come a long way with virtual meetings and he would support an on line AGM. <p>Following discussion it was proposed by Cllr Alvey to hold an online AGM on 8th September, seconded by Cllr Roberts and unanimously agreed by members.</p> |
| 194/19 | Regeneration Board report of 24th June held via Microsoft Teams– Cllr Jinks commented on item 7 page 2 of the minutes relating to landlords' responsibility to maintain buildings. She said the Clifton building was in a state of dilapidation and was an important gateway into the town so requested the landlord is approached to improve the current condition of the building. |
| 195/19 | To receive and note the report on the work of the WEST Team - The report had been circulated to members . Cllr Davis asked the Deputy Clerk to give him an update on his request to the team. The Deputy Clerk would respond following the meeting. |
| 196/19 | The next meeting date (Virtual) was agreed as 7.00pm on 11TH August 2020 |
| 197/19 | Closure of the meeting - It was proposed by Cllr de Launey and 2 nd by Cllr Alvey to exclude the press and public from the meeting prior to consideration of the following items on the agenda - on the grounds that exempt information (as defined in Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) is likely to be disclosed. This was agreed unanimously by members and the Deputy Clerk was asked to stop the live streaming of the meeting. |

Chairman.....11th August 2020