

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Philip Morris-Jones MBE



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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 8th December 2015, starting at 7.00pm.

Present:

Cllr P Morris-Jones, Mayor	
Cllr D Allen	Cllr M Hosken
Cllr J Alvey	Cllr K Tomlinson
Cllr G Cook	Cllr C Brittain
Cllr S deLauney	Cllr S Hall
Cllr L Carter	Cllr J Gorse
Cllr D Roberts	Cllr R Perkins
Cllr P Fairclough	Cllr A Lowe
Cllr A McClements	

In attendance: Mark Ireland, - the Vicar from All Saints Church, Gary Wade West Mercia Police (arriving at 7.20pm), Karen Roper, Town Clerk, Andrew Roberts - Deputy Town Clerk, Wayne Breese, Shropshire Star and 3 members of the public.

103/15 7.00pm Introduction and Welcome - The Mayor welcomed everyone and invited Mark Ireland, the Vicar from All Saints Church, to lead the prayers at the start of the meeting. He informed members this would be his last Town Council meeting as he was moving on to become an Archdeacon and Richard Kirby would be attending future meetings. Members thanked Reverend Ireland for his support and wished him well for his future career.

104/15 Apologies for Absence – Were received and accepted from:
Cllr Burns and Cllr Mason-Morris due to illness
Cllr McCarthy, Cllr Fikeis and Cllr Tillotson unable to attend due to other commitments.

105/15 Declarations of Interest – Members only need declare any interest they may have in items of business on this Agenda. None were declared.

106/15 The Mayor gave the following report of his activities since the last meeting

Date 2015	Event attended
11 th November	Remembrance Service in Market Square
11 th November	Afternoon - Team Wellington
14 th November	Judge Christmas Shop Windows & Market Stalls
16 th November	Dothill School Visit
21 st November	Christmas Lights switch on
23 rd November	Christmas Lights switch on in Shawbirch, Brooklands and Arleston
26 th November	Christians Against Poverty meeting at All Saints Church
28 th November	Victorian Market
28 th November	Evening- Wem Mayors Ball

29 th November	Civic Carol Service – 403 people attended this excellent event.
5 th December	Open New Furniture Stall
6 th December	Civic Society Lunch
6 th December	Evening - St Peters Priorslee Concert, Supported by the Jade Singers

107/15 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2015

It was PROPOSED by Cllr Alvey seconded by Cllr Allen and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th November 2015 be approved and signed by the Chairman as a true and accurate record.

108/15 Matters arising from those minutes:

Dothill School – The Clerk read a prepared press release following the visit from Dothill School on Monday 16th November 2015. School Council representatives from each class visited Wellington Town Council Civic Offices where they spent the morning with the Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Councillor Alvey. They learned all about the responsibilities of being a Councillor and took part in a debate. The exercise was a great success and it is hoped that it would be repeated.

109/15 To receive the minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations therein.

1.0 Planning Committee.

Planning Committee Minutes were presented for meetings held on the following dates:

28th October 2015 – Presented by Cllr Perkins 2nd by Cllr Gorse

18th November 2015 – Presented by Cllr Alvey 2nd by Cllr Gorse

2nd December 2015 - Presented by Cllr Perkins 2nd Cllr Alvey. Cllr Perkins commented that the Committee had re-confirmed their previous objections relating to the outline planning permission on the Land to the North of Haygate Road Wellington (290 dwellings).

It was RESOLVED that the above minutes be received and action taken be endorsed

2.0 Promotions & Liaison Committee

Cllr Tomlinson proposed the minutes of the Promotions and Liaison Committee dated 25th November 2015, these were seconded by Cllr Allen, and it was RESOLVED that the minutes be received and action taken be endorsed.

Cllr Tomlinson made the following comments

- **Victorian Market** – 8 stalls did not turn up and the weather was poor but at least 2 stalls left early because they had sold out of goods. The events banners and those around the Christmas tree were great and thanks were given to Caroline Mulvihill who had done a fantastic job with the purchase of these and the organisation of the event on a tight timescale
- **Christmas Switch on Event** – Held on Saturday 21st November in Market Square and on 23rd November at Arleston, Shawbirch and Brooklands. Cllr Tomlinson reported that again on 21st November the weather was very cold and windy and the speakers could not be erected in the square in case they blew over. Sadly this meant that the Carol singers and other acts/speakers could not be heard by people standing in the square and it was suggested that permanent speakers are erected. Cllr Gorse asked for consideration to be given to extend the lighting display in the outlying areas of Arleston, Shawbirch and Brooklands for next year.
- **Brass Band** – Cllr Gorse said the Wellington Brass Band playing at these events were

wonderful and the town should be very proud of them. It was agreed by all members that the Clerk write a letter of thanks to them.

- **Literary Festival** - Cllr Tomlinson said that Mr & Mrs Marmion were retiring from the committee after many years' service and she felt they should be honoured with a Town Council plaque.
- **Walkers are Welcome** – Cllr Tomlinson thanked Walkers are Welcome for the work done at Dothill pool and surrounding areas.

3.0 Policy & Resources Committee

It was proposed by Cllr Lowe, seconded Cllr Hall, and RESOLVED that the minutes of the Policy and Resources meeting held on 1st December 2015 at 7.00pm be received and action taken be endorsed.

Matters Arising from the Policy and Resources Meeting of 1st December 2015

- **Christmas Leaflet** – It had been identified that some members had not received the leaflet sent with the Telford Journal. The Clerk was asked to investigate, members were therefore asked to report it to the Clerk if they had not received the leaflet.
- **Visioning/Planning Event** – The Clerk was exploring alternative quotations.
- **Sound Proofing** – Cllr Gorse asked about the whole concept of managing the sound problem and enquired about a sound cut off device which had previously been identified when the levels became too high. The Clerk said she had a meeting with the Centre Manager to discuss this issue next week.
- **Market Street Works** – Cllr McClements said she had attended a meeting with Matt Powell Cllr deLauney and the Clerk to discuss the outstanding work on Market Street. She would chase Matt for completion dates but was aware he had been on annual leave so this will have had an impact on progress. Cllr McClements also commented that due to current regulations, red no waiting lines cannot be installed and the existing markings are the strongest that can be applied.
- **Parking** - Cllr Tomlinson said that people were still parking illegally in Market Street and there seems to be a lack of enforcement. Cllr Alvey commented that Wellington needs a multi story car park facility built and run National Car Parks. Cllr Fairclough fundamentally disagreed as she considered multi story car parks to be expensive, ugly, dirty, smelly and unfriendly. The Policy and Resources Committee had proposed to accept parking ticket machines on the understanding that when they are installed they are not taking up valuable parking spaces and they are free to shoppers for up to a maximum of 3 hours. Further details would be discussed later. Cllr McClements said that Newport Town Council had already gone out to consultation on this issue and she would ask Matt Powell to contact the Clerk to move forward on this issue.
- **Chain of Office** – The Policy and Resources Committee had agreed that a chain would be purchased for the consort jewel which currently has a ribbon.
- **Christmas Gift** - Cllr Lowe reported he used his casting vote to agree to give a Christmas gift to every employee as had previously been the tradition. Cllr Hosken stated he felt this to be unnecessary for the Clerk and Deputy Clerk as they were already probably earning more than people around this table have to manage on. Other staff such as the ladies in the toilets and the litter collectors should / could be awarded the gift, but lot of people were concerned about the public purse and is this perk really necessary for senior staff. He called for further debate.

4.0 Wellington Conservation Area Working Group

Minutes of 28th October 2015 and 3rd December 2015 were presented by Cllr Allen who also gave the following update;

- **Funding**: Cllr Allen reported that there was a wish list of jobs and equipment amounting to £12,000 which he hoped the Council could consider funding. The list included jobs that could not be done by volunteers such a dredging the lake and making sure that vegetation is routinely cut back.
- **Angling Bailiff**: It was reported that the Bailiff was educating young people and focussing particularly on making sure the swans are protected against fishing lines which can kill them.
- **Path Clearance** - Cllr Allen commented on the huge amount of path clearance work being done by volunteers.
- **Resurfacing** - Following the clearance work, the paths now need to be surfaced with gravel.

110/15 Remembrance Day 2015 -

The Clerk had issued a report and personal statement to members from Cllr McCarthy who was unable to attend this meeting but had asked that the item be deferred to the January meeting of the Council. Cllr deLauney proposed the report is noted and there should be no further debate. This view was 2nd by Cllr Hosken and all agreed except for Cllr Allen who abstained from the vote.

111/15 Correspondence

- The following general correspondence had been emailed to members
 - Superfast Broadband Update
 - NALC Newsletter
 - Richard Partington re Unprecedented Cuts
 - Details of Holocaust day at The Place Oakengates on 27.01.16
 - Breathe Easy Newsletter
 - Outcome of Bus Service Consultation
- **NHS** - The Clerk referred members to the NHS meeting due to take place on 15th December at civic Offices starting at 7.00pm. Apologies were given by Cllr Alvey due to holiday.
- **Car Parking** – the Clerk had tabled a letter complaining about the Automatic Number Plate Recognition system being used on the Wilkinson’s car park. The fines were much higher than Borough car parks and cover 24 hours, 7 days a week. Members asked the Clerk write to the private company asking for;
 - A reduction in the fines levied
 - Better signposting
 - Better lighting

112/15 The Next meeting Date – Was agreed as Tuesday 12th January at 7.00pm

Signed12th January 2016