

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Phil Morris-Jones MBE



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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes for the meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 14th June 2016 commencing at 7:05pm.

Present:

Cllr P Morris-Jones MBE, Mayor	Cllr S deLauney
Cllr D Allen- Deputy Mayor	Cllr L Carter
Cllr J Alvey	Cllr P McCarthy
Cllr C Brittain	Cllr F Burns
Cllr P Fairclough	Cllr R Perkins
Cllr J Gorse	Cllr S Hall
Cllr M Hosken	Cllr A Lowe

In attendance: - Fay Easton and Frank Lauriello from Team Wellington, Karen Roper Town Clerk, 4 members of the public and Rev. John Grice from All Saints Church.

24/16 Welcome – The Mayor

Cllr Morris-Jones welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked Rev. John Grice to lead the prayers.

The Mayor then reported he had attended the following events:

11.05.16	Bayley Mile and the official opening of the Forge Community Café
12.05.16	Tour of New Charlton School
13.05.16	Welcome French Visitors from the Twinning Association
15.05.16	Dinner with French Visitors
17.05.16	Pop up shops Launch at Wellington Market
18.05.16	Ketley Boys Brigade
26.05.16	Good 2 Great Wellington Tour
04.06.16	Support for Rotary Health Awareness
08.06.16	Good 2 Great Presentation
09.06.16	Meeting with 2 nd Wellington Scout Troop
11.06.16	Cuan open day
12.06.16	Oswestry Civic Service

25/16 The Mayor's Chosen Charities

Cllr Morris-Jones announced his charities for this year are;

The 2nd Wellington Scout Troop and the Hillbrae Dog Rescue centre.

26/16 Apologies

Were received and accepted from Cllrs, Mason-Morris, Cook, McClements, Roberts, Fikeis,

15.06.2016

Tomlinson and Tillotson.

27/16 Fay Easton and Frank Lauriello from Team Wellington.

Cllr Morris-Jones introduced Team Wellington who gave a verbal and written update of their activities aiming to fill empty shops including use of the premises above for living accommodation and generally rebuilding the town centre economy. They reported success with the Co-Op Bank building being rented to them on a peppercorn rent basis (of £1) for a year unless it can be commercially let.

Discussions were held around Borough and Town Council (s) purchasing buildings, letting them out to targeted / favoured trades and above spaces providing living accommodation. In the longer term, they wish to focus on becoming a Business Improvement District and developing a long term delivery plan for town centre regeneration. Members thanked Fay and Frank for their efforts so far and agreed to continue to support their work towards achievement of the 2020 Vision document. They were invited back in 3 months for a further progress report. Cllr Lowe asked how Team Wellington will continue moving forward on limited resources, Cllr deLauney said he did not envisage Team Wellington disappearing at the end of this year and he expected they would continue to build on their success and attract support.

7.25pm Team Wellington and Rev. Grice left the meeting.

28/16 Declarations on Interest – None received.

29/16 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Meeting held on 10th May 2016.

It was proposed by Cllr Alvey, 2nd Cllr Perkins and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 10th May 2016 be approved and signed by the Mayor as a true and accurate record.

30/16 Matters arising from those minutes:

- **The Wellington Town Partnership** - Cllr Gorse commented that she was also elected to this Partnership last year and it had not met. Cllr Carter said that meetings are likely to resume this year to apply for grants and to work towards achievement of Vision 2020. Cllr Allen said the advantage is that banking arrangements are already set up and members are most likely to still needed on this committee. Cllr Alvey requested the Clerk investigate any activity relating to the partnership
- **Schedule of Committee meeting dates** - Cllr Carter asked the Clerk to produce a schedule of Committee meeting dates and elected members.

31/16 To receive the minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations therein.

31:16:1 Planning Committee

Cllr Alvey presented the minutes of the meeting of 11th May 2016. It was proposed by Cllr Alvey, seconded by Cllr Gorse, and RESOLVED that the minutes be received and action taken be endorsed. Cllr Hosken said the application ref: TWC/2016/0083 relating to 17 Whitchurch Road, Wellington to use land in this way was a disgrace for the residents who are living there. Cllr Carter suggested both the Ward and Borough Councillors for the area should get together and make their views known. Cllr Alvey said the Planning Committee had already expressed their dissatisfaction.

Cllr Alvey presented the minutes of the meeting of 1st June 2016. These were seconded by Cllr deLauney. Cllr Gorse said she was not present and had given her apologies for this meeting, an amendment to the minutes would be made. Cllr Alvey, said the Committee were unhappy with the proposal relating to the Service Station, King Street Wellington Ref: TWC/2016/0130, Cllr deLauney said members had protested against this development but understood that the area already had planning permission for this type of use so it is difficult

to make objections. Cllr McCarthy said that where people's livelihood is concerned then any objections should be constructive and made with positive ideas to lessen the impact. Members RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 1st June 2016 be received and action taken be endorsed.

31:16:2 Promotions & Liaison Committee

Cllr Carter presented the minutes of the meeting held on 25th May 2016, these were seconded by Cllr Brittain, and RESOLVED by members that they be received and action taken endorsed.

Matters arising from those minutes:

Bayley Mile Road Race – Councillor Carter said he had received many complimentary remarks about this year's event.

Pride in Your High Street Bid - Cllr Carter commented that a bid is to go forward for digital signage and finger posts etc. and locations are currently being considered.

Christmas – It was agreed that the Christmas Tree lights would be white this year. He also reported the Committee were hoping to achieve 2 festive events with Carols in the square and a Victorian Christmas Market, further details will be available for next meeting.

Reprint of the Map of Wellington and Wrekin Forest Walks– the costs and legal implications of a reprint are being assessed presently.

Forthcoming Events – The Committee is hoping to produce a timetable of all events taking place in Wellington drawn together in a single publication.

The Wellington Festival – The programme was being well received and people seemed to be looking forward to the events, in particular to Eddie the Eagle Edwards. A provisional programme had been issued to Councillors and was being distributed locally. In approximately a month the finished brochure would be available.

Cleanliness - Comments about the bus station, the steps of the leisure centre building and few other areas had been reported as needing attention. Cllr Carter said that the sooner the Wellington Environmental Team is up and running the better we can respond to such incidents. The Clerk said she had received a complaint from a member of the public and had subsequently chased T&W asking for the area to be cleaned. This had now been done, but not to the acceptable standard of the complainant. Cllr Carter asked for the information to be forwarded to him.

Transport Timetables and Parking – Cllr Carter said this type of information should be available on our website and included in promotion materials.

Cllr Carter said Team Wellington were now interacting with all of the Councils' Committees and getting traders enthused to support forthcoming events.

Cllr Burns said this was a very positive report and he wished to congratulate the Committee on their innovation and focus.

31:16:3 Festival Committee:

Cllr Alvey presented the minutes of the festival committee dated 19th May 2016 in the absence of Chairman Cllr Mason-Morris. The minutes were seconded by Cllr Fairclough. A calendar of events had been agreed which was so popular it was now in danger of moving into a 4th week with Eddie the Eagle Edwards as the headline act. Members RESOLVED that the minutes be agreed and action taken be endorsed. The Mayor reminded members to acknowledge the hard work done by the Secretary, Caroline Mulvihill, all agreed.

31:16:4 Policy & Resources Committee:

Cllr deLauney proposed the minutes of the meeting dated 7th June 2016 for acceptance, these were seconded by Cllr Lowe and it was RESOLVED that the minutes be received and action taken be endorsed.

Matters arising from those minutes:

- **Watling Street / Arleston Community Centre** – The Committee received a report on the progress of this project from Cllr McClements including a funding request which will be presented to the next meeting.
- **Bowring** – A working group of 5 Councillors had been set up headed up by the Mayor.
 - **Bowring Cafe** – Cllr deLauney reported the Café was now up and running and the rent had been paid up front so it was suggested that picnic benches are provided up to the amount of £500.00.
- **On Street Parking and PCSO** – The Chairman explained that shortly the Borough would no longer be funding PCSO posts. They had suggested that a PCSO post could be shared with Newport Town Council over a 6 year period. The Borough would fund the post for the first 3 years then the Town Council(s) would fund the following 3 years. Cllr Burns asked if a 'part time' PCSO is enough for Wellington? Cllr deLauney responded that for a part time post, the Council will be committed to spending up to £45k over the 6 year period and a full time post would cost around £90k. The Committee had agreed that he continued with the negotiations including working on appropriate shift patterns.
- **Wellington Environmental Services Team** – The delay on this project had been due to a lack of applications for Apprentice positions. It had been agreed that the vehicle should be purchased and staff should continue taking this project forward. Cllr Lowe commented on over full dog and litter bins, Cllr Carter suggested Councillors invite a representative from Telford and Wrekin Environmental Services to do a short presentation to Councillors to show how quickly problems can be reported.
- **Paperless Council** - Cllr deLauney reported this project was behind the suggested timetable because Staff had been unable to find the time to set up and populate Office 365 file structure. It had been agreed that on 23rd June the Office would be closed to enable staff to concentrate on the task and start to move the project forward.
- **Loo of the Year Awards** – The Clerk said that the 2016 award had been raised with staff and at recent appraisal sessions they had agreed they would like to go forward with an entry for this year. Cllr Fairclough commented that Wellington Town Council do not give ourselves enough publicity to advertise the fact that we provide such excellent facilities and other areas do not. It was agreed that the Parade Toilets be entered into the Loo of the Year Award at a cost of £174.00.
- **Insurance Policy**- Cllr deLauney commented that the final year of the 3 year agreement had been approved for payment by the Committee in the sum of £5224.68.

32/16 Approval of the Town Councils Accounts for 2015/16.

Copies of the Annual Accounts, Annual Governance Statement and Annual Return for 2015/16 had been circulated to members of P&R and the Committee had RESOLVED to RECOMMEND their approval and to request that Full Council authorise signature of the same by the Mayor.

Members of the Full Council had all received paper copies of the accounts and the Internal Auditor's report. Cllr. deLauney informed members that the Internal Auditor had given the Town Council a clean and clear audit report commenting on how well the books were kept. He congratulated the staff on their work in the preparation of the Annual Accounts for 2015/16.

It was proposed by Cllr deLauney and seconded by Cllr Hosken and RESOLVED that the Annual Governance Statement and Annual Return for the year 2015/16 be approved and that the Mayor be authorised to sign the relevant documentation on behalf of the Council. All were in favour.

It was proposed by Cllr deLauney and seconded by Cllr Hosken and RESOLVED that the

Town Council approve and accept the Annual Accounts and Report from the Internal Auditor.

It was proposed by Cllr deLauney and seconded by Cllr Hosken and RESOLVED that the Town Council re-appoint Harjinder Atwal as their Internal Auditor for the next six-monthly Audit in 2016. All were in favour.

Cllr Perkins was thanked for his work checking the accounts. He praised staff for making the process simple by providing all of the relevant information in an easy to understand format.

Cllr Burns requested a training session to enable Councillors to become more confident in understanding Wellington Town Council's accounts. The Mayor commented the staff were hard pushed presently and reminded members that at any time they can question anything on the accounts and he did not feel the Council should add to the workload of Staff presently.

33/16 Flying the Flag of St. George - Cllr Carter asked if the flag could fly during the current football tournament, discussion ensued. The Clerk advised that the current flag flying policy did not allow for the flag to be flown for this purpose and agreed to circulate the policy to members.

34/16 To agree the date of the next meeting- The date for the next meeting was agreed as 12th July 2016.

Signed
12th July 2016