

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Denis Allen



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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 12th September 2017 commencing at 7:05pm.

Present:

Cllr D. Allen – Mayor	Cllr A. McClements	Cllr J. Gorse
Cllr S. Hall	Cllr J. Alvey	Cllr C. Brittain
Cllr F. Burns	Cllr A. Lowe	Cllr C. Mason-Morris
Cllr P. Morris-Jones MBE	Cllr L. Jinks	Cllr D. Roberts
Cllr L. Carter	Cllr M. Hosken.	Cllr S. Fikeis
Cllr P. Fairclough		

36/17 In attendance Kelly Davies and Nick Gauden from the Wrekin Landlord Association, Eric Westwood from the Lions Club of Telford, Reverend Tim Carter and Nick Brooke from All Saints Church, Karen Roper– Town Clerk and 5 members of the public (see signing in sheet).

37/17 Introduction and Welcome – The Mayor welcomed everyone to the meeting, he then called on Reverend Carter to take prayers. Rev Carter introduced Nick Brooke as a new member of staff at the Church who would be taking on a Community Engagement role, he then took prayers. The Mayor thanked Rev. Carter and Nick Brooke and invited them to remain for the rest of the meeting.

38/17 Selective Licensing - Kelly Davies (KD) and Nick Gauden were present from the Wrekin Landlord Association and wished to bring the recent consultation about selective licencing to the attention of Councillors. Wellington was not involved in the initial consultation but the following 7 areas were; Woodside, Brookside, Sutton Hill, Leegomery, Hadley, Malinslee and Hollinswood. She gave details of the proposal and identified issues asking that a lot more thought and consultation with themselves and other appropriate bodies takes place before any decision is made. Cllr Carter said that the Borough Council had been listening to the Wrekin Landlord Association and would be taking into account their views and the view of others. KD promised to send the Clerk further information which would be forwarded to Councillors. Cllr Morris-Jones suggested that KD makes a presentation to the next Policy and Resources committee.

39/17 Lions Club of Telford - Eric Westwood said it was a great pleasure to him to present a certificate to the Town Council on behalf of the Lions Club to recognise the support given to the club over many years. The Mayor said he was very pleased to receive this on behalf of the Council and that there was a reciprocal feeling that the Lions do so much for Wellington. Photographs were taken by Ross Vickers.

40/17 Apologies – Were received from Cllr P McCarthy, Cllr G Luter, Cllr S deLauney, Cllr G Cook

and Cllr K Tomlinson, members proposed and agreed acceptance of the apologies.

41/17 Declarations of Interests – None were declared at this time.

42/17 To Receive and Approve the Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 11th July 2017 – It was proposed by Cllr Alvey seconded by Cllr Hosken and RESOLVED BY MEMBERS to accept the minutes as a true record.

43/17 Matters Arising – There were no matters arising.

44/17 To receive the Minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations therein.

44.1 Planning Committee –

- **Minutes of meeting held on 05.07.17** – Were presented by Cllr Alvey, seconded by Cllr Roberts and agreed by members as a true record.
 - Cllr Alvey drew to members' attention to application No 0514, development of land off Alexandra Road / Haygate Road, stating that approx. 3,000 objections had been received so far against this Development.
- **Minutes of meeting held on 16.08.17** – Were presented by Cllr Alvey, seconded by Cllr Roberts and agreed as a true record. Comments were made about the following;
 - Cllr Alvey commented that development on land north of Haygate Road has only one access and egress which may create traffic problems.
 - Cllr Hosken said that 2 meter high fencing in Christine Avenue is still in place following a refusal of consent.
- **Minutes of 26th July Planning Committee tabled for information separately** - The Mayor drew members' attention to these.

44.2 Promotions & Liaison Committee meeting held on 26th July 2017 – Councillor Carter presented the minutes which were seconded by Cllr Mason-Morris and agreed by Members as a true record.

44.3 Promotions and Liaison Committee Meeting held 30th August 2017 – Councillor Fikeis presented the minutes which were seconded by Cllr Mason-Morris and the following items were brought to the attention of members;

- **T&W 50th Anniversary Fund** - Cllr Roberts suggested Telford and Wrekin be approached for funding from the T&W 50th Anniversary to set up a really good Borough wide historical website whilst the money is available. Cllr Hosken suggested this was put to Telford and Wrekin. The proposition from Cllr Roberts was 2nd by Cllr Fikeis and agreed by members.
- **Anti-Social Behaviour** - Cllr Alvey brought to members attention, minute ref: 35/17 and remarked on anti-social behaviour in town highlighting some serious, recent instances, he felt that extreme action should be taken to prevent further problems. Cllr Gorse requested the details of the incidents are not discussed at this meeting as they are a matter for the Police. Cllr Morris-Jones said he had met with Inspector Wade who advised against introducing legislation but agreed to provide supporting evidence.

Cllr Jinks commented that legislation exists under the Anti-Social Behaviour and Crime Policy Act 2014, which allows for a Public Space Protection Order to be requested from the Borough. She felt this should be done immediately because the situation is having a detrimental effect on the quality of life in our town and without this action the situation would continue. Cllr Carter said the Public Protection Order will not solve the issues and

may just move the problem somewhere else. Legislation needs enforcement and with cuts in Police funding, this may be a problem.

Cllr Mason Morris said she felt it was shameful that there was not sufficient help for homeless people, often suffering with drug, alcohol and mental health problems and a PSPO will only move the problem on to another area.

Cllr Roberts reported she had attended the last anti-social behaviour working group where PCSO Hall had reported on all the work being made by the Police to manage the situation.

Cllr Burns asked why the normal procedure for putting forward proposals on the agenda has not been used and requested the issue is referred back to the Anti-Social Behaviour Working Group for further discussion. Cllr McClements requested that the tone of the wording is important and should be considered.

Cllr Morris-Jones proposed that:- ***‘Wellington Town Council demand a Public Space Protection Order from Telford and Wrekin to be put into place as soon as possible to cover the Church Green, Church Street and Market Square, the Police will provide supporting evidence’***. Cllr Jinks seconded the proposal.

Cllr Carter proposed an amendment that:- ***‘Wellington Town Council engage with Telford and Wrekin Council and West Mercia and Warwickshire Police Force with a view to the introduction of a Public Space Protection Order in the appropriate areas as deemed fit by those stakeholders’***. This was seconded by Cllr Mason-Morris. A vote for the amendment was taken, achieving a tied vote 8 and 8 so the Mayor used his casting vote against the amendment.

A vote was taken for the original proposition made by Cllr Morris-Jones and seconded by Cllr Jinks, 10 voted in favour of the original proposition, the vote was carried.

- **Minute Ref 40/17** – Cllr Roberts said Defibrillators are being discussed at both at P&L and P&R, the Clerk would address this issue.
- **Christmas Lights at Arleston** – Cllr Gorse had requested previously that the display for this year be improved in Arleston – the Clerk confirmed that this would be referred to the next P&L agenda.
- **Telford Pride @ 50 Celebration Grant** - Cllr Fairclough said she felt the Town Council should be working with venues to access funding from the Telford Pride @ 50 Celebration grant funding. In particular the venues being used by the Wellington Festival should be helped to bring their facilities up to a suitable standard to accommodate disabled people. Cllr Mason- Morris said this proposal was turned down at the last P&R meeting because public money would be used to improve privately owned commercial premises. Cllr Fairclough said this issue should be thought about carefully to ensure all events linked to the Town Council are accessible to all.

44.4 Wellington Festival Committee Meeting of 20/07/17 – Cllr Mason-Morris moved the minutes and was 2nd by Cllr Gorse. All were in favour of accepting the minutes.

44.5 Wellington Festival Committee Meeting of 17/08/17 – Cllr Alvey moved the minutes which were 2nd by Cllr Gorse and agreed by the meeting. Cllr Alvey asked for more volunteers to attend the upcoming events.

44.6 Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Dated 1st August 2017 – Were presented by Cllr Lowe, seconded by Cllr Gorse and agreed by members. The following comments were made:-

- **Un-presented Cheques** - There was discussion around un-presented cheques, Cllr Mason-Morris said the Deputy Clerk had informed her that Cheques now cost £25.00 to cancel through the Bank. Therefore 6 months after issue cheques may be re-issued but they are not necessarily un-presented as depicted in the accounts.
- **The Visioning event date 7th October** - Cllr Burns asked for an agenda / process for the day. The Clerk said she had been in touch with Rob Francis who was in the process of organising the event and may be randomly calling Councillors for their views.

44.7 Minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Dated 5th September 2017

Were presented by Cllr Lowe and seconded by Cllr Gorse.

- **TWS-** Cllr Burns commented on minute Ref: 43/17 and the presentation from Dave Hanley. He was pleased that the messages seem to be positive and those new contracts can hopefully provide a better service more cheaply.
- **Gum Removal** – Cllr Jinks said residents had seen the damage caused by the Gum removal Machine. She asked for assurances that operatives are trained to ensure no further damage will be done and who is responsible for the cost of correcting this. The Clerk said that Dave Hanley had assured members that operatives would be trained and a new machine had been ordered. Cllr Carter said that the Borough would be picking up the repair cost.
- **Office Move** – Cllr Morris-Jones said that when we moved our offices to the lower library the agreement was that it would be at no cost to the town council. Now we have a quotation £42,350.00 to finish off the facilities. Cllr Lowe said that Cllr Carter was looking at the figures with T&W Officers. The Mayor said the agreement was the agreement and we need to remind the Borough of this and ask for the work to proceed.
- **Leases** – Cllr Jinks asked for confirmation that the leases would be checked by our independent Solicitor. The Clerk confirmed this to be the case.
- **Cancellation of Cheques Ref: 49/17** - Cllr Burns said that P&R has voted against sending a letter to notify people of cancellation of their cheque but on reflection he felt this to be wrong. He proposed that a letter or email of notification should be sent to recipients before cancellation of cheques, this was 2nd by Cllr Gorse. Cllr Jinks said this was extra work on the Clerk and this should be recognised especially as she had asked to work from home to complete some tasks. Cllr Morris-Jones said we have a duty to look after public money and people should not be notified but the grant application form should indicate the position. The proposal from Cllr Burns was voted upon and carried. The grant application form would be amended accordingly and Cllr Carter said the problem would be resolved by using electronic payments.
- **Parking – Ref: 51/17** – Cllr McClements felt that the report in the P&R minutes did not express the success of the project and she felt the general tone of the minutes should record the positive achievement. Cllr Burns said it is the tone that members are unhappy about as the short term parking situation was much better. Cllr Roberts said there were notes on the Parking Group Meetings and perhaps they could be distributed to members. Cllr Roberts proposed that minutes of the parking group should be distributed separately and this was seconded by Cllr Gorse. The proposal was put to the vote and was lost. The Clerk said that minutes are only legally supposed to record the decisions of the meeting anything else is irrelevant and the style of the minutes can be changed if members so wish. Cllr Jinks commented on the suggestion that the Town Council contributes £10k towards the cost of installing machines on the long stay car park and asked where is the money going from the fines and if the Town Council would receive a % of the takings. Cllr Lowe said that it would cost the Borough £50K to install machines on the long stay cark

parks and the offer of 10K towards this cost was a gesture from the Town Council. It was agreed that this item be put on the next P&R agenda for further discussion.

- **Team Wellington** – Cllr McClements asked if the Clerk had contacted Team Wellington in relation to their current status and the questions that have been raised around transparency– the Clerk said this had not yet been done.

45/17 Resolution proposed by Cllr Burns 2nd Cllr Hosken to raise concern about the current service being delivered by Wellington Medical Practice.

Cllr Burns said members have been receiving a number of complaints from residents about the standard of service currently offered at the Wellington Medical Practice. Cllr McClements said the issue is raised regularly at her surgery in Arleston.

It was proposed by Cllr Lowe and seconded by Cllr Fairclough to suspend standing orders to allow Mr Vickers to speak;

Mr Vickers reported that a new phone system had been installed and ten new members of staff had been employed leading to vast improvements in the service.

It was proposed by Cllr Carter 2nd Cllr Jinks to reinstate standing orders

Councillor Carter suggested that a cross party letter is drafted by the Clerk and is approved by Cllr Burns and Cllr Hosken before it is sent.

The letter to express the deep concern of the Town Council will be submitted to Clinical Commissioning Group requesting an explanation as to how issues shall be dealt with and in the absence of a satisfactory response, that a meeting is requested between nominated members of the Town Council with the Chief Officer of the Clinical Commissioning Group as the responsible body.

46/17 Patient Participation Group (PPG) - Cllr Alvey volunteered to be the Town Council's representative on this group as he is already a member of Healthwatch.

47/17 Notification of a change of representation on the Planning Committee – Cllr Gorse notified the Council of a change of representative on the Planning Committee from Cllr Cook to Cllr Luter.

48/17 To receive urgent matters (for information only)

- **National Peace Day 21st September** -The Clerk reported she had received a Request from George Evans for Town Council to support National Peace Day on 21st September. The Clerk gave members the price of white poppies and a discussion ensued. George had said he would be sitting on a bench by the Peace Garden and invited members to join him. It was proposed by Cllr Morris-Jones, 2nd by Cllr Hosken and members agreed that 'supporting actions' would be left to individuals to decide for themselves. Cllr Carter asked that a letter is sent to inform George of this decision.
- **SALC** - Cllr Alvey gave a brief report on the recent SALC Executive meeting highlighting that a vote had been taken against the merger of the Ambulance Service.
- **Compassionate Communities** - Cllr Alvey had been attended a first meeting of this group and would report back to members.
- **Integrated Community Management** - The Clerk had circulated a report for information and asked members to feed information to her so it can be highlighted at the weekly phone in.

- **Pubwatch** -The Clerk had attended a really well supported meeting where administration support from the Town Council had been requested. The Clerk said this would be on the P&R agenda for discussion.
- **West Team Work List** – This was circulated to all members for information
- **Report from Fay Easton** - A written report giving an update on the Town Centre news was circulated to members.
- **Wellington United Charities Meeting** – To be held this Thursday, 14th September
- **Grant Funding Decision Meeting** – Would be held on 3rd October, 10 applications have been received so far.
- **New Standing Orders** – The Clerk had distributed a copy of updated Standing Orders and requested that members look through these and feedback their comments.
- **Community Engagement Strategy** - The Clerk had distributed a copy of a Community Engagement Strategy and requested that members look through this and feedback their comments
- **Clerks Business Plan** - The Clerk had distributed a copy of a Business Plan which attempts to show progress against both the last Visioning Day and against the Vision 2020 document. She requested that members look through this and feedback their comments
- **Code of Conduct Training** – The Clerk informed members that she was arranging Code of Conduct Training for all members prior to a Full Council meeting
- **Online Training sessions** – The Clerk said that she was arranging access to OLLI, the online training programme for all members
- **Office 365 face to face training** - The Clerk said she was arranging face to face training for members on Office 365.
- **Flagpoles** – The Clerk reported she had today received an email relating to a flagpole being erected on the building stating that planning permission would not be needed as it would be classed as part of the Office Move. Cllr Morris-Jones thanked Cllr Carter for his help with this.

49/17 To agree the date of the next meeting: Full Council – 10th October 2017

Signed10th October 2017