

Wellington Town Council

Town Mayor
Cllr Cindy Mason-Morris



Town Clerk
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FULL COUNCIL MEETING

Prior to this meeting was a training session on GDPR from Susan Wright.

Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held at the Wellington Civic Offices on Tuesday 12th February 2019 commencing at 7.00pm.

Present:

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|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| Cllr A. Lowe – Deputy Mayor | Cllr P. Fairclough | Cllr J. Gorse |
| Cllr D. Roberts | Cllr J. Alvey | Cllr S. Fikeis |
| Cllr P. Morris-Jones | Cllr F. Burns | Cllr K. Tomlinson |
| Cllr L. Carter | Cllr S. Hall | Cllr G. Luter |

In attendance: Rev. Tim Carter, PCSO Julie Tennant and Karen Roper, Town Clerk.

106/18 Welcome – In the absence of the Mayor the Deputy Mayor warmly welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then called on Reverend Carter to lead prayers.

107/18 Apologies – There were apologies from Cllr C. Mason-Morris – family obligations; Cllrs C. Brittain, M. Hosken, G. Cook and L. Jinks due to illness; Cllrs A. McClements and P. McCarthy due to other obligations and Cllr S. deLauney for holiday commitments.

108/18 Declarations of Interest – There were none received.

109/18 Live Streaming – Cllr Morris-Jones said he would sooner people could hear properly within the meeting room before the Council goes down this route. Cllr Tomlinson said that at the Borough, Councillors have microphones in meetings and she felt it was necessary for people to hear especially members with soft voices. The Clerk said that microphones are part of the project and she was not aware of any other parish being live streamed. Members will be kept informed of progress.

110/18 Report from PCSO Tennant – The Deputy Mayor introduced PCSO Julie Tennant and invited her to address the meeting. She informed members that the EDL have indicated they would be visiting Wellington on 16th March but advised that the best action for traders and members of the public would be to go about their 'normal' business in the Town. She then updated members on the following issues:

- **Anti-Social Behaviour** - Reported levels have dropped due to the installation of Community Banning Orders served on individuals.
- **Shoplifting** – Specific targeted banning orders have again been served on individuals. Additionally work being done directly with the shops is now having a positive effect.

- **Public Drinking and Aggressive Behaviour** – these reports are still coming in but the Police need to be told as and when the incident happens not after the event. The relocation of the bench from outside the Coffee Den has had a significant and positive impact.
- **Bench** – Members said the bench opposite the Police Station had been removed, PCSO Tennant confirmed it was in a poor state of repair and would not be replaced.
- **CCTV** – Cameras belong to Telford and Wrekin and officers are aware of the T&W contact
- **Police Station** – Cllr Roberts asked what the building is now used for and was informed that it was a base for the Policing teams, the Economic Crime Unit and a training venue.
- **Bikes** – Cllr Morris-Jones said that youngsters were still speeding through the town centre on bikes – Julie said the PCSO's were stopping them when they are patrolling.
- **WM Police Website** – Members were reminded that the website contained all of the local teams contact details

PCSO Tennant left the meeting at 7.20pm

111/18 To receive and approve the minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2019

Cllr Tomlinson said the minute referenced 99/18 d. was incorrect and should be changed from '*The classification had been altered from a B1 to B8*' to read '***The classification has been a B1,B2 & B8 since 1991***'.

With this amendment, it was proposed by Cllr Alvey, seconded by Cllr Hall and RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting held on 15th January 2019, be approved and signed as a true and accurate record.

112/18 Matters Arising from those Minutes

- General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR)** – The Clerk said she would agree a Saturday date for those members unable to make the session tonight.
- Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS)** – The Clerk reported that the draft policy document needs updating and amending, it will be presented to P&R and brought back to Full Council. Cllr Luter suggested acceptance of DBS checks that members already hold for other organisations as it will save money and avoid duplication. There was further discussion about the life of a DBS check and inclusion of lay members. Cllr Alvey requested a presentation from Telford and Wrekin on DBS, this was 2nd by Cllr Burns and agreed by members with 1 against and 1 abstention.

113/18 To receive the minutes of Wellington Town Council Committees and to consider and deal with the recommendations therein.

- Policy & Resources Committee Budget Meeting 07.01.19** - Cllr Burns presented the minutes for 8th February 2019, the following comments were made:
 - **Meeting date alteration** - Few people were present because of the meeting being postponed and recalled on a Friday morning.
 - **Accounts signatures** - Cllr Morris-Jones proposed that any 2 members of Policy and Resources Committee be called on to check the accounts payment entries to alleviate any problems of members' availability. Cllr Burns felt that that members' would need skills to perform this task. The proposal from Cllr Morris-Jones was seconded by Cllr Carter who felt members unused to the task and therefore asking additional questions offered an extra safety net. Cllr Fairclough commented that not all members of P&R were present and some may not wish to take this on. Cllr Fikeis said she felt this is a brilliant idea. Cllr Morris-Jones said no one would be

forced into this, it just offered officers greater scope to approach alternative members when bills need to be paid and time is short.

Cllr Morris–Jones proposed that any 2 members of Policy and Resources Committee Could be called on to check the accounts prior to payment. The Proposal was seconded by Cllr Carter and **Resolved** unanimously by members.

- **Accounting for Mayor’s charity** – Discussion ensued about past Mayors’ accounting practices. It was agreed that the current practices remain in place and issue was a coding error.
- **Shropshire Prostrate Cancer Support Group** – Members were in full agreement to support a Prostrate Cancer Screening Event on either 8th or 15th April 2019.
- **External Audit for the year ending 31st March 2018** – Cllr Burns drew members’ attention to the challenge to the accounts / asset register. The Clerk would keep members informed of progress.
- **The impact of the Idverde Environmental Grounds Maintenance Contract**
Following discussion, Cllr Gorse said she supported the proposal for T&W / Idverde to present to the April meeting.

It was proposed by Cllr Burns 2nd by Cllr Gorse and RESOLVED by members to accept the contents of the P&R minutes of 8th February 2019.

7.50pm Reverend Carter left the meeting.

- b. Planning Committee Meeting minutes of 23.01.19** - Cllr Alvey presented the minutes which were 2nd by Cllr Burns as a true and accurate record. He then drew members’ attention to minute Ref: TWC/2019/0035 which had been deemed as overdevelopment. The Committee had subsequently voted against the application which was not recorded in the minutes. These would be amended at the next Planning meeting.
- c. Promotions and Liaison Committee 30.01.19** – Cllr Fairclough presented the minutes.
- **Bespoke Signs** – The Clerk clarified that there were 2 type of signs being considered
 - **Gateway signage** – project being led by Cllr Burns which had temporarily stalled because the Telford and Wrekin Officer had left and no one else has been identified to carry on his work
 - **Creative, Artistic, Cultural signage** – This is decorative, bespoke and unique to Wellington.
 - **Over 60’s Activities** - Cllr Alvey –commented that only one Councillor turned up to the meeting to discuss the provision of activities for the over 60’s.

Cllr Roberts commented that there were three items here where and she felt that we are spending a lot of money for the sake of spending money. She thought the younger people needed money more than the older people. Cllr Carter said the signage was being paid for through ward funding.
 - **Lions Day on Wheels** - Cllr Tomlinson said she was sad this activity had ceased after so many years. Cllr Morris-Jones said the health and safety demands on volunteers was a costly problem but it was pleasing that Friends of Bowring Park had offered to help and put on activities in the park. It was proposed and agreed that a letter of thanks is sent to the Lions thanking them for all their efforts over many years.

- **Walkway Bowring Park** – Cllr Alvey said that a walkway around the Bowring Park was being considered and would cost around £100k. Cllr Tomlinson suggested that a discussion is had with Friends of Dothill who were currently finishing off a pathway they had created themselves and may be able to help. Cllr Luter said the group were easing into the project, there were issues around cost and health and safety.
- **School Summer Holiday Activities** - £2000.00 had been allocated to put on events during the 6 weeks summer holiday programme. The Deputy Mayor said he felt this balanced spending on both young and older sections of the community.
- **Wellington Festival** – Cllr Fairclough said that arrangements for the May Festival are well underway.

d. Festival Committee 17.01.19 – Cllr Alvey presented the minutes, commenting that more people are needed on this committee. Cllr Lowe asked if members felt this was due to the 2.00pm timing of the meeting, Cllr Fikeis said she came off this committee because she could not make a 2.00pm meeting. It was agreed that this issue would be explored with members at the next meeting. Cllr Gorse asked about ‘Arm Knitting’ and no one could offer an explanation. Cllr Burns commended the committee for planning for May and beyond especially when we could have a totally different Council following the elections. The minutes were seconded by Cllr Fairclough and agreed by Members.

114/18 Honouring Local Voluntary Community Workers. - Cllr Fairclough explained she had been approached by members of community groups who felt that the Town Council did not seem to recognise the contribution made by individuals. The names suggested were George Evans, Mary Lewis and Ross Vickers. Cllr Morris-Jones said the system is already in place the outgoing Mayor can decide who to honour and we have plaques that are customised and presented at the Annual Meeting of the Council. It was agreed that a discussion be had with the Mayor and Staff to put together a Role of Honour for the people who have already been honoured with a plaque.

115/18 Future Fit Decision – Following long discussion it was proposed by Cllr Gorse 2nd by Cllr Alvey and RESOLVED unanimously to fully endorse the letter sent by Borough Council Leader, Shaun Davies to the Rt Hon Matt Hancock MP, Secretary of State for Health and Social Care calling for a review of the decision made by Future Fit.

116/18 The date of the next meeting was agreed as – 12th March 2019 starting at 7.00pm

Chairman.....12th March 2019