



WELLS CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL SUMMONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL, WHICH MEMBERS ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND, WILL BE HELD IN WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 24TH MARCH 2022 AT 7.00PM

Please note this meeting will be recorded for the purpose of minute-taking.

Steve Luck
Town Clerk

Town Hall, Market Place
Wells BA5 2RB
01749 673091
e-mail: townclerk@wells.gov.uk

17th March 2022

AGENDA

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS**
To receive any apologies for absence.
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 27th July 2012.
- 3 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 24TH FEBRUARY 2022**
To be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.
- 4 MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**
Public speaking time is normally restricted to 15 minutes in total, at the discretion of the Mayor.
- 5 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
Update on plans for Platinum Jubilee celebrations in Wells

Mayor's Diary

- i 26th Mar Wells Town Twinning Social, Seager Hall
- ii 28th Mar Reception for Wells Litter Pickers, Wells Town Hall
- iii 29th Mar Abbeyfield AGM, Wells Town Hall
- iv 2nd Apr Wells Cathedral Oratorio Society Concert, Wells Cathedral
- v 10th Apr Mayor's Charity Quiz night, Wells Town Hall
- vi 18th Apr Start of Season, City of Wells Bowling Club

- 6 MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & COUNCIL MATTERS COMMITTEE**
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 10th March 2022 (attached by email)
- 7 MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 17th March 2022 (to follow)
- 8 MINUTES OF THE OUTSIDE SPACES & ESTATES COMMITTEE**
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd March 2022 (attached by email)
- 9 UNITARY AND ACQUISITIONS**
To receive an update from the Town Clerk.
- 10 WELLS & MENDIP MUSEUM - NOMINATION OF TRUSTEES** (attached)
To consider proposal from Wells & Mendip Museum
- 11 NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN REPORT** (attached by email)
Report to Council on the draft Wells Neighbourhood Plan prior to consultation under Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.
- 12 REPORT ON TRAFFIC CALMING IN WELLS HIGH STREET** (attached by email)
- 13 TO RECEIVE ANY WRITTEN REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**
To follow
- 14 TO RECEIVE ANY WRITTEN REPORTS FROM DISTRICT OR COUNTY COUNCILLORS**
To follow
- 15 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT**
- 16 DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
The next meeting of Wells City Council will be Thursday 28th April 2022, 7pm

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Note: If it is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence, it will be proposed by the Mayor that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended.

Circulation List:

Town Clerk/RFO	Wells City Council website	Wells Chamber of Commerce
Open Spaces Manager	WCC Internal Auditor	Wells Civic Society
Serjeants-at-Mace	Wells Journal & Wells Voice	Wells Visitor Information
Mayor's Chaplain	Mendip District Council	The Bishop's Palace
Town Crier	Wells Police Station	Wells Cathedral
Wells City Council members	District Councillors	County Councillor

Please visit our Wells Neighbourhood Plan page to view documents.

For attachments 10, 11 and 12 please see below.

Agenda Item10 - regarding the Wells and Mendip Museum

The Wells and Mendip Museum is seeking to adopt the constitution of a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) enabling it to better manage its resources and apply for funding support from the Arts Council and similar bodies.

A new constitution has been drafted based on the model provided by the Charities Commission. After it has been finalised and reviewed by the existing trustees, it will be submitted to the Charities Commission for approval.

Currently, the draft constitution carries forward the right of the Wells City Council to nominate one of the trustees to the CIO.

The following clauses in the new constitution apply:

10.2) Nominated Trustees:

a) Each body identified in 9.3)b) (“the appointing body”) may appoint a trustee.

b) Any appointment must be made at a meeting held according to the ordinary practice of the appointing body.

c) Each appointment must be for a term of three years.

d) The appointment will be effective from the later of:

i. the date of the vacancy; and

ii. the date on which the charity trustees or their secretary or clerk are informed of the appointment.

e) The person appointed need not be a member of the appointing body.

f) A trustee appointed by the appointing body has the same duty under clause 9(1) as the other charity trustees to act in the way he or she decides in good faith would be most likely to further the purposes of the CIO.

12. Regarding re-appointment of charity trustees

2) Any person retiring as a charity trustee is eligible for reappointment.

3) A charity trustee who has served for three consecutive terms may not be reappointed for a fourth consecutive term but may be reappointed after an interval of at least one year.

The present Museum trustees are seeking a decision from the Wells City Council as to whether:

- they wish to continue to nominate a trustee, and
- if they do, that they are content with the above clauses in the new constitution.

Agenda item 11 - Neighbourhood Plan Report

Report to Council on the draft Wells Neighbourhood Plan prior to consultation under Regulation 14 of The Neighbourhood Planning Regulations 2012.

1. I have set out below the report which I will present to Council at their next meeting.
2. The process of making this Plan is moving ahead and the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group are asking the Council to adopt the current draft for consultation. Due to the imminent campaign for membership of the new Council to be elected in May, it is appropriate to hold back the public consultation to late May/June.
3. Members are provided with paper copies of
 - the draft Plan
 - the draft consultation leaflet which includes a summary of the policies and proposals
 - the Wells Design Guide and
 - a Masterplan which sets out options for development of the three sites allocated in the Mendip Local Plan for housing in Wells.
4. There is an additional document linked with the Plan – the Housing Needs Assessment for Wells. This, along with all the other documents, can be found on the WCC website by clicking on “Meetings” and then “Neighbourhood Plan”.
5. Members are asked to read the documents with care. However, it is worth adding that the drafts will be offered to the public (and relevant public bodies) for consultation on the basis that they may change. After the consultation, there will follow a re-consideration of the draft Plan based on the comments received.
6. Following the consultation, an independent Examiner will check that the Plan complies with the appropriate regulations and it then goes to a public referendum. Assuming a positive response, the Plan is made and becomes a “material consideration” when plans for development within Wells are considered.

Adrian l’Anson

14.03.22

Agenda item 12 - Report on traffic calming in Wells High Street

Traffic calming in Wells High Street.

1. I have set below the minute of the decision taken by the Council at their meeting on the 27th of January last.

BID FOR REGENERATION OF WELLS HIGH STREET (attached)

Cllr l'Anson updated the meeting that the bid is to improve safety and wellbeing for people using the High Street and requested that a decision be made to proceed with one of three options:

- a) Do nothing*
- b) Partial closure of the High Street (on Market Days)*
- c) Traffic calming measures put into place.*

Cllr Rust reminded the meeting that the Planning meeting had voted against closing the High Street to buses.

A discussion took place about possible locations and various options for traffic calming measures, crossing points, etc.

Cllr Munt showed support for making Wells more pedestrian friendly.

Cllr Robbins proposed that we proceed with Option c) Traffic calming measures.

Cllr l'Anson clarified that these measures would be discussed with Somerset County Council Highways and a group of Councillors.

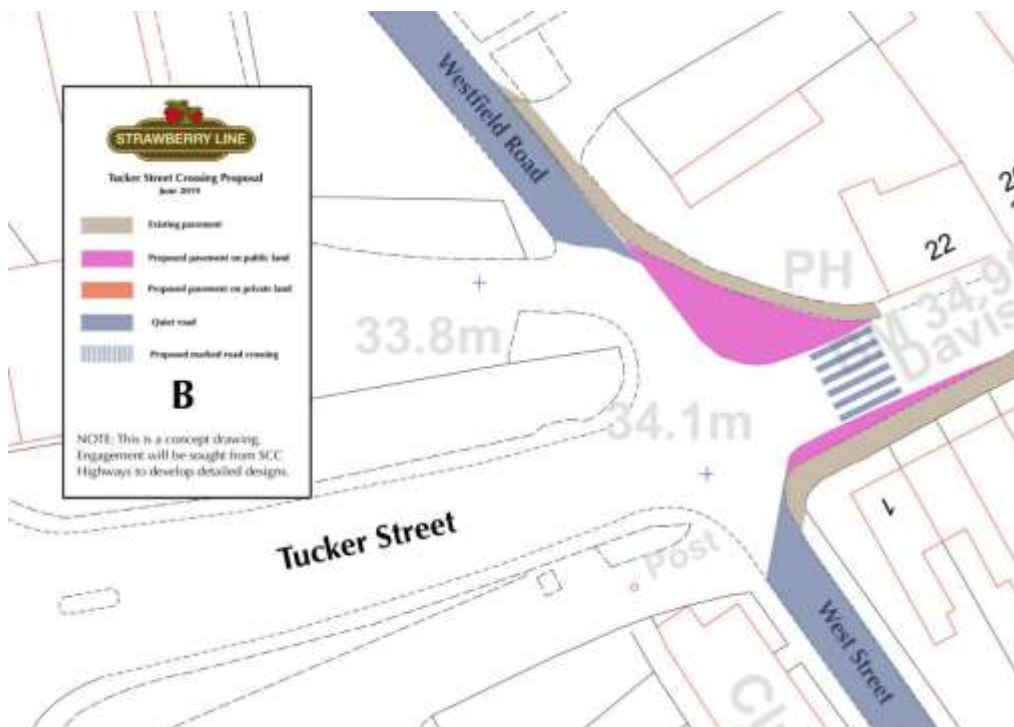
The Town Clerk advised that Councillors with businesses in the city may vote and do not require to declare an interest as the proposal is for a consultation process to begin.

Proposal seconded by Cllr Browne, carried unanimously.

2. Since then, I have discussed options with Matthew Prince, Transport Policy Officer, at Somerset County Council on 28th January and again on 14th March . The second meeting was attended by Matthew Prince, Steve Luck, Tony Hathway – St Cuthbert Out Parish councillor and formerly lecturer on transport policy at UWE and Kelly Knight – Principal Sustainable Travel & Tourism Officer at Mendip.
3. Matthew Prince advised that a Feasibility Plan can be drawn up to consider
 - a) traffic calming options from Sadler Street to the eastern end of the High Street and
 - b) improvements to junctions at Tucker Street and Portway.

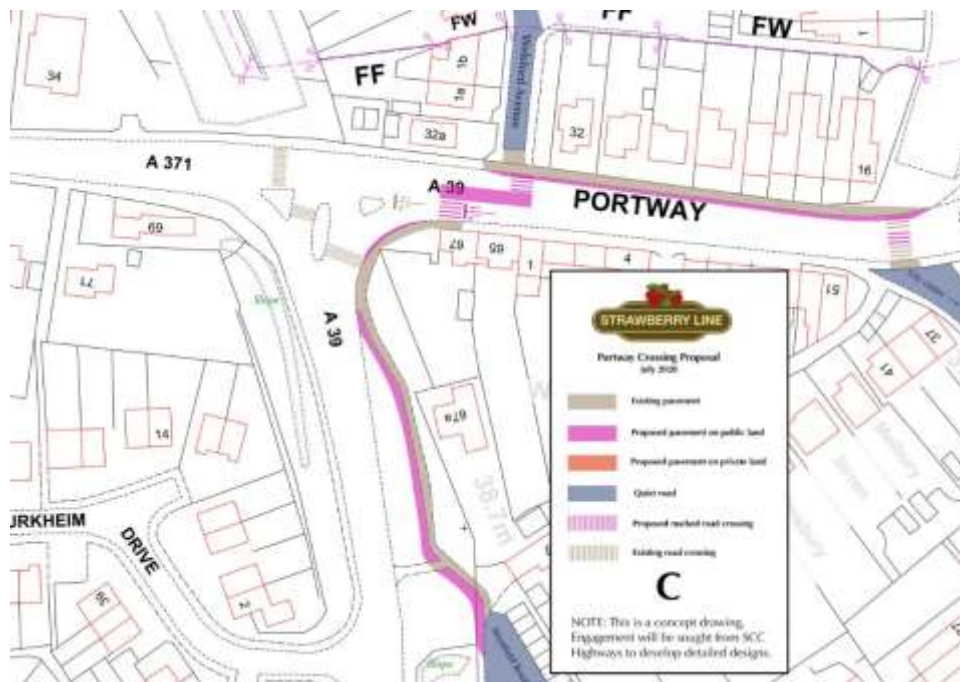
These improvements are referred to in the Moving Around section of the draft Neighbourhood Plan as shown below:

B. Tucker Street:



Tighten the Westfield Road junction with Tucker St and install a raised table crossing from West Street to Westfield Road – this is a recommendation by Sustrans.

C. Portway



This major junction needs radically re-thinking to improve safety for shared-use path users. (a) The desire line south-north crosses Portway from the Westfield Road path to Welsford Avenue, but the existing three stage crossing is unsuitable. (b) The desire line from Welsford Avenue to City Centre uses the existing footway and pedestrian crossing to Portway Avenue, but the footway is too narrow for a shared-use path.

4. Mathew Prince expects to be able to provide funding for the Feasibility Study from the Active Travel Group at the County Council. Kelly Knight referred to the Local Cycling & Walking Infrastructure Plan which has recently been completed and the likelihood that the author of the Plan would be able to carry out the Feasibility Study.

Adrian l'Anson

16.3.22