

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 8TH JULY 2021 AT 7:00PM IN WELLS TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs: L Agabani (Vice-chair), S Cursley (Chair), N Kennedy, S Powell,
P Welch (Mayor)

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk/RFO, S Luck
SCC Cllr T Munt
1 Member of the public

21/70F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cllr J Osman

21/71F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012.

None declared

21/72F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10TH JUNE 2021:

Cllr P Welch updated members on the work done on the content for the new tourist brochure.

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved for signing by the Chair.

21/73F MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

None wishing to speak

21/74F FINANCE REPORT

To receive the Finance Reports for June 2021

The bank statements were checked prior to the meeting by Cllr L Agabani.

The Town Clerk/RFO answered questions from members on the accounts.

The accounts for June were proposed, seconded and approved.

Cllr S Powell asked details about our internet provider which the Town Clerk answered.

21/75F WEBSITE PROJECT

Cllr Agabani and the Town Clerk updated members on the project so far.

Working together with the Heritage Partners and Visit Wells, several providers had given presentations of their websites that were available within the budget allocated.

Members were asked to agree to proceed with the provider Blue Level to the next stage of planning and drafting the new site. It was agreed by everyone working on the project this provider gave the best options on content and value moving forward.

The proposal is to create one website for the City to combine Council, Community and Tourist information to replace all the other sites.

When completed a presentation will be given to Councillors before proceeding.

Alex Westwood was thanked for all his work on the project to date.

It was also proposed to end the work of the communications working party.

The website proposals were proposed, seconded and agreed.

21/76F NEW POST OFFICE

The Town Clerk drew member's attention to the Post Office public statement on the new branch opening in Queen street in September.

21/77F PORTWAY ANNEXE

Members were asked to consider spending £3,000 on a Fire assessment survey for the Portway Annexe which its committee does not have delegated authority to spend. Members agreed the survey could proceed but not until the Council were in a position to buy the building and we were at contract exchange stage, Members felt it unwise to spend the money on a building we have not yet purchased.

21/78F PROPERTIES UPDATE

Moved to Private session.

21/79F ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

Cllr S Powell requested if information was available on the cost of each Council tax banding for precept rises instead of the standard Band D figures issued. The Town Clerk will investigate and report.

21/80F DATE OF NEXT MEETING: September tbc

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Note: It is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence, it was proposed by the Chair that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended to allow a private property report.

Items reported by the Town Clerk

1. A letter from our solicitor has been issued due to late payment of rent from one of our leased property. Members were in agreement of the actions taken.
2. All other properties were now paying rent in accordance of terms of their leases.
3. A claim had been made to MDC for the allowance under new legislation for rate free public toilet blocks and repayment of the backdated rates paid.

Minutes signed by The Chair: **Date:**