

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE OUTSIDE SPACES & ESTATES COMMITTEE HELD ON THURSDAY 7th APRIL 2022 AT 7:00PM IN WELLS TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs: L Agabani (Chair), A l'Anson, T Leach, S Powell,

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk/RFO, S Luck
WCC Staff, C Hobbs
SCC Cllr T Munt

Non-attendance: Cllr Rachel Humphreys

22/21/OSE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Cllrs: A Bayley, D Denis, T Pullin
Outside Spaces Officer, M Culliford.
Facilities Officer, K Westwood.

22/22/OSE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012.
None received

22/23/OSE MINUTES OF THE CITY CENTRE & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3RD MARCH 2022 The minutes were agreed and signed as a true record.

22/24/OSE MEETING OPEN TO PUBLIC

None present

22/25/OSE OUTSIDE SPACES

i Skateboard park - Lead Cllr L Agabani gave an update on the progress of the Skateboard park.

A survey has been undertaken, financed by Wells City Council, and a short report written. Accurate costings for the project and drawings are still required. Progress will therefore continue after the election of the new Council.

A discussion took place about the availability of the report. The Town Clerk confirmed that he wanted to check the details of the survey, before it goes into the public domain. The Skateboard Park Charity has been awarded with two grants as well as being in receipt of donations.

ii SID device - The Town Clerk gave an update

The SID (Speed indicator device) device has been withdrawn from use. The sites that historically were suitable are now not appropriate due to new developments and new junctions. Somerset County Council require Wells City Council to sign a Memorandum of understanding to assist us in finding a correct placement for the SID.

A discussion took place about the criteria for the SID and potential for upgrading the equipment to ensure it complies with Somerset County Council requirements.

iii The Town Clerk gave an update

MDC Cllr L Rogers updated that she had succeeded in ensuring that an extra waste bin collection takes place after reports of overflowing bins at busy periods.

Discussions with Mendip District Council are underway regarding the removal of the bollards at the entrance to the Market Place on Market days. There are concerns that they may get damaged being removed so frequently.

A discussion took place about signage in the Market Place and the Parking Warden monitoring the illegal parking in the restricted access area.

The Outside Spaces team are busy grass cutting etc., they have removed graffiti and undertaken work on fallen trees.

The May fair is organised and the bollards and planters will be removed for the occasion. A discussion took place about the length of the licence and the frequency of the renewal for the May Fair.

The new Truck is still on order and delivery is expected soon.
The Lease has been agreed for the new Outside Spaces Team Unit.
The appointment has been confirmed of a new Outside Spaces Development Officer, who will start his post in June 2022.

22/26/OSE PORTWAY ANNEXE

- i. Cllr A l'Anson gave an update

The decoration of the essential rooms and installation of the new disabled access will be completed soon.

The Town Clerk reported that he had a meeting booked w/c the 11th April 2022 with the contractors and will press for dates for completion of their work.

Several groups have booked rooms and are keen to commence.

A discussion took place about potential dates.

An official opening date of 14th May was agreed.

22/27/OSE BISHOP'S BARN

- i. The Town Clerk gave an update on the progress of acquiring the Wells Recreation Ground Trust

Mendip District Council and the Charity commission have agreed the new scheme.

Mendip District Council has been advised to set a date for the start of the 28 Day Public Consultation period on their website. A week after the end of the consultation period the Trust should be transferred to Wells City Council Control.

Discussions continue to agree to buy in to the central contract for grass cutting with Mendip District Council for the remainder of this financial year.

22/28/OSE PROPERTIES

Nothing to report

22/29/OSE ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

L Agabani reported that Cllr D Denis had confirmed that 10 schools had signed up to the Wells in Bloom awards which will take place on 30th June 2022. The main Wells in Bloom Awards will take place on the 14th October at the Town Hall.

The Town Clerk informed the meeting that the School awards will take place at the Bishop's Palace this year.

S Powell reported that there were three abandoned bicycles locked up at the Library and Bishops Eye and asked for the process for having them removed. The Town Clerk confirmed that he would look into having them removed and stored at the Town Hall.

22/30/OSE DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm Thursday 2nd June *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.

Minutes signed by The Chair:

Date: