WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY CENTRE AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL THURSDAY 18TH JUNE 2015 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: G Wilson (Mayor); A Gibson (Deputy Mayor); M Brandon; C Cox;

N Kennedy; J Ludovino; C Price; T Robbins

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White

RFO: S Luck (Open Spaces Officer / Cemetery Superintendent Registrar)

15/01CO ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE-CHAIRMAN

The Mayor opened the meeting and called for nominations for Chairman.

Cllr Ludovino was proposed, seconded, elected and took the Chair.

The Chairman called for nominations for Vice-Chairman; Cllr Brandon was proposed, seconded and elected.

15/02CO APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr Wride

15/03CO DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None declared

15/04CO MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

Minutes of the Cemetery & Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 5th March 2015 and the City Centre Management Committee meeting held on 22nd January 2015, were proposed, seconded, approved and signed.

Matters Arising:

- i. City Centre Management Committee meeting scheduled for 16th April did not take place.
- ii. Tender for maintenance work at Moat Walk was unsuccessful.
- iii. It was agreement to arrange a visit for Councillors to the Allotments in conjunction with the Wells in Bloom judging during July. Allotment holders would be notified in advance.
- iv. The historic lamp post from the Market Place is still at Somerset Heritage Centre awaiting restoration. Somerset County Council Highways have agreed to reinstate it as a working street light.

15/05CO MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None present.

15/06CO SUB-COMMITTEES

To confirm membership, and dates of meetings and to make arrangements for reporting back:

It was agreed that the sub-committees will each appoint their own Chairmen. A report to the City Centre and Open Spaces Committee can easily be conveyed by a Councillor who is on both that and the sub-committee.

i. Wells in Bloom

Membership was confirmed, date of meeting (25th June) already agreed.

ii. City and Tourism Forum

Membership for co-option was discussed and agreed; there was concern that the formal membership could become too large but it was agreed that the 'seasonal' attendance would vary and the Forum would remain fluid and adapt to circumstances.

Date of first meeting was fixed for 6pm on Wednesday 1st July, in order to get started as soon as possible.

15/07CO STREET FURNITURE

- i. To approve quote for cycle racks. Quotes for the cycle racks outside the Town Hall were approved.
- ii. To receive request for dog fouling bin

After some discussion the purchase and installation of a dog fouling bin was proposed, seconded and agreed.

15/08CO WELLS CEMETERY

Future burial provision:

The Cemetery Registrar reported the 'extension field' has been in use for some time. He gave an estimated forecast based on current usage. The Town Clerk reported on possible options for assuring retention of land for burial purposes.

The Committee noted that the cemetery is a shared service provision with St Cuthbert Out Parish and that the existing cemetery land has reached the parish boundary. It was agreed to contact St Cuthbert Out Parish Council to initiate a discussion about longer-term provision.

15/09CO VISITOR INFORMATION

It was agreed to ask the City and Tourism Forum to take forward the discussions on these matters as soon as possible and report back.

15/10CO CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Arrangements for December 2015

The Open Spaces Officer reported the permanent electrical supplies are due to be fitted where needed and an alternative supply arranged for the string that was refused by a retailer last year. It was agreed to go ahead with purchases as planned, adding some new features to the display.

15/11CO MAINTENANCE REPORTS

i.White lines at junction of Broad Street / Priory Road have been repainted

ii. damaged 'No parking' signs on the Wells in Bloom poles in the High Street will be straightened by City Council Open Spaces Team under the partnership working scheme with SCC

iii.Complaints about lack of grass cutting at Sheldon Drive / Clements Close – Town Clerk will investigate legal responsibilities

iv.Temporary roads signs at Glastonbury Road are out of date: SCC will be asked to remove them.

v.Trees at the Recreation Ground will be cut back by the Landscape Group in time for the Well Moat Boat Race activities

vi.Cllr Cox has details from the Cathedral School regarding the resurfacing as Tor Lane

15/12CO ANY OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT

i.The Reindeer Parade will take place on Sunday 6th December

ii.Letters from the Chamber of Commerce were noted

iii.'Work in Wells Week' will take place 14th – 18th September and will include a Trade Fair at the Town Hall

15/13CO DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: 6pm Thursday 16th July 2015