



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 OCTOBER 2024 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 October 2024

AGENDA

Wells City Council has declared a climate emergency. Each agenda item must consider the impact on any policy and decision.

- 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 12th May 2022.
- 3 PRESENTATION BY NATALIE BARNETT, SOMERSET WILDLIFE TRUST, ACT TO ADAPT**
- 4 PRESENTATION BY ST JOHNS AMBULANCE**
- 5 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 26TH SEPTEMBER 2024**
To be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.
- 6 MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**
Public speaking time is normally restricted to 15 minutes in total, at the discretion of the Mayor.
- 7 MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - Wells Remembrance Service and Parade, Sunday 10th November
 - Remembrance Day, Monday 11th November, 11am, Conduit in Market Place
 - Wells City Charter Fair, Wednesday 13th until Saturday 16th November
 - Wells City Carnival, Friday 15th November

Mayor's Diary

- i. 26th Oct Wells Classic Football Club AGM & Presentation, Deputy Mayor attending
- ii. 28th Oct St Cuthbert (Out) Parish Council, Full Council meeting
- iii. 7th Nov Founders Day, Wells Almshouses

Mayor's Charity Concert, raising funds for 5th/7th City of Wells Scouts, 23rd November 2024, 7:30pm in Wells Town Hall.

8 OUTSIDE SPACES & ESTATES COMMITTEE (Outside Spaces, Wells in Bloom, Portway Annexe)

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 3rd October 2024 (attached)

9 STAFFING COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2024 (attached)

10 FINANCE & COUNCIL MATTERS COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 10th October 2024 (attached)

11 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 17th October (to follow)

12 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/TRUSTEES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

- i Report from Local Community Network Meeting 10/10/24 attended by Cllr D Denis on behalf of Cllr P Welch (see below).
- ii Any other reports to follow, if received.

13 TO RECEIVE ANY WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

14 MOTION RELATING TO THE OUTSIDE SPACES AND ESTATES COMMITTEE

The Outside Spaces and Estates Committee should cease to alternate the subject of its monthly meetings between the Bishop's Barn and Recreation Ground one month and Outside Spaces, Wells in Bloom, Portway Annexe the other month, and instead be open to covering all items each month as appropriate.

That the minutes of the most recent meeting of that committee should be presented to the next meeting of that committee.

That at its next meeting, the committee shall elect a single Chair and a Vice Chair and that the Vice Chair shall, until the committee determines otherwise, have specific responsibility for matters related to the Bishop's Barn and Recreation Ground.

Motion submitted by Cllr T Butt Philip

15 PROPOSALS FROM CLLR G ROBBINS

1. To host a Community Christmas gathering at Wells Town Hall on Christmas Eve. The hall is available and people have already offered to contribute/help.
2. To consider the room available by the Union Street toilet block as a location for the community fridge. It has parking, easy access and central.

16 DEVOLUTION OPTION APPROVAL (report attached by email)

To consider report

17 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT

18 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Wells City Council will be **Thursday 28th November 2024, 7pm**

Circulation List:

Town Clerk/RFO Town Clerk Assistant Cemetery & Burial Officer Outside Spaces Officer Wells City Council members	Somerset Councillors Serjeants-at-Mace Mayor's Chaplain Town Crier Wells Civic Society WCC Internal Auditor	Wells Journal & Wells Voice Wells Chamber of Commerce The Bishop's Palace Wells Cathedral Avon & Somerset Police
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Report from Local Community Network Meeting 10/10/24 (Agenda item 12(i) above)

The main focus of the meeting was effects of flooding in the parishes- actual in recent years and potential to come, with a presentation from David Mitchell and Bel Dearing from Somerset Rivers Authority.

What we learned was that the Somerset Rivers Authority is a partnership. SRA partners are:

- Somerset Council
- the Axe Brue and Parrett Internal Drainage Boards
- Environment Agency
- Natural England
- Wessex Regional Flood & Coastal Committee
- Wessex Water

And

There is no single answer to Somerset's many flooding problems. Different approaches are needed in different places, in varying combinations. The SRA as a partnership gets people working together more powerfully on suitable projects.

And

Somerset Rivers Authority is not involved in emergency responses to flooding or in flood recovery efforts. This means, for example, that the SRA does not supply sandbags, or set up pumps, or clear debris.

And

It has powers and funding but not Duties!

Each table was given a map showing watercourses/ivers in Mendip and we had to identify flood risk areas and our knowledge of why these are at risk- the information will be collated and sent out later along with an action plan for further working parties. It was suggested that we need to work in a greater context with other bordering LCNs to understand problems for water flow do no stop at the border!

Tom Shopland, FWAG, offered to visit areas with flood risk e.g. Tor Hill Lane and look at the possible causes upstream- he will do this following the Act to Adapt Plan is set up in Wells.

Fodo Higginson, SALC Community Health and Wellbeing Officer, informed the LCN meeting that SALC has sent out a video and she will follow up with another letter to inform Parish/Town Councils that there are funding opportunities for community projects and available to Councils:

£1500 Seed Grants for initial project ideas

£2500 Small Grants for smaller or individual council projects

£35000 Large Grants for collaborative projects involving multiple councils

The LCN agreed that it might be positive to all work together to achieve the last pot of funding on a shared project such as youth work.