



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 19TH DECEMBER 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

12th December 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 MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 28TH NOVEMBER 2024**
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**

Invitation from the Mayor and her Consort to join them after this meeting for Christmas refreshments in the Mayor's Parlour.

Mayor's Diary

- i. 20th Dec Carols by Candlelight, Wells Cathedral
- ii. 21st Dec Christmas Indoor Market with Scouts, Wells Town Hall
- iii. 23rd Dec Christmas Carol Service, St Cuthbert's Church
- iv. 24th Dec Community Christmas Eve Gathering, Wells Town Hall

- v. 24th Dec Carol Service, Wells Cathedral
- vi. 25th Dec Christmas Morning Service, Wells Cathedral
- vii. 11th Jan Wells SOUP!, Wells Cathedral
- viii. 16th Jan Women of Business Network in Wells, Bishops Eye
- ix. 19th Jan Twinning Murder Mystery, Wells Town Hall

6 PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 5th December 2024 (attached)

7 FINANCE & COUNCIL MATTERS COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 12th December 2024 (to follow)

8 ANNUAL BUDGET

Recommendations from Finance & Council Matters Committee (to follow)

- i. To agree the annual budget for 2025-26
- ii. To agree the devolution budget for 2025-26
- iii. To agree the precept for 2025-26

9 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/TRUSTEES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Report received from Cllr Welch for the Connect Centre (attached)

10 TO RECEIVE ANY WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

11 ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT

12 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Wells City Council will be **Thursday 30th January 2025, 7pm**

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Note: If it is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence it will be proposed by the Chairman that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended, excluding the press and public, in order that confidential items can be discussed.

13 DEVOLUTION OF ASSETS

Consider recommendation from Finance & Council Matters Committee.

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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Agenda Item 9 – Outside Bodies Report for the Connect Centre from Cllr P Welch

Here are the Connect Centre's Christmas events and opening times.

- Sunday 22nd: 10.30am-12.30pm Sunday Service with Connect Community Church
- Sunday 22nd: 1pm Christmas Dinner for all the community, everyone welcome
- Monday 23rd: 10am-12 noon Breakfast Drop-in with showers, mail collection, breakfast
- Friday 27th: Community Drop-in 12-2pm, showers, mail collection
- Sunday 29th: 10.30am-12.30pm Sunday Service with Connect Community Church
- Monday 30th: Breakfast Drop-in 10am-12noon, showers, mail collection, breakfast
- Tuesday 31st : Community Drop-in 10am-12noon, showers, mail collection

Normal hours will resume from Thursday 2nd January.

The Connect Centre has been the venue for Wells SOUP! since 2018.

But the organisers of this quarterly grant-giving lunch have been told by the centre that it is likely to end in 2025 because they may want to use the room for other purposes.

However the Dean and Chapter of Wells Cathedral say the next SOUP! - on Saturday January 11th - can take place in the transepts of Wells Cathedral.

This follows a request from the Bishop of Bath and Wells who joined the audience for January 2023's SOUP!.

Bishop Michael was so enthusiastic about how SOUP! is helping charities and local projects spread their word and raise funds that he asked if it could take place in the Cathedral.

Councillor Philip Welch

December 11th 2024