



**WELLS CITY COUNCIL
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE OUTSIDE SPACES & ESTATES
COMMITTEE, WHICH MEMBERS ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND,
WILL BE HELD AT WELLS TOWN HALL
ON THURSDAY 3RD MARCH 2022 AT 7:00PM**

Please note this meeting will be recorded for the purpose of minute-taking.

Steve Luck
Town Clerk/RFO

24th February 2022

Town Hall
Market Place
Wells BA5 2RB
01749 673091
e-mail: townclerk@wells.gov.uk

Committee Members:

Cllrs: L Agabani (Chair), A Bayley, D Denis,
R Humphreys, A l'Anson, T Leach, S Powell,
T Pullin

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 COMMITTEE MEMBERS**
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012
- 3 MINUTES OF THE CITY CENTRE & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2022**
Matters arising.
- 4 MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**
Public speaking time is normally restricted to 15 minutes in total, at the discretion of the Chair
- 5 OUTSIDE SPACES**
 - i Skateboard park - to receive an update from Lead Cllr L Agabani
 - ii To receive a report from the Outside Spaces Officer, to include:
 - a. Storm damage
 - b. New outside spaces premises
 - c. Wells in Bloom - The schools competition and judging update from Cllr D Denis

6 PORTWAY ANNEXE

- i. To receive an update from Town Clerk

7 BISHOP'S BARN

- i. To receive an update from the Town Clerk on the progress of acquiring the Wells Recreation Ground Trust

8 PROPERTIES

- i. To receive any update from the Lead Cllr S Powell

9 ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm Thursday 7th April 2022

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 property items can be discussed.

Agenda 5 ii c

Wells in Bloom 2022

Schools- 2 volunteers- Linda Thomas and Aron Clay will organise the judging- to take place 22-24 June.

10 schools have entered- 5 primary and 5 pre-schools. 4 have requested trees from an offer made by CGI IT UK Limited to Wells CC and will be contacted by Emma Jakin to ascertain what is suitable. Sponsorship from Brownes Garden centre confirmed.

Gardens and Businesses—4 volunteers led by Emma Conner. Advertised in next edition of Wells Voice, applications in library, Whitings and Town Hall and on Wells CC website. Judging to take place weeks commencing 11 July and 18 July.

Allotments-3 volunteers Cllr J Brown, David Thompson and Maureen Bailey. Judging to take place 11 July.

A meeting for volunteers to be held on 8 March to discuss plans etc.

Wildflowering verges

A steering group meeting was held on Tuesday 8 February. Minutes attached.

REPORT FOR STEERING FOR WILDFLOWER VERGES

MEETING 8TH FEBRUARY 2022

AT 1200 Noon

Written by Cllr Amanda Bayley

Welcome and Introductions

Cllr Denise Denis (Chair), Cllr Amanda Bayley (Minutes), Mike Berry, Barbra Lakin, Andrew Horsfield, Jacob Hall, Bryony Slaymaker, Emma Jakin, Mathilda Bale (via Zoom, Facilitator form Sustainable Wells), Maddy Milnes (Sustainable Wells)

Absent Cllr Tom Ronan, Les Cloutman, Eric Lewis.

Discussed ways to make Mendip green. Mendip ecological areas discussed based on map, Red areas - No Go Areas, Amber areas – Possible, Green areas – marked in Blue area Go areas. Map attached.

Denise and Mike have previously discussed the verges. Emma and Matilda suggested Kewards Brooke, near the primary school. Denise commented that sometimes the area is used as a driveway. Matilda suggested the grass verges further down, either side of the path, plenty of places down there. Emma seconded.

Mathilda - suggested Tor Lane to protect the wood and protect wildlife.

Maddy - has spoken to a local resident, who wants the water area cleaned and the area cleared.

Maddy - mentioned to consider Tor Woods

Bryony suggested surveys need to be done first – incorporate consultations.

Drew - thinking that so local residents have some ownership of the verges, to help fund them and maybe chose the flowers to be planted.

Denise – needs a plan now, in light of possible different councillors after May elections.

Drake Road residents were upset as they felt the council do not consult residents on decisions within their area.

Mathilda – all data will go to the South West CSI, West Country Rivers Trust.

Mathilda – Make sure that all the flowers planted area edible for wildlife. Concerns that owners may buy their own seeds and this not taken into account.

Denise – important to acknowledge the diversity of the wildlife and nature. Has to improve the local area.

Drew – Education of the whole town. Plymouth City Council have adopted to have variety of flowers that flower at different times of the year, so there are flowers to look at all the time.

Jacob – agrees engaging the community.

Bryony – Agrees.

Amanda – Agrees.

Mathilda – Sustainable Wells has plans for a Bioblitz on 23rd July, and this is to start at Bishops Palace which has agreed to open up their garden 2 hours earlier.

Denise - suggest that we focus on 2 verges today. Take 2 areas to secure it, that Sustainable Wells can get started. Survey and consultation. Maybe get into February Wells Voice. Maybe council can put in.

Maddy – need a template for a survey.

Denise – we have 3 areas now.

Denise called meeting to a close.

Sustainable Wells Group, to look into survey.

Areas – Beckington Avenue, Tor Lane, Kewards Brooke.

Future to decide on questions for survey. Survey – paper and online.

Following meeting so far

Andrew Horsfield sent emails to Mendip District Council officers and Denise to say he has setup a day to survey Kidderbank with SWT on 25th February. He was also in discussion with Cannington College students to design wildflower verges in a competition and was going to canvas local residents in Kidderbank area and intended to ask for funding contributions from householders. Denise has responded to say that a design competition was not advisable for this pilot study and had not previously been discussed in steering group. Denise also advised against Drew asking for money as an individual but suggested he could do it through an organisation funding campaign.

Sustainable Wells has drafted a consultation survey. Denise has sent it onto Mendip Officers to review and agree before SW shares it with SWT.

Emma Jakin has drafted an article for Wells Voice – awaiting Mendip District Council legal approval for verges pilot.