

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL, ON THURSDAY 14TH MARCH 2019 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: M Brandon; J North; C Price; T Robbins (Chairman); D Swain;
C Wride (The Mayor)

IN ATTENDANCE: RFO: S Luck
Cllr P Welsh
SCC Cllr T Munt
1 member of the public

19/22F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Cllrs: J Osman (Deputy Mayor, Vice-Chairman); H Siggs

19/23F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012.
None declared.

19/24F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14TH FEBRUARY 2019:
Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and signed.

19/25F MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Nobody wished to speak.

19/26F FINANCE REPORT

1. To receive the financial reports for February 2019
The bank statements and accounts had been checked prior to the meeting.
The accounts for February 2019 were proposed, seconded and approved.
2. To approve expenditure of SCC reserve
It was proposed, seconded and approved, SCC spend their reserve we hold on car park signage.
3. Cllr North, as Twinning representative, presented the budget for the 40th anniversary event with Paray le Monial. It was proposed, seconded and approved to earmark the unspent hospitality budget to the next financial year to cover the cost.

19/27F GRANT APPLICATION
To consider initial application for Core Funding; Elim Connect Centre.
Cllr Welsh presented an initial proposal he had received from the Elim Connect Centre for core funding to replace lost SCC grants. Members agreed it was an important service and would like to support it but budgets had already been set for next year. They instructed the RFO to explore joint funding possibilities with MDC, consult with Cllr Welsh and the Elim Centre then report to the next meeting.

19/28F CROSS-STREET WIRES
To receive up-date:
The RFO reported problems with finding a suitable site for the new banner wires and the restrictions landlords would impose on fixings to their buildings making the project cost prohibitive. He had also spoken to the potential users and they would be unable to cover the cost of erecting the banners. It was agreed the RFO would continue to explore possibilities.

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC Note: Due to the confidential nature of the matters to be considered, concerning contracts and staffing matter, it was 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: **RESOLVED**

All persons present left the room except remaining: the RFO and 6 members of the committee.

19/29F

PROPERTIES

The Post Office had replied to the Council letter requesting information on their future plans.

Our solicitor has received correspondence and a request for a lease extension until 30th September 2019.

This was proposed, seconded and approved.

A report about energy certificate requirements and a future marketing quote had been received from our property agent.

The expenditure was proposed seconded and approved.

19/30F

ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

Cllr Price reported on a meeting he had attended on the Bus 67 route. Figures provided showed income was at the expected budget level.

The RFO reported the Memorial Clock project had been launched and application forms were now available from reception.

Letters of thanks for grants had been received from Somerset Poppies and Wells City Band.

The RFO was thanked for his work and left the meeting.

19/31F

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Chairman reported on an ongoing staff matter. Members noted and gave their full support to the actions taken.

19/32F

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm Thursday 11th April 2019