

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER 2019 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: L Agabani, S Briton, P Crummay, S Cursley, G Dickson, A Fawcett, O Hartley, A l'Anson, N Kennedy, J Linsdell, J Osman (Mayor), C Rees, T Robbins, J Rust, P Welch (Deputy Mayor), C Wride

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting Town Clerk; S Luck
Mace Bearer: M Goody
Chaplain: A Glanville
County Cllr T Munt
Nick Pyatt
5 members of the public

PRAYERS

Prayers were conducted by the Mayor's Chaplain, A Glanville, following which the Chaplain was excused from the meeting.

19/107C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Town Clerk: F White

19/108C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 27th July 2012:
None Declared

19/109C MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 25TH JULY 2019

Minutes of the previous meetings were proposed, seconded, confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

19/110C PRESENTATION

Nick Pyatt gave a presentation on climate adaptation pressures and opportunities in Wells and answered questions from members. He highlighted the expected increase in rainfall and the effects this will have on properties in the predicted flooding areas of the City. He explained the measures that needed to be put into action in the future.

19/111C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None wishing to speak.

19/112C POLICE REPORT

PC Dan Williams gave an enthusiastic report on his 4 months transfer to the neighbourhood team which was coming to an end. He had worked with the community, schools and children to bring a positive message about the Police. He had really enjoyed his time as part of the team and tried to increase the Police's visibility and accessibility with the public. He answered members' questions and was told he had given the most enthusiastic report the Council had ever received. The Mayor and all members thanked him for his work.

19/113C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- i. Mayor's Coffee Morning, Saturday 5th October, 10am
- ii. Remembrance Day Service & Parade, Sunday 10th November
- iii. Baby loss event in the Mayors Parlour on the 15th October.

19/114C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 1st and 15th August 2019, 5th and 19th September 2019:

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

19/115C WELLS NEIGHBORHOOD PLAN

Cllr A l'Anson gave an update on measures needed to restart the plan and explained the way forward.

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to proceed with the Plan and to apply for a grant from Locality.

19/116C MINUTES OF THE ARCHIVES & CIVIC ASSETS COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 5th September 2019:

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

19/117C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 12th September 2019:

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

19/118C ANNUAL AUDIT REPORT

To receive the Governance and Accountability Reports for the year 2018-19: **Noted**

Cllr Robbins explained the Council had received a clear audit for the tenth year running.

19/119C ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW

To receive the revised Standing Orders from the Finance Committee:

These were proposed, seconded and adopted.

19/120C MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 19th September 2019:

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

19/121C DRAFT CALENDAR OF MEETINGS AND ENGAGEMENTS OCTOBER - MAY 2020

Members agreed and this was **Adopted**

19/122C REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS:

- i. CCTV Users Group Report was presented by Cllr Rust and answered questions from members.
- ii. Mendip Credit Union report from Cllr Briton. They had also asked to give a presentation to Council at a future meeting.
- iii. Fairtrade, Cllr Linsdell was attending the next meeting.
- iv. Bus 67: Cllr Crummay reported she had attended the last meeting. A new timetable had been issued but she felt more work was needed on its presentation.
- v. MDC: In the absence of the MDC Councillors who were at a Bishop's Barn and Recreation Ground briefing, SCC Councillor T Munt gave a report for them including the Tourist Coach parking would continue to be free at the Bus station; work was continuing on forming Climate and Environment committees; work was being planned to the MDC building to improve the carbon footprint. Talks about Wells skateboard park had taken place but the Mayor pointed out this was a Wells City Council facility not MDC.

The Mayor requested the RFO contact MDC to enquire why the two City Council representatives were not invited to the Bishop's Barn and Recreation Ground meeting.

- vi. SCC: Cllr T Munt reported on a recent parking meeting with Stoberry and surrounding residents.
On the Climate Emergency, the first meeting of the five County and District Councils had taken place.
Somerset and Devon County Councils had terminated the contract to provide High speed broadband due to poor performance by the contractor. Tenders would now be reissued.
The meeting to consider the Pyrolysis plant in St Cuthberts Out Parish will be taking place in Taunton on the 7th November.
County Councillors had been allocated £2,000 to award to a community project, ideas were being requested and the closing date was 30th November.

19/123C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT

1. Cllr Wride expressed concerns of the working of the City Councillors email site. This will be investigated.
2. Cllr Briton reported on the forthcoming public meeting on Solar Street Wells at the Town Hall on 17th October.
3. Cllr l'Anson thanked members for attending the 4 year plan meeting and the Council now needed to decide date of the follow up meeting.
4. Cllr l'Anson reported a CIC had been set up to show an expression of interest in purchasing the Old Deanery for a new cultural centre.
5. Cllr Fawcett enquired if the City Council were responsible for the map machines in the City. The RFO responded they were ours and had now been fully serviced after recent problems.
6. Cllr Fawcett asked about travel management in the City and the Mayor advised him to speak to our SCC Councillor or contact Somerset Highways.
7. Cllr Kennedy expressed concern about the number of Urgent matters coming to the meeting and suggested members could make enquires outside the meetings.

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Note: If it is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence it will be proposed by the Mayor that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended, excluding the press and public. Due to the confidential civic and staffing matters to be discussed it was proposed seconded and agreed to exclude the press and public.

19/124C CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

The Mayor updated member on two items:

1. Possible future confidential event.
2. Conclusion of staffing issues.

19/125C DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Wells City Council will be at **7pm on Thursday 24th October 2019**