

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER,
WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 28TH SEPTEMBER 2017 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: M Brandon; C Cox; A Gibson; R MacKenzie; J North (The Mayor);
J Osman; C Price; T Robbins; H Siggs; D Swain; D Unwin; G Wilson;
C Wride (Deputy Mayor)

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White
RFO: S Luck
Chaplain: A Glanville
Mace Bearer M Goody
Somerset County Cllr. T Munt
6 members of the public

17/113C CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced the standard emergency evacuation procedures. He requested that mobile phones and other devices be set on silent or turned off. Anyone intending to record any part of the meeting was asked to declare this.

17/114C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: R Ayres; N Kennedy.
Cllr Osman would need to leave early.

17/115C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

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

17/116C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 27TH JULY 2017:

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

17/117C CASUAL VACANCY

Co-option to fill a casual vacancy in the Wells St Cuthbert Ward:
It was proposed, seconded and agreed that the vote be taken by paper ballot.
The candidates were thanked for applying; each introduced themselves and spoke for a few minutes. There was an opportunity for Councillors to put questions.
The Town Clerk conducted the voting process, assisted by officers.
Mr Richard Greenwell was co-opted onto the Council by a majority vote; he signed the declaration of acceptance of office, was welcomed by the Mayor and took his seat.

17/118C POLICE REPORT

To receive a report from Avon and Somerset Police:
The Police Local Beat Team is aware of the need for patrols on the Recreation Ground particularly in the evening, and are providing a presence when possible.
CCTV footage of the recent ram-raid on a shop in the High Street is being followed up.
Feedback and local reports from Councillors will be passed back to the Police.

17/119C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None present.

17/120C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i. For duties carried out, please see the Mayor's Diary published weekly.
- ii. Wells Food Festival: Sunday 8th October
- iii. Jazz in the Foyer: Monday 16th October (Cedars Hall)
- iv. Wells Literature Festival: 13th – 21st October
- v. Remembrance Service: Sunday 12th November (St Cuthbert's Church)
- vi. Burgermeister's Party: 11am Sunday 19th November (Town Hall)

- vii. The Mayor congratulated Cllr Brandon on the success of the Wells in Bloom presentation evening.

17/121C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 7th and 21st September 2017:
The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

17/122C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 14th September 2017:
The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

17/123C MINUTES OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 21st September 2017:
The Chairman presented the minutes; he drew members' attention to minutes 17/36S, 17/37S, and 17/38S, and invited questions.

17/124C REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

i. Wells Recreation Ground Trust

Cllr Wride reported an application for works to trees has been passed through the Council's Planning committee.

The Project Manager is preparing a resilient heritage funding application.

A series of Open Days is being held at the Bishops Barn.

Cllr Robbins reported he is looking into progress of the Mosaic project.

ii. Somerset County Council

Cllr Munt gave a report on SCC meetings attended, highways issues, and events attended; with particular attention to matters raised by residents. (Copy provided).

iii. Cllr McKenzie

Reported from the Scrutiny Panel of the Somerset Rivers Authority.

Supplemented by comments from Cllr Osman, Chairman of the SRA.

iv. Mendip District Council

Cllr Osman:

MDC Scrutiny Board is inviting representatives from town and parish councils and considering issues raised by them.

Cllr Siggs:

-Public Space Protection Orders are out for final consultation.

-MDC is involved in homelessness matters; for example health assessments.

-Scrutiny will also be looking at the role of the district councillor in attending town/parish council meetings.

-Please contact MDC if there are any cleansing issues (e.g. the recreation ground) they will notify the contractor.

17/125C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT

No further matters.

17/126C DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Wells City Council will be at **7pm on Thursday 26th October 2017**