

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE HELD ON
THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2025 AT 6:00PM IN WELLS TOWN HALL

PRESENT: Cllrs: S Eden, G Folkard, T Robbins (Chair), H Siggs, P Welch

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk/Devolution Officer: H Wilkins
WCC Staff: C Hobbs

25/10/S APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM COMMITTEE
None received

25/11/S NON ATTENDANCE
Cllr: L Agabani

25/12/S DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 12th May 2022.
None declared.

25/13/S MINUTES OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 16TH JANUARY 2025
The minutes were noted and signed by the Chair.
Cllr T Robbins welcomed C Hobbs as the new Staff Representative
Cllr T Robbins welcomed H Wilkins as the incoming Town Clerk

25/14/S MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
No members of the public were in attendance

25/15/S STAFFING UPDATE

- i. H Wilkins updated that Wells City Council have received formal confirmation of the retirement of the Cemetery Manager which will take place in September 2025. Ashley Chouings will replace Mark Culliford as Cemetery Manager, which has taken place through the internal recruitment process. The Legal faculties and Licence to occupy are signed and in place. WCC will be recruiting a Cemetery Assistant in due course.
- ii. Wells City Council have recruited a part time Cleaner for the Portway Annexe. They will commence employment on 25th February 2025. This completes staff recruitment at the Portway Annexe.
- iii. H Wilkins reported that handover for the role of Town Clerk is ongoing and that she would officially take over on the 24th February 2025. S Luck (Outgoing Town Clerk) will continue to provide support until 31st May 2025.

25/16/S LOCAL GOVERNMENT EMPLOYER'S DISCRETIONS POLICY
To review and approve the Local Government Employer's discretions policy required by Peninsula Pensions.
H Wilkins reported that the 2024 audit had requested a couple of areas that needed updating.
Cllr G Folkard asked for detail about LGPS changes. H Wilkins reported that it was a change regarding flexible retirement and extending the time limit to changing pension requirements. The latter is more a change instigated by central government.
Cllr H Siggs asked about implications to WCC of the increases in pension contributions. H Wilkins reported that WCC will continue to pay pension contributions at national levels of 22.5%.

Cllrs voted unanimously to approve the review of the Local Government Employers Discretions Policy.

25/17/S **ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT**
None received

25/18/S **DATE OF NEXT STAFFING MEETING: 6pm, Thursday 13th March 2025**

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Note: It is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence, it was proposed by the Chair that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended to allow a private report.

Minutes signed by The Chair: **Date:**