



WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

28 Fore Street, Wellington, Somerset TA21 8AQ

Tel: 01823 662855

E-mail: info@wellingtontowncouncil.co.uk

COUNCIL MEETING

You are summoned to attend a meeting of Wellington Town Council to be held remotely by ZOOM meeting on **Monday 12th April at 7.00pm.**

Members of the public are cordially invited to join this meeting.

Due to Coronavirus (Covid-19) measures Wellington Town Council is conducting its meetings remotely until further notice using 'ZOOM' technology. Members of the press and public are welcome to join this meeting using these details:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82973218900?pwd=UFF1WIkzNW1iZUF1WnExa0hSeSsxQT09>

Meeting ID: 829 7321 8900

Passcode: 703322

Members of the public who wish to have the opportunity to address the council will need to advise the Clerk in writing by no later than 12 noon on Thursday 8th April 2021.

David Farrow

Town Clerk

07983 697740

dave@wellingtontowncouncil.co.uk

6th April 2021

1. TO OFFER WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. TO NOTE AND AGREE APOLOGIES FOR THE MEETING

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive declarations of personal or prejudicial interests, in accordance with the Code of Conduct. Standing declarations made by Councillors are set out at the end of the agenda.

4. MINUTES

To approve and formally adopt the minutes of the Planning and Full Council meetings on 1 March (copies attached).

5. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LOCAL POLICING TEAM

Sergeant Dan Bishop will present a report to the Council.

7. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE WELLINGTON –TAUNTON CYCLE ROUTE PROJECT

Councillor Lloyd and the Town Clerk will provide an update.

8. TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT ON RECENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

The report is attached to the agenda.

9. GRANT APPLICATIONS

The Finance Committee will make a recommendation on the following;

(a) Wellington Mills CIC

Wellington Mills CIC have submitted an application requesting £2,500 for administration related costs in setting up an office, exhibition space and meeting room. The application has been forwarded to Councillors by e-mail.

(b) Transition Town Wellington

Transition Town Wellington have submitted an application requesting £1,446.17 to support their projects including Booklets, Bird Boxes, Plug Plants and ground cover layer for community orchard. The application has been forwarded to Councillors by e-mail.

10. IN LIEU OF PUBLIC SPEAKING TO RECEIVE ANY REPRESENTATIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

In the absence of an in-person meeting, the usual public speaking session has temporarily been replaced with the presentation of any written submissions received from members of the public.

11. CORRESPONDENCE

11.1 TO CONSIDER A RESPONSE TO A COMUNICATION FROM WELLINGTON WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL TO SOMESSET COUNTY COUNCIL SEEKING TO RATIONALISE THE SPEED LIMIT ON THE A38 WELLINGTON RELIEF ROAD TO 40MPH

The email from the Parish Clerk of Wellington Without Parish Council to Somerset Council is attached to the agenda.

11.2 TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM SOMEWHERE HOUSE SOMERSET FOR A LETTER OF SUPPORT.

Somewhere House Somerset are seeking a letter of support for the expansion of its existing service into new areas, with a dedicated Mobile Support Unit that will be used to promote positive mental health awareness and to provide support to rural communities across Somerset. The letter is attached.

12. TO REVIEW ELECTRONIC DECISIONS MADE BY COUNCILLORS

At its emergency Coronavirus meeting on 19th March 2020, the Council made several proposals, subsequently approved by full Council. This included electronic voting for decisions about the Council's affairs. A summary report of electronic Council decisions since the Council meeting of 1 March is attached. Full details of all electronic voting are available on the Council's website.

13. COUNCIL ACCOUNTS

To note and approve the bank reconciliation up to 31 March 2021 (attached)

14. TO APPROVE ADDITIONAL BANK SIGNATORY

Recommend that the Deputy Responsible Financial Officer/Assistant Clerk be approved as a signatory for the Town Council bank accounts.

15. TO REVIEW COUNCIL OPERATIONS WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF CORONAVIRUS-RELATED WORKING ARRANGEMENTS

This is a standing agenda item to enable decisions about arrangements for Council Committee and Working Group meetings, and to agree any working arrangements.

The following meeting dates have been agreed by their Committees/groups.

- Environment & Open Spaces Committee – 14th April 2021 – 6pm
- Allotments Committee – 24th May 2021 – 6pm
- Town Centre Working Group – 5 May 2021 - 10.30am
- Staffing and Resources Committee – 5 May 2021 - 2.30pm

16. CADES FARM COMMUNITY HALL PROJECT – TO APPROVE FUNDS TO ENABLE THE PROJECT TO COMMENCE

The first meeting of individuals interested in running the project to deliver the Community Hall on the Cades Farm Estate took place on the 8 March 2021 with a second meeting planned for the 26 April. Funding is required to enable the project to start and, amongst other things, begin to look for alternative sources of funding to support it. The Community Council for Somerset offer consultancy support for this work and have provided a quote of £6,919 for the first phase of work which will provide support to the group in carrying out a community consultation exercise, which is essential to determine the design of the hall and support future funding applications, and also to support the group in developing a Business

Wellington Town Council Meeting 12 April 2021

Plan and provide support for fundraising. As the group has no funds as yet it is recommended that the Town Council draw down £7000 from its reserves to enable this work to start. The project will not be able to progress without this funding. Once the initial work is completed the group can then apply for an Awards for All (Lottery grant) to support their preliminary bids just to get the design drawings done for planning applications and funding bids.

Recommend that The Town Council approve the allocation of £7,000 from reserves to support the initial work of the Cades Farm Group.

17. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE PLAYING PITCH STRATEGY

To consider the current position in relation to the Playing Pitch Strategy – paper attached.

18. FEEDBACK FROM THE TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE

The Working Group met on Wednesday 24 March - the minutes of the meeting are attached. Councillor Lithgow will give an update.

19 FEEDBACK FROM THE STAFFING AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The Committee met on Wednesday 24 March – the minutes of the meeting are attached. Councillor Lloyd will give an update.

RECOMMEND to full Council that name of the Committee should be changed to The Policy and Resources Committee and the Terms of Reference amended for approval at the Council's Annual Meeting.

RECOMMEND to full Council that the revised Staff Appraisal process be agreed and that within that the Town Clerk's appraisal be signed off by the Mayor as Line Manager and Deputy Mayor.

20. CHRISTMAS LIGHTING AND ELECTRICAL POINTS

- (a) To consider entering in to a two-year contract with WGS for the installation, maintenance and removal of the Christmas Lighting (a two-year agreement will bring this in line with the remaining hire contract with Festive Lighting) (agreement attached)
- (b) To consider adoption of the five remaining electrical points in the Town from SWT. SWT would like an in principle decision before preparing documents at their end. An independent inspection has been ordered to enable a report to be prepared for submission to Council before making a final decision.

21. PREPARATION FOR THE ANNUAL PARISH AND TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

A paper for consideration is attached. The Council is asked:

1. To approve the recommendation that the Annual Council Meeting, the May Council meeting and Finance and Planning Committee meetings take place on the 4 May.
2. To note the arrangements for preparation for the Annual Meeting.
3. To approve the proposal that future meetings of the Town Council, Finance and Planning Committees take place at Court Fields School whilst social distancing requirements remain in place
4. To approve the date for the Annual Parish Meeting as the 17 May 2021 at 6.00pm

22. PROTOCOL FOR MARKING THE DEATH OF A SENIOR NATIONAL FIGURE

To approve the attached protocol.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of Somerset County Council:

Councillor Andrew Govier

Councillor James Hunt

Councillor John Thorne

Members of Somerset West and Taunton Council:

Councillor Janet Lloyd

Councillor Andrew Govier

Councillor Mark Lithgow

Councillor Ross Henley

Councillor Vivienne Stock-Williams

Councillor Marcus Barr

Councillor Chris Booth