

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES 7 February 2022

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT COURT FIELDS SCHOOL HALL, WELLINGTON TA21 8SW ON MONDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2022 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor M Lithgow (Mayor),
Councillors M Barr C Booth, A Govier, R Henley, J Hunt, J Lloyd, M McGuffie N Powell-Brace, V Stock-Williams, J Thorne

David Farrow (Town Clerk), Annette Kirk (Deputy Clerk), Alice Kendall (Deputy RFO & Assistant Clerk).

One member of the press was in attendance.

466 WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Mayor opened the meeting.

467 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received and accepted from Councillor S Pringle-Kosikowsky.

Councillors W Battishill and D Bradley were absent.

468 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Barr, Booth, Govier, Lithgow Lloyd and Stock-Williams declared personal interests as members of Somerset West and Taunton Council.

Councillors Govier, Hunt and Thorne declared personal interests as members of Somerset County Council.

469 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve and formally adopt the minutes of the Planning and Full Council meetings held on 10 January 2022 and the Extraordinary Meeting held on the 26 January 2022.

470 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

No requests were received

471 REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

The Town Clerk had circulated details of The Mayors engagements prior to the meeting.

472 CLERK'S REPORT

The Clerk's report had been circulated with the agenda and was noted. It was noted that there was an error in the total cost for Christmas Lights 2019. Following the meeting the Town Clerk confirmed that the SWT invoice for 2019 was £22,738.38 and the cost of light hire was £5009.41 making a total cost of £27,747.79.

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473 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE LOCAL POLICING TEAM

Sergeant Dan Bishop presented his report to the Council and a printed copy was circulated by email during the meeting.

In response to a question from Councillor Thorne, Sergeant Bishop advised that there were 42 Speed Watch Groups across Wellington and surrounding areas but that they were very area specific, and more were always welcome.

In response to a point made by Councillor Booth Sergeant Bishop said that people should report any concerns they have to the police otherwise they wouldn't know they existed.

474 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE RELATING TO THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT ON LAND ADJACENT TO THE A38 AND M5 SPUR

Mr Simon Coles of Tetrattech Planning and Mr Steve Godfrey of Chelston Heath LLP gave an update on progress and answered questions from Councillors. The plans for the development have been submitted for outline planning approval.

474 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM REMINISCENCE LEARNING ON ITS CHRYSALIS BUTTERFLY EVENTS

Fiona Mahoney, Chief Executive Reminiscence Learning updated the Council on its Chrysalis Butterfly Campaign. Councillors praised the work of Reminiscence Learning and it was **RESOLVED** that the Town Council support the campaign by purchasing two jigsaw pieces at a cost of £120 with the funding to be taken from the Health and Wellbeing Budget.

475 MEETING OF THE TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE HELD ON THE 12 JANUARY 2022

The minutes of the meeting had been circulated with the agenda. Councillor Lithgow advised that funding for the artwork installation at the Community Centre may be able to be sourced from elsewhere so the recommendation in the minutes do not have to be considered at this stage.

476 MEETING OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THE 20 JANUARY 2022.

The minutes of the meeting had been circulated with the agenda. It was **RESOLVED** that

- (a) That the Terms of reference for The Rifles Freedom of the Town – Working Group as amended by the Committee be approved and
- b) That the Council appoint a Town Crier as voluntary roles with costs of uniform and expenses to be paid from the Promoting Wellington Budget. The role of Portreeve will be subject to further consideration.

477 LONGFORTH ROAD TOILETS

It was **RESOLVED** that the contract for cleaning the Longforth Road toilets should be put out to competitive tender as soon as possible. A second proposal to reduce the current cleaning arrangements to one clean a day was not passed.

478 TO CONSIDER ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE QUEENS PLATINUM JUBILEE CELEBRATIONS

A report was circulated with the agenda. It was **RESOLVED** that:

- (a) The Town Centre Committee be given delegated responsibility to approve expenditure against the Queens Platinum Jubilee budget line.
- (b) The Town Council assume responsibility for setting up and managing the Street Fair proposed for the 4 June and that stalls are offered free of charge as they were at the Welly Welcome Weekend.
- (c) A Beacon be placed on Hilly Head as part of the national Beacon Lighting Ceremony on the 2nd June.
- (d) it is recognised that these events will require staff support over bank holidays and a weekend the Council agreed that, through the Town Clerk, staff be asked to work with appropriate recompense either through taking time off in lieu or through additional payment in accordance with national conditions of service.

479 GRANTS

(a) Wellington Produce Market – The Finance Committee considered an application from the Wellington Produce Market who are seeking a grant of £3,300 towards first year costs as detailed in the application which was circulated to councillors prior to the meeting. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the application although consideration should be given by officers to which budget the payment should be made from.

480 RENEWAL OF PHOTOCOPIER RENTAL & PRINTING AGREEMENT

It was **RESOLVED** that a new contract be taken up with the Council’s current supplier as it was the most cost-effective option while providing a very satisfactory scheme to reduce carbon emissions.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.25pm

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Councillor Mark Lithgow
Mayor