

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD AT THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL, WELLINGTON 15 JUNE 2022 AT 6.30pm

Present: Councillors Lithgow (Chair), M Barr, K Canham, A Govier, M McGuffie, J Thorne and K Wheatley
David Farrow – Town Clerk.

One member of the public was in attendance.

95. Apologies

Apologies were received from Councillors S Booker and J Lloyd

96. Declarations of Interest

None were declared.

97. Minutes

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting held on the 15 March 2022.

98. Questions and Comments from Members of the Public

No questions or comments were made.

99. To Review the Terms of Reference for the Committee.

Revised Terms of reference were tabled taking in to account the decision taken at the Annual Meeting that the Community Safety Committee should cease, and its functions subsumed into the Policy and Resources Committee whilst consideration is given to how they should be allocated. Concerns were raised relating to the scope of the responsibilities given the workload likely to fall on this Committee over the coming year. It was agreed that the Committee would oversee the drafting of a revised Community Safety and Crime Prevention Strategy which would detail committee responsibilities and which committee should fulfil them. This will be added to the Policy Review Timetable.

100. To Review the Town Council's Standing Orders

The Committee resolved to **RECOMMEND** that the revised Standing Orders circulated with the agenda are adopted by the Town Council.

101. To Review the Town Council's Financial Regulations

The Committee resolved to **RECOMMEND** that the revised Financial Regulations circulated with the agenda are adopted by the Town Council.

102. Review of Council Policies and Procedures

A draft review programme had been circulated with the agenda. The Committee asked the Clerk to spread the load more evenly across the year so that the Committee only had to review two policies per meeting taking in to account the additional policy detailed in minute 99 above.

103. Future Accommodation Requirements

The Committee considered the paper that had been circulated with the agenda and resolved to **RECOMMEND** that the Council did not take up the offer of moving to office space in the town library when its refurbishment is completed.

At this point Councillor Lithgow left the meeting and Councillor A Govier assumed the Chair.

The Committee considered the paper that had been circulated with the agenda and asked the Clerk to continue to explore the options around purchasing its current office accommodation, utilising the Kings Arms and to explore any other options as they arose based on an assessment of what the council will need in the future and to provide update reports at each meeting of the Committee.

104. Assets of Community Value (ACV)

The Committee had been asked to consider whether it wished to recommend to the Council that it should apply for ACV status for The Dolphin, The WHERE Centre, the former Linden School Building at Coram’s Lane and 28-30 Fore Street. It **RESOLVED** not to recommend pursuing seeking ACV status for any of the buildings at this stage.

105. To Consider Arrangements for Remembrance Sunday 2022

The Committee considered the paper that had been circulated with the agenda. It noted that this was a sensitive issue, and that further consideration was needed and resolved to **RECOMMEND** to the Town Council that further work is done to seek the views of interested parties and the community in relation to the timing of the 2023 ceremony with arrangements for the 2022 ceremony remaining as before.

106. Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)/Local Community Networks (LCN)

The Committee considered the paper that had been circulated with the agenda and resolved to **RECOMMEND** to the Town Council that its starting point in discussions should be that the basis of an LCN for the area should be centred around Wellington and its surrounding parishes linked in with the Court Fields catchment area and that the Council should reinstate the informal meetings with those parishes to seek their views.

107. Additional Street Lighting

The Committee reviewed the information that had been circulated with the agenda and resolved to **RECOMMEND** to the Town Council that approval is given to the installation of new streetlights at Orchard Close, Bulford Lane and two at Clifford Terrace at a total cost of £7748 with £1500 of funding being drawn from the Street Light Budget and the balance from the Council’s reserves.

108. Delegated Planning Agreement

RESOLVED to recommend to the Town Council that the Delegated Planning Agreement from Somerset West and Taunton for the period 2022/23 be approved.

109. Town Council Vision/Work Programme

The Committee noted the revised Work Plan for 2022/23 and resolved to **RECOMMEND** to the Town Council that an informal workshop for councillors, to further develop the Vision and Work Plan, should be arranged prior to a more formal consultation with the community.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.30pm

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Councillor Mark Lithgow
Chairman