

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of a meeting of the Wellington Town Centre Committee held at the Community Centre, White Hart Lane, Wellington TA21 8HN on Monday 26th September 2022 at 6pm

Present: Councillors J Lloyd, M Lithgow, N Powell-Brace, M Barr, C. Booth, R Coupe. S. Pringle-Kosikowsky

Dave Farrow – Town Clerk
Annette Kirk – Deputy Town Clerk
Alice Kendall – Deputy RFO

1 member of the press
2 members of the public

254 APOLOGIES

Apologies had been received from Councillors K Wheatley and C Govier.

255 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest

256 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the Town Centre Committee meeting held on 19th July 2022.

257 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

The Committee agreed that Kathryn Gibbons, Local Photography could do her presentation on her Community Photography Project – The Committee would discuss and make their decision at Agenda item 10a.

258 WELLINGTON FOOTFALL COUNTERS

RESOLVED to agree the ownership of the three footfall sensors are transferred to the Town Council and to pay Proximity Future £675.00 to extend the contract date of the two cameras that expire in March 2023 to January 2024 in line with the first camera. The Committee to review the footfall sensors contract on expiry of the current contract.

259 POP UP SHOP

The Deputy RFO circulated a report prior to the meeting and gave an update explaining the new energy contract prices and how they have been affected by the Government's announcement to assist businesses with rising energy costs.

RESOLVED to continue with current process of passing on costs of electricity usage to hirers (via deposit refund) at the same rate that the Council is charged.

260 REMEMBRANCE EVENTS 2022:

- **Armistice Day – Friday 11th November 2022 at 11.00am**
- **Remembrance Sunday – 13th November 2022 at 3pm**

Project Plan was circulated prior to the meeting and noted.

The Town Clerk confirmed that arrangements were progressing on both events. Remembrance Sunday – Temporary Road Closure Application had been submitted to Somerset West and Taunton District Council. Volunteers were still required to operate the road closure.

261 RIFLES REGIMENT: FREEDOM OF THE TOWN 17TH JUNE 2023

Project Plan was circulated prior to the meeting and noted.

The Town Clerk confirmed that event would happen in the afternoon of 17th June 2023 and that the Working Group were looking at two elements of a project plan – the parade itself and also events to take place in the town around the parade

- Councillor Powell-Brace asked that Wellington Silver Band are contacted to perform at the event.
- Councillor J Lloyd came up with idea that lamp banners could be erected in memory of the Rifles who had been recognised for their service.

262 CHRISTMAS 2022

Deputy Clerk presented updates on the Christmas event.

At item 9e and 9f the Committee discussed Free Town Centre Parking on Saturday 26th November and Lamp Post Banners for the “Christmas Market and Lights Switch” on event.

RESOLVED that the Emergency High Street Fund will cover the costs for Free Town Centre Car Parking for the “Christmas Market and Lights Switch On” event on Saturday 26th November 2022.

g) Update on new lighting at South Street and Christmas Tree

The Deputy RFO gave an update. The project to install a tree at Tonedale is proceeding well and the new owners were happy in principle with the project. An agreement letter has been forwarded its return is awaited.

As delegated authority for spending was given at the last meeting, a report was circulated with a breakdown of costs for installation and lighting hire. It was noted that the overall spend to add the new Christmas tree and lighting installation at South Street should come in under the allocated £5,000 budget.

RESOLVED to accept two instalments of £250 from Joseph Welch jewellers for the installations of the initial fixings and to commit to adding the curtain to scheme for the next contract term.

263 TOWN CENTRE EMERGENCY HIGH STREET FUND

- a. Presentation by Kathryn Gibbons Local Photographer - Community Photography Project – To Highlight Local Independent Businesses. Town Council to cover the cost of shop window wrap or bus shelter wraps.

RESOLVED to support Kathryn Gibbons Local Photograph and her Community Photography Project. More detail required to identify the business, to display their own logo and QR Code. The Emergency High Street Fund to cover the cost of one window wrap.

- b. Wellington Sculpture Trail - Information report was circulated prior to the meeting. The Committee thought this was a good idea in principle offering good engagement with the public and more importantly children. The Wellington Boot being a good design to use. The lead time would be 6/7 months. With the sculptures going on display in July.

RESOLVED that Committee Members and Council Officers look at progressing the project by obtaining more information and costings.

- c. Creative Workshops For Children:

RESOLVED that the Committee would support Creative Workshops for Children and agreed to hold one activity day and to provide a Town Centre Venue. The costs to be covered by the Emergency High Street Fund.

264 BUS SHELTERS

Deputy Clerk gave an update and circulated quotations from GW Shelter Solutions and Jones Building Group.

RESOLVED to wait for the proposal from Somerset West and Taunton District Council's Senior Management Team to transfer the bus shelters to the Town Council.

265 STREET TREES:

The Deputy RFO circulated a report and gave an update. Scans had been carried out at locations identified on maps circulated to the Committee prior to the meeting. The biggest concern is that utilities are at a reasonably shallow depth and they would be going straight through the root ball zone, which should be avoided. Therefore, significant costs would need be added to reroute any of the services.

RESOLVED not to proceed with the Street Tree Project but to look at land in the town where trees could be planted.

266 BUDGET SETTING

The Committee Members to email the Deputy RFO with any planned project expenditure that will need to be accounted for in the 2023-2024 budget. Recommendations to be taken to the next two Finance Committee Meetings (October and November) where the budget will be developed. e.g. Rifles event, King's Coronation, Town Centre planting and maintenance.

267 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Tuesday 15th November 2022 at 6pm – United
Reformed Church Hall

The meeting ended at 7.30pm

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Councillor Janet Lloyd
Chairman