



**WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL**  
**28 Fore Street, Wellington, Somerset TA21 8AQ**  
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**Members of the Public and the Press are invited to attend all Council Meetings  
(Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960)**

Dear Councillors,

You are hereby summoned to attend the following meeting:

Meeting	<b>Council Meeting</b>
Time	7.00pm
Date	3 July 2023
Place	United Reformed Church Hall, Fore Street TA21 8AG

Councillors will be discussing all the items listed on the attached Agenda and minutes will be available online after the meeting.

Yours faithfully

David Farrow  
Town Clerk  
01823 662855  
[info@wellingtontowncouncil.co.uk](mailto:info@wellingtontowncouncil.co.uk)

27 June 2023

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO APPROVE THE REASONS GIVEN**

If you cannot attend, please send your apology and reason to the Town Clerk.

Councillors are reminded that failure to attend any Council meeting for 6 months, full council or committee/s, will result in them automatically ceasing to be a councillor irrespective of whether apologies are given.

**3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any prior requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e) (NB this does not preclude any later declarations)

Standing declarations made by Councillors are set out at the end of the agenda.

**4. MINUTES**

To approve and sign the minutes of the Annual Town Council and Planning meetings held on 5 June 2023 (copies attached).

**5. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Public Attendance: For those members of the public who wish to ask a question or make a statement a three-minute time limit applies to each speaker.

N.B Councils cannot lawfully decide items of business that is not specified in the summons/agenda (LGA1972 Sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119

**6. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LOCAL POLICING TEAM**

A report from Sergeant Jon O'Connor will be circulated in advance of the meeting.

**7. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM THE HEADTEACHER OF COURT FIELDS SCHOOL**

Mrs Polly Matthews, Head teacher, will attend the meeting to update the Council on the work of the school including the outcome of its recent Ofsted Inspection.

**8. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM PROMISEworks.**

To receive a presentation from Christell Charles, Caseholder Taunton and West Somerset, on the work of PROMISEworks.

**9. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE MAYOR**

**10. SOMERSET COUNCIL UPDATE**

Somerset Council Councillors to provide an update on any issues of interest to the Town Council.

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

A report from the Town Clerk is attached to the agenda.

## 12. FINANCE COMMITTEE

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 13 June 2023 are attached for information and consideration. Councillor Lithgow will provide an update at the meeting. The Council is asked to note the following decisions taken under the Committee's delegated powers:

- (i) To award a £3,000 grant to the Rockwell Green War Memorial Institute towards fire safety works.
- (ii) To approve expenditure of £2,350 towards the cost of the Wellington Carnival using the £1,000 budget allocated for the Carnival for this year with the remainder to come from the Promotion of Wellington budget line. As per last year, invoices will be made out to the Council for direct payment.
- (iii) To award a £500 grant to Skintight Samba.

## 13. POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE

The draft Minutes of the meeting held on 20 June 2023 and relevant supporting papers relating to the recommendations below are attached for information and consideration. Councillor C Govier will provide an update at the meeting. The Committee **RECOMMENDS** the following:

- (i) That no changes are made to the Committee's Terms of Reference.
- (ii) That an informal planning session should be convened to allow councillors to discuss priorities for the remainder of the Council period mapped against the Council's Vision and taking into consideration the findings of the recent Community Review.
- (iii) That in principle the Town Council should seek to take on responsibility for the management of any public open spaces on new developments in the town.
- (iv) That the Council funds the rent of £10,000 and utility costs of £8,000 at The Kings Arms initially for a two year period from April 2024 to support the development of the community hub.
- (v) That an Allotment Advisory Board is created to replace the Allotments Committee to have oversight of the Basins Allotments. It would report to the Environment and Heritage Committee.
- (vi) That a Working Group be established consisting of Councillors J Lloyd, A Govier and J Thorne .to work with the Town Clerk to undertake the Council's due diligence work in relation to the possibility of the Town Council taking on the ownership and management of Ivy House and The Old Vicarage with a view to making a recommendation to the Full Council at an appropriate time.
- (vii) That it should explore with stakeholders any options to reduce the cost of buses to Taunton for residents and increase their use. This will provide environmental and social benefits and the Council's ambition would be for free off peak travel at least one day a week.

- (viii) That it explores establishing a community transport service in the town to support those parts of the town without access to public transport.

The Council is asked to note the following decisions taken under the Committee's delegated powers:

- (i) That the Committee will meet the second Tuesday of alternate months starting at 4.00pm.
- (ii) To authorise the Town Clerk to spend up to £500 as a contribution to Somerset Council's costs of installing ramps on the bridge between The Basins and Rockwell Green.
- (iii) To agree the following arrangements for a town wide Scarecrow Competition this summer:
  - a. The competition will be based around the five wards of the town with a winner in each ward being selected by the local councillors for that ward.
  - b. The five winners would then be judged by a panel of councillors to select an overall winner for the town.
  - c. Each ward winner will receive a prize of a £25 voucher from a local shop with the overall winner being given an extra £25 voucher.
  - d. Judging will take place over the August Bank Holiday weekend with scarecrows being put out for display from the 21 August 2023.

#### **14. LAND ADJACENT TO LONGFORTH ROAD TOILET BLOCK**

To consider a recommendation that the Town Council seek to lease the land adjacent to the Longforth Road toilet block to provide a contractor's compound whilst building work takes place. A paper is attached for consideration.

#### **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

##### **Members of Somerset County Council:**

Councillor Andrew Govier

Councillor Marcus Barr

Councillor Ross Henley