



WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL
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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	Council Meeting
Time	7.00pm
Date	7 August 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

1 August 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 Town Council and Planning meetings held on 3 July 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 REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

8. SOMERSET COUNTY/LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK (LCN) UPDATE

Unitary Councillors to provide an update on any issues of interest to the Town Council and Councillor C Govier will report on the first Wellington and Wiveliscombe LCN meeting held on the 6 July 2023.

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

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

10. FINANCE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2023 are attached for information and consideration. Councillor Lithgow will provide an update at the meeting.

11. TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE

The Minutes of the meeting held on 11 July 2023 are attached for information and consideration. Councillor Booker will provide an update at the meeting. The Committee **RECOMMENDS** the following:

- (i) Annual Street Fair – that the date for the next year's Annual Street Fair be set as Saturday 1 June 2024.
- (ii) D-Day 80th Anniversary – that there is a week of events to commemorate this anniversary starting on 1 June 2024 with the Annual Street Fair.

- (iii) That a letter of complaint is sent to Somerset Council in relation to its decision to increase the costs of Road Closure Applications to £1,375 per event from 1st April 2023. We have not been charged previously.

NOTE: Since the Committee meeting Somerset Council has confirmed there will be no charges until 1 April 2024. From then a single application costing £1,375 can cover multiple road closures for a period of 18 months e.g. street fairs, produce markets, Christmas Light Switch On events etc., as long as the application is submitted at the beginning of January 2024. Officers are working on how this can be applied and how costs would be apportioned with other groups and will report back to the next meeting of the Town Centre Committee. Carnivals will still require a separate road closure application because of the complexity of the arrangements.

12. ENVIRONMENT AND HERITAGE COMMITTEE

The minutes of the meeting held on 18 July 2023 and the background papers relating to the recommendations below are attached for information. Councillor M McGuffie will provide an update at the meeting. The Committee **RECOMMENDS** the following:

- (i) That a Council Working Group is established to have oversight of the work taking place at Tonedale Mill in light of the decision of the current directors of Wellington Mills Community Interest Company to step down.
- (ii) That the submission prepared by the Wellington Wheelers should be included in the Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan recognising that it is aspirational and that for it to be implemented there would need to be more work done and that it was not something that could be delivered in the short term.
- (iii) That the Draft Terms of Reference for the Basins Allotments Advisory Board be adopted.
- (iv) That Councillors Janet Lloyd and Catherine Govier be the Councils representatives on the Basins Allotment Advisory Board.
- (v) That the proposed amendments to the Committee's Terms of Reference to reflect oversight of the Basins Allotments Advisory Board be adopted.
- (vi) That the Fruit Tree Project is approved and that £5,400 is committed from the Environmental Improvement budget for the purchase of 300 dwarf apple trees to be given free of charge to residents and schools.
- (vii) That from September 2023 the committee will meet every other month in the second week of the month i.e. the week after the Council meeting.

13. PROPOSED CHANGES TO ROAD MARKINGS IN HIGH STREET AND PARKING IN SOUTH STREET

Councillor A Govier will propose that the Council recommends to Somerset Council that:

- (i) The 'Keep Clear' road markings on High Street, outside what used to be the entrance to the Veterinary Surgery, be replaced with parking restricted to 30 mins between 8am and 6pm Monday – Saturday in line with other on street parking in the town and
- (ii) That no parking should be allowed on South Street between the roundabouts at Bulford and Eight Acre Lane.

Photographs and maps of the two areas are attached to the agenda.

14. WATER SAFETY – FOX’S FIELD AND THE BASINS

To consider installing two lifebuoys, one at Fox’s Feld and the other at The Basins with appropriate warning signage. A paper is attached for information. The Council is asked to consider resolving that:

- (i) Appropriate signage warning of the dangers of deep water and jumping in the water are installed at both Fox’s Field and The Basins at a total cost of £241.98 including VAT (to cover cost of signs, poles and installation. The final decision of signage design and precise location of the signs to be delegated to officers.
- (ii) Two Life Rings are purchased from Lifebuoysdirect with one installed at Fox’s Field the other at The Basins at a total cost of £555 plus VAT (to cover cost of cabinet sets, posts and installation). Final location of Life Rings to be determined by officers.

DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of Somerset County Council:

Councillor Andrew Govier

Councillor Marcus Barr

Councillor Ross Henley