



**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	Monday 8 January 2024
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)

2 January 2024

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

**2. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO APPROVE 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. TRIBUTES TO RICHARD HUGH FOX**

Councillors will be invited to pay tribute to Richard Hugh Fox, Honorary Freeman of the Town, who passed away on 26 December 2023. This will be followed by a minute's silence.

**5. MINUTES**

To approve and sign the minutes of the Town Council and Planning meetings held on 4 December 2024 (copies attached).

**6. 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 are not specified in the summons/agenda (LGA1972 Sch 12, paras 10(2)(b) and Longfield Parish Council v Wright (1918) 88 LJ Ch 119

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

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

**8. CO-OPTION OF TOWN COUNCILLOR**

To determine who should be co-opted on to the Council to fill the vacancy in the East Ward of the Town.

(i) To receive short presentations from individuals who have submitted expressions of interest.

(ii) To vote on who should be co-opted – councillors will need to consider whether this should be done by secret ballot in accordance with Standing Order 8(a).

**9. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE LEVELLING UP BID FUNDING FOR TONENWORKS AND TONEDALE MILL**

Dr Joanna O'Hara, Heritage at Risk Manager with Somerset Council will provide an update on the recent successful Levelling Up Bid for Toneworks and Tonedale Mill.

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

The Mayor will provide an update on his activities since the last meeting.

**11. SOMERSET COUNCIL / LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK (LCN) UPDATE**

Somerset Council Councillors, Councillor Catherine Govier and the Town Clerk to provide an update on any issues of interest to the Town Council.

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

To consider a report from the Town Clerk.

**13. FINANCE COMMITTEE**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 12 December and relevant papers are attached for information and consideration. Councillor Lithgow will provide an update at the meeting. The Committee resolved to make the following recommendations:

- (i) To make a payment of up to £250 to support the Potters Pounds Scheme through an appropriate mechanism should additional funding be required.
- (ii) To make a contribution of up to £700 to the Wellington Foodbank on condition that it was used for Wellington residents should it be required.

**14. POLICY & RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 12 December are attached for information and consideration. Councillor C Govier will provide an update at the meeting. The Committee resolved to make the following recommendations:

- (i) That an amount of £5,400 should be included in the Devolution Contingency Budget line for the 2024/5 budget to fund the provision of expert advice to the Town Council on heritage matters should the need arise.
- (ii) That the Town Council should take on responsibility for coordinating and managing the tours at Toneworks in 2024 recognising that they would continue to be led by members of the Somerset Council Heritage at Risk Team.
- (iii) That the Town Council should fund the future application costs for Wellington Park's Green Flag at a cost of £430pa and the town's Britain in Bloom entry at a cost of £300pa.

- (iv) That Worknest be appointed as the Councils HR advisory service on a three year basis at a cost of £2075pa.

**15. EVENTS 2024 – ROAD CLOSURE APPLICATION**

To consider submitting a joint road closure application at a cost of £575.00 to Somerset Council for both Wellington Produce Market and Town Council events in 2024. Councillors Lithgow and Wheatley met with the organisers of Wellington Produce Market on 6<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> December 2023 to discuss and Councillor K Wheatley will give an update.

**16. WELLINGTON TO TAUNTON CYCLE ROUTE UPDATE**

Councillor Janet Lloyd will provide an update from the stakeholder meeting held on 5 December 2023.

**17. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

To consider passing a resolution having been duly proposed and seconded under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting, on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, within the meaning of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972.

Reason: Agenda item 16 includes 'information relating to a particular individual'.

**18. STAFFING MATTER**

The Town Clerk will brief councillors on a staffing matter.