MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL PLANNING MEETING HELD AT UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL ON MONDAY 8 APRIL 2024 AT 6.30 PM

PRESENT: Councillor M Barr (Chair),

Councillors C Booth, J Cole, C Govier, R Henley, M Lithgow, J

Lloyd, M McGuffie, S Mercer and J Thorne

IN ATTENDANCE: Alice Kendall (Deputy Clerk)

S. Fox (Planning Officer, Somerset Council)

One member of the press

571 APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillors Z Barr, K Canham, A Govier and K Wheatley.

572 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

573 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There were no members of the public present.

574 TO CONSIDER WHAT COMMENTS TO MAKE ON THE FOLLOWING APPLICATIONS THAT WILL BE DETERMINED BY SOMERSET COUNCIL

(a) Case Ref: 43/23/0056

Proposal: Outline application with all matters reserved, except for access, for a mixed use development of up to 200 No. dwellings, employment land (Use Classes E & F), an internal spine road to facilitate a rail halt/station, public open space, drainage & associated infrastructure on land north of Taunton Road, Longforth Park, Wellington (DEPARTURE FROM LOCAL PLAN).

Simon Fox, the Planning Officer for this application answered questions and gave more information where required. After some discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to, again, support the application in principle. However, Councillors made the following comments;

- The comments from the Conservation Officer were noted which addresses the locality of the development to the listed Nynehead Court & Gardens.
- Regarding the percentage of affordable housing; there was significant concern and disappointment that the viability report is likely to decrease the number even further, possibly even to nil. Councillors await the outcome of that report from the upcoming Plans Committee meeting.
- Concerns were also raised with the access road layout, but it was noted there were other options if circumstances allow. It was further noted that the access road is required for the future station project and further delay had to be avoided.

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(b) Case Ref: 43/24/0019

Proposal: Erection of a single storey extension, with landscaping, to the

side of Ardwyn, Wellington

RESOLVED to recommend that this application be approved.

(c) Case Ref: 43/24/0023/T

Proposal: Application to carry out management works to two oak trees included in Taunton Deane Borough (Wellington No.1) Tree Preservation Order 2011 to the rear of 71 and 83 Aspin Close, Wellington (TD1087)

RESOLVED to support the application subject to satisfactory comments from the Tree Officer.

(d) Case Ref: 43/24/0027/T

Proposal: Application to fell one pine tree and to carry out management works to two pine trees included in Taunton Deane Borough (Wellington No.5) Tree Preservation Order 1998 at 12 Pyles Thorne, Wellington (TD749)

RESOLVED to support the application subject to satisfactory comments from the Tree Officer.

575 SOMERSET COUNCIL - PLANNING DECISIONS FOR INFORMATION ONLY:

The following decisions were noted. Councillor Lloyd reported that she had spoken at the Somerset Council Planning Committee when application 43/21/0061 was considered. She expressed disappointment that it had been approved given the issues raised with the site.

Application Number(s)	Proposal	Address	WTC Recommendation Or Comments	Somerset Council Decision
43/21/0061	Application for Outline Planning, with all matters reserved, for the erection of 3 No. dwellings on land to the west of Haymans Mill, Westford, Wellington as amended by agents email of 15th September 2021 "Application for Outline Planning, with all matters reserved, for the	land to the west of Haymans Mill, Westford, Wellington	Refusal	Approved

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	erection of 2 No. dwellings			
43/24/0006/T	Notification to re-pollard one Plane tree to previous pollard points within South Road Conservation Area	Wellington School, South Street, Wellington	Noted	No objection
43/24/0005/CM	Notification for prior approval for proposed change of use of ground floor takeaway (Sui Generis) with living accommodation above into 1 No. dwelling (Class C3)	31 North Street, Wellington	Supported	Approved
43/24/0007/T	Application to fell ('monolith') one cypress tree and to carry out management works (crown-reduction) to one ash and one hornbeam included in Taunton Deane Borough (Wellington No.1) Tree Preservation Order 1981	Wellington School (western boundary), Wellington (TD206)	Noted	Approved
43/23/0113 & 43/23/0114/LB	Replacement of skylight with 2 No. conservation style roof lights (retention of part works already undertaken)	37A Fore Street, Wellington	Approval	Approved
43/24/0017/A	Display of 4 No. non- illuminated branding signs and 1 No. non- illuminated disabled sign	land at Westpark 26, Chelston	Approval	Approved

The meeting closed at 6.55 pm	
Councillor Marcus Barr	
Councillor Marcus Darr	
Mayor	

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MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL, WELLINGTON ON MONDAY 8 APRIL 2024 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor M Barr (Chair),

Councillors C Booth, J Cole, C Govier, R Henley, M Lithgow, J Lloyd, M

McGuffie, S Mercer and J Thorne

IN ATTENDANCE: Alice Kendall (Deputy Clerk)

S. Fox (Planning Officer, Somerset Council)

One member of the press Five members of the public

576 TO OFFER WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed all those present.

577 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO APROVE THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies were received from Councillors Z Barr, K Canham, A Govier and K Wheatley.

578 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Cole declared a personal interest in item 18 (monument planter) as he knows the director of the firm who had provided the quotation.

Councillor C Govier declared a personal interest in item 19 (CAS accommodation) as an employee of the organisation.

Councillor M Lithgow declared a personal interest in item 19 (CAS accommodation) as a volunteer with the organisation.

579 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the Planning and Full Council meetings held on 4 March.

580 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public spoke about the upcoming likely development near Popes Lane and expressed concern to the loss of habitat and 'green wedge'. She reported to Councillors that she hoped a solution could be designed to ensure a green corridor could be maintained.

581 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LOCAL POLICING TEAM

The report from Sergeant Jon O'Connor had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted. He was pleased that the figures had remained exactly the same as the same period in 2023 as it was predicted there would be an increase due to Easter falling in March this year. He reiterated the importance of the CCTV provision and supported any upgrades that could be made (item to be discussed later in the agenda).

Councillor Thorne asked about the reporting of a specific incident as he was once again disappointed in the communications relating to it. Sgt O'Connor reported that they had given as much information as they had.

582 STATION DEVELOPMENT

Simon Fox, Major Projects Officer (Planning) Somerset Council joined the meeting for this item and a paper was circulated with the agenda for consideration. After some discussion, it was resolved that the Council:

- 1. Is prepared to work with/take the lead on the development of the Station Square/mobility hub working with Somerset Council Planning Officers and West of England Developments to develop a specification for the design and to use the budget set aside for the station to support the delivery of the specification.
- 2. Is prepared to have ownership of the Station Square/mobility hub transferred to them and take responsibility for the future management, maintenance and development of the Square.
- 3. Is prepared to take on the ownership, management and maintenance of green spaces on the development with costs of doing so either to be covered by Precept income or a management fee charged to residents/business on the development.
- 4. Is prepared to enter into discussions with the landowner to explore the possibility of the ownership of the remainder of the ecological field being transferred to them.
- 5. That a Working Group of four Councillors be formed to take this work forward and develop proposals for the Town Council to consider. Membership will comprise of Councillors Henley, Lithgow, McGuffie and Thorne.

571 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

The Mayor advised that he had circulated a report the previous week to all Councillors by email. He reported that he particularly enjoyed attending the Legal Service at Wells Cathedral.

583 SOMERSET COUNCIL/LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK (LCN) UPDATE

Councillor C Govier did not have anything to report as the next LCN meeting was scheduled for 18th April.

Councillor Lloyd reported that the Highways working group had been well attended, especially by Somerset Council Officers from the department. An update on the steward scheme was given and it was explained that it will be amended slightly with a 'Parish Pricelist' being published for services for Councils to purchase in their area. A schedule of works will be published in June.

Councillor Barr reported that he had attended a tenants association meeting and was pleased to hear that some roofing works had been completed as well as funding being secured to update kitchens and windows.

Councillor Henley reported that he was pleased with the set up of the Highways Working Group from the LCN. He had also chaired a working group meeting to discuss the process of planning and licensing to align the work of the four former District Councils with changes being proposed the Annual Meeting in May.

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584 TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS ON EXTERNAL BODIES

a. The Metro Board - Councillor M Barr

The Mayor reported that a meeting had been held at the end of March, but most updates had been covered in previous items on this and the Planning agenda.

Councillor Lithgow asked for an update on funding from HS2 and questioned if it would be jeopardised should there be a change in Government. It was **RESOLVED** to write to Rebecca Pow, MP for clarification.

585 TO RECEIVE THE CLERK'S REPORT ON RECENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

The Clerk's report had been circulated with the agenda and was noted.

586 FINANCE COMMITTEE

The draft minutes of the meeting on 12 March had been circulated with the agenda and were noted.

572 TOWN CENTRE COMMITTEE

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 12 March were circulated with the agenda and noted.

a. TONEDALE BRIDGE

Having reviewed the quotations to clean the bridge and remove the mural, it was **RESOLVED** to not go ahead with this work but to review the situation again after six months.

573 ENVIRONMENT & HERITAGE COMMITTEE

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 13 March were circulated with the agenda and noted. Councillor McGuffie gave further details of The Big Green Week with various events taking place with Transition Town Wellington and the Community Farm.

Councillor Thorne queried the location of Toneworks in relation the Council's boundary (minute number 564). The Deputy Clerk will provide information from the Parish Online System.

574 CCTV SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

A paper was circulated with the agenda for consideration, including details of a three year Service Level Agreement with Somerset Council for the provision of a monitored CCTV service. Some Councillors who had attended a specific meeting previously, were not clear on the total costs, it was therefore **RESOLVED** to give delegated authority to the Policy and Resources Committee to approve the agreement subject the costs being confirmed as no more than £16,800 in year one.

It was further **RESOLVED** the fund the upgrade of the four remaining cameras from the CIL reserve, with Somerset Council providing the funding for two.

At this juncture, Councillor Henley left the meeting.

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575 DEVOLUTION WORKING GROUP

RESOLVED to create a Devolution Working Group to work with the Town Clerk and Council staff to prepare for the devolution of assets and services from Somerset Council in 2024/5 and 2025/6. Draft terms of reference will be considered by the group at it's first meeting. Membership will be Councillors J Cole, C Govier and J Lloyd.

576 LONGFORTH ROAD TOILETS - SECURITY FENCING

RESOLVED to approve expenditure of up to £750 from the Capital Projects reserve for Heras/security fencing for the Longforth Road toilet site.

587 MONUMENT PLANTER

A paper was circulated with information and details of works required. It was <u>RESOLVED</u> to approve expenditure of £575 for the modifications required but the detail of the location and further costings for planting and maintenance etc would be referred back to the Town Centre Committee. Councillors were asked to e-mail the officers if they had any ideas for a proposed location.

588 CITIZENS ADVICE SOMERSET (CAS) ACCOMMODATION

A paper with a draft Tenancy at Will agreement was circulated with the agenda. It was **RESOLVED** to accept and adopt the agreement as presented but it was confirmed that the rental amount will not be demanded thus enabling CAS to use the space free of charge. Also, that the rooms should be redecorated by the Community Warden.

589 EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED that under section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admissions to Meetings) Act 1960 that the public and press be excluded from the meeting. The reason for this is that the following item refers to matters which relate to an individual.

590 COUNCIL EQUIPMENT UPDATE

The contents of this minute are confidential.

STANDING DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members of Somerset Council: Councillor Andrew Govier Councillor Marcus Barr

Councillor Ross Henley

Director of the Somerset Association of Local Councils

Councillor Janet Lloyd

Mayor Councillor Marcus Barr	

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MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT UNTIED REFORMED CHURCH HALL ON WEDNESDAY 17 APRIL 2024 AT 3.00PM

PRESENT: Councillor M Lithgow (Chair),

Councillors M Barr, J Cole, A Govier (from 604 b iii), C Govier, J Lloyd, M

McGuffie and J Thorne

IN ATTENDANCE: Alice Kendall – Deputy Clerk/Deputy RFO

David Farrow – Town Clerk One member of the press Seven members of the public

597 APOLOGIES

It was reported that Councill A Govier would be arriving late to the meeting.

598 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillors Lloyd has a standing personal interest declaration relating to MTMIT, the Council's IT consultant, being a former customer of the company. Also, a personal interest as a director of SALC.

Councillor A Govier has a standing personal interest declaration relating to MTMIT, the Council's IT consultant, being a former customer of the company.

Councillor Thorne has a standing personal interest declaration relating to MTMIT, the Council's IT consultant, being a personal friend of the company owner.

Councillor M Lithgow declared a personal interest in agenda item 10 as a governor of Beech Grove Primary School.

599 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The members of the public present were representatives of grant applicants, the Chair will suspend standing orders at the appropriate times.

600 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 12 March 2024 after adding Councillor J Lloyd to the list of those present.

601 ASSET REGISTER

Following the purchase of 28-30 Fore Street, the Asset Register has been updated and was circulated for approval. **RESOLVED** to approve the updated asset register.

602 YEAR END ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2023-24

The following were presented in draft form and duly noted. It was further noted that figures may be subject to change and that the Internal Auditor's visit is scheduled for 22nd April.

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- (a) Bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2024
- (b) Draft income and expenditure account
- (c) Year end reserves report
- (d) Draft agar accounting statements
- (e) Draft reconciliation of box 7 & 8 including adjustment details

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(f) Draft final position of income and expenditure against the budget 2023-24

603 ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS

- (a) TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE BANK RECONCILIATION AS AT 10 APRIL 2024

 RESOLVED to approve the bank reconciliation.
- (b) TO NOTE AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR 6 31 MARCH 2024

 RESOLVED to note an approve the expenditure.
- (c) TO NOTE AND APPROVE EXPENDITURE FOR 1 10 APRIL 2024

 RESOLVED to note an approve the expenditure.
- (d) TO NOTE AND APPROVE INCOME RECEIVED FOR 6 31 MARCH 2024

 RESOLVED to note an approve the income.
- (e) TO NOTE AND APPROVE INCOME RECEIVED FOR 1 10 APRIL 2024

 RESOLVED to note an approve the income.
- (f) TO NOTE AND APPROVE THE INCOME AND EXPENDITURE AGAINST THE BUDGET FOR THE 2024-25 YEAR AS AT 10 APRIL 2024 (attached)

RESOLVED to note an approve the budget report.

604 GRANTS

(a) Annual Review of Policy, Application Form and Guidance Notes
As per the previous meeting, an updated draft of the policy had been circulated with the agenda. A further copy was provided by e-mail by the Deputy Clerk following comments from Councillors.

RESOLVED to recommend to Full Council that the second updated version of the policy be adopted with grant applications being reviewed in April, July, October & January. All annual information will be provided on the Website or ease of updating.

(b) Applications

i. Best Before Food Store – the organisation had applied for a grant of £2,000 for ongoing costs. The application form and supporting documents were circulated by email.

RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to allow the applicant to answer questions.

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Standing Orders were re-instated.

It was proposed that £2,000 be awarded, the majority voted against, the motion was not carried.

It was **RESOLVED** to award a grant of £1,500.

ii. Wellington Bus User Group (Somerset Bus Partnership) - the organisation had applied for a grant of £420 for printing and event costs. The application form and supporting documents were circulated by e-mail.

RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to allow the applicant to answer questions.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

RESOLVED to award a grant of £420.

iii. Wellington Carnival Committee - the organisation had applied for a grant of £2,300 for various items. The application form and supporting documents had been circulated by e-mail.

RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to allow the applicant to answer questions.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

It was proposed and seconded that £2,300 be awarded. The majority voted against, and the motion was not carried.

It was **RESOLVED** that £1,000 of funding be provided as per the budget line. With the Council paying agreed invoices directly in line with previous agreements.

During this item, Councillor A Govier arrived at the meeting.

iv. Wellington Majorettes - the organisation has applied for a grant of £1,500 for uniform costs. The application form and supporting documents have been circulated by e-mail.

RESOLVED to award a grant of £1,500.

605 SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENTS (SLA)

(a) To Note the Summary of SLA payments for 2024-25

The Summary of payments was noted.

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After some discussion, it was <u>RESOLVED</u> that a full review should be carried out. It was noted that a committee review was being considered at the Policy and Resources meeting directly following this meeting and that an SLA working group was proposed. It was agreed that, if agreed, the required set up should be done at the Annual Meeting on 1st May to allow the group to meet quickly with Reminiscence Learning.

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606 REQUEST FOR FUNDING

Correspondence from Beech Grove Primary School was circulated for consideration. They were seeking funding to provide morning food to all pupils for the remainder of the academic year and all of the following year..

RESOLVED to suspend standing orders to allow the applicant to answer questions.

Standing Orders were re-instated.

It was proposed that the full request be awarded. There was no seconder.

RESOLVED to award funding for to the end of July 2024 (£2,842.50), with a review in late June to assess and provide clarification on funding for the following academic year. Councillors Cole and Govier will form a group with the Deputy Clerk and the One Team Coordinator to carry out the review and look at a possible town wide initiative.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 4.25 pm						
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WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL



1. Introduction

- 1.1 Wellington Town Council is committed to supporting a vibrant and thriving local community, with the wellbeing of residents at the heart of services and activities on offer.
- 1.2 As a Town Council, Wellington has statutory powers to make grants to local charities and groups¹. The purpose of such grants is to provide financial support to the wide range of organisations providing or developing services or activities around the Town.
- 1.3 Over the years many groups have benefited from the Council's grant scheme. This has enabled social, educational and leisure opportunities for the community that might not otherwise have been available to local people.
- 1.4 Wellington Town council will set a yearly budget for grants during its annual budget-setting activities, prior to the commencement of each financial year.
- 1.5 The Council understands that it is responsible for public funds and the distribution of these funds needs to be properly managed. The awarding of grants is taken very seriously by the Council, and each application will be carefully reviewed before a decision is made.
- 1.6 This policy relates to the giving of awards under the Council's Grant Scheme and is not applicable to other forms of financial support which may be given.

2. Our Grants

2.1 Grants awarded will be in line with the Council's policy of supporting the local community and making a contribution to the life and well-being of the town. Particular priorities for the Council are to support services or activities for children and youth,

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¹ Local Government Act 1972 S137; Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1976

those which seek to reduce social isolation, those which encourage a safe and harmonious environment, and those who seek to reduce carbon emissions. All applications should clearly define the benefits of their project to local people.

- 2.2 Grants applications will be considered four times a year at the Finance meeting in April, July, October & January (see also Section 6). Application deadlines and meeting dates can be found on the Council's website.
- 2.3 Application forms are available on request from the Council Offices and must be requested by the particular group intending to apply for a grant. Forms will not normally be made available through a third party.

3. Eligibility

- 3.1 Applications are welcomed from local groups, organisations or partnerships seeking a financial contribution towards the costs of providing specific activities or services wholly or principally for the benefit of parish residents. General funding for day-to-day management of a particular group will not qualify.
- 3.2 Organisations applying for a grant must be operating on a voluntary, charitable or 'not for profit' basis
- 3.3 Grants can only be applied for where the project or activity has yet to take place. Retrospective funding will not be considered for costs incurred prior to the grant application.
- 3.4 Generally the organisation applying for funding will be expected to contribute to the service or activity for which the grant is being requested. There will be occasions however, based on the individual merit of an application, where the full costs will be met by a grant.
- 3.5 Awards will not normally be made to:-
 - Projects whose primary objectives is to campaign or lobby;
 - Individual rather than group applicants;
 - Local branches that could be funded by their national or umbrella body or
 - Send funds raised to their umbrella body for general purposes;
 - Organisations who have already received a grant in the current financial year;
 - Groups which already receive council funding through a Service Level Agreement;
 - Groups with considerable financial reserves of their own.

Any exceptions to these guidelines will be based on the individual merits of the application.

- 3.6 Awards will not be made to:-
 - Commercial enterprises set up to generate profit;

- Those supporting party political issues or opposing a political party;
- Groups or activities which appear discriminatory in nature;
- Activities that are not lawful or risk disrepute to the Council;
- Groups which are not considered financially viable;
- Groups which previously benefitted from a grant where monies given were not spent for the purpose provided;
- Health, education or welfare organisations whose services should be provided by statutory funding.
- 3.7 Applications from religious groups will be considered where a clear benefit to the wider community can be demonstrated, irrespective of religious belief. However, activities that promote particular religious beliefs will not be considered. Compliance with this requirement will need to be demonstrated throughout the project.
- 3.8 Applications from education, health or social services establishments may be considered where the organisation can demonstrate that it is working in partnership with other groups and where there are benefits to the wider community.

4. Submitting Applications

- 4.1 Applications must be made to the Council Office using the Council's Grant Application Form. Both paper and electronic applications are acceptable.
- 4.2 The applicant must state clearly their organisation's aims and objectives.
- 4.3 All requested supporting documentation must be included before any application can be considered, including relevant accounting statements.
- 4.4 The applying organisation is required to submit audited accounts, or accounts that have been independently examined by a suitably qualified person, for the previous two financial years **or**, in the case of a newly formed organisation or less formal group, a comprehensive budget and business plan.
- 4.5 The group must also submit a copy of its written Constitution (if not previously submitted), as formally adopted by the members of the organisation. Where the association is less formal a similar document of agreement between individuals will be acceptable.
- 4.6 The applicant must state if the organisation has applied for funds elsewhere, and if known, the outcome of this application. The Council must also informed of any fund raising activities being carried by the applicant.
- 4.7 Council staff will not fill out application forms for the applicant. Staff will however give appropriate advice and support to enable the applicant to complete the form.

5. Assessment Criteria

- 5.1 Grant applications will be assessed with reference to the following criteria, which are in no priority order:-
 - The application is submitted in line with the Council's policy;
 - Funding will fill gaps in provision of services or facilities;
 - The project to be funded has to be viable;
 - The need for the service or activity being funded is clearly demonstrated;
 - The grant should benefit residents of the parish.
 - Project does not increase carbon emissions

6. The Council's decision

- 6.1 Wellington Town Council will ensure openness and transparency when awarding its grants.
- 6.2 Grant applications will be reviewed four times per year by the Council's Finance Committee as set out in the timetable detailed in section 4.
- 6.3 Grant applications will be circulated in advance of meetings but no decision will be made prior to the meeting.
- 6.4 Councillors must clearly declare any interest associated with a grant application prior to the decision being discussed.
- 6.5 Grant applicants, or an alternative representative of their organisation will be invited to attend the council meeting where their application will be considered.
- 6.6 The applicant or representative will be offered the opportunity to speak in support of the application, under the Public Speaking agenda item, prior to the grant being decided.
- 6.7 Approval of the grant will require a proposal which must be seconded. A vote by show of hands will then be taken. Applications require a simple majority vote to be approved. Where the vote is tied the Chairman will have the deciding vote.
- 6.8 Recommendations for grants will be recorded in the minutes of the finance committee, and formal resolutions recorded at the subsequent council meeting.
- 6.9 A letter confirming the grant, stating the amount awarded will be sent to applicants within 5 working days of the council meeting.
- 6.10 Where a grant has been declined, a letter will be sent to the applicants within 5 working days of the council meeting. Reasons why the grant has not been approved will be given so that organisations understand why they have not been successful.
- 6.11 Where further information is required, or a grant has been declined for reasons relating to the actual application, the grant may be re-submitted once the shortcoming has been addressed.

6.12 The decision of the Council is final. There is no right of appeal for a grant which has been declined based on its merits.

7. Payments

7.1 Payments will be made by BACS within 5 working days of the Council meeting unless alternative arrangements are agreed.

8. Grant Conditions

- 8.1 Wellington Town Council expects organisations which benefit from a grant to:-
 - Identify any assets/services purchased through the grant as being acquired/provided with the assistance of a grant from the Town Council;
 - Have a group bank account, with at least two authorised signatories as cheques cannot be made out to any individual;
 - Allow appropriate site or project visits by representatives of the Council, subject to reasonable notice being given;
 - Provide receipts or proof of expenditure subject to reasonable notice being given;
 - Notify the Council immediately if the intended project is amended in any way;
 - Have a full set or risk assessments for the activities to be carried out;
 - Have Public Liability Insurance to cover services and activities to be provided;
 - Agree to abide by the Council's Carbon Neutrality policy
- 8.2 Wellington Town Council reserves the right to reclaim the grant in the event of it not being used for the purpose specified on the application form, or within a reasonable timeframe.
- 8.3 Wellington Town Council reserve the right to recoup any equipment provided by the grant should the organisation cease to exist within three years of the grant being paid.
- 8.4 Organisations that receive a grant will be required to agree an appropriate public acknowledgement of the Town Council's contribution.

9. Large & Capital Grants – Additional Conditions of Funding

- 9.1 Wellington Town Council defines a large grant as any sum in excess of £3,000. The Finance Committee have delegated authority to award grants up to £3,000. Awards over this amount will be in the form of a recommendation to Full Council where the request must receive final approval.
- 9.2. The Council will only award a large grant in exceptional circumstances.
- 9.3 Capital grants are those towards buildings and/or facilities as opposed to services or activities.

- 9.4 Organisations requesting funds for buildings must provide evidence of security of tenure in the relevant property for a minimum of 7 years from the date that the grant is considered.
- 9.5 Organisations requesting funds for buildings must provide proof that the property is adequately insured.
- 9.6 Where appropriate any request for grant funding for buildings must be accompanied by the relevant permission to carry out such work.
- 9.7 As much notice as possible is required for any large grant application, this will ensure that if the grant is to be awarded the Town Council can make appropriate budgetary provision.
- 9.8 In the case of a large grant the award may be phased, by mutual agreement, over a number of years.

10. Promoting the Grant Fund

- 10.1 The council will publish reports and information on its website and social media pages stating which groups have received a grant, for what purpose, and the monetary value of the award.
- 10.2 Successful applicants will be invited to return to council meetings, or to provide a written statement setting out what was achieved by the service or activity which received council funding.
- 10.3 Successes will be promoted by either party via appropriate web-sites, the press and social media.

11. Policy Review

11.1 The Grants Policy will be reviewed annually, including the amount of the grant fund.

Wellington Town Council 28 Fore Street Wellington Somerset TA21 8AQ

Tel: 01823 662855 Email: info@wellingtontowncouncil.co.uk

Clerk: David Farrow



WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL FINANCIAL GRANT APPLICATION GUIDANCE NOTES

Introduction

Like many other Town and Parish Councils, Wellington has powers to award grants to local organisations, to support their activities in the Town.

Over the years many varied groups have benefited from grant funding, allowing them to provide services and activities that otherwise may not have been available to the residents.

The awarding of grants is taken very seriously by the Council, it understands that it is responsible for public funds and the distribution of these funds needs to be properly managed.

This is an outline to the grants scheme. Please take the time to read these pages carefully. A well presented and clear grant application, providing all the required information, will help the Council when considering grant applications – and will also, help applicants.

We hope that organisations that apply for grants understand that we require detailed information to enable the Council to assess applications. The Council undergoes rigorous internal and external audits that scrutinise the grant process carefully and it has to demonstrate that it has taken great care in the awarding of public funds.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you require any help.

Good luck with your application.

Dave Farrow Town Clerk

Wellington Town Council 28 Fore Street Wellington Somerset TA21 8AQ

Phone: 01823 662855

Email: info@wellingtontowncouncil.co.uk

These notes explain the background to the Council's financial grants scheme. Please read them carefully before you complete the Grant Application Form.

Our Policy

Grants awarded should be in line with the Council's policy of supporting the local community and making a contribution to the life and well being of the town.

Grants will be considered on a quarterly basis by the Finance Committee then recommended to the Town Council meeting, if required. The timetable for applications is detailed in the policy.

The application must be on the Grant Application Form with all requested supporting documentation for it to be considered.

Grant applications will be assessed on the following criteria, which are in no priority order.

- In line with the Council's policy
- Filling gaps in provision
- The project has to be viable
- The grant should benefit residents of the Town.
- The Council will want to know if you have applied for funds elsewhere.
- The Council will also want to know if you have done any fund raising yourself.

Awards will not be made to:

- Commercial enterprises set up to generate profit.
- Those supporting party political issues or opposing a political party.
- Projects with campaigning objectives will not normally qualify for any award.
- Individuals will not normally qualify for assistance.
- Health, education or welfare organisations whose services should be provided by statutory funding.

Awards will not normally be made:

- To bodies that could be funded by their national or umbrella body.
- To organisations who have already received a grant within the financial year.

Successful applicants must:

- Identify any assets acquired through the grant as being acquired with the assistance of a grant from the Town Council.
- Have a group bank account as cheques cannot be paid to individuals.
- Agree to site or project visits by representative of the Council.
- Supply independently audited annual accounts in support of their application for the last two years.

Conditions

Applications will not normally be considered from individuals (exceptional circumstances will need to be demonstrated).

Applications will not be considered from organisations intending to support or oppose any particular political party, or to discriminate on the grounds or race or religion.

Applications will not be considered from private organisations operated as a business to make a profit or surplus.

Applications will not be considered from "upwards funders", i.e. local groups whose fund-raising is sent to their headquarters for redistribution.

Applications will not normally be considered from national organisations or local groups with access to funds from national "umbrella" or "parent" organisations; unless funds are not available from their national bodies or the funds available are inadequate for a specified project.

Applications from religious groups will be considered where a clear benefit to the wider community can be demonstrated, irrespective of their religious beliefs. Compliance with this requirement will need to be demonstrated throughout the project.

Applications from education, health or social services establishments may be considered where the organisation can demonstrate that it is working in partnership with other groups and where there are benefits to the wider community.

The organisation must have clearly stated aims and objectives.

The organisation must provide a written Constitution that has been formally adopted by the members of that organisation, or a similar document of agreement between individuals where their association is less formal.

The organisation must provide, or propose to provide, an activity or service that is believed to be clearly needed by the local community or by a particular group of residents.

The organisation is required to submit audited accounts or accounts that have been independently examined by a suitably qualified person, for the previous two financial years or, in the case of a newly formed organisation or less formal group, a comprehensive budget and business plan.

The organisation is required to have a bank account in its own name with at least two authorised representatives required to sign each cheque, or similar robust financial control system.

Wellington Town Council reserves the right to reclaim the grant in the event of it not being used for the purpose specified on the application form.

Grants will not be awarded retrospectively, for costs incurred in the past. Grants can only be applied to future funding requirements.

Wellington Town Council reserve the right to recoup any equipment provided by the grant should the organisation cease to exist within three years of the grant being paid.

Organisations that receive a grant will be required to agree an appropriate public acknowledgement of the Town Council's contribution.

Large & Capital Grants - Additional Conditions of Funding

The Town Council defines a large grant as one in excess of £3000.

The Finance Committee have delegated authority to award grants upto £3,000. Awards over this amount will be in the form of a recommendation to Full Council when final approval must be given.

Organisations requesting funds for buildings must provide evidence of security tenure in the relevant property for a minimum of 7 years from the date that the grant is considered.

Organisations requesting funds for buildings must provide proof that the property is adequately insured.

As much notice as possible is required for any large grant application, this will ensure that if the grant is to be awarded the Town Council can make appropriate budgetary provision. The grant award maybe phased over a number of years.

Completing Your Application Form

Do not worry if you cannot complete all sections of the form

The form has been designed to cover a wide range of applicants, and recognises that many of these will not be able to provide some of the information requested on the form.

If you need to use additional sheets to complete any section, please use white paper, size A4, to help with copying.

If you are a formally constituted organisation, remember to enclose a copy of your governing documents and accounts. If not, ensure that you have presented your idea clearly and given enough detail for us to thoroughly understand what you are trying to do.

The form is designed with the following in mind:

Section A

It is sometimes the case that an application is from a widely dispersed group or organisation, where a local representative is leading the project. We simply need to know who you are, and how we should contact you if we need to discuss your application in more detail.

Section B

We are seeking enough information to allow us some insight into the workings of your group. Do not worry about fine points of distinction between categories of member, if you have them, we simply need to form an idea of your group and how it goes about its work.

Section C

We need to form a clear picture of the organisation, project, or service that you are planning. We will look for a close relationship with our own policy wherever possible, and evidence of sensible planning and research.

Always remember that the money we award is public money and we must ensure that it will be spent wisely, and for the benefit of local residents.

We must also ensure that in giving a grant we are not acting outside our statutory powers.

We may decide that your application deserves an award, but be unable to give any money immediately, in which case we need to understand clearly how the project will run and may suggest that you re-submit your application at a later date.

We will use the information you provide in this section to gain assurance that the project is viable, will be adequately managed and that you have planned sensibly to achieve your aims. Do not worry about precise details (unless the plan is very simple), we are looking for an overall impression of the elements of your scheme and how you have approached the issue of funding.

Section D

If you are able to provide formal documents and details then you must do so. If you are a small or informal group, then you should attempt to show clearly how you ensure proper control of your financial affairs.

Section E

We must be assured that the application is made with the approval of your organisation, if you are formally structured. If you are a small, informal group this can be addressed with a simple written statement from the parties involved.

Section F

We hope that completing the form will not be too difficult, but do expect some effort to provide the information we require.

Section G

This is a binding agreement, which will apply in the event that your application is successful. Please read it carefully, and do not sign section E unless you understand the terms and are prepared to accept them fully.

Section H

Please take a moment to go through this checklist and tick to confirm that the required information and supporting documentation has been provided.



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J	FF	ICE	USE	UN	ILY

Date received:

Finance Meeting Date:

	SECTION A: CONTACT DETAILS					
Name o	of Organ	isation				
Organi	sation A	ddress				
_	e of you	e you use r project				
			Main contact fo	r this applic	ation	
Title		First Name		Last Name		
	ition hel Organisa					
Contact Address (inc. full postcode)						
E-mail	address					
	one e include e g number					
		SECT	ION B: ABOUT	YOUR ORG	GANISATION	
	/pe of sation ar that appl		☐ Community☐ Company li☐ RegisteredRegistration☐ Other (please	mited by guar Charity		

When was or organisation established? OR	
When did it start meeting or running activities or projects?	
Describe the purpose of your Organisation	
•	ovide. If you are a new group, describe what you
plan to provide. If you have a written constitut	ion, you must enclose a copy with this application.
If you are a branch of, or related to, a	
larger organisation, please give details.	
,,,	
SECTION C: ABOUT Y	OUD DOO IECT OD SEDVICE
	OUR PROJECT ON SERVICE
	OUR PROJECT OR SERVICE
Describe the project or service.	
Describe the project or service. Does it have a working title? What does it ain	to achieve? How will it work? Please enclose any
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How have you identified th	e need for th	is project?				
What steps is your organis not adding to carbon emiss		either to reduce car	bon emissions or to ensure it is			
When do you intend your p (Month/Year)	project or ser	vice to start?				
Do your services benefit or benefit only people in Well		Wellington? If not v	vhat proportion of your services			
Tell us the cost for your pro	oioct and giv	o a broakdown of w	hat the money is for			
•	assess your a	pplication thoroughly	If you have a project budget, or			
Item or Activity	•	Estimated Cost				
	Total Cost:					
Have you sought funding for other source?	rom any	□ Yes □ No				
If Yes, please provide detail	ils below;					
Organisation	Amount Requested	Successful? Yes/No (or, waiting decision)	Conditions Attached?			

Total;							
How much of your organisa money will be used for this							
How much money are you a Town Council to grant?	sking the						
If your project will involve local organisations such as schools or other groups, please provide confirmation that they are aware you are applying to Wellington Town Council for a grant.							
	w g.w						
Please use this space to give	ve any addit	ional information th	at you think may be helpful;				
SEC	TION D: Y	OUR FINANCIAL	DETAILS				
Your bank or Building Socie	ety Details						
Bank/Building Society Nam	е						
Bank/Building Society Add	ress						
Branch Sort Code							
Account Number							
Name as on the Account							
Please provide the following accounts.	g summary	details from your <u>m</u>	ost recent annual audited				
Accounts for the Year Ending (Month/Year)	ng						

(minus) Total Expendit						
(equals) Profit/Loss for	the Year					
Savings (reserves, cash, investm	ents)					
				ACCOUNTS FOR THE PAST TWO NISATION'S ACTIVITIES.		
SEC	SECTION E: AUTHORITY AND APPLICATION					
Declaration and Signature of Applicant						
 (a) I confirm that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, all the information in application form is true and correct. (b) I understand that you may ask for additional information at any stage of the process. (c) I am authorised to act for the organisation in making this application for fina assistance. (d) I enclose a copy of the resolution or other form of authorisation for this application in the process. (e) I have read the Agreement detailed in section F and agree to the terms. 			tion at any stage of the application this application for financial thorisation for this application.			
Signature						
Name (Print)			Date			

SECTION F: AGREEMENT

I confirm that the organisation named on the front of the application form has authorised me to sign this agreement on their behalf.

I certify that the information given in this application is true to the best of my knowledge, and confirm that all enclosures are current, accurate and adopted or approved by the organisation.

If this application is successful, in full or in part, the organisation will keep the following terms and conditions.

I understand that this is an agreement between the organisation and Wellington Town Council, which I legally binding.

We understand and agree to the following:

We will deliver the commissioned project or service as set out in this application.

We will not make any major change to the commissioned project or service without first receiving Wellington Town Council's written agreement.

We will not sell or dispose of any equipment or other assets which we have purchased in connection with this project or service without Wellington Town Council's written agreement. If we sell any equipment or assets, we may have to pay Wellington Town Council all or part of the money we received from them. The amount we repay will be in direct proportion to the share of the project or service cost represented by Wellington Town Council's grant.

We will comply with all relevant legislation applicable to the way we carry out our project or service.

We will acknowledge Wellington Town Council's grant in our Annual Report, our Chairman's or Secretary's report at our AGM, our accounts which cover the period of the grant and in any publicity materials we produce about the project or service.

We understand that Wellington Town Council will not normally increase the grant, and that monitoring and control of the project or service expenditure is our responsibility.

We will keep all financial records and accounts, including receipts for items bought. We will make these available to Wellington Town Council on request.

Wellington Town Council may hold back payment or ask us to repay, in whole or in part, in the following circumstances:

If we fail to keep to this agreement in any way:

- If the application form was completed dishonestly or the supporting documents gave false or misleading information;
- If we close down, become insolvent, go into administration, receivership or liquidation, or make an arrangement with our creditors;
- If our organisation closes down we will not sell or dispose of any equipment or assets without first receiving Wellington Town Council's written agreement.
- If we have bought any equipment or assets with the grant, these terms and conditions will apply until the end of the normal expected working life of the assets.
- Any payment made prior to the completion of a project will be recovered if the project does not reach completion.

SECTION G: CHECKLIST					
☐ We have read and understood all the guidance notes.					
\square We have fully completed all the sections of the application unless otherwise directed.					
☐ We have enclosed all the relevant documents / information we need to send:					
(As applicable): ☐ Constitution / Governing documents					
☐ Accounts for the past two years					
☐ Project profile					
☐ Copy of Resolution or authority to make application					
☐ Other relevant material					
☐ The main contact named has signed the declaration					
☐ A senior person, with the authority to do so, has signed the agreement					
☐ We have made a copy of this application to keep our reference.					

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE POLICY AND RESOURCES COMMITTEE HELD AT THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL, WELLINGTON 17 APRIL 2024 AT 4.30PM

Present: Councillors C Govier (Chair),

M Barr, A Govier, M Lithgow, J Lloyd, M McGuffie, J Thorne and K

Wheatley.

In Attendance: Councillor J Cole

David Farrow – Town Clerk Alice Kendall – Deputy Clerk

One member of the press.

The meeting commenced later than publicised due to the Finance Committee running over time.

607 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES AND APPROVE THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies for Councillor K Canham were presented by Councillor A Govier.

608 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the Policy and Resources Committee Meeting held on 21 February 2024.

609 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

610 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public present.

611 SOMERSET COUNCIL ASSETS AND SERVICES

The Town Clerk updated the committee on discussions that were taking place in relation to the transfer of assets and services from Somerset Council. A Devolution Working Group was formed at the last Full Council meeting who will report back regularly.

612 CCTV

As requested by Full Council, the Town Clerk confirmed that the annual cost for the first year of the Service Level Agreement is £16,789.70. It was reported that the amount to be charged for the agreed upgrades for four cameras had increased on the latest draft copy of the agreement. The Town Clerk reported that he had challenged this.

RESOLVED to approve the agreement with delegation given to the Town Clerk to seek the best cost for the replacement cameras and agree a price up to a maximum of £4,300 per camera.

613 FUTURE COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

RESOLVED to recommend to the Annual Council Meeting that the updated Committee structure be accepted.

614 LONGFORTH ROAD TOILET BLOCK

The Town Clerk reported that the demolition of the block had been completed ahead of schedule and with minimum disruption. There was some making good to be completed but this too was minimal. Further to this, the next steps will be to call a specific meeting to review options for modular or traditional builds so that the final tender documents can be prepared for publication.

615 PURCHASE OF CROWN ESTATE LAND

- (i) Land Around the Basins The Clerk gave an update; he reported that a price for a survey of the Linden Drive Bridge had been received. It was <u>RESOLVED</u> to accept the quotation of £2,450.
- (ii) Bridge at Weavers Reach
 The survey report had been circulated with the agenda. It was **RESOLVED**that officers should approach the Crown Estate in relation to purchasing the bridge and any associated land and arrange for any urgent repairs to be carried

bridge and any associated land and arrange for any urgent repairs to be carried out.
There being no further business the meeting closed at 5.40nm

There being no full	ing closed at 3.40pm.

Possible Committee Structure

Committee	Areas of Responsibility	Sub Committee/Working Groups	
Policy and	Corporate governance	HR Sub Committee to cover	
Finance	Policies and procedures	interviews/pay/HR procedures – meets as	
	Financial regulation requirements	required.	
	Council Strategic Plan – development and monitoring		
	Strategy and policy development (implementation	SLA review board/panel – meet as required	
	overseen by committee)	once yearly most likely.	
	Staffing - HR Policy management/development, structure,		
	Risk management	Audit – as and when??	
	Emergency Planning		
	Development of traded services approach	Devolution Working Group (24/5) – under P	
	Health and Safety Policy/Monitoring	and R as relates to developing a strategy	
	Grants Policy		
	SLA Policy		
Environment	Oversight of all green spaces – Green Corridor/Wellington	Green Corridor Advisory Board – ongoing	
	Park play areas etc etc		
	Development/monitoring of proactive maintenance plans	Allotments Advisory Board – ongoing	
	Delivery of Climate Change/Tree Strategy		
	Allotment management	Station Development Working Group (task	
	Town Centre planting	and finish)	
	Footpaths		
	Cemetery?		
	Minor highways works activities – monitoring planned and		
	reactive maintenance plans.		
	Street Cleaning/bins		
Community	Community Plan development and oversight of delivery	One Team	
	Community engagement	Kings Arms Working Group	

	Kings Arms Community Hub Twinning Day to day asset management – planned maintenance and development	
Economic Development	Town events Promotion of Wellington Economic Development activities Tourism Heritage Emergency Planning implementation	Event working groups as required
Planning	Recommendations on planning proposals Meeting with developers re planned developments	



WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Committee Name	Policy & Finance		
Lead Officer(s)	Town Clerk Finance Manager (RFO)		
Membership	9 Councillors		
Reports To	Full Council		
Date of Adoption	01 May 2024	Review Due	ATC Mtg 2025

1. Purpose

1.1. To review, report on, make decisions, and recommendations to the Council on all matters relating to corporate governance, polices, procedures, finance, staffing and health and safety.

2. Summary of Responsibilities

- 2.1. The Committee shall have delegated authority to:
 - 2.1.1. Monitor, review, and approve monthly expenditure and accounts for payment.
 - 2.1.2. Monitor, review, and approve monthly bank reconciliations.
 - 2.1.3. Monitor, review, and approve the Council's expenditure against the budget.
 - 2.1.4. Monitor, review, and approve the Council's asset register.
 - 2.1.5. Monitor, review and action matters arising from the Council's Internal Audit.
 - 2.1.6. Receive, assess, and decide Grant applications within the Council's policy.
 - 2.1.7. Review and approve contracts for goods and services.
 - 2.1.8. Review and approve the Council's bank mandate and banking arrangements.
 - 2.1.9. Development, monitoring, and implementation of the Council's Strategic Plan.
 - 2.1.10. Review and approve matters relating to Staffing including HR policy management and staffing structure.
 - 2.1.11. Monitor matters relating to the Council's Health and Safety Policy.
 - 2.1.12. Monitor, review, and approve the Council's Risk Management Scheme.
 - 2.1.13. Monitor, review, and approve the Council's Leases and Licences.

- 2.2. The following are reserved for Full Council, but the Committee may review and make recommendations on:
 - 2.2.1. The Council's reserves.
 - 2.2.2. The Council's annual budget and precept demand.
 - 2.2.3. Approval of the Council's Year End Accounts and Annual Return (AGAR).
 - 2.2.4. Authorisation of terms and purpose for any approval of borrowing.
 - 2.2.5. Approval of the Council's Service Level Agreements.
 - 2.2.6. Any policies and procedures.
 - 2.2.7. The Council's Code of Conduct
 - 2.2.8. The review of the Council's Standing Orders and Financial Regulations.
- 2.3. To assist in its responsibilities, the Committee will appoint the following Sub-Committees or working groups and shall determine their membership and terms of reference. These groups shall make recommendations to the Committee for final resolution (or recommendation to Full Council) in accordance with these Terms of Reference.
 - 2.3.1. HR Sub-Committee
 - 2.3.2. SLA Review Working Group
 - 2.3.3. Audit Working Group
 - 2.3.4. Devolution Working Group
- 2.4. The Committee may appoint further Sub-Committees or Working Groups as required and will set their membership and Terms of Reference.
- 2.5. Sub-Committees or Working Groups shall be reviewed by the Committee each year at its first meeting following the Annual Town Council Meeting.
- 2.6. Where a matter is considered by more that one Committee, this Committee may make recommendations to other Committees where required.

3. Spending Authority

- 3.1. The Committee has delegated authority to incur expenditure where items relate to its core responsibilities as set out 2.1 above.
- 3.2. This Committee may incur expenditure from any part of the Council's agreed budget.
- 3.3. The Committee may not approve expenditure that will cause a budget line to become overspent. It may, however, make such recommendations to Full Council for final approval.
- 3.4. Where appropriate, the Committee may further delegate specific spending authority to Council Officers. Such spending must be in line with the Council's Financial Regulations, Standing Orders and these Terms of Reference.
- 3.5. The Committee may prepare and approve any documents required for obtaining quotations and tenders. Awards of contracts procured through the tender process may be reviewed by the committee but must be recommended to Full Council for approval.

4. Reporting

4.1. The Committee shall, by way of presentation of draft minutes, report to the next Full Council meeting after each meeting. If appropriate, the Committee Chairman may give a verbal update.

5. Membership

- 5.1. The Committee shall comprise of nine Councillors, elected annually at the Annual Council meeting, or at any other Council meeting should an interim need arise.
- 5.2. At it's first meeting following the Annual Council Meeting, the Committee shall appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the coming Council year.
- 5.3. The Committee may appoint Lead Councillors for projects and other matters for consideration. Where a Councillor is not specifically appointed, the Chairman shall act as Lead Councillor. Lead Councillors will be authorised to work directly with Council Officers as appropriate and report updates to the committee.
- 5.4. All members of the Council are entitled to attend meetings and to speak on items on the agenda.

6. Operation

- 6.1. The Committee has power to operate only as set out in these Terms of Reference and the Council's Standing Orders as applicable.
- 6.2. Meetings shall be held once per month.
- 6.3. The Quorum of the committee is 5 Councillors. No business may be transacted at a meeting unless the set quorum of Councillors is present and eligible to vote.
- 6.4. If both the appointed Chairman and Vice Chairman are not present at the start of a meeting, the Committee will appoint another Councillor to act as Chairman for that meeting.
- 6.5. These Terms of Reference will be reviewed each year at the Annual Meeting of the Council. Changes may also be made by resolution at Full Council. The Committee can instigate any change by way of a recommendation.



WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Committee Name	Environment			
Lead Officer(s)	Town Clerk Open Spaces Manager			
Membership	9 Councillors			
Reports To	Full Council			
Date of Adoption	01 May 2024	Review Due	ATC Mtg 2025	

1. Purpose

1.1. To review, report on, make decisions, and recommendations to the Council on matters relating to green spaces, highways, street cleaning and the Council's climate, tree and planting strategies.

2. Summary of Responsibilities

- 2.1. The Committee shall have delegated authority to:
 - 2.1.1. Have oversight of any parks, play areas and open spaces owned, leased, or otherwise managed by the Council.
 - 2.1.2. To review, develop and implement maintenance plans for the abovementioned property in 2.1.2.
 - 2.1.3. Review and deliver the Council's Climate Change and Tree Planting Strategies.
 - 2.1.4. Have full oversight of the management of the Council's allotments.
 - 2.1.5. Review, develop and implement the Council's Strategy for planting in and around the Town Centre.
 - 2.1.6. Receive reports on and monitor Public Rights of Way.
 - 2.1.7. Receive information on and monitor minor highways works activities.
 - 2.1.8. Review, develop and implement the Council's Strategy for the provision of street cleaning, litter bins and dob bins.
- 2.2. To assist in its responsibilities, the Committee will appoint the following Sub-Committees or working groups and shall determine their membership and terms of reference. These

groups shall make recommendations to the Committee for final resolution (or recommendation to Full Council) in accordance with these Terms of Reference.

- 2.2.1. Green Corridor Advisory Board
- 2.2.2. Basins Allotments Advisory Board
- 2.2.3. Longforth Allotments Advisory Board
- 2.2.4. Station Development Working Group
- 2.3. The Committee may appoint further Sub-Committees or Working Groups as required and will set their membership and Terms of Reference.
- 2.4. Sub-Committees or Working Groups shall be reviewed by the Committee each year at its first meeting following the Annual Town Council Meeting.
- 2.5. Where a matter is considered by more than one Committee, this Committee may make recommendations to other Committees where required.

3. Spending Authority

- 3.1. The Committee has delegated authority to incur expenditure where items relate to its core responsibilities as set out 2.1 above.
- 3.2. This Committee may incur expenditure from the following Cost Centres & Codes within the Council's Budget

Cost Centre	Cost Codes		
Allotments	All codes		
	Railway Station		
Earmarked Reserves	Playing Pitch Strategy		
Eaimarked Reserves	Environmental Improvements		
	Open Spaces Development		
Environment & Planning	All codes		
Play Areas	All codes		
	Play Area		
Unitary Devolution	TC Planting		
	Park Planting & Security		

- 3.3. If the Committee wish to make a spend from a Cost Code or Centre not mentioned above, it should make a recommendation either to another appropriate Committee which does have delegated spending authority or Full Council.
- 3.4. The Committee may not approve expenditure that will cause a budget line to become overspent. It may, however, make such recommendations to Full Council for final approval.
- 3.5. Where appropriate, the Committee may further delegate specific spending authority to Council Officers. Such spending must be in line with the Council's Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, and these Terms of Reference.
- 3.6. The Committee may prepare and approve any documents required for obtaining quotations and tenders. Awards of contracts procured through the tender process may be reviewed by the committee but must be recommended to Full Council for approval.

3.7. At each meeting, the Committee will review spending against the budget codes listed above.

4. Reporting

4.1. The Committee shall, by way of presentation of draft minutes, report to the next Full Council meeting after each meeting. If appropriate, the Committee Chairman may give a verbal update.

5. Membership

- 5.1. The Committee shall comprise of nine Councillors, elected annually at the Annual Council meeting, or at any other Council meeting should an interim need arise.
- 5.2. At its first meeting following the Annual Council Meeting, the Committee shall appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the coming Council year.
- 5.3. The Committee may appoint Lead Councillors for projects and other matters for consideration. Where a Councillor is not specifically appointed, the Chairman shall act as Lead Councillor. Lead Councillors will be authorised to work directly with Council Officers as appropriate and report updates to the committee.
- 5.4. All members of the Council are entitled to attend meetings and to speak on items on the agenda.

6. Operation

- 6.1. The Committee has power to operate only as set out in these Terms of Reference and the Council's Standing Orders as applicable.
- 6.2. Meetings shall be held once per month.
- 6.3. The Quorum of the committee is 5 Councillors. No business may be transacted at a meeting unless the set quorum of Councillors is present and eligible to vote.
- 6.4. If both the appointed Chairman and Vice Chairman are not present at the start of a meeting, the Committee will appoint another Councillor to act as Chairman for that meeting.
- 6.5. These Terms of Reference will be reviewed each year at the Annual Meeting of the Council. Changes may also be made by resolution at Full Council. The Committee can instigate any change by way of a recommendation.



WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Committee Name	Community				
Lead Officer(s)	Town Clerk Assets & Events Officer				
Membership	9 Councillors				
Reports To	Full Council				
Date of Adoption	01 May 2024 Review Due ATC Mtg 2025				

1. Purpose

1.1. To review, report on, make decisions, and recommendations to the Council on matters relating to community plans and engagement, twinning and asset management.

2. Summary of Responsibilities

- 2.1. The Committee shall have delegated authority to:
 - 2.1.1. Review, develop and implement the Council's Community Development Plan.
 - 2.1.2. To oversee engagement with the Community.
 - 2.1.3. Have oversight of the Council's involvement with the Kings Arms Community Hub.
 - 2.1.4. Have oversight of the Council's involvement with the Twinning Association.
 - 2.1.5. Have oversight of the day-to-day management of Council buildings, property and other assets including planned maintenance and development. *
 - 2.1.6. To appoint a Council representative for the Wellington One Team.
 - 2.1.7. To receive and review information from the Wellington One Team.
 - 2.1.8. Have oversight of any emergency planning.
 - * NB where assets or property are specifically mentioned in another Committee's Terms of Reference, they shall remain the responsibility of that committee.
- 2.2. To assist in its responsibilities, the Committee will appoint the following Sub-Committees or working groups and shall determine their membership and terms of reference. These

groups shall make recommendations to the Committee for final resolution (or recommendation to Full Council) in accordance with these Terms of Reference.

- 2.2.1. Kings Arms Working Groups
- 2.3. The Committee may appoint further Sub-Committees or Working Groups as required and will set their membership and Terms of Reference.
- 2.4. Sub-Committees or Working Groups shall be reviewed by the Committee each year at its first meeting following the Annual Town Council Meeting.
- 2.5. Where a matter is considered by more than one Committee, this Committee may make recommendations to other Committees where required.

3. Spending Authority

- 3.1. The Committee has delegated authority to incur expenditure where items relate to its core responsibilities as set out 2.1 above.
- 3.2. This Committee may incur expenditure from the following Cost Centres & Codes within the Council's Budget

Cost Centre	Cost Codes	
28-30 Fore Street	All codes	
Community Services	All codes	
Pop Up Shop	All codes	
	Longforth Road Toilets	
Town Centre	Longforth Road Toilets Refurb	
	Kings Arms	
Unitary Dayalutian	Toilets	
Unitary Devolution	Bus Shelters	

- 3.3. If the Committee wish to make a spend from a Cost Code or Centre not mentioned above, it should make a recommendation either to another appropriate Committee which does have delegated spending authority or to Full Council.
- 3.4. The Committee may not approve expenditure that will cause a budget line to become overspent. It may, however, make such recommendations to Full Council for final approval.
- 3.5. Where appropriate, the Committee may further delegate specific spending authority to Council Officers. Such spending must be in line with the Council's Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, and these Terms of Reference.
- 3.6. The Committee may prepare and approve any documents required for obtaining quotations and tenders. Awards of contracts procured through the tender process may be reviewed by the committee but must be recommended to Full Council for approval.
- 3.7. At each meeting, the Committee will review spending against the budget codes listed above.

4. Reporting

4.1. The Committee shall, by way of presentation of draft minutes, report to the next Full Council meeting after each meeting. If appropriate, the Committee Chairman may give a verbal update.

5. Membership

- 5.1. The Committee shall comprise of nine Councillors, elected annually at the Annual Council meeting, or at any other Council meeting should an interim need arise.
- 5.2. At its first meeting following the Annual Council Meeting, the Committee shall appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the coming Council year.
- 5.3. The Committee may appoint Lead Councillors for projects and other matters for consideration. Where a Councillor is not specifically appointed, the Chairman shall act as Lead Councillor. Lead Councillors will be authorised to work directly with Council Officers as appropriate and report updates to the committee.
- 5.4. All members of the Council are entitled to attend meetings and to speak on items on the agenda.

6. Operation

- 6.1. The Committee has power to operate only as set out in these Terms of Reference and the Council's Standing Orders as applicable.
- 6.2. Meetings shall be held once per month.
- 6.3. The Quorum of the committee is 5 Councillors. No business may be transacted at a meeting unless the set quorum of Councillors is present and eligible to vote.
- 6.4. If both the appointed Chairman and Vice Chairman are not present at the start of a meeting, the Committee will appoint another Councillor to act as Chairman for that meeting.
- 6.5. These Terms of Reference will be reviewed each year at the Annual Meeting of the Council. Changes may also be made by resolution at Full Council. The Committee can instigate any change by way of a recommendation.



WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Committee Name	Economic Development				
Lead Officer(s)	Town Clerk Assets & Events Officer				
Membership	9 Councillors				
Reports To	Full Council				
Date of Adoption	01 May 2024	Review Due	ATC Mtg 2025		

1. Purpose

1.1. To review, report on, make decisions, and recommendations to the Council on matters relating to events, promotion, tourism and heritage.

2. Summary of Responsibilities

- 2.1. The Committee shall have delegated authority to:
 - 2.1.1. Review, develop and implement any event the Council wishes to organise.
 - 2.1.2. Review, develop and implement the Council's festive lighting scheme.
 - 2.1.3. Consider matters relating to the promotion of Wellington.
 - 2.1.4. Consider matters relating to Tourism.
 - 2.1.5. Consider matters relating to Heritage.
 - 2.1.6. Consider all other matters relating to economic development activities.
 - * NB where assets or property are specifically mentioned in another Committee's Terms of Reference, they shall remain the responsibility of that committee.
- 2.2. To assist in its responsibilities, the Committee will appoint the following Sub-Committees or working groups and shall determine their membership and terms of reference. These groups shall make recommendations to the Committee for final resolution (or recommendation to Full Council) in accordance with these Terms of Reference.
 - 2.2.1. Event Working Group

- 2.3. The Committee may appoint further Sub-Committees or Working Groups as required and will set their membership and Terms of Reference.
- 2.4. Sub-Committees or Working Groups shall be reviewed by the Committee each year at its first meeting following the Annual Town Council Meeting.
- 2.5. Where a matter is considered by more than one Committee, this Committee may make recommendations to other Committees where required.

3. Spending Authority

- 3.1. The Committee has delegated authority to incur expenditure where items relate to its core responsibilities as set out 2.1 above.
- 3.2. This Committee may incur expenditure from the following Cost Centres & Codes within the Council's Budget

Cost Centre	Cost Codes	
Christmas	All codes	
Community Services	Promotion of Wellington	
Community Services	Community Services & Priorities	
	Summer Street Fair	
	Town Centre Projects	
Town Centre	Remembrance & AFD	
	Heritage	
	Clocks	

- 3.3. If the Committee wish to make a spend from a Cost Code or Centre not mentioned above, it should make a recommendation either to another appropriate Committee which does have delegated spending authority or to Full Council.
- 3.4. The Committee may not approve expenditure that will cause a budget line to become overspent. It may, however, make such recommendations to Full Council for final approval.
- 3.5. Where appropriate, the Committee may further delegate specific spending authority to Council Officers. Such spending must be in line with the Council's Financial Regulations, Standing Orders, and these Terms of Reference.
- 3.6. The Committee may prepare and approve any documents required for obtaining quotations and tenders. Awards of contracts procured through the tender process may be reviewed by the committee but must be recommended to Full Council for approval.
- 3.7. At each meeting, the Committee will review spending against the budget codes listed above.

4. Reporting

4.1. The Committee shall, by way of presentation of draft minutes, report to the next Full Council meeting after each meeting. If appropriate, the Committee Chairman may give a verbal update.

5. Membership

- 5.1. The Committee shall comprise of nine Councillors, elected annually at the Annual Council meeting, or at any other Council meeting should an interim need arise.
- 5.2. At its first meeting following the Annual Council Meeting, the Committee shall appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the coming Council year.
- 5.3. The Committee may appoint Lead Councillors for projects and other matters for consideration. Where a Councillor is not specifically appointed, the Chairman shall act as Lead Councillor. Lead Councillors will be authorised to work directly with Council Officers as appropriate and report updates to the committee.
- 5.4. All members of the Council are entitled to attend meetings and to speak on items on the agenda.

6. Operation

- 6.1. The Committee has power to operate only as set out in these Terms of Reference and the Council's Standing Orders as applicable.
- 6.2. Meetings shall be held once per month.
- 6.3. The Quorum of the committee is 5 Councillors. No business may be transacted at a meeting unless the set quorum of Councillors is present and eligible to vote.
- 6.4. If both the appointed Chairman and Vice Chairman are not present at the start of a meeting, the Committee will appoint another Councillor to act as Chairman for that meeting.
- 6.5. These Terms of Reference will be reviewed each year at the Annual Meeting of the Council. Changes may also be made by resolution at Full Council. The Committee can instigate any change by way of a recommendation.



WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Committee Name	Planning				
Lead Officer(s)	Town Clerk				
Membership	9 Councillors				
Reports To		Full Council			
Date of Adoption	01 May 2024	Review Due	ATC Mtg 2025		

1. Purpose

1.1. To review, report on, make decisions, and recommendations to the Council on all matters relating to planning.

2. Summary of Responsibilities

- 2.1. The Committee shall have delegated authority to:
 - 2.1.1. Review and make comments on Planning Applications as consultees to Somerset Council.
 - 2.1.2. Receive information of Planning Decisions made by Somerset Council.
 - 2.1.3. Consider correspondence from and to meet with developers in relation to planned developments.
- 2.2. To assist in its responsibilities, the Committee may appoint Sub-Committees or Working Groups as required and will set their membership and Terms of Reference.
- 2.3. Sub-Committees or Working Groups shall be reviewed by the Committee each year at its first meeting following the Annual Town Council Meeting.
- 2.4. Where a matter is considered by more than one Committee, this Committee may make recommendations to other Committees where required.

3. Spending Authority

- 3.1. The Committee has no delegated authority to incur expenditure.
- 3.2. If the Committee wish to make a spend from any Cost Code or Centre, it should make a recommendation either to another appropriate Committee which does have delegated spending authority or to Full Council.

4. Reporting

4.1. The Committee shall, by way of presentation of draft minutes, report to the next Full Council meeting after each meeting. If appropriate, the Committee Chairman may give a verbal update.

5. Membership

- 5.1. The Committee shall comprise of nine Councillors, elected annually at the Annual Council meeting, or at any other Council meeting should an interim need arise.
- 5.2. At its first meeting following the Annual Council Meeting, the Committee shall appoint a Chairman and Vice Chairman for the coming Council year.
- 5.3. The Committee may appoint Lead Councillors for projects and other matters for consideration. Where a Councillor is not specifically appointed, the Chairman shall act as Lead Councillor. Lead Councillors will be authorised to work directly with Council Officers as appropriate and report updates to the committee.
- 5.4. All members of the Council are entitled to attend meetings and to speak on items on the agenda.

6. Operation

- 6.1. The Committee has power to operate only as set out in these Terms of Reference and the Council's Standing Orders as applicable.
- 6.2. Meetings shall be held once per month.
- 6.3. The Quorum of the committee is 5 Councillors. No business may be transacted at a meeting unless the set quorum of Councillors is present and eligible to vote.
- 6.4. If both the appointed Chairman and Vice Chairman are not present at the start of a meeting, the Committee will appoint another Councillor to act as Chairman for that meeting.
- 6.5. These Terms of Reference will be reviewed each year at the Annual Meeting of the Council. Changes may also be made by resolution at Full Council. The Committee can instigate any change by way of a recommendation.

10 TO ELECT REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED that Town Council representation on outside bodies would be as follows

- a. Wellington Twinning Association Councillor J Lloyd
- b. Wellington Community Association Councillors C Govier and M Lithgow
- c. Somerset Association of Local Councils Councillors J Lloyd and M Lithgow
- d. Hospital of Sir John Popham Knight Councillor M Lithgow
- e. Friends of Wellington Park Councillor M Lithgow
- f. Wellington Museum and Local History Committee Councillor K Canham
- **g. Devon and Somerset Metro Group** The Town Clerk to establish if it is possible to change membership.
- h. Representative Governor at Wellington School Councillor K Wheatley
- i. Wellington One Councillor A Govier
- j. Basins Volunteer Group Councillors M Barr and N Powell-Brace
- k. Local Community Network Councillor C Govier

May 2024			Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 20 22 22 23 24 25 26 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 30 18 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 30			
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
29 Apr	30	1 May 18:00 Planning & Annual Meeting (URC Church Hall)	2	3	4	5
6 May Day Bank Holiday (United Kingdom)	7	8	9	10	11	12
13 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	14	15 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	16	17	18	19
20 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	21	22 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	23	24	25	26
27 Spring Bank Holiday (United Kingdom)	28	29 18:00 Annual Parish Meeting (URC Church Hall)	30	31	1 Jun	2

Wellington Town Council Meetings Calendar 24-25

June 2024				Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su Su No Tu We Th Fr Sa Su		
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
27 May	28	29	30	31	1 Jun	2
3 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	4	5	6	7	8	9
16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	11	12 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	13	14	15	16
17 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	18	19 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

July 2024			Meetings Calendar 24-25	Mo Tu We Th Fr 1 2 3 4 5 8 9 10 11 12 15 16 17 18 19 22 23 24 25 26 29 30 31		August 2024 We Th Fr Sa Su 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30 31
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	22 23 24 25 26 29 30 31	27 28 19 20 26 27	21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30 31
1 Jul 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	2	3	4	5	6	7
8 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	9	10 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	11	12	13	14
15 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	16	17 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31	1 Aug	2	3	4

Alice Kendall

Wellington Town Council Meetings Calendar 24-25

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August 2024				August 2024 September 2024 Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 8 11 11 12 13 14 15 11 11 12 13 14 15 15 16 17 18 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 15 16 17 18 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 15 16 17 18 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12		
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
29 Jul	30	31	1 Aug	2	3	4
5 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	6	7	8	9	10	11
12 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	13	14 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	15	16	17	18
19 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	20	21 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	22	23	24	25
26 Late Summer Holiday (United Kingdom)	27	28	29	30	31	1 Sep
Alice Kendall			4			

September	2024
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	September 2024							Oc	tober 2	024			
Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	S
						1		- 1	2	3	4	5	
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	7	8	9	10	11	12	- 1
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	14	15	16	17	18	19	2
16 23	17 24	18 25	19 26	20	21 28	22	21 28	22 29	23 30	24 31	25	26	2
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28	29	30	31			

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
26 Aug	27	28	29	30	31	1 Sep
2 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	3	4	5	6	7	8
9 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	10	11 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	12	13	14	15
16 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	17	18 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	1 Oct	2	3	4	5	6

Wellington Town Council

October 20	024			Mo Tu We 1 2 7 8 9 14 15 16 21 22 23 28 29 30		Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 11 15 16 17 18 19 20 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
30 Sep	1 Oct	2	3	4	5	6
7 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall)	8	9	10	11	12	13
19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	15	16	17	18	19	20
16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)		16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)			19	20
21 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	22	23 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	1 Nov	2	3

Novembei	2024			Mo Tu We 4 5 6 11 12 13 18 19 20 25 26 27	ember 2024 Th Fr Sa Su 1 2 3 7 8 9 10 14 15 16 17 21 22 23 24 28 29 30	Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 6 7 18 10 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12 12
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
28 Oct	29	30	31	1 Nov	2	3
4 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	5	6	7	8	9	10
11 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	12	13 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	14	15	16	17
16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	19	20 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	1 Dec

Alice Kendall

Wellington Town Council Meetings Calendar 24-25

er 2024			Mo Tu We 2 3 4 9 10 11 16 17 18 23 24 25 30 31	ember 2024 Th Fr Sa Su 5 6 7 8 12 13 14 15 19 20 21 22 26 27 28 29	January 2025 Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
26	27	28	29	30	1 Dec
3	4	5	6	7	8
10	11 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	12	13	14	15
17	18 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	19	20	21	22
24	25	26	27	28	29
	Christmas Day (United Kingdom)	Boxing Day (United Kingdom)	Council Offices Clo	Sec.	
31 uncil Offices Closed	1 Jan 25	2	3	4	5
	TUESDAY 26 3 10 17 24	TUESDAY WEDNESDAY 26 27	TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY	TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY	TUESDAY WEDNESDAY THURSDAY FRIDAY SATURDAY

January 2025				January 2025 Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su			
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
30 Dec	31	1 Jan 25 Council Offices Closed New Year's Day (United Kingdom)	2	3	4	5	
6 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	14	15 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	16	17	18	19	
20 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	21	22 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	31	1 Feb	2	

Wellington Town Council Meetings Calendar 24-25

February 2	February 2025				February 2025 March 2025 March 2025 Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su Mo Tu We Th Fr Sa Su 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 11 19 20 21 22 22 23 12 18 19 22 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 24 25 26 27 28 24 25 26 27 28 29 30			
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY		
27 Jan	28	29	30	31	1 Feb	2		
3 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	4	5	6	7	8	9		
10 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	11	12 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	13	14	15	16		
17 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	18	19 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	20	21	22	23		
24	25	26	27	28	1 Mar	2		
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March 202	5			March 2025			
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	
24 Feb	25	26	27	28	1 Mar	2	
3 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	11	12 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	13	14	15	16	
17 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	18	19 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31	1 Apr	2	3	4	5	6	

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Wellington Town Council Meetings Calendar 24-25

April 2025				Mo Tu We Th F1 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30	Sa Su Mo Tu 5 6 5 12 13 5 6 19 20 12 13 26 27 19 20 26 27	May 2025 We Th Fr Sa Su 1 2 3 4 7 8 9 10 11 14 15 16 17 18 21 22 23 24 25 28 29 30 31
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
31 Mar	1 Apr	2	3	4	5	6
7 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Full Council (URC Hall)	8	9	10	11	12	13
14 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall)	15	16 16:00 Economic Development Committee (URC Hall)	17	18 Good Friday (United Kingdom)	19	20 Easter Day (United Kingdom)
21 Easter Monday (United Kingdom)	22	23 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	24	25	26	27
28 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	29	30	1 May	2	3	4
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May 2025				Mov Tu We Th Fi 5 6 7 8 5 12 13 14 15 16 19 20 21 22 26 27 28 29 30	3 4	June 2025 We Th Fr Sa Su 4 5 6 7 8 11 12 13 14 15 18 19 20 21 22 25 26 27 28 29
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
28 Apr	29	30	1 May	2	3	4
5 May Day Bank Holiday (United Kingdom)	6	7 18:00 Planning Committee (URC Hall) 19:00 Annual Town Council (URC Hall)	8	9	10	11
12	13	14 16:00 Policy & Finance Committee (URC Church Hall) 18:00 Economic Development	15	16	17	18
19 16:00 Community Committee (URC Hall)	20	21 16:00 Environment Committee (URC Church Hall)	22	23	24	25
26 Spring Bank Holiday (United Kingdom)	27	28 18:00 Annual Parish Meeting (URC Hall)	29	30	31	1 Jun

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Alice Kendall

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL 2023 - 2024 ATTENDANCE

			TOTALS		
Councillor	POSSIBLE	PRESENT	APOLOGIES	ABSENT	%
M Barr	60	52	3	5	87%
Z Barr	26	14	12	0	54%
Battishill	10	2	3	5	20%
Booker	24	6	5	13	25%
Booth	40	36	4	0	90%
Canham	39	19	9	11	49%
Cole	12	10	2	0	83%
A Govier	46	41	3	2	89%
C Govier	52	46	6	0	88%
Henley	26	13	1	12	50%
Lithgow	60	46	10	4	77%
Lloyd	54	46	8	0	85%
McGuffie	52	48	3	1	92%
Mercer	4	4	0	0	100%
Powell-Brace	17	10	3	4	59%
Pringle-Kosikowsky	14	11	1	2	79%
Thorne	46	44	2	0	96%
Wheatley	47	30	16	1	64%

KEY						
Present	1					
Apologies	AP					
Absent	AB					
Not on Com	N/A					

Prepared by:		Date:	
	Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)		
Approved by:		Date:	
_	Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)	_	

	Bank Reconciliation at 31/03/	/2024		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2023	2024		993,335.85
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024			675,443.55
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024			1,668,779.40 747,250.58
Α	Cash in Hand 31/03/2024 (per Cash Book)			921,528.82
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash Lloyds Current Account 2195145 Lloyds Deposit Account 07788306 Lloyds Treasurers PC 87331468 The Cambridge Building Society Cl Cambridge & Counties 15020773 Nationwide 01343556	31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024	0.00 32,886.74 206,771.90 307.18 204,644.36 266,344.13 210,529.51	
	Less unpresented payments	0 1/00/202	_10,0_200	921,483.82
	Plus unpresented receipts			921,483.82 45.00
В	Adjusted Bank Balance			921,528.82
	A = B Checks out OK			





WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT 2023 - 2024

SUMMARY OF FUNDS AS AT 31 MARCH 2024

INTRODUCTION

This report relates to the Council's financial accounts for the year ended 31 March 2024 and includes various explanatory notes.

The Council's accounts are prepared under Regulations 7 and 9 of the Accounts and Audit Regulations 2011.

The accounts published have been scrutinised by the Council's appointed Internal Auditor, IAC Ltd and are subject to external audit by the accountancy firm of PKF Littlejohn LLP, 1 Westferry Circus, Canary Wharf, London E14 4HD. The audit is expected to be completed by the end of August.

These accounts are presented for approval at the Annual Town Council meeting to be held 1 May 2024.

Statements and figures prepared by Alice Kendall Deputy Clerk/Deputy RFO

Reviewed and authorised by David Farrow Town Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer

Notes to the Income and Expenditure Account for the year ended 31 March 2024

1. Basis of Preparation

The Council's accounts are prepared using the Income and Expenditure format which takes the year-end position then adjustments are recorded annually so that income and costs include any amounts owed to or by the Council. The final (adjusted) accounting statements therefore reflect the financial situation if all sums payable and receivable for the financial year had been processed at year end. These figures are exclusive of VAT as the Council reclaims any VAT paid. Figures provided are rounded to whole numbers as required by the External Auditor.

2. Fixed Assets

The Council acquired a number of new assets during the year which were added to the Asset Register which was approved by Council. Below is a summary of the totals for each category. A detailed copy of the register can be found on the Council's website.

Category	Amount
Outdoor Property / Street Furniture	£63,259
Buildings	£145,821
Land	£55,001
Play	£107,647
Regalia	£550
Office Equipment & Furniture	£16,169
Community Warden	£35,645
	£424,092

This figure is reported in box 9 of the AGAR¹.

3. Section 137 Expenditure

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) grants local councils power to spend up to a maximum of an annual allowance per head of electorate on the register as of 1st April. Known as the 'power of last resort' S137 expenditure is permitted only where no other legal power exists. Proposed expenditure must be balanced against the benefits, which must be solely for parish residents, and agreement to fund costs via S137 must be by formal resolution. Expenditure must be expressly reported. The need to report this expenditure is superseded by the General Power of Competence, which the Council currently holds.

4. Overall Financial Reserves

The Council has an overall cash balance of £921,529 as of 31 March 2024. Contained within this amount, are reserves earmarked for specific services and projects as well as the Council's general reserve. Any surplus funds are used in the calculation of the Precept for the following year to offset the amount demanded.

Bank reconciliation as at 31 March 2024 is reported at Appendix A (including details of unpresented payments).

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¹ Annual Governance and Accountability Return

5. Leases

Following the purchase of the Council Offices (28-30 Fore Street) from Somerset Council; the Council has an agreement with Cash Access UK for the ground floor space of 30 Fore Street and a tenancy at will agreement with Citizens Advice Somerset for use of two ground floor offices in 28 Fore Street.

The Council previously had an underlease agreement with the Wellington Museum for their space in 28 Fore Street. It is the understanding of the Officers that this has now been superseded following the Council's purchase of the building. This matter will be taken up with the Council's solicitors.

The lease for the premises at 31 Fore Street, which is the Council's Pop-Up Shop, was renewed in October 2021 for 5 years with a break clause at 2 years. The annual rent is £6,000. Users of the shop sign a 'licence to occupy' to ensure compliance with Terms and Conditions.

In January 2023 the Town Council entered in to a 150 year lease on a peppercorn rent with Somerset West and Taunton Council (now Somerset Council) for 64 acres of land linking Tonedale Mill to The Basins and then over to Rockwell Green and Hilly Head. This will contribute significantly to the delivery of the Council's Climate Change Strategy.

6. Income and Expenditure summary

Income

As of 31 March 2024, total income for the year (adjusted for debtors) amounted to £604,776, made up as follows:-

2023-24 Precept received All other income	£466,332 £138.444	AGAR Box 2 AGAR Box 3
TOTAL INCOME	£604,776	7.C/TT DOX 0
	200 1,1 1 0	

Expenditure

Expenditure for the 2023-24 financial year (adjusted for creditors) totalled £713,459. Staffing costs are split out on the AGAR form, and overall costs were made up as follows:-

Staffing Costs	£252,696	AGAR Box 4
All Other Payments	£460,771	AGAR Box 6
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	£713,467	

The Income and Expenditure account is attached as Appendix B.

7. Adjustments

Although the financial year ended on 31 March 2024, it is necessary to make adjustments for Creditors (invoices received after 31 March that relate to the 23-24 year), Debtors (money owed to the Council), Prepayments (invoices paid in advance of the following financial year), and receipts in advance (money received by the Council for activities in the following financial

year). These transactions are summarised in Appendix C as the Reconciliation Between Box 7 and 8 of the AGAR. Appendix D details the breakdown of these adjustments.

The yearend summary of income expenditure against the budget net of these adjustments (as well as adjustments made in the previous financial year where appropriate) is attached at Appendix E.

8. Petty Cash

Petty cash is no longer used in the office. The Clerk, Deputy Clerk and Assets & Events Officer have debit cards for purchases where required. These are linked to a specific account which holds a balance of £500.

9. Risk Assessment and Management

A Risk Management Scheme was introduced in May 2020, its principles were followed throughout the year. The scheme document is re-presented to Council each year for review.

10. Explanation of variances

When comparing the previous and current year figures of Boxes 2-6 and 9 of the AGAR accounting statements, variances of 15%, or of £100,000 or more (regardless of % variation) must be given an explanation. See below;

	Year Ending					
	31 March 2023 £	31 March 2024 £	Variance £	Variance %	Explanation Required?	
Balances brought forward	779,740	1,002,190			No	
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies	413,677	466,332	52,655	13	No	
3. (+) Total other receipts	418,127	138,444	-279,683	67	Yes	
4. (-) Staff costs	161,185	252,696	91,511	57	Yes	
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	No	
6. (-) All other payments	448,169	460,771	12,602	3	No	
7. (=) Balances carried forward	1,002,190	893,507			N/A	
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	993,336	921,529			N/A	
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	241,704	424,092	182,388	75	Yes	
10. Total borrowings	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	No	

It should be noted that the External Auditor requires explanations within a reasonable tolerance of the variance figure (£). Anything too detailed or not detailed enough results in queries being raised which can result in fees being issued.

Box 3 Total Other receipts

Description	Amount
Large one off Community Infrastructure Levey payment	£295,399
received in 2022-23 causes the previous year figure to be	
inflated. The figure reported here is adjusted to show the	
excess received compared to 2023-24.	

Box 4 Staff Costs

Description	Amount
Effect of Updated NALC Scales	£19,395.72
New Staff Member Salaries	£43,209.88
Increase in Pension Cont.	£16,396.77
Increase in HMRC Payments	£18,866.66
	£97,869.03

Box 9 Assets

Category	Details	Amount
St Furniture	2x new bench, life buoy	£1,610
Buildings & Contents	2x new container, office building	£135,819
Play Equipment	Purchase Weavers Reach	£5,001
Regalia	Criers outfit, bugle	£547
IT Equipment	Increase in computers, phones and tablets. New portable furniture (tables & gazebo)	£3,766
Community Warden	Vehicle & Tools	£35,644
		£181,387

8 April 2024 (2023 - 2024)

Wellington Town Council

Prepared by:		Date:	
	Name and Role (Clerk/RFO etc)		
Approved by:		Date:	
_	Name and Role (RFO/Chair of Finance etc)	_	

	Bank Reconciliation at 31/03/	/2024		
	Cash in Hand 01/04/2023			993,335.85
	ADD Receipts 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024			675,443.55
	SUBTRACT Payments 01/04/2023 - 31/03/2024			1,668,779.40 747,250.58
A	Cash in Hand 31/03/2024 (per Cash Book)			921,528.82
	Cash in hand per Bank Statements			
	Petty Cash Lloyds Current Account 2195145 Lloyds Deposit Account 07788306 Lloyds Treasurers PC 87331468 The Cambridge Building Society Cl Cambridge & Counties 15020773 Nationwide 01343556	31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024 31/03/2024	0.00 32,886.74 206,771.90 307.18 204,644.36 266,344.13 210,529.51	
	Less unpresented payments		,	921,483.82
				921,483.82
В	Plus unpresented receipts Adjusted Bank Balance			45.00 921,528.82
	A = B Checks out OK			52 1,520.02

Page 1 8 April 2024 (2023 - 2024)

Wellington Town Council Uncashed receipts\transfers in (All banks)

(Upto 31/03/2024)

Voucher	Date	Cheque No.	Description	Total	Bank
179	12/02/2024		error duplicate line		The Cambridge Building
211	28/03/2024		Stall Fee	45.00	Lloyds Current Account 2
			Total	45.00	

Note voucher 179 has been cashed off since reporting. APK

Wellington Town Council Income & Expenditure Account 01/04/2023 to 31/03/2024

(Last) Year Ended		(Current) Year Ended
31 Mar 2023		31 Mar 2024
	Income	
12,878.00	Grounds Maintenance and Allotme	İ
316.41	Administration/Office running costs	
427,486.22	Income	497,216.71
4,550.00	Pop Up Shop	6,470.35
250.00	Christmas	250.00
25,350.00	Emergency High Street Fund	200.00
357,877.17	Earmarked Reserves	62,478.64
52.73	Community Services	162.00
1,500.00	Staff Costs & Expenses	30,052.60
1,262.00	Environment and Planning	1,221.24
282.00	Town Centre	1,478.45
202.00	Allotments	3,535.00
	Cost of democracy and elections	85.46
	decit of defined day and decinent	
£831,804.53		£604,776.22
400 044 00	Expense	050.040.00
162,314.82	Staff Costs & Expenses	253,948.60
64,362.17	Emergency High Street Fund	160.00
132,145.00	Earmarked Reserves	147,765.00
61,063.13	Community Services	78,473.02
33,755.38	Environment and Planning	40,151.65
17,495.86	Grounds Maintenance and Allotme	
13,681.42	Grants	19,122.22
17,231.40	Administration/Office running costs	
5,266.40	Cost of democracy and elections	6,212.41
1,630.00	Welcome Back Fund	40 404 00
8,988.67	Pop Up Shop	10,484.92
25,043.47	Christmas	34,685.67
20,160.70 2,059.12	IT, Website & Internet Affiliation Fees	17,691.87
	Professional Services	2,208.53
2,803.00	Town Centre	E4 402 92
41,354.08	Allotments	54,403.82 3,261.60
	Play Areas	4,623.54
£609,354.62	i lay Aleas	£713,466.94
2009,334.02		2713,400.94
	General Fund	
528,704.15	Balance at 01 Apr 2023	414,342.56
831,804.53	ADD Total Income	604,776.22
1,360,508.68		1,019,118.78
609,354.62	DEDUCT Total Expenditure	713,466.94
751,154.06		305,651.84
336,811.50	DEDUCT Reserves Balance	-47,809.82
£414,342.56	Balance at 31 Mar 2024	£353,461.66
=======================================	Balanoo at OT Wal 2027	

Reserves:

Earmarked Reserve Balance £540037.28



Wellington Town Council Reconciliation between Box 7 and Box 8 31/03/2024

This report explains the difference between the total balance in Box 7 and the cash balance in Box 8 by showing the totals for each type of adjustment, the details of which can be listed using the Adjustments report. It deducts the additional assets which have been included on the balance sheet and adds back in the liabilities to arrive at the balance for actual cash and short term investments. This only applies to Annual Returns prepared on Income and Expenditure basis

	Amount	Amount
Box 7 - Balances carried forward		893,498.94
Debtors	325.00	
Prepayments	5,491.13	
Stocks and Stores		
VAT Recoverable	2,234.02	
TOTAL DEDUCTIONS		8,050.15
Creditors	4,477.03	
Receipts in Advance	31,603.00	
Doubtful Debts		
TOTAL ADDITIONS		36,080.03
Box 8 - Total cash and short term investments		921,528.82

Appendix D

Wellington Town Council ADJUSTMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDING 31/03/2024

Creditors - Increase Expenditure		<u>Code</u>	
Hall Hire Q4		Hire of Hall	320.00
Van Charging March		Community Warden	42.76
Elec Business Support Fund Adjustm	е	Overheads	-297.75
Services in March		Longforth Rd Toilet Refurb	2,904.60
ROSPA Inspections (Feb 24)		Annual Play Inspections	455.00
Printing & Copying to 31/3/24		Photocopier	117.65
Electric March (Office)		Electricity	225.17
March Bill		Telephone & Broadband	135.43
Carpeting Pop Up		Repairs	574.17
			£4,477.03
Prepayments - Decrease Expenditure		Code	
Insurance Apr 24 - Mar 25		Insurances	5,311.13
Trading Permit St. Fair '24		Summer Street Fair	80.00
Advert St Fair '24		Summer Street Fair	100.00
		_	£5,491.13
Debtors - Increase Income		Code	
Q4 Promotional Space Invoice	Steve Jonas	Rents - Various	325.00
		_	£325.00
Receipts in Advance - Decrease Income		<u>Code</u>	
24/25 Connect Somerset Funding		Staff Recruitment	30,053.00
Stall Fees St. Fair (June '24)		Summer Street Fair	1,135.00
Stall Fees St. Fair (June '24)		Street Fair Refundable Depos	315.00
Deposit for April 24 Booking	Claire Western	Deposits	100.00
		· _	£31,603.00

Summary of Income & Expenditure 2023 - 2024

All Cost Centres and Codes (Between 01/04/2023 and 31/03/2024)

Administration/Office running Income			E	Net Position			
Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
26 Office Rent	250.00	1,650.00	1,400.00	4,000.00	5,091.32	-1,091.32	308.68 (7%)
27 Photocopier		80.77	80.77	1,000.00	1,007.46	-7.46	73.31 (7%)
28 Electricity				2,000.00	3,315.41	-1,315.41	-1,315.41 (-65%
32 Office Equipment				350.00	482.00	-132.00	-132.00 (-37%
34 Insurances				3,500.00	3,987.85	-487.85	-487.85 (-13%
35 Stationery & Postage				1,250.00	1,116.84	133.16	133.16 (10%)
36 Audit Fees				2,250.00	2,505.00	-255.00	-255.00 (-11%
37 Office Cleaning & Maintenance		95.00	95.00	2,000.00	1,379.96	620.04	715.04 (35%)
40 Hire of Hall				1,100.00	1,360.00	-260.00	-260.00 (-23%
54 Professional Fees					19,761.18	-19,761.18	-19,761.18 (N/A)
143 Internal Office Re-Decoration				3,000.00	267.07	2,732.93	2,732.93 (91%)
SUB TOTAL	250.00	1,825.77	1,575.77	20,450.00	40,274.09	-19,824.09	-18,248.32 (N/A)
Affiliation Fees		Income		Ex	cpenditure		Net Position
Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
38 SALC				1,910.00	1,854.53	55.47	55.47 (2%)
99 SLCC				300.00	354.00	-54.00	-54.00 (-18%
100 CCS				100.00		100.00	100.00 (100%
SUB TOTAL				2,310.00	2,208.53	101.47	101.47 (2%)
Allotments				_			N 4 B - 25 -
Code Title	Budgeted	Income Actual		Budgeted	cpenditure Actual		+/- Under/over spend
	2,716.00			_			
44 Allotments	2,710.00	2,785.00	69.00	4,716.00	1,366.60	3,349.40	3,418.40 (46%)
92 Longforth Allotment		750.00	750.00	10,000.00	1,550.00	8,450.00	8,450.00 (84%)
148 Allotment Deposits		750.00	750.00		345.00	-345.00	405.00 (N/A)
SUB TOTAL	2,716.00	3,535.00	819.00	14,716.00	3,261.60	11,454.40	12,273.40 (N/A)
Christmas		Income		Ex	cpenditure		Net Position
Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
114 Hire of Lights				10,000.00	10,000.00		(0%)
115 Lights Install				10,000.00	11,817.89	-1,817.89	-1,817.89 (-18%
116 Switch on Event				10,000.00	8,653.89	1,346.11	1,346.11 (13%)
123 Stall Deposits							(N/A)
136 Electricity				500.00	68.27	431.73	431.73 (86%)
137 Additional Lights & Install		250.00	250.00		4,145.62	-4,145.62	-3,895.62 (N/A)
SUB TOTAL		250.00	250.00	30,500.00	34,685.67	-4,185.67	-3,935.67 (N/A)
Community Services		Income		Ex	openditure		Net Position
-	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend

11,000.00

55 Wellington One

11,000.00

11,000.00 (100%)

Summary of Income & Expenditure 2023 - 2024

SI	JB TOTAL	162.00	162.00	73,460.00	78,473.02	-5,013.02	-4,851.02 (N/A)
154	Community Warden Set Up				36,150.91	-36,150.91	-36,150.91 (N/A)
153	Charity Fundraising	162.00	162.00		162.00	-162.00	(N/A)
66	Other Payments			300.00	66.00	234.00	234.00 (78%)
64	Community Warden			17,160.00	1,494.43	15,665.57	15,665.57 (91%)
61	Health & Wellbeing			33,000.00	34,612.50	-1,612.50	-1,612.50 (-4%)
60	Community Services & Priorities			5,000.00	1,211.43	3,788.57	3,788.57 (75%)
59	Promotion of Wellington			5,000.00	4,715.75	284.25	284.25 (5%)
58	Community Safety			2,000.00	60.00	1,940.00	1,940.00 (97%)

Cost of democracy and electic Income		Ex	Net Position					
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
20	Mayors Allowance				550.50	550.50		(0%)
21	Councillors Allowance				5,250.00	5,250.00		(0%)
22	Members Training				500.00	75.00	425.00	425.00 (85%)
23	Members Travelling		85.46	85.46	600.00	212.36	387.64	473.10 (78%)
24	Hospitality				1,000.00	124.55	875.45	875.45 (87%)
89	Deputy Mayor's Expenses				200.00		200.00	200.00 (100%)
s	UB TOTAL		85.46	85.46	8,100.50	6,212.41	1,888.09	1,973.55 (87%)

Earmarked Reserves Income			E:		Net Position			
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
25	Elections				1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00 (100%)
67	Youth Services					5,565.00	-5,565.00	-5,565.00 (N/A)
71	C.I.L		62,478.64	62,478.64		130,000.00	-130,000.00	-67,521.36 (N/A)
73	Film Festival				4,000.00		4,000.00	4,000.00 (100%)
75	Railway Station							(N/A)
76	Capital Projects					5,000.00	-5,000.00	-5,000.00 (N/A)
77	Playing Pitch Strategy							(N/A)
95	Office Furniture Replacement					345.00	-345.00	-345.00 (N/A)
96	Post Office Provision							(N/A)
97	Cades Farm Community Hall					100.00	-100.00	-100.00 (N/A)
139	Cost of Living Crisis					6,755.00	-6,755.00	-6,755.00 (N/A)
s	UB TOTAL		62,478.64	62,478.64	5,500.00	147,765.00	-142,265.00	-79,786.36 (N/A)

Emergency High Street Fund Income			Ехр	Net Position				
Code	Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
78	Emergency High Street Fund					90.00	-90.00	-90.00 (N/A)
79	Electrical Infrastructure Work							(N/A)
80	Related Staffing Costs							(N/A)
81	Christmas Entertainment 2020							(N/A)
82	Street Furniture					70.00	-70.00	-70.00 (N/A)
83	Maps & Signage							(N/A)
85	Marketing							(N/A)
86	Notice Boards							(N/A)
88	Farmers Market							(N/A)
98	Related Fees							(N/A)

Summary of Income & Expenditure 2023 - 2024

400 W. H. W. L							(11/1)
120 Welly Welcome Weekend 2021							(N/A)
121 Town Surveys 124 Christmas 2021							(N/A) (N/A)
125 Wellington Produce Market							(N/A)
-							
SUB TOTAL					160.00	-160.00	-160.00 (N/A)
Environment and Planning		Income		Ex	cpenditure		Net Position
Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
46 Footpaths PRoW Maintenance				500.00	117.86	382.14	382.14 (76%)
47 Grasscutting				3,740.00		3,740.00	3,740.00 (100%)
48 Weedkilling				1,215.00		1,215.00	1,215.00 (100%)
49 Emptying Dog Bins				11,500.00	8,194.94	3,305.06	3,305.06 (28%)
50 Provision of Benches & Litter/Dog		1,221.24	1,221.24	2,500.00	1,919.76	580.24	1,801.48 (72%)
51 Planning Administration				1,500.00		1,500.00	1,500.00 (100%)
52 Environmental Improvements				9,000.00	4,982.50	4,017.50	4,017.50 (44%)
113 Electricity for Street Light				850.00	801.06	48.94	48.94 (5%)
129 Additional Street Lighting							(N/A)
130 Land at Westford				5,000.00	880.00	4,120.00	4,120.00 (82%)
131 Green Corridor				20,000.00	23,255.53	-3,255.53	-3,255.53 (-16%)
SUB TOTAL		1,221.24	1,221.24	55,805.00	40,151.65	15,653.35	16,874.59 (N/A)
Grants		Income		Ex	openditure		Net Position
Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
41 Grants				15,000.00	16,122.22	-1,122.22	-1,122.22 (-7%)
152 Green Grants				10,000.00	3,000.00	7,000.00	7,000.00 (70%)
SUB TOTAL				25,000.00	19,122.22	5,877.78	5,877.78 (70%)
Income		Income		E	openditure		Net Position
Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
	466,332.00	466,332.00					•
1 Precept2 Bank Interest	8,000.00	27,259.71	19,259.71				(0%) 19,259.71 (240%)
3 Parish Grants	2,275.00	2,275.00	19,239.71				(0%)
5 VAT Refund	2,275.00	2,275.00					(N/A)
6 Rents - Various	1,000.00	1,350.00	350.00				350.00 (35%)
SUB TOTAL	477,607.00	497,216.71	19,609.71				19,609.71 (N/A)
IT, Website & Internet		la como		-			Net Parities
Code Title	Budgeted	Income Actual		Budgeted	cpenditure Actual		+/- Under/over spend
29 Telephone & Broadband	Duugeleu	Actual	variance	2,160.00	3,346.04	-1,186.04	-1,186.04 (-54%)
•				1,200.00	793.98	406.02	406.02 (33%)
30 IT Equipment 31 IT Support & Email Hosting				4,250.00	4,178.00	72.00	72.00 (1%)
94 IT for New Staff				1,500.00	1,186.81	313.19	313.19 (20%)
101 Telephone System				2,000.00	1,863.04	136.96	136.96 (6%)
103 Security Software				200.00	372.00	-172.00	-172.00 (-86%)

Summary of Income & Expenditure 2023 - 2024

104 Office 365				2,300.00	1,972.50	327.50	327.50 (14%)
105 Parish Online				450.00	405.00	45.00	45.00 (10%)
106 Zoom				120.00	119.90	0.10	0.10 (0%)
107 Scribe Accounting System				1,800.00	1,800.00		(0%)
108 Sage Payroll & HR				1,000.00	1,000.00	245.00	(0%)
132 Councillor Tablets				250.00	595.80	-345.80	-345.80 (-138%)
144 Inspection Applications				2,000.00	58.80	1,941.20	1,941.20 (97%)
SUB TOTAL				19,230.00	17,691.87	1,538.13	1,538.13 (97%)
Play Areas		Income		E	xpenditure		Net Position
Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
45 Tone Play Area				5,000.00	1,963.25	3,036.75	3,036.75 (60%)
145 Weavers Reach Play Area				5,000.00	2,205.29	2,794.71	2,794.71 (55%)
146 Annual Play Inspections				500.00	455.00	45.00	45.00 (9%)
SUB TOTAL				10,500.00	4,623.54	5,876.46	5,876.46 (9%)
Don Un Chan							
Pop Up Shop		Income			xpenditure		Net Position
Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
117 Rent	4,900.00	3,950.00	-950.00	6,000.00	5,500.00	500.00	-450.00 (-4%)
118 Overheads		20.35	20.35	3,500.00	1,710.97	1,789.03	1,809.38 (51%)
119 Repairs				1,500.00	1,433.73	66.27	66.27 (4%)
149 Deposits		2,500.00	2,500.00		1,840.22	-1,840.22	659.78 (N/A)
SUB TOTAL	4,900.00	6,470.35	1,570.35	11,000.00	10,484.92	515.08	2,085.43 (N/A)
Staff Costs & Expenses		Income		E	xpenditure		Net Position
- Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
16 Salaries	_			262,842.59	252,696.02	10,146.57	10,146.57 (3%)
17 Staff Training				1,000.00	270.04	729.96	729.96 (73%)
18 Staff Travelling				200.00	382.54	-182.54	-182.54 (-91%)
19 Staff Recruitment		30,052.60	30,052.60	1,500.00	600.00	900.00	30,952.60 (2063%
87 Home Working Allowances		00,002.00	00,002.00	600.00	000.00	600.00	600.00 (100%)
SUB TOTAL		30,052.60	30,052.60	266,142.59	253,948.60	12,193.99	42,246.59 (-91%)
Town Centre							
-		Income			xpenditure		Net Position
Code Title	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	Budgeted	Actual	Variance	+/- Under/over spend
53 Longforth Road Toilets				10,000.00	5,969.43	4,030.57	4,030.57 (40%)
127 Coronation Deposits		-120.00	-120.00		40.00	-40.00	-160.00 (N/A)
128 Jubilee & Coronation					5,266.28	-5,266.28	-5,266.28 (N/A)
133 Longforth Rd Toilet Refurb				10,000.00	18,938.75	-8,938.75	-8,938.75 (-89%)
134 Co-Working Space				30,000.00		30,000.00	30,000.00 (100%)
135 Town Centre Projects				20,000.00	5,424.80	14,575.20	14,575.20 (72%)
138 Carnival				1,000.00	1,885.22	-885.22	-885.22 (-88%)
140 Summer Street Fair	1,050.00	1,410.00	360.00	6,050.00	5,958.37	91.63	451.63 (6%)
141 Street Fair Refundable Deposits		60.00	60.00				60.00 (N/A)

Summary of Income & Expenditure 2023 - 2024

142 Riffles Event		8.45	8.45	2,500.00	9,855.72	-7,355.72	-7,347.27 (-293%)
147 Remembrance & AFD				1,000.00	1,065.25	-65.25	-65.25 (-6%)
150 AFD Stalls		90.00	90.00				90.00 (N/A)
151 AFD Refundable Stalls		30.00	30.00				30.00 (N/A)
SUB TOTAL	1,050.00	1,478.45	428.45	80,550.00	54,403.82	26,146.18	26,574.63 (N/A)
Restated							(N/A)
NET TOTAL	486,523.00	604,776.22	118,253.22	623,264.09	713,466.94	-90,202.85	28,050.37 (2%)
V.A.T.		39,626.82			37,429.10		
GROSS TOTAL		644,403.04			750,896.04		

Section 1 – Annual Governance Statement 2023/24

We acknowledge as the members of:

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

our responsibility for ensuring that there is a sound system of internal control, including arrangements for the preparation of the Accounting Statements. We confirm, to the best of our knowledge and belief, with respect to the Accounting Statements for the year ended 31 March 2024, that:

	Agr	reed			
	Yes	No*	'Yes' mea	ans that this authority:	
We have put in place arrangements for effective financial management during the year, and for the preparation of the accounting statements.			prepared its accounting statements in accordance with the Accounts and Audit Regulations.		
We maintained an adequate system of internal control including measures designed to prevent and detect fraud and corruption and reviewed its effectiveness.			made proper arrangements and accepted responsibility for safeguarding the public money and resources in its charge.		
3. We took all reasonable steps to assure ourselves that there are no matters of actual or potential non-compliance with laws, regulations and Proper Practices that could have a significant financial effect on the ability of this authority to conduct its business or manage its finances.			has only done what it has the legal power to do and has complied with Proper Practices in doing so.		
4. We provided proper opportunity during the year for the exercise of electors' rights in accordance with the requirements of the Accounts and Audit Regulations.			during the year gave all persons interested the opportunity t inspect and ask questions about this authority's accounts.		
5. We carried out an assessment of the risks facing this authority and took appropriate steps to manage those risks, including the introduction of internal controls and/or external insurance cover where required.			considered and documented the financial and other risks it faces and dealt with them properly.		
6. We maintained throughout the year an adequate and effective system of internal audit of the accounting records and control systems.			controls	If for a competent person, independent of the financial and procedures, to give an objective view on whether controls meet the needs of this smaller authority.	
7. We took appropriate action on all matters raised in reports from internal and external audit.			responde external	ed to matters brought to its attention by internal and audit.	
8. We considered whether any litigation, liabilities or commitments, events or transactions, occurring either during or after the year-end, have a financial impact on this authority and, where appropriate, have included them in the accounting statements.			disclosed everything it should have about its business activit during the year including events taking place after the year end if relevant.		
9. (For local councils only) Trust funds including charitable. In our capacity as the sole managing trustee we discharged our accountability responsibilities for the fund(s)/assets, including financial reporting and, if required, independent examination or audit.	Yes	No	N/A	has met all of its responsibilities where, as a body corporate, it is a sole managing trustee of a local trust or trusts.	

^{*}Please provide explanations to the external auditor on a separate sheet for each 'No' response and describe how the authority will address the weaknesses identified. These sheets must be published with the Annual Governance Statement.

This Annual Governance Statement was approved at a meeting of the authority on:	Signed by the Chair and Clerk of the meeting where approval was given:			
DD/MM/YYYY				
		SIGNATURE REQUIRED		
and recorded as minute reference:	Chair	SIGNATORE REGUIRED		
and recorded as minute reference.				
MINUTE REFERENCE	Clerk	SIGNATURE REQUIRED		

WWW.WELLINGTONTOWNCOUNCIL.CO.UKE WEBSITE/WEBPAGE ADDRESS

Section 2 - Accounting Statements 2023/24 for

WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

	Year e	nding	Notes and guidance		
	31 March 2023 £	31 March 2024 £	Please round all figures to nearest £1. Do not leave any boxes blank and report £0 or Nil balances. All figures must agree to underlying financial records.		
Balances brought forward	779,740	1,002,190	Total balances and reserves at the beginning of the year as recorded in the financial records. Value must agree to Box 7 of previous year.		
2. (+) Precept or Rates and Levies			Total amount of precept (or for IDBs rates and levies) received or receivable in the year. Exclude any grants received.		
3. (+) Total other receipts	418,128	138,444	Total income or receipts as recorded in the cashbook less the precept or rates/levies received (line 2). Include any grants received.		
4. (-) Staff costs	161,185	252,696	Total expenditure or payments made to and on behalf of all employees. Include gross salaries and wages, employers NI contributions, employers pension contributions, gratuities and severance payments.		
5. (-) Loan interest/capital repayments	0	0	Total expenditure or payments of capital and interest made during the year on the authority's borrowings (if any).		
6. (-) All other payments	448,169	460,771	Total expenditure or payments as recorded in the cash- book less staff costs (line 4) and loan interest/capital repayments (line 5).		
7. (=) Balances carried forward	1,002,190	893,499	Total balances and reserves at the end of the year. Must equal (1+2+3) - (4+5+6).		
8. Total value of cash and short term investments	993,336	921,529	The sum of all current and deposit bank accounts, cash holdings and short term investments held as at 31 March – To agree with bank reconciliation.		
9. Total fixed assets plus long term investments and assets	241,704	424,092	The value of all the property the authority owns – it is made up of all its fixed assets and long term investments as at 31 March.		
10. Total borrowings	0	0	The outstanding capital balance as at 31 March of all loans from third parties (including PWLB).		

For Local Councils Only	Yes	No	N/A	
11a. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)		1		The Council, as a body corporate, acts as sole trustee and is responsible for managing Trust funds or assets.
11b. Disclosure note re Trust funds (including charitable)			1	The figures in the accounting statements above exclude any Trust transactions.

I certify that for the year ended 31 March 2024 the Accounting Statements in this Annual Governance and Accountability Return have been prepared on either a receipts and payments or income and expenditure basis following the guidance in Governance and Accountability for Smaller Authorities - a Practitioners' Guide to Proper Practices and present fairly the financial position of this authority.

Signed by Responsible hinancial Officer before being presented to the authority for approval

25/04/2024

I confirm that these Accounting Statements were approved by this authority on this date:

as recorded in minute reference:

Signed by Chair of the meeting where the Accounting Statements were approved

Date

WHAT SMALLER AUTHORITIES NEED TO DO TO ADVERTISE THE PERIOD DURING WHICH ELECTORS AND INTERESTED PERSONS MAY EXERCISE RIGHTS RELATING TO THE ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

The <u>Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014</u> and the <u>Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015</u> require that:

- 1) The accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those records must be made available for inspection by any person interested, during a period of 30 working days set by the smaller authority and including the first 10 working days of July.
- 2) The period referred to in paragraph (1) starts with the day on which the period for the exercise of public rights is treated as having been commenced i.e. the day following the day on which all of the obligations in paragraph (3) below have been fulfilled.
- 3) The responsible financial officer for a relevant authority must, on behalf of that authority, publish (which must include publication on the authority's website):
 - a) the Accounting Statements (i.e. Section 2 of either Form 2 or 3, whichever is relevant, of the Annual Governance & Accountability Return (AGAR)), accompanied by:
 - a declaration, signed by that officer to the effect that the status of the Accounting Statements are unaudited and that the Accounting Statements as published may be subject to change;
 - ii) the Annual Governance Statement (i.e. Section 1 of either Form 2 or Form 3, whichever is relevant, of the AGAR); and
 - b) a statement that sets out
 - i) the period for the exercise of public rights;
 - ii) details of the manner in which notice should be given of an intention to inspect the accounting records and other documents;
 - iii) the name and address of the local auditor;
 - iv) the provisions contained in section 26 (inspection of documents etc.) and section 27 (right to make objections at audit) of the Act, as they have effect in relation to the authority in question;

HOW DO YOU DO IT?

- 1) You will meet statutory requirements if you fully and accurately complete the notice of public rights pro forma in this document, and
- 2) Publish (including publication on the smaller authority's website) the following documents, the day before the public rights period commences:
 - a) the approved Sections 1 and 2 of either Form 2 or 3, whichever is relevant to your smaller authority, of the AGAR; and
 - the completed Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return. Please note that we have pre-completed it with the following suggested dates: Monday 3 June – Friday 12 July 2024. (The latest possible dates that comply with the statutory requirements are Monday 1 July –Friday 9 August 2024); and
 - c) the notes which accompany the Notice (Local authority accounts: a summary of your rights).

Smaller authority name: WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL

NOTICE OF PUBLIC RIGHTS AND PUBLICATION OF UNAUDITED ANNUAL GOVERNANCE & ACCOUNTABILITY RETURN

ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2024

Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 Sections 26 and 27 The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (SI 2015/234)

The Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 (Si 2015)2	
NOTICE	NOTES
1. Date of announcement Monday 6 May 2024	(a) Insert date of placing of the notice which must be not less than 1 day before the date in (c) below (b) Insert name, position and address/telephone number/ email address, as appropriate, of the Clerk or other person to which any person may apply to inspect the accounts (c) Insert date, which must be at least 1 day after the date of announcement in (a) above and at least 30 working days before the date appointed in (d) below (d) The inspection period between (c) and (d) must be 30 working days inclusive and must include the first 10 working days of July.
the court for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful. Written notice of an objection must first be given to the auditor and a copy sent to the	
15 Westferry Circus Canary Wharf London E14 4HD (sba@pkf-l.com) 5. This announcement is made by (e) _ David Farrow – Town Clerk	(e) Insert name and position of person placing the notice – this person must be the responsible financial officer for the smaller authority

LOCAL AUTHORITY ACCOUNTS: A SUMMARY OF YOUR RIGHTS

Please note that this summary applies to all relevant smaller authorities, including local councils, internal drainage boards and 'other' smaller authorities.

The basic position

The <u>Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014</u> (the Act) governs the work of auditors appointed to smaller authorities. This summary explains the provisions contained in Sections 26 and 27 of the Act. The Act and the <u>Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015</u> also cover the duties, responsibilities and rights of smaller authorities, other organisations and the public concerning the accounts being audited.

As a local elector, or an interested person, you have certain legal rights in respect of the accounting records of smaller authorities. As an interested person you can inspect accounting records and related documents. If you are a local government elector for the area to which the accounts relate you can also ask questions about the accounts and object to them. You do not have to pay directly for exercising your rights. However, any resulting costs incurred by the smaller authority form part of its running costs. Therefore, indirectly, local residents pay for the cost of you exercising your rights through their council tax.

The right to inspect the accounting records

Any interested person can inspect the accounting records, which includes but is not limited to local electors. You can inspect the accounting records for the financial year to which the audit relates and all books, deeds, contracts, bills, vouchers, receipts and other documents relating to those records. You can copy all, or part, of these records or documents. Your inspection must be about the accounts, or relate to an item in the accounts. You cannot, for example, inspect or copy documents unrelated to the accounts, or that include personal information (Section 26 (6) – (10) of the Act explains what is meant by personal information). You cannot inspect information which is protected by commercial confidentiality. This is information which would prejudice commercial confidentiality if it was released to the public and there is not, set against this, a very strong reason in the public interest why it should nevertheless be disclosed.

When smaller authorities have finished preparing accounts for the financial year and approved them, they must publish them (including on a website). There must be a 30 working day period, called the 'period for the exercise of public rights', during which you can exercise your statutory right to inspect the accounting records. Smaller authorities must tell the public, including advertising this on their website, that the accounting records and related documents are available to inspect. By arrangement you will then have 30 working days to inspect and make copies of the accounting records. You may have to pay a copying charge. The 30 working day period must include a common period of inspection during which all smaller authorities' accounting records are available to inspect. This will be 1-12 July 2024 for 2023/24 accounts. The advertisement must set out the dates of the period for the exercise of public rights, how you can communicate to the smaller authority that you wish to inspect the accounting records and related documents, the name and address of the auditor, and the relevant legislation that governs the inspection of accounts and objections.

The right to ask the auditor questions about the accounting records

You should first ask your smaller authority about the accounting records, since they hold all the details. If you are a local elector, your right to ask questions of the external auditor is enshrined in law. However, while the auditor will answer your questions where possible, they are not always obliged to do so. For example, the question might be better answered by another organisation, require investigation beyond the auditor's remit, or involve disproportionate cost (which is borne by the local taxpayer). Give your smaller authority the opportunity first to explain anything in the accounting records that you are unsure about. If you are not satisfied with their explanation, you can question the external auditor about the accounting records.

The law limits the time available for you formally to ask questions. This must be done in the period for the exercise of public rights, so let the external auditor know your concern as soon as possible. The

advertisement or notice that tells you the accounting records are available to inspect will also give the period for the exercise of public rights during which you may ask the auditor questions, which here means formally asking questions under the Act. You can ask someone to represent you when asking the external auditor questions.

Before you ask the external auditor any questions, inspect the accounting records fully, so you know what they contain. Please remember that you cannot formally ask questions, under the Act, after the end of the period for the exercise of public rights. You may ask your smaller authority other questions about their accounts for any year, at any time. But these are not questions under the Act.

You can ask the external auditor questions about an item in the accounting records for the financial year being audited. However, your right to ask the external auditor questions is limited. The external auditor can only answer 'what' questions, not 'why' questions. The external auditor cannot answer questions about policies, finances, procedures or anything else unless it is directly relevant to an item in the accounting records. Remember that your questions must always be about facts, not opinions. To avoid misunderstanding, we recommend that you always put your questions in writing.

The right to make objections at audit

You have inspected the accounting records and asked your questions of the smaller authority. Now you may wish to object to the accounts on the basis that an item in them is in your view unlawful or there are matters of wider concern arising from the smaller authority's finances. A local government elector can ask the external auditor to apply to the High Court for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful, or to issue a report on matters which are in the public interest. You must tell the external auditor which specific item in the accounts you object to and why you think the item is unlawful, or why you think that a public interest report should be made about it. You must provide the external auditor with the evidence you have to support your objection. Disagreeing with income or spending does not make it unlawful. To object to the accounts you must write to the external auditor stating you want to make an objection, including the information and evidence below and you must send a copy to the smaller authority. The notice must include:

- confirmation that you are an elector in the smaller authority's area;
- why you are objecting to the accounts and the facts on which you rely;
- details of any item in the accounts that you think is unlawful; and
- details of any matter about which you think the external auditor should make a public interest report.

Other than it must be in writing, there is no set format for objecting. You can only ask the external auditor to act within the powers available under the Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014.

A final word

You may not use this 'right to object' to make a personal complaint or claim against your smaller authority. You should take such complaints to your local Citizens' Advice Bureau, local Law Centre or to your solicitor. Smaller authorities, and so local taxpayers, meet the costs of dealing with questions and objections. In deciding whether to take your objection forward, one of a series of factors the auditor must take into account is the cost that will be involved, they will only continue with the objection if it is in the public interest to do so. They may also decide not to consider an objection if they think that it is frivolous or vexatious, or if it repeats an objection already considered. If you appeal to the courts against an auditor's decision not to apply to the courts for a declaration that an item of account is unlawful, you will have to pay for the action yourself.

For more detailed guidance on public rights and the special powers of auditors, copies of the publication <u>Local authority accounts: A guide to your rights</u> are available from the NAO website.

If you wish to contact your authority's appointed external auditor please write to the address in paragraph 4 of the Notice of Public Rights and Publication of Unaudited Annual Governance & Accountability Return.

----Original Message-----

From:

Sent: Thursday, April 18, 2024 1:16 PM

To: Annette Kirk <annette@wellingtontowncouncil.co.uk>

Subject: Wellington Khaki Sox Baseball club

Annette,

As promised, here are the details we discussed.

I'm writing you to ask if you'd be able to support and sponson Wellington Khaki Sox base ball team. Not many people are aware of the successes of the team, but with regular match reports and photos appearing in the Wellington weekly, more and more locals are hearing about the sport and attending training. We're back-to-back League Champions and going into the new season with confidence.

Our first home game at Wellington Rugby Club is on 12th May and we'd like to extend the Mayor of Wellington the opportunity to come and meet the players, throw the 1st pitch and have a photo with both teams which will appear with our published match report. If you'd be interested in sponsoring the Game Day for £50, which supplies game balls and assists with securing league umpires, it would be great to have such a local figurehead as our guest.

It would be our pleasure to have you. Full mayoral gown would also be welcomed!

Many thanks, I hope you hear from you soon.

Regards, Martin James

Alice Kendall

From: Environmental Health West and Taunton

<environmentalhealth.west@somerset.gov.uk>

Sent: 23 April 2024 09:15

Subject: FW: MA/57278 Application to vary club premises certificate - Wellington & District

Conservative Club, TA21 8QT

Good morning all,

We have received an application to vary the existing club premises certificate for Wellington and District Conservative Club, 19 High Street, Wellington TA21 8QT. The current licence allows solely for sales of alcohol for consumption on the premises only, and the requested variation would be to allow for both on-sales and off-sales; thereby allowing members to also take their drinks into outdoor garden areas. This will predominantly be linked to a proposed beer garden on the premises, which will be a designated area that runs alongside the exterior of their car park. This area will be for seasonal usage, and the Club is not looking to change/extend their hours at all beyond those already on their licence.

Please can any comments in relation to this proposed change be submitted by no later than **Monday 20th May 2024?**

Kind regards,

Brad Fear Licensing Officer Somerset Council

0300 123 2224

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Somerset Council Disclaimer: somerset.gov.uk/disclaimer

Open Spaces Expenditure Request

Item:		Price
Pole Saw	Willis & Grabham	£488.05
5.2ah Battery	Willis & Grabham	£154.17
File Kit	Willis & Grabham	£14.99
Mineral Chain Oil 5 litre	Willis & Grabham	£16.66
525RXT Mark II Petrol Strimmer	Willis & Grabham	£400.00
XP Power 2 Fuel 5 Litre	Willis & Grabham	£19.17
530 ibx Blower with Belt	Willis & Grabham	£480.00
Maypole Amber Magnetic LED Beacon for the Van	Screwfix	£60.00
2 x Triangular Iron "Men at Work" signs 750mm	Tudor Enviroment	£88.58
2 x Reversible Angle Iron Arrow Sign	Tudor Environment	£82.20
Traffic Cone – 750mm x 10 (£15.99 Each)	Screwfix	£133.26
Armorgard Flambank FB21 Site Box – safe storage of Flammables	Tudor Environment	£628.50
"No Parking" Signs	Somerset Sign & Print	A4 - £12.00 each A3 - £18.00 each
"Keep Dog on	Somerset Sign &	A4 - £12.00 each
Lead" Signs	Print	A3 - £18.00 each