

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL HELD AT THE UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL, WELLINGTON ON MONDAY 3 MARCH 2025 AT 7.00 PM

PRESENT: Councillor J Lloyd (Chair),
Councillors M Barr, J Cole, S Fox, A Govier, C Govier-Wiggins, R Henley, M Lithgow, M McGuffie, C Penk, S Pringle-Kosikowsky, J Thorne and K Wheatley

IN ATTENDANCE: David Farrow (Chief Executive)
Sergeant Jon O'Connor, Wellington Community Policing Team (for agenda item 6).
Chris Winter, West of England Developments (for agenda item 7)
One member of the press
Two members of the public

637 TO OFFER WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The Mayor opened the meeting and welcomed those attending.

638 TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO APPROVE THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies had been received from Councillors C Booth and S Mercer.

639 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor C Penk declared a personal interest in agenda item 12(ii) as he owns a business near to a proposed location for street trading stalls.

640 MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the Council meeting held 3 March 2025.

641 TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE LOCAL POLICING TEAM

Sgt O'Connor presented his report, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, which was noted and answered questions from councillors.

642 QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

A member of the public spoke to raise concerns about litter around the town and suggest a community litter pick be arranged for later in the year. The Mayor asked that the Community Committee consider this.

At this juncture Councillor R Henley joined the meeting.

643 PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT – LAND SOUTH OF LITTLE JURSTON FARM

Chris Winter, West of England Developments, presented proposed plans for a development on land south of Little Jurston Farm a site that had been deemed as suitable for development in the Wellington Place Plan. Councillors raised points about the location, access to facilities, active travel and future management arrangements for open spaces. Mr Winter said that at this stage he could not comment on whether West of England Developments would be delivering the development or passing it over to another developer to deliver. He anticipated that a planning application would be submitted in the summer. He also advised that a planning application for the Wardleworth Way development would likely be submitted in June.

644 TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE MAYOR

The Mayor's report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.

645 SOMERSET COUNCIL / LOCAL COMMUNITY NETWORK (LCN) UPDATE

Councillor Barr reported on the Metro Board meeting that had taken place on Friday 28 March and noted the lobbying trip to meet Lord Hendy planned for the 23 April 2025.

Councillor Henley noted the reinstatement of the bus routes from Wellington to Wiveliscombe and also West Buckland.

Councillor Govier noted that the next LCN meeting was due to take place on the 24 April 2025 at Nynehead Village Hall.

646 TO RECEIVE THE CLERK’S REPORT ON RECENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES

The Clerk’s report had been circulated with the agenda and was noted. He noted in particular the successful completion of all land transfers from Somerset Council by the 1 April and the decision of Abbeyfield not to close Ivy House and The Old Vicarage. He reported that an appointment had been made to the post of Democratic and Finance Officer and hoped to be appointing to the post of Kings Arms Community Huib Manager shortly.

647 POLICY & FINANCE COMMITTEE

The draft minutes of the meeting held on 17 March 2025 were noted.

648 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

RESOLVED

- (i) That officers should seek quotes for undertaking the white lining the parking bays outside the Post Office and get clarification from Somerset Council as to whether it is able to undertake the work.
- (ii) To refer the Street Trading Consent proposals back to the Economic Development Committee to reconsider charging for charities, to consider recommending a trial period and to develop performance measures against which the success of the trial could be measured.
- (iii) To agree to purchase Microsite – Full Operational Package for Visit Somerset at a cost of £7,400 to be funded from the Promotion of Wellington budget line

649 ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

The draft minutes of the meeting held on the meeting held on 19 March 2025 were noted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.00 pm

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

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