

**MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE  
MEETING HELD AT UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL ON WEDNESDAY 13<sup>th</sup> AUGUST  
2025 AT 6.00PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillor C Booth (Chair),  
Councillors M Lithgow, J Lloyd, S Mercer, C Penk, J. Thorne, K. Wheatley.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Dave Farrow - Chief Executive Officer/Town Clerk  
Annette Kirk - Facilities Manager  
Wasif Choudhury – Democratic Services and Finance Officer  
One member of the public

**173. APOLOGIES**

All councillors were present.

**174. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

**175. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> June 2025.

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

One member of the public spoke in relation to possible events that could be held in the town to help promote Wellington such as New Years eve celebrations and Soap Box races.

Councillors stated that the Council is always looking for new ideas for events that could promote Wellington however careful consideration would be required depending on the event proposed.

**177. EVENTS WORKING GROUP**

Minutes of the Events Working Group meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2025 were noted and the following points were discussed and considered:

**i) Christmas 2025**

**RESOLVED** to approve Somerset Council's fee of £4435 plus VAT for free parking on Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> November, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> December 2025.

It was agreed that this would be publicised with plenty of notice.

**ii) Wellington Day**

**RESOLVED** to approve holding "Wellington Day" annually on the nearest Saturday to the 16<sup>th</sup> August to commence in the 2027/2028 financial year.

It was agreed that Council Officers would work on event details and costings to include in the 2026/7 and 2027/8 budget setting processes.

It was agreed that this event should be distinct from the event held in Wellington Park in May.

**178. TOWN CENTRE CAR PARKS**

Councillor K Wheatley confirmed that he is continuing to pressure Somerset Council for updates and timescales on when the signage in Wellington car parks would be updated and improved.

The Facilities Manager confirmed that there are other repair and maintenance issues for Wellington car parks remaining outstanding.

It was agreed that committee would await official confirmation of new parking charges before additional requests to Somerset Council are made.

**179. FILM FESTIVAL – 3<sup>rd</sup> to 5<sup>th</sup> October 2025**

Councillor K Wheatley provided an update on the upcoming Film Festival which was noted.

The EAT Festival scheduled for 6<sup>th</sup> September will be the first live event where the Film Festival will be promoted and advertised.

**180. PROMOTION OF WELLINGTON**

Councillor K Wheatley provided an update following a meeting with Visit Somerset on 1 August 2025 which was noted.

Councillors reviewed the amended Discover Wellington artwork.

After discussion, it was **RESOLVED** to approve a cost of £500 for a two-year Licence Agreement to use artwork by a local artist to support the Discover Wellington project. This will be paid in two £250 instalments over two years.

The Committee agreed to amend the License Agreement to allow the Council to sell items for cost using this artwork and allow for a 50/50 split on profit share and Councillor Wheatley said he would discuss this with the artist.

Council Officers will ensure that the License Agreement is appropriately worded and for signing by the Mayor and Deputy Chair of the Council .

**181. PULSE**

An email from Pulse Smart Hubs was noted and the map of proposed locations was reviewed.

It was **AGREED** to continue to support the proposal.

The Chief Executive will ask Pulse for further information for rejecting the Westpark and Tonedale proposed locations.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 18:55.

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