

**MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
MEETING HELD AT UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL ON WEDNESDAY 10th
DECEMBER 2025 AT 6.00PM**

PRESENT: Councillor C Booth,
Councillors M Lithgow, S Mercer, J Lloyd, J. Thorne, K Wheatley.

IN ATTENDANCE: Annette Kirk - Facilities Manager
Wasif Choudhury – Democratic Services and Finance Officer
One member of the press
Maxine Price – Wellington Independent Market (Item 457)
Charlotte Beatty – Wellington Independent Market (Item 457)

453. APOLOGIES

Apologies were received from Councillor C Penk.

454. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest declared.

455. MINUTES

RESOLVED to approve and sign the minutes of the meeting held on 10th December 2025.

456. QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public in attendance.

457. WELLINGTON INDEPENDENT MARKET

Maxine Price and Charlotte Beatty provided a report on the Wellington Independent Market which was noted. They will review suggestions from councillors on how to develop the Independent Market going forward.

Councillors thanked and congratulated them both for all their efforts in organising the Independent Market and ensuring its success.

It was confirmed that the mini food festival due to be held on Saturday 5th September 2026 will feature only local traders.

At this juncture Maxine Price and Charlotte Beatty left the meeting.

458. EVENTS WORKING GROUP

The minutes from Events Working Group held on 28th January 2026 was noted.

The following recommendations were discussed:

a) REMEMBRANCE PARADE – Sunday 8th November 2026:

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the draft Wet Weather Contingency Plan with the expectation that this will be shared for input from the Deputy Head, Wellington School, RBL and Wellington Baptist Church Pastor.

b) JUMBLE TRAIL – May Bank Holiday Sunday 24th May 2026

It was **RESOLVED** approve the following:

- I. The entry fee would be £4.00. Event marketing to commence 1st March. Initial deadline date would be Friday 17th April 2026.
- II. The setup of an event Facebook page.
- III. The poster and QR code on the poster and other marketing material with a link to the event Facebook page.
- IV. Half page advert in April/May edition of "The Edge". Cost £50.00
- V. Any profit going towards the Mayor's Charity
- VI. Carly Press Quotation of £69.00 plus VAT for 250 copies of the Jumble Trail Leaflet A5
- VII. Carly Press Quotation of £103.00 plus VAT for 250 copies of the Jumble Trail Leaflet Trifold

c) GARDEN OF LIGHT – Saturday 24th October 2026:

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the fixed price ticket charges as follows:

Adults - £2.00

Children - £1.00 (5 to 16 years old)

Under 5 – Free

459. PROMOTION OF WELLINGTON/VISIT SOMERSET

a) Visit Somerset – Wellington

K Wheatley provided an update on the Visit Somerset Wellington microsite and confirmed that there is a Business Networking event scheduled in March 2026. It was noted that work on the site had not progressed at the desired pace however it is still in the teething progress and has only been active for less than a year.

Councillor J Lloyd expressed her concerns regarding the progress made on the site and the quality of the information that had been uploaded so far.

Councillor J Lloyd proposed a motion to cease working with Visit Somerset and halt any further scheduled payments, there was no seconder.

b) Promotion of coach stop to tour operators.

K Wheatley noted that he had spoken to a representative from the Guild of British Coach Operators about promoting the use of the town coach stop, particularly during the summer period. This will be raised at their annual conference in April 2026, and K Wheatley will feed the response back to the committee.

c) Cleaning of approach to Wellington road signs.

K Wheatley will speak to the Open Spaces Manager about the viability of the Open Spaces Team cleaning dirty road signs. Councillors will provide a list to the team of road signs that are in need of cleaning.

d) Car park signage.

K Wheatley confirmed that Somerset Council are still at the stage of getting quotes from suppliers.

460. TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT

(i) Speed Indicator Device:

It was **RESOLVED** to approve the following:

- To proceed with purchasing a Speed Indicator Device and to give delegated spending power to Council Officers up to £5,000 which will cover installation, purchase of pole (if required) and license for installation on public highway. Costs to be taken from Town Centre Projects budget line.
- To proceed with the Evolis model.
- To pursue grant funding from Avon & Somerset Police.
- To work with Somerset Council and Police on approved locations.

(ii) Requests for Road/Traffic Management Changes.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend to Full Council that the process is adopted.

461. BUS SHELTER – Rockwell Green

The update on the Rockwell Green Bus Shelter installation was noted.

Councillors discussed the importance of an additional stop by the new housing developments in Rockwell Green. The Facilities Manager will follow up on this.

The Facilities Manager will request an update on the status of funds for the inclusion of real time information at new bus shelters.

462. CRADLE TO CAREER

The update provided by Community Development Officer was noted.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 19:15.

Signed.....

Date.....