

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 22<sup>nd</sup> OCTOBER 2009**

**PRESENT:** Cllr C Borastero (Mayor)  
Cllrs D Anderson, M Brandon, T Butt Philip, N Kennedy, J North, J Osman, J Parkes, C Price, S Robertson and H Siggs

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk's Assistant

**INFORMAL SESSION**

The Mayor's Chaplain led the Council in prayers for the people of Wells and the life of the Council especially those who had taken on added responsibilities at this particular time. Prebendary Smith reflected on the "Serenity Prayer" living one day at a time, one moment at a time and taking life as it was and not as we would wish it to be.

Mrs Siddons referred to previous questions relating to the final cost involved in the refurbishment of the public conveniences at Town Hall Buildings. The Mayor gave her assurance that she would write to Mrs Siddons with the relevant information.

Mr Hudsmith commended the appointment of Mr Luck as temporary RFO to the Council and wished him well in his new position.

**FORMAL SESSION**

**09/083C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

The apologies received from Cllrs S Davies, T Robbins and D Unwin were noted. Cllr Byrne and J Nicholas did not attend.

**09/084C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

No declarations were made.

**09/085C REPORT FROM POLICE** PCSO Alasdair Scriven reported the issuing of 89 tickets since the last meeting. He brought to the members' attention events in Wells starting on 2<sup>nd</sup> November with the "Big Tidy Up" involving groups of young people starting at the Skate Park and moving to different parts of Wells clearing litter/graffitti. A Truancy Day was planned later in the month with the police working closely with the schools. Volunteers were being sought in various areas in Wells for the Community Speed Watch. Unfortunately they were still awaiting the painting of some single and double yellow lines in the Southover and Mill Street area. PC Spencer Scott Page was asked about the use of the Nutricia Site with regard to holding events and extra parking especially for the Health Centre but informed the Council that the land was in private ownership and there were Health and Safety issues. Cllr Brandon remarked that a more permanent solution was needed with regard to the lack of parking at the Health Centre which would not be helped by having extra temporary parking on the Nutricia site. PC Page would however contact the owners and report back to the Council. The Young Drivers project still needed further funding and produced a proposal and planned timetable for Council information. PC Page informed the Council that Inspector Ray Hulin was leaving Wells to take up a new position. He would keep members informed about the appointment of a new Inspector. At Cllr Borastero's request PC Page said he would find out from PCSO Anderson if "The Shed" would re-open this Autumn.

- 09/086C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE EXTRAORDINARY CITY COUNCIL** held on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> September 2009.  
Cllr Anderson moved the adoption of the minutes which were unanimously **resolved** Cllr Butt Philip asked that the names of Councillors Tony Robbins, Norman Kennedy, Theo Butt Philip and Sally Robertson could be added to these minutes as members of the Town Clerk's Subcommittee. The Mayor reported that the council had revisited a number of outstanding issues. The RFO had examined the accounts and found no missing monies but accountancy errors. The certificate from the external auditors was due within the next two weeks. The Council signatories had been re-authorised. An error with the overpayment of staff wages had been rectified. The Town Hall Licence was now in the name of Kevin Westwood. Work to the Relief Road plantation had now started and was being overseen by Steve Luck. The Mayor wished to thank staff co-operation especially the Town Hall Managers. Cllr Brandon was assured by the Mayor that all Wells in Bloom activities and hardware were covered by Council insurance.
- 09/087C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL** held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2009. Cllr Butt Philip moved the adoption of the minutes which were unanimously **resolved**
- 09/088C CORRESPONDENCE**  
Members were informed that all correspondence was at their disposal in the office
- 09/089C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009.  
Cllr Siggs presented the minutes and moved their adoption as necessary which was **resolved**.
- 09/090C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING AND ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE** held on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> September 2009, Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> October 2009 and 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009.  
Cllr Kennedy presented the minutes and moved their adoption as necessary which was **resolved**. Cllr Price asked if Wells City Council could be kept informed of the Dulcote Quarry application.
- 09/091C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** held on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009.  
Cllr Price presented the minutes and moved their adoption which was **resolved**. Cllr Robertson asked that the reports for the "Proposed Strategy for Wells" be put on to the next agenda. Cllr Siggs informed members that where the LDF was concerned the report could only be presented from Wells City Council as an advisory document. Cllr Price in answer to a question raised by Cllr Kennedy reported that all funding had now been found for the restoration of the "Bastin's Clock"

- 09/092C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WELLS IN BLOOM COMMITTEE** held on Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2009.  
Cllr Brandon presented the minutes and moved their adoption which was **resolved**. Cllr Brandon informed the meeting that Quadron had removed the flower bed in the Recreation Ground which members felt was a great shame. Cllr Brandon was in the process of reclaiming the railings which had surrounded the bed having been bought with money bequeathed to the City Council to place elsewhere. Cllr Brandon thanked members of the Council and volunteers from Wells in Bloom planting group for their help with the “clearing up” on Sunday.
- 09/093C TO ELECT MEMBER TO PERSONNEL COMMITTEE**  
Cllrs T Butt Philip and S Robertson were elected to the Personnel Committee
- 09/094C TO APPROVE DIARY OF MEETINGS**  
Members **resolved** unanimously to adopt the proposed Calendar of Council Engagements from January to May 2010
- 09/095C ITEMS FOR URGENT REPORT**  
Cllr Kennedy asked if all arrangements concerning the Council were in hand with regard to the Fun Fair/Carnival. The Mayor assured him that everything necessary was in place.  
The Mayor informed members of the arrangements for Remembrance Sunday  
The Mayor reminded Councillors to review their Declaration of Interest Forms
- 09/096C RESOLUTION TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**  
It was proposed by the mayor and unanimously **resolved** that the press and public be excluded under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended for the consideration of information where publicity would be inappropriate.  
The recommendations put forward by the Town Clerk’s subcommittee were debated and approved **unanimously**