

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 17th DECEMBER 2009

PRESENT: Cllr C Borastero (The Mayor)
Cllrs: D Anderson; M Brandon; T Butt Philip; S Davies;
J Nicholas; J North; J Parkes; C Price; T Robbins; S Robertson;
H Siggs; D Unwin.

IN ATTENDANCE: Jo Swift, Town Clerk

INFORMAL SESSION:

The Mayors Chaplain led the Council in prayers and spoke about the great loss of Chris Clarke.

Mrs Siddons spoke and referred to the Finance and General Purposes meeting held on 19th November, mentioning that Wells City Council are not in a position to take on both the Recreation Ground and Barn, and that the City Council no longer want to manage it anymore. Mrs Siddons re-emphasised concerns that she previously raised in 2007-2008 and wanted to know if full reports were available to the public of any of these discussions.

Councillors H Siggs, D Unwin, M Brandon declared an interest in the Recreation Ground and Barn and left the room. They returned after Mrs Siddons had finished.

Councillor McKenzie from Mendip District Council spoke about the loss of Chris Clarke and all the valuable work that he had done for the City.

FORMAL SESSION:

09/097C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:

Cllrs N Kennedy, J Osman, L Byrne

09/098C DECLARTIONS OF INTEREST.

There were none

09/099C REPORT FROM THE POLICE

A thank you was made from the neighbour team for work that they had done with Wells City Council. Also thanks for work done for the funerals of Harry Patch and Sandy Paget.

PACT - the project regarding speeding in Wells and local villages has been positive and will continue to April.

It was requested that Wells City Council give support to a pedestrian project at Coxley and although it is out of the area many cross the road there to come to school in Wells.

The new Inspector is expected in post on 4th January 2010 and will come to the next City Council Meeting.

Thanks were given for all the support over the year and that it was much appreciated.

A question was asked regarding traffic cones - if traffic cones are put out by those other than the police they can't guarantee they can

move the vehicles as the police cannot ticket them.
It was mentioned that the Christmas crime prevention publicity was not out as in previous years. Spencer Scott Page from the Police Force replied that some publicity was being released and other schemes were there such as the bells for purses and bags.
A question was asked whether or not rumble strips could be put on Broad Street. Spencer Scott Page replied that this would be a decision of the City Council.
Could a speed indicator be put by Priory Road/Post Office? Spencer Scott Page replied that this was a decision for Highways.
The Mayor gave thanks to the Police for all their work on Carnival evening.

09/100C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL held on 22nd October 2009

RESOLVED:

That the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd October 2009 be confirmed as a true record and be signed by the Mayor.

09/101C ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE MAYOR

1. Everyone was reminded of the Civic Service Carol Service on 20th December. 4.30pm for robing.
2. New boiler is presently being installed and will be up and running shortly.
3. To note the change of date of the next Finance and General Purposed meeting
4. There is to be drinks in the parlour after this meeting.

09/102C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on 19th November and 8th December 2009.

Councillor Tony Robbins presented the minutes and moved their adoption as necessary which was resolved.

Councillor T Butt Philip asked what the Friendship agreement was. Councillor S Davies explained exactly what it meant and how it would involve the City Council. It would be a Friendship agreement only and is not a twinning. The vote in favour was unanimous.

RESOLVED:

To create a friendship agreement between Wells City Council Kluczbork (Poland), Bad Burka (East Germany) and Kempton.

09/103C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE held on 29th October, 19th November and 8th December 2009.

Councillor John Parkes presented the minutes and moved their adoption as necessary which was resolved.

09/104C MINUTES OF THE ARCHIVES & CIVIC ASSET COMMITTEE held on

28th October 2009.

John North presented the minutes and moved their adoption as necessary which was resolved.

09/105C

MINUTES OF THE CITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
held on 11th November 2009.

Councillor C Price presented the minutes and moved their adoption as necessary which was resolved.

Questions were asked regarding the proposed strategy for Wells and how it had come about. A discussion took place and it was concluded that it really was a vision/wish list for Wells and was the result of a community consultant not a Mendip document. The 'conclusion' of all the reports (previously circulated) would be forwarded on to the District Council to feed into the City Plan and Local Development Framework.

Councillors H Siggs, D Unwin and M Brandon declared an interest as Mendip District Councillors.

RESOLVED:

To adopt the 'conclusion' of the strategy for Wells.

The vote was 9 In favour with four abstentions.

09/106C

MINUTES OF THE WELLS IN BLOOM COMMITTEE held on 18th
November 2009.

Councillor M Brandon presented the minutes and moved their adoption as necessary which was resolved.

09/107C

MINUTES OF THE PERSONNEL COMMITTEE held on 26th
November 2009.

Theo Butt Philips presented the minutes and moved their adoption as necessary which was resolved.

09/108C

CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS

That the correspondence items as listed on the Agenda are available for inspection in the Wells City Council Offices

09/109C

REPORTS OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE
BODIES AND DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

It was mentioned that it was disappointing that not more City Councillors attend central Mendip Community Member Partnership meetings as a lot could be gained from attending. The next meeting is at the Town Hall on Monday 25th January 2010 at 6.30pm.

09/110C

VICE CHAIRMAN OF COMMITTEES

Councillor D Unwin pointed out that it would be good to have a named vice Chairman and would like to see one on all committees.

The Mayor reported that Standing Order 24 states that every committee can elect a chairman. A discussion took place about this and the Standing Orders. It was decided that the Standing Orders needed to be reviewed as they were last reviewed in 2007.

09/111C MINUTES OF ALL MEETINGS

The Town Clerk had written a report (previously circulated) on the lawful way the minutes of all meetings should be dealt with as presently they are not be done in the correct way. The Mayor said this item should go on the Agenda of the next Finance and General Purposes meeting.

09/112C ITEMS FOR URGENT REPORT

The Mayor reported that an advertisement for the vacancy of a new Town Clerk had been drawn up with a list of potential places to advertise. This started a debate but as it was not an Agenda item it was agreed to put it on as an Agenda at the next Wells City Council meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The date of the next meeting is Thursday 21st January 2010 at 7.00 p.m

Signed..... Date.....
(The Mayor)