

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 18th February 2010

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk F White; RFO S Luck;
Ward District Councillor R Mackenzie; Inspector M Nicholson;
PCSO D Williams; members of the public

INFORMAL SESSION:

The Mayors Chaplain led the Council in prayers

District Councillor MacKenzie reported for information: an anomaly in regulation of night-time car parking in the Market Place is being rectified by Mendip District Council.

FORMAL SESSION:

10/012C **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs; T Butt-Philip; N Kennedy; J Nicholas; D Unwin.
Councillor Davies expected to arrive late.
Councillor L Byrne had fully expected to attend but was unwell with Shingles, members expressed their concern.

10/013C **DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

There were none

10/014C **REPORT FROM THE POLICE**

Inspector Nicholson introduced himself and took questions from Councillors.
(Councillor Davies arrived and apologised for being late).
PCSO Williams gave the monthly Police Report:

- i. Two females were arrested today, it is expected this will bring a noticeable reduction in bag-snatching
- ii. 72 parking tickets have been issued
- iii. Anti-social behavior patrols continue, with 3 x S.59 orders issued (inappropriate driving of vehicle in a car-park)

10/015C **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL** held on 21st January 2010.

Council noted that the meeting scheduled for 28th January did not take place as the Precept had already been set.
Minutes of the City Council meeting held on 21st January 2010 were proposed, confirmed as a true record and signed.

10/016C **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN**

The Mayor reported the Proper Officer is now the Interim Town Clerk, Mrs Felicity White.
The Town Clerk, RFO, Mayor and Vice-Chairman, are meeting weekly on Tuesday mornings, this is helping to ensure the smooth running of the

office and the Council's business.

- 10/017C **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE ARCHIVES AND CIVIC ASSETS COMMITTEE** held on 20th January 2010.
Councillor Price asked members to note the dates of Heritage week 9-12 September - stewards will be needed; the Minutes were proposed and approved.
- 10/018C **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE WELLS IN BLOOM COMMITTEE** held on 21st January 2010 were deferred to the next meeting.
- 10/019C **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE** held on 3rd February 2010 were amended, proposed and approved.
- 10/020C **MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEES** held on 28th January, 11th February 2010 were proposed and approved.
The Town Clerk suggested Highway defects be reported to the Town Hall Office, to be passed on for the attention of SCC Highways.
- 10/021C **MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE** held on 11th February 2010 were proposed and approved.
- 10/022C **CORRESPONDENCE/INFORMATION ITEMS** The correspondence has been available for inspection in the Wells City Council Offices, there were no matters arising.
- 10/023C **REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**
Tourist Information. Councillor North reported the Chairman has recently met with the Mayor and Town Clerk to ask for help in securing the future of the Tourist Information Office in Wells
Somerset County Council. Councillor Osman reported from the Budget – setting meeting.
A small amount remains in his County Councillor's Local Initiatives Fund.
Chamber of Commerce. Councillor Davies reported on the new Facebook Fanpage.
Mendip District Council. Councillor Siggs reported the Budget-setting process has been postponed to next week. He was able to report successes, particularly in the area of Housing; Debt Counselling and Youth Intervention.
Councillors commended MDC on these successes and asked questions; there was a brief discussion.
- 10/024C **NOMINATION OF MAYOR TO BE ELECTED AT 'MAYOR MAKING'**
Councillor Robbins was nominated by Councillor Anderson, seconded by Councillor Siggs; there being no further nominations Councillor Robbins was elected.
- 10/025C **NOMINATION OF DEPUTY MAYOR TO BE ELECTED AT 'MAYOR MAKING'**
Councillor Robertson was nominated by Councillor Osman, seconded by Councillor Davies; there being no further nominations Councillor Robertson was elected.

10/026C

REPORT FROM THE CLERKS EMPLOYMENT COMMITTEE

Councillor Robertson reported that advertising is in progress; there was a short discussion. Councillor Osman called for called for the Chairman of the Committee to provide a written report or be present to give his report; failing this he called for the Chairman to resign; he asked that this be recorded in the Minutes. There was further discussion before the Mayor drew the matter to a close.

10/027C

ITEMS FOR URGENT REPORT

Councillor Davies asked if the City Emergency Plan should be up-dated, particularly in the light of recent severe weather. The Town Clerk will supply a copy of the Plan for him to review.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next Meeting of Wells City Council will be at 7pm on Thursday 8th April 2010

Signed.....
(The Mayor)

Date.....