

## WELLS CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2012 AT 7PM TO CONSIDER CONFERMENT OF THE FREEDOM OF THE CITY

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: D Unwin (The Mayor); C Price (Deputy Mayor); C Briton; A Denison; A Gibson; N Kennedy; J North; H Siggs; G Wilson; T Butt Philip; J Osman; D Anderson; M Brandon; J Mitchell; T Robbins.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk: F White; RFO: S Luck  
Mace-Bearer: J Rood.  
3 members of the press; 3 members of the public

Prayers were said by the Chaplain before the start of the meeting.

**12/01C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs: S Davies (approved)

**12/02C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS: None**

**12/03C MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To defer consideration of the minutes to the City Council meeting to be held immediately following this session: resolved.

**12/04C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Two members of the public spoke in support of the nomination of Mary Rand.

**12/05C NOMINATION TO AWARD THE HONORARY FREEDOM OF THE CITY OF WELLS**

Cllr Kennedy spoke about Mary Rand and proposed she be awarded the Freedom of the City; seconded by Cllr Osman.

Cllr North spoke about Danny Nightingale and proposed he be awarded the Freedom of the City; seconded by Cllr Brandon.

Due to the confidential nature of this item, relating to the merits of private individuals, it was proposed by the Chairman that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended, excluding the press and public: resolved.

The press and public left the room.

After very careful consideration of the matters before the Council a vote was taken on the proposal to award Freedom of the City to Mary Rand, this was passed by the required two thirds majority: RESOLVED.

A vote was taken on the proposal to award Freedom of the City to Danny Nightingale: Council asked for more information to be supplied and resolved to reconsider the nomination at the earliest opportunity.

The public returned to the Chamber to hear the decisions of the Council.

*The meeting closed at 8.20pm.*

**12/06C NEXT MEETING** A meeting of the City Council followed at 8.30pm

## WELLS CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 26<sup>th</sup> JANUARY 2012

AT 8.30PM

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: D Unwin (The Mayor); C Price (Deputy Mayor); C Briton; A Denison; A Gibson; N Kennedy; J North; H Siggs; G Wilson; T Butt Philip; J Osman; D Anderson; M Brandon; J Mitchell; T Robbins.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk: F White; RFO: S Luck  
Mace-Bearer: J Rood.  
1 member of the press; 1 member of the public.  
3 Police Officers. 1 Mendip District Council Officer.

**12/07C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs: S Davies (approved).

**12/08C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS:** See 12/14C

**12/09C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL held on 1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER 2011** were proposed, seconded accepted and signed.

**12/10C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr Alan Boulos spoke about Rampaid and Wells Skatepark and answered questions. Councillors thanked him for his work and for coming to share his concerns with the Council. Cllr Price spoke as the City Council's representative to the Skatepark Management Group and raised concerns with Mendip District Councillors regarding the future of the skatepark.

**12/11C REPORT FROM THE POLICE:** PC Page

- i. 91 tickets issued since the last report.
- ii. Some Highways matters were referred to SCC and MDC Councillors from the recent PACT meeting.
- iii. MDC will be holding some training afternoons for community groups in advance of the Queen's Diamond Jubilee re: Event licences and road closure applications. 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2-5pm; 15<sup>th</sup> February 5.30-8pm

**12/12C PRESENTATION: ALCOHOL-RESTRICTED ZONE**

Sgt John Muers; Judi Thompson, Community Support Officer, MDC  
To receive a report from Mendip District Council and approve recommendations.

Information was presented regarding proposals for the Designated Public Place Order in Wells and the recent community consultation; questions were answered. The recommendations were proposed and approved by the Council.

**12/13C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor thanked members for their congratulations on the birth of his grandson and for their support at the Civic functions attended by the Council.

**12/14C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

Minutes of the meeting held on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2011, 12<sup>th</sup> January 2012 were proposed, seconded and accepted.

**RECOMMENDED: PRECEPT FOR THE YEAR 2012-2013**

(Cllr Osman declared a personal interest as a Somerset County Councillor, in matters relating to Highways funding.)

Cllr Robbins answered questions regarding the Budget; he proposed adoption of the Budget and Precept, seconded by Cllr North; a vote was taken and the proposal was approved.

**The Precept approved for 2012-13 is £308,105.**

- 12/15C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
Minutes of the meetings held on 30<sup>th</sup> November, 15<sup>th</sup> December 2011 and 5<sup>th</sup> January 2012 were proposed, seconded and accepted.
- 12/16C MINUTES OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE**  
Minutes of the meeting held on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2011 were proposed, seconded and accepted.
- 12/17C MINUTES OF THE ARCHIVES AND CIVIC ASSETS COMMITTEE**  
Minutes of the meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> December were proposed, seconded and accepted.
- 12/18C MINUTES OF THE CEMETERY AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**  
Minutes of the meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> December were proposed, seconded and accepted.
- 12/19C REPORTS OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**
- i. Somerset County Council  
Cllr Osman reported progress on the installation of bus shelters at Portway and Bath Road.
- ii. Mendip District Council  
Cllr North spoke about measures to address Rural Isolation.
- iii. CCTV  
Cllr Robbins has become Chairman of the CCTV User Group  
The Manager will attend a Council meeting in the near future to report and answer Councillors questions.
- iv. Carnival  
Cllr Robbins reported a de-brief has taken place with the Traffic Police; further meetings of the Carnival Committee are scheduled; he will report to Council as soon as possible.
- v. Fairtrade  
Cllr Brandon apologised, as the Fairtrade meetings continue to take place on Thursdays she has been unable to attend.
- 12/20C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT**  
Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> February at 7pm was agreed as a provisional date to consider the conferment of the Honorary Freedom of the City; deferring the scheduled meeting of the Archives and Assets Committee.
- 12/21C The next ordinary Council meeting will be at 7pm on Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2012**