

**WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER AT WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY
11th OCTOBER 2012 AT 7.00PM**

PRESENT: Cllrs: T Robbins (Chairman); J North (Vice Chairman);
M Brandon (The Mayor); T Butt Philip (Deputy-Mayor);
C Price; G Wilson; D Anderson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White.
Cllr A Gibson.

12/111F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr D Unwin. Cllr Butt Phillip would arrive later.
RFO: S Luck.

12/112F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST None.

12/113F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 20th SEPTEMBER 2012

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and signed.

12/114F MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC None present.

12/115F FINANCIAL REPORT To receive the financial reports for September 2012. The accounts had been scrutinised and bank statements checked prior to the meeting. The accounts for September 2012 were proposed, seconded and approved.

12/116F ANNUAL REVIEWS

To receive reviews of Standing Orders and other procedural matters and make recommendations to Council.

i. Committee Delegation Scheme

With reference to minute 12/102F Planning Committee delegation: the matter had been discussed at the City Council meeting; it was agreed that if it was necessary to use delegated powers, members of the Planning Committee would be notified; it was also agreed to hold additional Planning Committee meetings in August as necessary.

The Committee Delegation Scheme was approved and recommended for adoption by Council.

ii. Standing Orders

New Standing Order 25 was recommended for adoption by Council; Standing Orders had been reviewed and there were no further amendments.

iii. Press and Media Policy

A draft policy was presented and after some minor amendments was recommended to Council for adoption.

The issue was raised of how to define a policy to ensure that members representing the Council at outside meetings give the views of the Council, not their personal views.

iv. Complaints Policy

A draft policy was presented and after amendment was recommended to Council for adoption.

RECOMMENDED:

Committee Delegation Scheme

Standing Order 25

Press and Media Policy

Complaints Policy

12/117F FUNDING APPLICATION

Wells City Carnival (LGA 1972 S.145)

After discussion a grant of £800 was proposed, seconded and agreed.

12/118F CHRISTMAS LIGHTS (LGA 1972 S.145)

To approve quotes.

The Chairman explained that comparative quotes had been sought. The City Centre Management Committee had recommended that it was in support, in principle, of extending the lighting into Broad St, Queen St and lower High St, finance permitting; Cllr Anderson reported that this had always been the intention since the start of the present system in 2004. Cllr Price confirmed he had contacted the Chamber of Commerce who had no plans to make any provision this year. The preferred quote was agreed and there was a long discussion about the possibility of extending into the lower end of the town, costs for this were presented but would exceed the budget. The Chairman proposed that as much of the extension be included as was possible within the budget; this was agreed. It was agreed that an additional meeting of the City Centre Management Committee will be held at 6pm on Thursday 25th October to consider a contribution from that committee budget. It was agreed that any sponsorship from businesses would be welcome. A request regarding the time the lights come on each day was referred to the City Centre Management Committee, this being a management matter, not financial.

12/119F ANY OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT

- i. Cllr North: Budget 2013-14. (Item for next agenda).
- ii. Cllr North: Query regarding item on the previous CCMC agenda.
- iii. Cllr Butt Philip: 2013 will be the 30th Anniversary of the Twinning with Bad Durkheim, the Twinning Association hopes the Council will be involved. Cllr Butt Philip was asked to return with an assessment of any costs implications; it was felt that these would depend on whether the Council was making any arrangements and issuing any invitations. (Item for next agenda).

12/120F DATE OF NEXT MEETING: Thursday 8th November at 7.00pm