

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER WELLS TOWN HALL, THURSDAY 28th NOVEMBER 2013 AT 7:00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: T Butt Philip (The Mayor); C Briton (Deputy Mayor);
D Anderson; M Brandon; S Davies; A Gibson; N Kennedy; J North;
J Parkes; H Siggs; D Unwin; G Wilson.

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White. RFO: S Luck.
Mace-Bearer: J Rood. Chaplain: Ven. N Sullivan.
1 member of the press. PC Pearson.

13/144C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: A Denison; C Price; J Osman; T Robbins.
Avon and Somerset Police.

13/145C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None. See also 13/158C, Cllrs: Siggs, Unwin, North.

13/1346C MINUTES of the meeting of the City Council held on 24th October 2013 were proposed, seconded, approved, and signed by the Mayor.

13/147C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None present.

13/148C TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE POLICE

PC Pearson gave an up-date on recent activity and reported priorities from the PACT meeting: speeding in Tor St; dangerous parking in North Rd; dangerous parking in Ash Lane.

13/149C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- i. The Mayor invited everyone to drop in for 'Cheese and Chat' in the Mayor's Parlour on Saturday 30th November, 11am – 1pm.
- ii. The Civic Carol Service will be at 6.30pm in St Thomas' Church on Sunday 15th December, everyone is very welcome.

13/150C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 31st October 2013 and 21st November.

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

13/151C MINUTES OF THE CITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2013.

Cllr Gibson presented the minutes and invited questions.

The Deputy Mayor answered questions about the discussion on city centre management.

The Mayor reminded members that they are welcome to attend meetings of all the council's committees at any time.

The meeting heard that Somerset County Council no longer issues printed bus timetables because they go out of date so quickly. Current timetables are available on the internet.

13/152C MINUTES OF THE CEMETERY & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 7th November 2013.

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

- 13/153C MINUTES OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE**
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 21st November.
The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.
- 13/154C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 13th November 2013.
The Vice-Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.
- i. **RECOMMENDED:**
To adopt the Budget for the year 2014-15.
Proposed, seconded, voted and RESOLVED.
- i. **To approve the Precept for the year 2014-15.**
Proposed, seconded, voted and RESOLVED.
- 13/155C COMMITTEE VACANCY**
To appoint a member to fill vacancy on the Staffing Committee.
Cllr Siggs was nominated, seconded and unanimously appointed.
- 13/156C FUEL POVERTY**
Cllr Unwin presented a paper and sought council's support. It was agreed that the Town Clerk and the Mayor be asked to transpose the contents into a letter to DECC, to be circulated to members by e-mail for approval before sending.
- 13/157C POLLING STATIONS**
MDC Polling Districts and Polling Places Review.
There was some discussion of the view put forward by the Mayor that provision of an adjacent free-parking area might encourage polling. Eventually a vote was taken on the proposal 'to leave well alone'; this was carried.
- 13/158C MDC PARKING TARIFFS CONSULTATION**
Cllr Siggs declared a personal non-prejudicial interest, as a member of Mendip District Council; he spoke about the financial restrictions on MDC and explained the reasons for the proposed increase in parking charges.
Cllr Unwin declared a personal non-prejudicial interest, as a member of Mendip District Council; he answered questions about the charges.
It was proposed that the City Council's response to the consultation be to support the increase in the charges; this was seconded and the motion was passed by the majority voting.
Cllr North declared a personal non-prejudicial interest, as a member of Mendip District Council.
- 13/159C REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**
- i. Mendip District Council
Cllr North reported progress on the works at Moat Walk.
- ii. Museum
Cllr Briton gave an up-date on arrangements for the World War 1 commemorations in the city.
- 13/160C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT**
The Council congratulated journalist Robert Smith on his new appointment and wished him well for the future.
- 13/161C DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
To note that the next meeting will be at **7pm on Thursday 19th December 2013.**

