

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE CITY & TOURISM FORUM MEETING HELD IN THE OLD COURT
ROOM, WELLS TOWN HALL, WEDNESDAY 15TH JUNE 2016 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: C Cox; D Swain (Chairman); R MacKenzie;
Mr A Webb, Wells Museum/Visitor Information
Ms C Winter, Wells Civic Society
D Cooper, Wells Film Centre
M Johns, Wells Chamber of Commerce
Mr M Tobin, Swan Hotel / Visit Somerset (Vice-Chairman)

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White; RFO S Luck
Cllrs: M Brandon; A Gibson (Mayor)
2 members of the public. 1 press representative

16/21CT ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN AND VICE CHAIRMAN

The mayor opened the meeting and called for nominations for Chairman.
Cllr Swain was proposed, seconded, elected and took the Chair.
Mark Tobin was proposed, seconded, and elected as Vice-Chairman.

16/22CT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: Ludovino, Robbins, Wride
Ms L Mann, Wells Cathedral
Mrs R Martin, The Bishops Palace
Ms T Chichester, 'B&B' representative
Cllrs Cox, Gibson (The Mayor) and MacKenzie, would have to leave the meeting early.

16/23CT DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

16/24CT MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the meeting held on 13TH APRIL 2016 were proposed, seconded approved and signed.

Matters Arising

St Thomas St Open Gardens raised £3,700 for Cancer Research

16/25CT MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None wishing to speak.

16/26CT PRESENTATIONS

i. 'Walkers are Welcome'

Mr Andy Mallender from the Mendip AONB spoke about this scheme; a group has been set up in Cheddar and would be willing to mentor a project for Wells.

ii. Wells Brocante Fair

Mr Ian Pirrie reported the first event had been very well received. He explained his plans for more; he is working closely with the Chamber of Commerce and with the relevant businesses.

Brocante Fairs are proposed for the second Sunday in each month (not October)

16/27CT 2016 EVENTS

See attached list.

Feedback was submitted regarding the Somerset School Country Dance Festival. Christmas lights will be put up in the city 21st-22nd November during the evenings. (The Mayor and Cllr MacKenzie left the meeting)

16/28CT PROMOTING THE CITY

'Visit by Coach'

There was a long discussion of the presentation paper. The representatives were in strong support of the proposal; it appeared that some groups were willing to put in financial support. Andy Webb said he could gain funding from Mendip Tourism Ltd by diverting it from other projects.

The Chairman asked everyone to submit bullet points to the Town Clerk for a remit to be discussed at the next meeting; it was agreed to meet again soon.

There were concerns about the coach bay in Sadler Street and discussion of the need for free parking for coaches at the bus station.

(Cllr Cox left the meeting)

16/29CT ANY OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT

- i. It was agreed to keep the flags and bunting up in the town until the end of August.
- ii. The Open Spaces Officer reported there had been no suggestion that the cost of maps be reduced, but he had checked with Cityscape; there would be a financial cost involved. Sales are doing very well at the current price. The Waitrose site is far the best seller, followed by Cathedral Green, with the High Street the least.
- iii. A request that the Bishops Palace stop bill-posting on empty shops and on the map boards.
- iv. It was agreed that a representative from the Film Centre be formally co-opted onto the Forum.
- v. Cllr Swain asked if members would support raising the LGBT flag at the Town Hall, in solidarity with victims of the Orlando killings. All those present indicated their support.

16/30CT DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING **6pm Wednesday 13th July 2016**

PUBLIC EVENTS / ROAD CLOSURES SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE CITY OF WELLS 2016

Note: This listing attempts to identify major events likely to cause significant additional traffic or other disruption. Notifications of any other such events will be gratefully received.

18th June: 'Music Circus': Cathedral Green

(22nd June: Glastonbury Festival)

26th June: Coast to Coast Motorcycle Rally, Market Place & Moat Walk

4-5th July Filming: The White Princess - Parking suspensions, Market Place

10th July: Boules Tournament, Market Place

30th July: Swim/Run event, Wells Leisure Centre

6th August: Marathon Run: via Mendip Way crossing New Street

11th August: Parking on Recreation ground

13th August: Rail Wells Model Railway Show, Town Hall

29th August: Moat Boat Race, Moat Walk & Recreation Ground

10th September Heritage Open Day, Town Hall
(Please notify other Heritage Open Day events to the City Archivist for inclusion in city publicity)

18th September Freeman's 'Party in the Square', Market Place

October: FESTIVALS

9th October Food Festival, Market Place & Recreation Ground

18th November: Wells Carnival - city

16-19th November Charter Fair (Fun Fair), Market Place

21-22 November Christmas lights go up- city centre

4th December Reindeer Parade

11th December Wells Brocante Fair

21-24th December Wells Christmas Market (MDC)