

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY CENTRE AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE
HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL ON
THURSDAY 6TH JULY AT 2017 6.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: M Brandon; C Cox; A Gibson (Chairman); R MacKenzie;
J North (Mayor); C Price (Vice-Chairman); C Wride (Deputy Mayor)

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White
RFO: S Luck
County Cllr. T Munt
5 members of the Public

17/25CO APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Cllrs: D Swain

17/26CO DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS
Cllr. North declared a personal interest as member, in any matter relating to Mendip District Council.

17/27CO ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN
Cllr. Price was proposed, seconded and elected as Vice-Chairman.

17/28CO MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
Minutes of the meeting held on **6TH APRIL 2017** were proposed, seconded approved and signed.

17/29CO MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

1. Molly and Sarah Briton were welcomed to the meeting and spoke about projects that had been proposed to commemorate the late Councillor Chris Briton.

Agenda item 13 was then taken, in discussion with Molly and Sarah:

MEMORIAL TO Cllr BRITON

After some discussions it was agreed:

- i. To plant a natural species tree; details to be finalised by Molly Briton with the RFO.
- ii. An arts competition / award
- iii. A public art works display

The Chairman and Officers would continue working with the Briton family on the development of these two arts ideas.

2. Mr Powell, Chairman, Wells Chamber of Commerce spoke about the Charter Markets and Fairs.
The Chamber had received representations from businesses complaining about the Fun Fair. Adrian Lawrence (The Crown at Wells) had also written to the City Council and to Mendip District Council to complain of disruption to business due to noise. Michael Johns, President of the Wells Chamber also spoke.
The Chamber of Commerce requested that the Fun Fair be taken to a site outside the town centre, as other towns have done. A more family orientated fair with smaller, quieter, stalls, could be run in the market place.
Agenda item 10 was then taken, in discussion with the Chamber representatives:

CHARTER FAIRS Fair licence from MDC due for renewal May 2018:

The Town Clerk gave a report of the facts and asked members to come into the office if they wished to view the relevant documents. The current agreement with MDC to use the raised area will expire 30th April 2018.

It was agreed a series of meetings will be held with MDC officers and with the fairground operators to find a way forward for the future.

17/30CO PRESENTATION 'Visit by Coach'

Ian Jefferies presented a report and answered questions.

Mendip District Council members present offered to take up particular matters and it was agreed some of the items requested would be very straightforward to implement.

17/31CO MINUTES OF THE CITY & TOURISM FORUM

To receive the minutes of the City and Tourism Forum meeting held on 3rd May 2017: Noted.

The Town Clerk gave an up-date on the City of Culture bid; members were asked to submit comments on the draft press release by Tuesday morning 11th July.

17/32CO CHRISTMAS LIGHTS 2017

The RFO gave a brief progress report; arrangements are well in hand for December 2017. The main purchases have been made, within budget.

17/33CO WELLS CHRISTMAS MARKET

The Town Clerk reported a well attended group meeting was held this week; the Chamber of Commerce, Cathedral, and Bishop's Palace are entering into the project with enthusiasm. MDC Officers are drawing up a budget and will report back at the next meeting, 2nd August.

17/34CO OPEN SPACES REPORT

1. Skate Park

The RFO asked members to note the annual skate park inspection report has been received with no serious issues to address; any minor matters are already part of an on-going program of works. However, there is currently a problem with anti-social behaviour, leaving splinters of brown broken glass virtually daily. The area is cleared daily but this is never-the-less a hazard to children and has been reported repeatedly to the Police and CCTV camera managers.

Cllr MacKenzie reported he had been checking the area in response to issues raised at the PACT meeting and will be providing feedback confirming that it is kept very litter-free. He will report the broken glass problem.

2. Cemetery Trees

The full condition survey of all the trees at the cemetery has now been completed; it is available for members to read if they wish. A program of works has been planned to address all the needs identified.

17/35/CO LITTER BIN Request for litter bin at Priory Road, close to Home Chime House: £400 approved, subject to permissions.

17/36/CO TOWN TWINNING

To identify a suitable site for the stone emblem donated by Bad Durkheim celebrating 30 years partnership.

After deliberations it was agreed to install the stone on the ground under the existing plaque outside the front of the Town Hall; this was agreed to be a fitting site, and in a public area, as requested by the Germans when they visited.

17/37CO MAINTENANCE REPORTS

- i. Highways minor works required at Market Street referred to WCC Open Spaces Team / SCC Highways
- ii. Bus shelter at Glastonbury Road, nowhere for the bus to stop. To be referred to the developer.

17/38CO WELLS IN BLOOM MINUTES

To receive the minutes of the Wells in Bloom meeting held on 29th June.

Members were asked to note expenditure, and that the safety arrangements had been reviewed.

Noted and approved.

17/39CO ANY OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT.

Cllrs MacKenzie and Wride reported they are in communication with the Cathedral authorities regarding the signage showing the regulations on the Cathedral Green.

17/40CO DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 6pm, Thursday 5th October 2017