



**WELLS CITY COUNCIL  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT A MEETING OF THE OUTSIDE SPACES & ESTATES  
COMMITTEE, WHICH MEMBERS ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND,  
WILL BE HELD AT WELLS TOWN HALL  
ON THURSDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023 AT 7:00PM**

*Please note this meeting will be recorded for the purpose of minute-taking.*

Steve Luck  
Town Clerk/RFO

31<sup>st</sup> August 2023

Town Hall  
Market Place  
Wells BA5 2RB  
01749 673091  
e-mail: townclerk@wells.gov.uk

**Committee Members:**

Cllrs: J Browne (Chair), T Butt-Philip, D Denis,  
S Eden, N Kennedy, D Orrett, S Powell,  
G Robbins

**AGENDA**

Wells City Council has declared a climate emergency. Each agenda item must consider the impact on any policy and decision.

- 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS**
- 2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022.
- 3 MINUTES OF THE CITY CENTRE & OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2023**  
To approve the minutes.
- 4 MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
Public speaking time is normally restricted to 15 minutes in total, at the discretion of the Chair.
- 5 RECREATION GROUND**
  1. To consider a request to re-site benches close to the public toilets.
  2. To consider request for additional benches around the refreshment kiosk.
  3. To receive an update on the temporary refreshment kiosk and consider options for next year.
  4. To start to consider long term plan for the recreation ground and new playground equipment.
  5. To consider improvements to the tarmac pathways.
  6. To receive update on tree survey.

**6 BISHOP'S BARN**

1. To receive any update on the Bishop's Barn from English Heritage.
2. To consider options for the future of the barn.

**7 WELLS RECREATION GROUND TRUST**

To receive an update from the Town Clerk regarding the Charities Commission.

**8 CLIMATE EMERGENCY (report attached)**

To receive update from Cllr Denis.

**9 ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT**

**10 DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2023**

**EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Note:** If it is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence it will be 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, in order that confidential items can be discussed.

## **Agenda Item 8**

### **Climate Emergency Working Party Report to Open Spaces – 7th September 2023**

The new composition of the Climate working group 2023 is:

Denise Denis, Sarah Powell, Deborah Orrett, Georgie Robbins, Gordon Folkard, Maddy Milnes and James Mochrie.

A meeting held 25 July agreed the following:

- Distribute 1000 leaflets with the re-designed survey before 31 December 2023.
- Book Market Stall for 20 September - Rota to follow.
- Continue to improve the Council's carbon footprint through council properties upgrade, actions of staff and committees.
- Working to improve the carbon footprint of the High Street through increased publicity.
- Cllr Denis offered to work with Assistant Town Clerk to ensure the Climate Emergency Carbon Zero report is updated in time for APM 2024. Focus on insulation and secondary/double glazing where possible and better heating/draught exclusion options for reception area.
- Councillors DD, DO, GR and SP to do online Climate Courses in October.
- Cllr Powell agreed to contact Wessex Water for more information about the blue water fountains spotted in Melksham, which could help in reducing plastics.

### **Other Matters**

Cllr Orrett suggested to follow up an earlier proposal she made to Open Spaces for A board Litter Picking Stands where passers-by would be encouraged to litter pick, thereby reducing litter and increasing public ownership for litter picking. Cllr Folkard asked if there could be better litter bins which encourage recycling on the street. To be requested at Open Spaces. Council owned properties - what are our responsibilities in terms of insulation and improvements? Cllr D Denis offered to seek more information from Town Clerk.

Reducing carbon footprint in the High Street - rented premises have disadvantages compared to Freeholders such as Whitings which have just installed solar panels. Cllr Denis had conducted a street survey last winter and many retailers stated they leave the doors open as Company Policy.

Cllr G Folkard suggested introducing a Wells Green Charter Kite Mark Scheme and agreed to investigate.

Cllr Orrett suggested Wells Voice for running more articles about how the Council is implementing its Climate Change Policy. Cllr Denis agreed to see if this can be a more frequent feature and asked if all councillors might be able to share writing a feature?

Cllr D Denis