

## WELLS CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 19<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2019 AT 7.00PM

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: L Agabani, S Briton, P Crummay, S Cursley, G Dickson,  
O Hartley, N Kennedy, J Linsdell, J Osman (Mayor), C Rees,  
J Rust, P Welch (Deputy Mayor), C Wride

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk/RFO, S Luck  
Mace Bearer: M Goody  
Chaplain: A Glanvile  
County Cllr T Munt  
SCO Cllr M Cooke  
9 members of the public

#### **PRAYERS**

Prayers were conducted by the Mayor's Chaplain, A Glanvile, following which the Chaplain was excused from the meeting.

#### **19/154C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr A l'Anson  
Avon & Somerset Police, PC D Williams

#### **19/155C DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 27<sup>th</sup> July 2012:  
None Declared.

#### **19/156C MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 28<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2019**

Minutes of the previous meetings were proposed, seconded, confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

#### **19/157C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr G Livings spoke and asked the Council to consider a nomination for a Freeman to the City. He has received a lot of support for the idea and received letters from past and present Bishops of Bath and Wells supporting the nomination. He has produced information for members to consider.

The Chairman of Wells British Legion Mr Cooper-Collett also spoke in favour of the nomination and also asked the Council for their support in upcoming 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations in the City.

SCO Cllr M Cooke also spoke in favour of the nomination.

The Mayor responded and thanked the speakers for their contribution, informed them the Council will consider the idea under the rules of appointing a Freeman in the Civic Review.

Cllr Kennedy suggested the Council consider options for supporting the Wells British Legion.

5 members of the public were excused and left the meeting.

#### **19/158C POLICE REPORT**

No police report received.

**19/159C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

- i. Coffee morning 4<sup>th</sup> January 2020, Mayor's Parlour, 9.30am - 12 noon.
- ii. Bishop Bekynton Commemoration Service, Wells Cathedral. Sun 12 Jan 2020 at 3pm.
- iii. The Mayor confirmed A Fawcett had resigned as a Councillor and thanked him for his contribution to the Council since May.
- iv. The Mayor thanked Members and Town Hall staff for their support this year and wished everyone a Merry Christmas. Cllr N Kennedy responded and thanked the Mayor for his work over a very difficult period and wished the Mayor and his new family a Happy Christmas.

**19/160C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> December:

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

Cllr C Wride announced she was standing down as Chairman and a new Chairman will be elected at the next committee meeting.

**19/161C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> December 2019:

The Mayor presented the minutes and invited questions.

**19/162C BUDGET 2020 – 2021**

The Town Clerk was asked to present the budget and answer questions,

It was proposed, seconded and agreed to approve the Budget for the year 2020 - 2021:

The Town Clerk was thanked for all his work in preparing the budget.

**19/163C PRECEPT FOR THE YEAR 2020 - 2021**

The Precept request of £536,361 for the year 2020 - 2021: was proposed, seconded and agreed.

**19/164C SOCIAL MEDIA**

Cllr L Agabani presented a report on proposals for a new Facebook page. Ideas would be considered and a draft page will be circulated for consideration at the next meeting.

**19/165C COMMITTEE VACANCIES**

Nominations for a new member of Finance & General Purposes was called for and Cllr O Hartley was proposed, seconded and elected.

It was agreed to postpone the election to fill vacancies on Archives & Civic Assets and Wells in Bloom committees until the 2 new Councillors have been elected.

It was also agreed Cllr J Osman (The Mayor) would be the reserve representative to the Wells Recreation Ground Trust, replacing T Robbins.

**19/166C REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

No reports received from MDC District Councillors.

SCC Cllr T Munt reported as follows:

Parking - new double yellow lines are being put in the Stoberry area.

Stoberry Avenue was the only area to request permit parking.

SCC consultation on highways for the whole of Wells is now scheduled for January.

SCC were looking at council tax bands and the incomes being produced.

Cllr Munt answered questions from members on various parking issues.

**19/167C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT**

Cllr Rust asked for an update on the number of Outside Bodies responsibilities forms returned. The Town Clerk will investigate and report.

**19/168C DATE OF NEXT MEETING will be at 7pm on Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020**