

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL, THURSDAY 24TH JULY 2014

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White RFO: S Luck
Mace-Bearer: J Rood Chaplain: A Wheeler
2 Police Officers
Director, Mendip Credit Union
1 Member of the press.

Before the start of the meeting the Town Hall Manager, Mr Kevin Westwood, was thanked by the Mayor and Council for his twenty-five years of service to Wells City Council.

14/105C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: S Davies; A Denison.

14/106C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 27th July 2012:
Cllrs. Butt Philip and Briton each declared a personal interest in 14/110C as a member of Mendip Credit Union.

14/107C MINUTES of the City Council meeting held on 26TH June 2014 (attached) were proposed, seconded, approved, and signed.

14/108C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC None present.

14/109C TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE POLICE

Inspector Nicholson sent his apologies.
PC Darren Pearson, Beat Manager, spoke about the new policing structure and answered questions.

14/110C PRESENTATION

The Director of Mendip Community Credit Union spoke about the organisation, its purpose, structure and safeguards; she answered questions from members. It was agreed to ask the Finance and General Purposes Committee to look into corporate membership.

14/111C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

WW1 Commemorations: Poppy Bed Dedication Monday 4th August 2014.
Cllr Parkes presented the program.

14/112C MINUTES OF THE WELLS IN BLOOM COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 26th June 2014 (attached)
The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions; she thanked members for entrusting her with the chairmanship again and thanked Cllr Gibson for her work as chairman in recent years. She reported that a successful social event had been held to thank the Wells in Bloom volunteers.

14/113C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 10th July 2014 (attached)
The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

14/114C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 3rd July 2014 and 17th July 2014 (attached)

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

14/115C MINUTES OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE.

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 17th July 2014 (attached)

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

14/116C CALENDAR OF MEETINGS TO MAY 2015

To approve the calendar of Council meetings for the year to May 2015 (attached)

There was a discussion about the legal timetable for the annual meeting and election of chairman in an election year, and Mayor Making. I was proposed, seconded and agreed that the dates to April 2015 be approved. Members were asked to consider the requirements for the traditional Mayor Making and how this could fit with the legal framework; dates for meetings in May 2015 will be put before Council in September.

14/117C REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

i. Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group

Cllr Parkes reported the launch was a successful event; the major issue raised was protecting our green spaces.

The City Council is being asked to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with St Cuthbert Out parish council to coordinate the two plans.

The Area Designation has not yet been signed off by Mendip District Council.

ii. Wells Recreation Ground Trust

Cllr North reported a good response to the advertisement for volunteers to help. Attention is being given to ensure that future meetings of the Board of Trustees do not clash with City Council meetings.

iii. CCTV

iv. Cllr Robbins will arrange for a recent e-mail report to be sent on.

14/118C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT

i. Railings outside Tincknells are damaged in two places causing a hazard to pedestrians.

ii. Complaint about lack of clarity of the map and directions provided by SCC Highways for the diversion around Coxley.

iii. The Mayor asked members to remain for an informal discussion, at which it was agreed to proceed with a civic presentation in the autumn.

14/119C DATE OF NEXT MEETING:

The next meeting will take place at 7pm on **Thursday 25th September 2014**