

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL
CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL, THURSDAY 27TH FEBRUARY 2014

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

IN ATTENDANCE: RFO: S Luck.
Mace-Bearer: M Goody,
PC Pearson
Kate Knight
Member of the press

14/16C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Date of Annual Parish Meeting will be Tuesday 22nd April at 7pm in the Court Room
2. Opening of the refurbished Court room will be Saturday 15th March

14/17C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr. J North; Town Clerk; F White, Chaplain: Ven. N Sullivan.

14/18C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None

14/19C MINUTES of the meeting of the City Council held on **23rd January 2014** were proposed, seconded, approved, and signed by the Mayor.

14/20C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None present

14/21C POLICE REPORT

PC Pearson reported on the PACT meeting held on the 17th February, matters raised and being dealt with include speeding in the city and motorist ignoring no right turn into College Road, also parking outside Stoberry School. Also reported ongoing enquiry into Kudos night club incident. Pub Watch will be restarting with a meeting on 5th March. Questions were taken and matters raised were illegal parking in Priory Road and possible traffic calming measures in the city.

14/22C PRESENTATION; Wells City Almshouses.

Kate Knight, Chief Executive gave a presentation about the 32 cottages and flats that are the City of Wells Almshouses. Details about occupation criteria, residents, investments and the future planned capital works were given. Questions were then taken from members.

14/23C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 13th February 2014.

The Chairman presented the Minutes and invited questions.

1. Electronic Mailing

It was agreed to accept the recommendation on the revised arrangements and bring a change to the Standing Orders to the next meeting.

2. Reception Services Working Group

It was agreed to accept the recommendation that the report be costed and staff implications considered.

14/24C MINUTES OF THE WELLS IN BLOOM COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 6th February 2014.

The Chairman presented the Minutes and invited questions.

14/25C MINUTES OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 20th February 2014.
The Chairman presented the Minutes and invited questions.

14/26C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 6th and 20th February 2014.
The Chairman presented the Minutes and invited questions.

14/27C BISHOP'S PALACE

The statement from the Bishop of Taunton and senior staff of the Diocese of Bath and Wells opposing the Church Commissioners decision the Bishop would no longer live in the Palace was discussed by members.

14/28C NOMINATIONS OF MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR FOR ELECTION AT MAYOR MAKING, MAY 2014

1. The Mayor called for nominations: Cllr Wilson nominated Cllr Briton, seconded by Cllr Kennedy. There were no other nominations, a vote was taken and all were in favour so Cllr Briton was unanimously chosen as the next Mayor Elect.
2. The Mayor called for nominations: Cllr Kennedy nominated Cllr Wilson, seconded by Cllr. Osman. There were no other nominations, a vote was taken and all were in favour so Cllr Wilson was unanimously chosen as the next Deputy Mayor Elect.

14/29C REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Mendip District Council

Cllr Siggs reported the council had set their budget which would result in no Council Tax increase.

Somerset County Council

Cllr Osman reported the council had also set their budget again no increase in Council Tax and showing savings of 6 million pounds.

Also reported on the flooding in Somerset and that 3% of land was affected. Support being given to farmers and residents. Various official visits had taken place. A 20 year action plan was due to be released next week.

Mendip District Council

Cllr Unwin reported on a joint party motion regarding the Somerset flooding that their Chief Executive was writing to the Secretary of State for the Department of the Environment, expressing Mendip District Council's support for the County Council's position and to urge the Government to deliver on their commitments with urgency.

Cllr Kennedy raised the importance that local authorities ensure the message that not all of Somerset is affected with a view of not affecting the coming tourist season.

Sports Club

Cllr Price reported the 4 clubs affected by the new proposed development had met the consultants and presented a wish list and they had received assurances from MDC that all money raised from land sales would be reinvested.

14/30C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT

Cllr Gibson reported TSB Bank are setting up a community notice board for use by local charities

14/31C DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be at 7pm on Thursday 27TH MARCH 2014.