

## WELLS CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL, ON THURSDAY 12<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2016 AT 7.00PM

- PRESENT:** Cllrs: C Briton; J North; C Price(Vice-Chairman); H Siggs; T Robbins (Chairman);  
D Swain
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk: F White  
RFO: S Luck  
Cllr N Kennedy
- 16/45F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
Cllrs: M Brandon; G Wilson (the Mayor)
- 16/46F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**  
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26<sup>th</sup> July 2012.
- 16/47F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2016** Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and signed.
- 16/48F MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**  
None present
- 16/49F FINANCE REPORT**
- i. To receive the financial reports for April 2016  
The bank statements and accounts had been checked prior to the meeting. The accounts for April 2016 were proposed, seconded and approved.
  - ii. Annual Audit arrangements for year ended 31<sup>st</sup> March 2016  
Members noted the Internal audit report; this had already been received by full Council. There were no matters to action.
- 16/50F PROPERTIES** To note asset records:  
The asset sheet was up-dated and approved.  
The Town Clerk presented a confidential report on current matters:  
Post Office, Wells Market Place  
The Town Clerk and RFO replied to questions and actions were approved.  
The lease has been rolled over for a further six months, at the current rent.  
As the committee responsible for financial affairs, it was felt important to ensure that the Post Office Ltd understands its responsibility for cost of dilapidations to the building.  
It is understood that the Post Office business alone cannot generate sufficient income to allow for premises costs.  
The Council continues to work with Post Office Ltd towards an acceptable city centre solution.  
Public Toilets at Princes Road  
Heads of Terms have been agreed; a draft lease is being drawn up by Mendip District Council. This will include the ticket office and an agreement with First Bus Bristol.

Public Toilets at Wells Recreation Ground

In view of the on-going discussions about the future of the Trust, it was agreed that Wells City Council will continue to pay contributions to the cost of this cleaning contract, for up to a further year to June 2017, on the same basis as currently.

**16/51F**

**WELLS RECREATION GROUND TRUST** Up-date

The Chairman and Town Clerk will attend a meeting with Mendip District Council in June.

**16/52F**

**MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT**

Somerset County Council has given notice of termination of the lease on the Registrars' Office at the Town Hall. Occupation will end on 12<sup>th</sup> August and they will leave the office in a fit state. It will be advertised for let to a suitable business. The Town Clerk has continued to make clear, in all correspondence, that the Registrars would be welcome to occupy an alternative office within the Town Hall, at any time.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and for their support throughout the year.

**16/53F**

**DATE OF NEXT MEETING : 7pm Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> June 2016**