

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL, ON THURSDAY 11TH JANUARY 2018 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: M Brandon; C Price; T Robbins (Chairman); H Siggs;
D Swain (Vice-Chairman)

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White
1 member of the public

18/01F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
J North (Mayor); J Osman; C Wride (Deputy Mayor)
RFO: S Luck

18/02F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012:
None received.

18/03F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH DECEMBER 2017
Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and signed.

18/04F MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Mr D Ball, Mendip Community Speedwatch, spoke about the grant application (**18/06F**) and answered questions; there was a long discussion. He then also spoke about SIDs and answered questions. He was thanked for his time and for sharing his expertise with the Committee.

18/05F FINANCE REPORT
To receive the financial reports for December 2017:
The bank statements and accounts had been checked prior to the meeting. The accounts for December 2017 were proposed, seconded and approved.

18/06F COMMUNITY FUNDING APPLICATION
Wells Community Speed Watch:
After consideration it was proposed, seconded and agreed to grant £300 initially, with a further £300 subject to confirmation of formation of the Wells group of volunteers.
(Note: Funding to be drawn from the Discretionary Grants budget as necessary).

18/07F SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES
To consider proposal from Somerset County Council:
After consideration it was agreed to take forward proposals for a joint project. On the basis of costs provided by Mr Ball, the Town Clerk was asked to contact St Cuthbert Out and Wookey Parish Council's Clerks, to suggest shared purchase and discuss management. She was asked to inform SCC Highways, and enquire what arrangements are envisaged for future data-sharing.

18/08F RED PHONE BOX
To consider adopting phone kiosk at Wookey Hole Road – proposal from Cllrs Price & Wride:
The proposal is to adopt the red telephone kiosk at Wookey Hole Road junction with Goodymoor Avenue, move it to the Market Place and install a defibrillator for community use. It was agreed to take this matter forward.
i. Councillor Price will contact the Rotary Club; their Project this year is to provide some public defibrillators.

- ii. Councillor Siggs will make enquiries about Planning and Conservation consents at appropriate sites in the Market Place.
- iii. Councillor Robbins is gathering information about costs of:
 - Planning consents
 - Removal and re-instatement
 - Refurbishment of the kiosk
 - Connection to electricity supply
- iv. The Town Clerk has received a contract from BT to adopt the kiosk, there are specific details on use for a defibrillator; she will inform BT the City Council is pursuing the matter and check whether there is any deadline.

18/09F

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEWS

- i. Reserves Policy and Investments Strategy

Approved and recommended for adoption by Council

RECOMMENDED

To adopt the Reserves Policy and Investments Strategy

- ii. Land and Properties Asset Register

It was agreed that Cllrs, Brandon, Robbins and Siggs will review the Register, with the Town Clerk.

- iii. Standing Orders and Financial Regulations will be reviewed next.

18/10F

CHANGING PLACES PROJECT Up-date

Quotes for building works were sought from three local businesses and received from two. Arrangements to be agreed by Officers in consultation with the Chairman.

18/11F

PROPERTIES Up-date

Nothing to report.

18/12F

MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

- i. Wells Neighbourhood Plan

Members have met with the team from Glastonbury Town Council. The general framework for the Neighbourhood Plan is falling into place; work on open spaces will follow on after the consultation on the Mendip Local Plan Part II. Ideas for public consultation were discussed.

- ii. Town Twinning

The Town Clerk reported back from an information meeting with the Chairman of the Town Twinning Association.

18/13F

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm Thursday 8th February 2018