

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE ARCHIVES AND CIVIC ASSETS COMMITTEE HELD IN WELLS MUSEUM,
AT 6:00PM, ON THURSDAY 5TH SEPTEMBER 2019

PRESENT: Cllrs: P Crummay, S Cursley, A Fawcett (Vice Chairman) O Hartley
(Chairman), J Rust, C Wride

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting Town Clerk/RFO: Steve Luck
Archivist: Dr J Wood
Cllr N Kennedy
SCC Cllr T Munt
1 member of the public

19/12A APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs A Robbins, G Dickson
Town Clerk: F White

19/13A DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012. None received.

19/14A MINUTES OF THE MEETING held on Thursday 21st February 2019

Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and signed.

19/15A ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

Cllr A Fawcett was proposed, seconded and elected as Vice-Chairman.

19/16A MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

None wishing to speak.

19/17A REPORT FROM THE ARCHIVIST

The Archivist Dr J Wood gave her report to members.

She highlighted the ongoing work to preserve the historic paintings in the Town Hall.

The chairs in the Mayor's Parlour have now all been renovated.

Due to sick leave the Heritage Open Day exhibitions will not be on in the Town Hall this year but will return next September. She has thanked the Volunteer who had stood in for her at the Museum and kept the Archives open, it was agreed by members to write a letter of thanks.

Dr Wood explained her role as Archivist and gave a presentation of some of the Archives held at the Museum.

An invite will be extended to all Councillors to visit the Museum and see the Archives on Tuesday 5th November at 10.30am.

19/18A REPORT FROM THE ACTING TOWN CLERK

Funding was made available and has been secured to pay a maximum of 2 mature students to help Dr Wood with the Archives and this would be in place to start in October for 15 hours maximum a week.

One Student has been offered a placement.

A schedule of tasks was being completed for the student.

19/19A ANY OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT

Nothing to report.

19/20A DATE OF NEXT MEETING t.b.a.

Report from the Archivist

The Archivist has been off sick for five months.

Before she went off, the newly-established Council Award was presented to the distinguished historian A. J. Scrase at an event on 22nd February. The Archivist assisted Cllr Price in the organisation of this event, at which the work of the many Archives volunteers was recognised too (with a good number of them attending). The Mayor also took the opportunity to present four Mayoral Awards for work on the Mayoral World War One commemorative project, "We will remember them", a heritage trail in the city. It was an extremely successful event and received good press coverage in three publications.

Whilst the Archivist was signed off, a limited Archives service was maintained at the Museum, with Jonathan Chivers standing in as Acting Archivist on Monday mornings. He continued to monitor and maintain the appropriate environmental conditions for the collection, responded to Archives enquiries, and allowed limited access to the Archives. Dr Wood is extremely grateful for his excellent work in this role.

The Archivist started back at work at the beginning of this month.

Dr Julia Wood

29.08.2019