

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 JULY 2019 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: L Agabani, P Crummay, N Kennedy (Vice-Chairman), T Robbins (Chairman), P Welch (Deputy Mayor)

IN ATTENDANCE: Acting Town Clerk/RFO, S Luck
Cllrs: S Briton, A l'Anson, J Linsdell, J Rust
4 members of the Public

19/58F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Town Clerk, F White
Cllrs: S Cursley, J Osman (The Mayor), C Wride

19/59F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 26th July 2012.
None declared.

19/60F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH JUNE 2019:
Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, approved and signed.

19/61F MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
Representatives from Wells Vineyard Church and Wells Fairtrade City Group gave presentations and answered members questions on their grant applications.

19/62F FINANCE REPORT

- i. To receive the financial reports for June 2019**
The bank statements were checked prior to the meeting by Cllr Kennedy. The accounts for June were proposed, seconded and approved.
- ii. To confirm the new bank signatories**
The new mandate is available for signing with the RFO.
- iii. Bank charges update**
New banking arrangement have been agreed enabling the Council to continue using Lloyds Bank. The Mayors charity account has been closed and new arrangements being sought with a new bank.

19/63F GRANT APPLICATIONS:

- i. Wells Vineyard Church**
It was proposed, seconded and approved to give a £500 grant.
- ii. The Royal British Legion**
It was proposed, seconded and approved to give a £180 grant.
- iii. Wells City Band**
It was proposed, seconded and approved to give a £123 grant.
- iv. Wells Lions Club**
It was agreed to invite the Wells Lions to the next meeting to learn more about their grant application.
- v. Wells Fairtrade City Group**
It was proposed , seconded and approved to give a £200 grant.

19/64F GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE (Localism Act 2011)
Members received a presentation and agreed after consideration to make a recommendation to Full Council to adopt the Power.

19/65F

ANNUAL GOVERNANCE REVIEW

A review of Standing Orders had been completed and the RFO thanked Cllrs l'Anson, Cursley and Wride for their input and assistance. Changes agreed included references to encourage more public involvement through the Chairman at meetings and a new section on the General Power of Competence. The revised Standing Orders will be brought back to the next meeting before sending to Full Council for adoption.

19/66F

WELLS VISITOR INFORMATION

Cllr Agabani updated members there was another meeting next week with the Heritage Partners about the possible relocation of the service to the Town Hall. He and Cllr Robbins will be attending to represent the Council.

19/67F

PROPERTIES – TO RECEIVE UPDATE

The RFO reported the Post Office had confirmed the branch was closing on the 30th September and discussions regarding dilapidation's terms in the lease had been started.

19/68F

ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

None reported.

19/69F

TO EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

Due to the confidential nature of the business to be discussed, relating to individuals, it was proposed by the Chairman that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended, excluding the press and public: **RESOLVED**

The Chairman updated and answered questions from Members and Councillors present on the ongoing and potential costs of a confidential Staff matter and approval was given for spending within the existing budget.

19/70F

DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm Thursday 12th September 2019