

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL, ON THURSDAY 12TH MARCH 2020 AT 7:00PM

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk/RFO, S Luck
Cllrs: J Browne, J Parker
SCC Cllr T Munt
2 members of the public

20/25F APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: P Crummay, S Cursley, O Hartley, J Osman (Mayor), C Wride

20/26F DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

20/27F MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 13TH FEBRUARY 2020:

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

20/28F MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A representative from the Somerset Food Trail presented details of their grant application and answered questions from members.

20/29F FINANCE REPORT

To receive the Finance Reports for February 2020.
The bank statements were checked prior to the meeting by Cllr Agabani.
The Town Clerk answered questions from members on the accounts.
The accounts for February were proposed, seconded and approved.

20/30F GRANT APPLICATION

Members supported the Somerset Food Trail grant and after discussion it was proposed, seconded and agreed to award £500 towards the project.

20/31F WELLS MOAT BOAT RACE

The Wells Lions Club had a meeting with the Town Clerk and asked him to do the administration for the Wells Moat Boat Race. After a discussion members agreed that this was not viable due to difficulties with possible liabilities and the Town Clerk's workload but agreed with him he could offer the Lions advice and guidance on their applications.

20/32F TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE – Wells Town Hall

Cllr Agabani (The Chairman) updated members on the opening of the new centre in the Town Hall. New stock will be arriving to help support the running costs.

20/33F PROPERTIES UPDATE

The Town Clerk reported further vandalism to the public toilet block adjacent to the Town Hall. Damage to both blocks we maintain has cost the Council over £10,000 this year. Staff are costing a new CCTV system which will incorporate the outside of the blocks to try and reduce the cost of vandalism.
The Post Office are planning to open in Peacocks on 14th April and negotiations are continuing regarding dilapidations and the final extension date for their lease of the Market Hall.

20/34F ANY MATTERS OF URGENT REPORT

The Chairman, Cllr Agabani, informed members of a project by Cllr Parker to sell trees on a market stall outside the Town Hall. It would be a non-profit making project with the idea of making tree saplings available to the public for £1 each and contributing to the planting of native species. The committee offered Cllr Parker its full support.

The Town Clerk reported the Council's insurance cover had been agreed and details will be given to members at the next meeting.

20/35F DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm, Thursday 9th April 2020