



WELLS CITY COUNCIL

COUNCIL SUMMONS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE
ANNUAL MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL,
MAYOR-MAKING,
WHICH MEMBERS ARE SUMMONED TO ATTEND
WILL BE HELD IN THE BALL ROOM AT
WELLS TOWN HALL ON
SATURDAY 18TH MAY 2024
AT 5.00PM

S M LUCK
TOWN CLERK

9TH MAY 2024

TOWN HALL,
WELLS BA5 2RB
01749 673091
E-MAIL: TOWNCLERK@WELLS.GOV.UK

PROCESSION

(PLEASE REMAIN STANDING DURING PROCESSION; THEN SIT)

PRELIMINARIES:

1. WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

THE TOWN CLERK

2. THE OUTGOING MAYOR

- I. THE VOTE OF THANKS
- II. THE OUTGOING MAYOR'S SPEECH

FORMAL SESSION:

AGENDA

1. ELECTION OF MAYOR

- I. NOMINATIONS
- II. DECLARATION OF THE ELECTION OF THE 650TH MAYOR
- III. THE NEW MAYOR IS INVESTED WITH THE CHAIN OF OFFICE BY THE RETIRING MAYOR

PLEASE STAND WHILE THE MAYOR AND PARTY LEAVE THE HALL FOR THE EXCHANGE OF ROBES AND CHAIN.

PLEASE SIT DURING THE BREAK.

ENTERTAINMENT PROVIDED BY PUPILS OF WELLS BLUE SCHOOL

THE TOWN CRIER ANNOUNCES THE ENTRANCE OF THE MAYOR, FOR WHICH YOU ARE ASKED TO STAND.

2. ASSUMPTION OF OFFICE

- I. THE MAYOR SIGNS THE FOLLOWING:
 - THE DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE
 - THE OATH OF ALLEGIANCE
 - THE ROLL OF MAYORS
- II. THE OUTGOING MAYOR WILL BE PRESENTED WITH THE CITY BADGE
- III. PRIMARY SCHOOL CHILDREN WILL SING
- IV. THE MAYOR'S SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE
- V. APPOINTMENT OF THE MAYOR'S CONSORT

3. ELECTION OF DEPUTY MAYOR

- I. NOMINATIONS
- II. DECLARATION OF THE ELECTION OF THE DEPUTY MAYOR
- III. THE DEPUTY MAYOR IS PRESENTED WITH THE BADGE OF OFFICE BY THE MAYOR
- IV. THE DEPUTY MAYOR PRESENTS A GIFT TO THE MAYOR

4. TRANSFER OF CUSTODY OF TWIN TOWN KEYS

THE CHAIRMAN OF WELLS TWINNING ASSOCIATION PRESENTS THE KEYS OF PARAY-LE-MONIAL, BAD DURKHEIM AND FONTANELATO TO THE MAYOR, FOR SAFE KEEPING

5. APPOINTMENT OF HONOURARY OFFICERS

THE MAYOR CONFIRMS THE FOLLOWING APPOINTMENTS:

- I. THE MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN
- II. THE CHURCHWARDEN, ST CUTHBERT'S CHURCH
- III. THE HIGH CONSTABLES
- IV. THE SERJEANTS-AT-MACE
- V. THE TOWN CRIER

6. THE PROCLAMATION

THE TOWN CRIER PROCLAIMS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY THE ELECTION OF THE 650TH MAYOR OF WELLS

7. MINUTES AND ALL FURTHER BUSINESS

THE COUNCIL WILL NOW ADJOURN AND ALL FURTHER BUSINESS BE DEFERRED UNTIL COUNCIL RECONVENES AT: 7PM THURSDAY 23RD MAY 2024 IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL

THE TOWN CLERK WILL DIRECT GUESTS TO THE MAYOR'S RECEPTION AND ADVISE ON OFFICIAL PHOTOS.

YOU ARE ASKED TO STAND WHILE THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL LEAVE THE HALL.

MAYOR-MAKING

THE ANNUAL CEREMONY OF APPOINTING A MAYOR IS VERY ANCIENT AND IS PROBABLY MEDIEVAL IN ORIGIN, EVEN THOUGH THE HEAD OF THE COUNCIL WAS STYLED DIFFERENTLY THEN. THE TITLE 'MAYOR' DATES FROM 1589 WHEN THE BOROUGH OF WELLS WAS INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER GRANTED BY ELIZABETH I. PREVIOUSLY THE CITY COUNCIL, OR COMMONALTY AS IT WAS KNOWN, WAS HEADED BY A MASTER (*MAGISTER*), AN HONOURABLE OFFICE DATING FROM MEDIEVAL TIMES. THE MASTER AND COMMONALTY HAD TO BE BURGESSES TO QUALIFY FOR ELECTION.

THE MACES

THE MACE IS A WIDELY USED SYMBOL OF CIVIC AUTHORITY, OWING ITS ORIGIN TO A WEAPON OF WARFARE. THE EARLIEST RECORDED WELLS MACES WERE EMPLOYED UNTIL 1641 WHEN THEY WERE REPLACED BY NEW ONES COSTING £25 5s. THESE APPEAR TO HAVE CONTINUED IN USE THROUGHOUT THE CIVIL WAR AND COMMONWEALTH PERIODS. THE PRESENT ELABORATELY ORNAMENTED, SILVER-GILT MACES WERE ACQUIRED IN 1660, SHORTLY AFTER THE RESTORATION OF KING CHARLES II THAT YEAR. THEIR PURCHASE FOR £38 10s (A FIGURE EQUIVALENT TO AROUND £5000 TODAY) FROM A MR GALLINGTON, PROBABLY IN LONDON, IS RECORDED IN THE CORPORATION ACCOUNTS FOR THAT YEAR.

HIGH CONSTABLES' STAVES

THE HIGH CONSTABLES' STAVES ARE ALSO SYMBOLS OF AUTHORITY, ANCIENTLY ASSOCIATED WITH THE MAINTENANCE OF LAW AND ORDER. THESE TWO SILVER-TIPPED, DECORATED WOODEN STAVES WERE PRESENTED TO WELLS CORPORATION BY THOMAS MATTOCK, WHILE MAYOR, 1686. THE SILVER MOUNTS ARE ENGRAVED WITH A REPRESENTATION OF AN ASH TREE, AS ON THE MEDIEVAL MAYOR'S SILVER SEAL, AND THE NAME OF THE DONOR. THE STAVES WERE ORIGINALLY LONGER THAN THEY ARE NOW.

MAYOR'S CHAIN

THIS CONSISTS OF A DOUBLE CHAIN OF SILVER GILT, WITH PENDANT AND SHIELDS ENGRAVED WITH THE ARMS OF THE CITY AND DR HENRY LIVETT, WHO PRESENTED IT TO WELLS CORPORATION, WHILE MAYOR, 1862.

SYMBOLIC KEYS OF THE TWIN TOWNS

THE KEYS ARE PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL CEREMONY OF MAYOR-MAKING AS A SIGN OF CONTINUED FRIENDSHIP AND GOODWILL BETWEEN WELLS AND ITS TWIN TOWNS IN FRANCE, GERMANY AND ITALY. THE KEYS ARE THEN KEPT IN THE CUSTODY OF THE NEWLY ELECTED MAYOR DURING THE FOLLOWING CIVIC YEAR, NORMALLY FROM MAY TO MAY.