



## 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 BALLROOM AT  
WELLS TOWN HALL ON  
SATURDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> MAY 2025  
AT 5.00PM

HAYLEE WILKINS  
TOWN CLERK

1<sup>ST</sup> MAY 2025

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Haylee', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

TOWN HALL  
MARKET PLACE  
WELLS BA5 2RB

01749 673091

E-MAIL: TOWNCLERK@WELLS.GOV.UK

## **PROCESSION**

*(PLEASE REMAIN STANDING DURING PROCESSION; THEN SIT)*

*PRELIMINARIES:*

**WELCOME AND APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**  
THE TOWN CLERK

**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 65<sup>1</sup><sup>ST</sup> 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 LOCAL PERFORMER, CALUNE

*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. THE MAYOR'S SPEECH OF ACCEPTANCE
- IV. 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

A MOMENT OF REFLECTION BY THE REVEREND SAMUEL DENYER, VICAR OF ST CUTHBERT'S WELLS AND MAYOR'S CHAPLAIN

**6. THE PROCLAMATION**

THE TOWN CRIER PROCLAIMS TO THE PEOPLE OF THE CITY THE ELECTION OF THE 651<sup>ST</sup> 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 22<sup>ND</sup> MAY 2025 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.