

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 25TH APRIL 2019 AT 7.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: R Ayres, M Brandon, C Cox, R Greenwell, N Kennedy, R MacKenzie, C McKinnell, J North, C Price, T Robbins, H Siggs, D Swain, J Osman (Deputy Mayor), G Wilson, P Welch, C Wride (The Mayor)

IN ATTENDANCE: RFO: S Luck
Mace Bearers: J Rood, M Goody
County Cllr. T Munt, District Cllr T Ronan
54 members of the public.

19/40C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

None received.

19/41C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 27th July 2012:
Cllr Siggs declared an interest in item 19/47C as a member of South West Councils.

19/42C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON

28TH MARCH 2019: Minutes of the previous meeting were proposed, seconded, confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

Matters Arising, Cllr Mackenzie gave an update on the May Fair cancellation.

19/43C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The Police reported on recent crimes and proposed action plans/days to try and reduce problems. Members asked various questions on local issues.

One member of the public spoke on the availability on the website of the annual return.

Six members of the public spoke in favour of the Climate Emergency Motion including representatives from Sustainable Wells, Wells food network and the Blue School.

Cllr Siggs proposed, and it was agreed, to move agenda item 19/50C to be considered next:

19/50C MOTION CALLING ON WELLS CITY COUNCIL TO DECLARE A CLIMATE EMERGENCY

Proposed by Cllr McKinnell, seconded by Cllrs Greenwell, Price and Welch:
Members discussed the proposed motion and considered how it best be implemented. Cllrs Price, North and Wilson raised issues of public transport, population growth and child mortality and the need of an action plan.
Cllr Kennedy suggested the new council may consider setting up a committee with representatives from the council and interested groups.
After a positive discussion the motion was proposed, seconded and approved unanimously.

19/44C MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

- 19/45C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 11th April 2019: The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.
- 19/46C AUDIT FOR THE YEAR 2018/19**
1. The report from the Council's Internal Auditor was received and noted.
2. The annual governance statements for the year 2018-19 was proposed, seconded, approved and signed.
3. The annual statement of accounts for the year 2018-19 was proposed, seconded, approved and signed.
- 19/47C MINUTES OF THE 'EXTRAORDINARY' STAFFING COMMITTEE**
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 18th April 2019: The Chairman, presented the minutes and invited questions. The Chairman reported South West Councils were advising and helping with ongoing issues.
- 19/48C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE**
To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 4th and 18th April 2019: The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.
Cllr Welch asked about progress of the Neighbourhood plan and received updates from Cllrs Kennedy and Wilson.
- 19/49C CALENDER OF MEETINGS**
To note updated meeting schedule for new Council: Noted.
- 19/51C REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**
Cllr MacKenzie presented written reports on:
i. Elim Connect Centre
ii. PACT meetings
iii. Fair Trade Wells
Cllr Siggs thanked Cllr Mackenzie for his reports and the service to the groups he had given over the years.

Cllr Price gave a report on the Sports Council and updated members on the progress of the red phone box project.
- 19/52C PRESENTATION FOR LONG-STANDING SERVICE**
The Mayor presented Awards for long service to Cllrs; Brandon, Osman and Price. Members expressed their thanks and congratulations.
- 19/53C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT**
The Mayor reported the resignation of the Mace Bearer Mrs J Rood, she was thanked for her many years of service.

Cllr Kennedy offered a vote of thanks to The Mayor Cllr Wride, he thanked her for all her work for the Council and the City and congratulated her on a successful year.

Cllr Greenwell offered a vote of thanks to all the retiring members.
Cllrs Price and Brandon responded with their thanks to all members past and present.
Cllr Osman thanked the Mayor and Cllrs Mackenzie, Price and Brandon.
- 19/54C DATE OF NEXT MEETING**
The next meeting of Wells City Council will take place at the **Annual City Council Meeting – Election of Mayor: 7.00pm on Thursday 16th May 2019** in the Council Chamber, Wells Town Hall.