

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

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

PRESENT: Cllrs: S Briton, P Crummay, S Cursley, G Dickson, A Fawcett,
O Hartley, A l'Anson, N Kennedy, J Linsdell, J Osman (Mayor), C Rees,
T Robbins, J Rust, P Welch (Deputy Mayor), C Wride

IN ATTENDANCE: Mace Bearer: C Price
Chaplain: A Glanville
County Cllr T Munt
District Cllrs C McKinnell, L Rogers
9 members of the public

The Mayor announced at the beginning of the meeting that Mr Steve Deacon from Somerset County Council was there to present a review on Parking in the North Road area of Wells. It was agreed unanimously that the presentation would follow the scheduled Fairtrade presentation.

19/91C PRAYERS

Prayers were conducted by the Mayor's Chaplain, A Glanville, following which the Chaplain was excused from the meeting.

19/92C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Town Clerk: F White
Acting Town Clerk/RFO: Steve Luck
Cllr L Agabani

19/93C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interest, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 27th July 2012:
None Declared

19/94C MINUTES OF THE MEETINGS OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON

27TH JUNE 2019 to be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor:

Minutes of the previous meetings were proposed, seconded, confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

- Cllr J Rust referred to Item 19/77C - Cllr Rust is also a member of the communications review working party. This will be amended.
- Cllr S Briton volunteered to represent Mendip Credit Union. This was endorsed by the council.

29TH JUNE 2019 to be confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor:

Minutes of the previous meetings were proposed, seconded, confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

Cllr Welch (Deputy Mayor) wished the Mayoress well after her recent operation, on behalf of all the councillors and those present.

19/95C PRESENTATION:

i. Fairtrade Wells

Jenny Lewis, Chairman of Fairtrade Wells, gave an interesting presentation. Fairtrade are celebrating 25 years since the FT inception. A request was put forward for WCC to re-engage with Fairtrade by supporting their events and promoting/purchasing FT products where possible. Thanks were conveyed to the council for the £200 grant, which was gratefully received.

Discussion took place as to how WCC could support Fairtrade Wells, including utilising our Visit Wells Somerset website. Also, Cllr Osman (Mayor) proposed that representative, Cllr J Linsdell, liaise with the town hall management and staff and produce a report to bring back to the council.

The Mayor thanked Jenny Lewis for her presentation and welcomed her to come back at a later date.

ii. **Parking - North Road area, Wells**

The presentation was conducted by Mr Steve Deacon, Somerset County Council.

Mr Deacon handed out papers which gave information on the draft proposal on parking restrictions in the North Road area. The outline proposal is to run the consultation until the end of September 2019.

Discussion took place and County Cllr T Munt congratulated Mr Deacon on the coverage of the area and proposed that a consultation meeting for residents be arranged.

Mr Deacon agreed.

The Mayor thanked Mr Deacon for his valuable presentation. The matter will be further discussed at a later date.

19/96C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

A member of the public gave an interesting talk on the Monmouth Rebellion. He suggested the Monmouth Rebellion should be a tourist attraction at Wells, considering the significant connection. Discussion took place and ideas were put forward as to how this could be promoted. It was agreed that the matter will be discussed at the City & Tourism Forum meeting on 1st August, 6pm.

19/97C POLICE REPORT

Avon and Somerset Police were not present. Cllr Wride mentioned the problem with a large number of pigeons dying in Wells. It was confirmed to Cllr Wride by Darren Pearson, Avon & Somerset Police, that the pigeons have not been poisoned as previously suspected, but in fact are dying of a parasitic disease.

The Mayor congratulated the Avon & Somerset Police on their huge support in recent charity fund-raising events and expressed his thanks to Daniel Williams who organised the events.

19/98C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- i. **Mayor's Charity Concert, Friday 2nd August, 7pm**
- ii. **Mayor's Coffee Morning, Saturday 3rd August, 10am**
- iii. **Mayor's Charity Quiz Night, Saturday 24th August, 7pm**

The Mayor announced the above events and also that tickets will soon be available from either himself or at the Town Hall.

19/99C MINUTES OF THE CLIMATE CHANGE COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 4th July 2019:

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

Cllr Hartley proposed to form a Cycling Group and this was agreed with the council.

19/100C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 4th July 2019 and 18th July 2019:

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

An email was sent out to all councillors to inform them that the time of the Planning meeting on 1st August is correctly stated on the minutes as being 7pm (not 6pm as the Chairman had stated).

19/101C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 11th July 2019 and note recommendation:

RECOMMENDED

To adopt the General Power of Competence (*Localism Act 2011*)

The Chairman presented the minutes and invited questions.

The General Power of Competence (*Localism Act 2011*) was proposed by Cllr Robbins (Chairman), seconded by Cllr Welch (Deputy Mayor) and unanimously adopted.

19/102C GENERAL POWER OF COMPETENCE (*Localism Act 2011*)

To resolve:

Wells City Council meets the conditions for eligibility set out in: *Statutory Instrument, Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012 and hereby adopts the power.*

RESOLVED

19/103C REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Council Representatives:

- i. Cllr Robbins, Wells Carnival Committee**
Expressed lack of communication. Next date of meeting to be investigated.
- ii. Cllr Hartley, Wells Sports Clubs**
Reported on the successful and vibrant running of the Wells Sports Clubs
- iii. Cllr Crummay, District Health & Well-Being Board**
Discussion took place re 67 Bus. The public need to be more informed. Also, financial support is needed in order for it to continue.
- iv. Cllr Linsdell, Fairtrade, Wells**
Discussion took place as to how Fairtrade Wells could put their voice forward in the marketing business.

Mendip District Council:

A report was received from Cllr Lois Rogers on behalf of Cllrs McKinnell and Walters. Cllrs Ayes and Ronan were invited to the meeting but were not in attendance. Report included:

- The housing development near Haybridge has been deferred by 3 months
- Parking issues
- Bus Station resurfacing and suggestion that the planters are adopted by local schools to improve their appearance
- Awaiting briefing from officials re Well Recreation Ground
- Litter - suggested bylaw on disposing of cigarette butts
- Drink measures - please report bars which do not offer 'small' measures of wine to MDC Licensing Officer, Mr Jack Godley
- Morrison's illuminated sign has no planning permission

County Councillor T Munt:

Cllr Munt reported on a number of issues including:

- Climate Emergency was going on at a good pace
- Parking issues
- Special needs for young people in Somerset
- A report is to be circulated to Wells City councillors regarding the proposed extension of the 20mph limit within Wells
- The SCC Audit meeting has been put back until September due to concerns

19/104C PROPOSAL: Wells City Council formally requests that Mendip District Council increase the number of City Council trustees on the Wells Recreation Ground Committee from 2 to 4. Proposed by Cllr John Osman (Mayor) and seconded by Cllr Tony Robbins.

The proposal was unanimously agreed by the council. The Mayor will correspond with MDC.

19/105C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT

Cllr Fawcett requested free rooms at the Town Hall for the Food Festival.

Cllr l'Anson requested draft plan of priorities and aims of Wells City Council.

Cllr Crummay suggested WCC participate in the Moat Boat Race.

19/106C DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Wells City Council will be at **7pm on Thursday 26th September 2019**