

## WELLS CITY COUNCIL

### MINUTES OF THE WELLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 27th JUNE 2024 AT 7.00PM

Written reports can be viewed on the Agendas

**COUNCILLORS PRESENT:** Cllrs: L Agabani (Deputy Mayor), J Browne (Mayor), S Cursley, D Denis, D Orrett, S Powell, G Robbins, H Siggs

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk: S Luck  
RFO: C Woodland  
Devolution Officer: H Wilkins  
WCC Staff: C Hobbs  
Mace Bearer: C Price  
Somerset Cllr: T Munt (Wells)  
Somerset Cllr: E Hobbs (Mendip Hills)  
2 Mayor's Cadets  
2 members of the public

**24/84/C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllrs: T Butt Philip, S Eden, G Folkard, N Kennedy T Pullin, T Robbins, I Von Mensenkampff, P Welch

**24/85/C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

To receive Councillors' Declarations of Interests, made under the Council's Code of Conduct adopted 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022.  
None declared.

**24/86/C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON THE 23rd MAY 2024**

Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor.

**24/87/C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Lady Sharon Carter asked for support from WCC in the "Please Pass Wide and Slow" campaign, taking place on 15<sup>th</sup> September. The National campaign will take place with horses and riders commencing a ride from the Market Place in Wells to Cathedral Green. Lady Sharon Carter stressed that riders, horses, car drivers and passengers have lost their lives on the road. The event will have TV coverage  
The Town Clerk reported that he had already been in contact with Lady Carter and that WCC will support the campaign. The Mayor offered her support.

**24/88/C PRESENTATION BY THE MAYOR'S CADETS**

Cadet Sergeant Marshall-Smith and Cadet Corporal Colwill accompanied by Flight Lieutenant Currie, Officer Commanding, 1955 (City of Wells) Squadron ATC.

Cadet Sergeant, Iris Marshall-Smith, (Age 15) gave an informative presentation to the meeting. Air Cadets hold open days to demonstrate the activities that take place. They attend the Remembrance parades and assist at the Wells Moat Race. There are opportunities to gain new skills, confidence and occasionally opportunities to fly. Attending Air Cadets helps young people gain leadership skills and broker new friendships and connections. Cadet Sergeant Iris Marshall-Smith hoped that young people in Wells might consider joining the Air Cadets.

The Mayor informed the meeting that the Mayor's Cadets went through an interview process to become a Mayor's Cadet and that she had been very impressed with how the candidates had conducted themselves.

**24/89/C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Mayor's Diary**

- i 20<sup>th</sup> June, Home Food Day for Refugee Week, Portway Annexe
- ii 21<sup>st</sup> June, 'Macbeth', Wells Theatre Festival

- iii 23<sup>rd</sup> June, Installation of Canon Precentor, Wells Cathedral
- iv 24<sup>th</sup> June, The Addams Family, Wells Cathedral Prep School, Deputy Mayor attending
- v 30<sup>th</sup> June, Boules Tournament for Wells Rotary Club, Bishop's Palace
- vi 1<sup>st</sup> July, Wells Rotary Club meeting, The Crown Pub
- vii 4<sup>th</sup> July, Wells in Bloom Awards, Bishop's Palace
- viii 4<sup>th</sup> July, 'Out of this World' Symphony Orchestra, Wells Cathedral
- ix 5<sup>th</sup> July, Speech Day, Wells Cathedral School
- x 6<sup>th</sup> July, Glastonbury Mayor Making, Glastonbury Town Hall
- xi 7<sup>th</sup> July, Community Band, Wells Band Stand in Recreation Ground
- xii 8<sup>th</sup> July, Cantabile Ladies Choir, St Thomas Church
- xiii 14<sup>th</sup> July, Romulus & Remus, Palace Farm
- xiv 21<sup>st</sup> July, Wells Classic Motorcycle Club, Wells Football Club
- xv 24<sup>th</sup> July, 5<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup> Wells Scout Group AGM, Scout Hut

**24/90/C OUTSIDE SPACES & ESTATES COMMITTEE (Bishop's Barn & Recreation Ground)**

Cllr D Orrett (Chair) presented the minutes of the meeting held on 6th June 2024

No questions received.

- i. Cllr L Agabani mentioned that the refreshments van in the recreation ground was a good quality offering.
- ii. Cllr D Denis requested information regarding their opening times. Cllr T Robbins reported that it was open Wednesday to Sunday
- iii. The Mayor reported that Wells Theatre Festival had had a successful event using the Bishop's Barn as a theatre.
- iv. Cllr D Denis expressed her wish for the "Leave it longer" campaign to be included on the next Outside Spaces Meeting agenda.

**24/91/C FINANCE & COUNCIL MATTERS COMMITTEE**

Cllr S Cursley presented the minutes of the meeting held on 13th June 2024

No questions received

**24/92/C INTERNAL AUDIT**

The Town Clerk presented the internal audit report. All Councillors have received a copy

No questions received.

**24/93/C EXTERNAL AUDIT**

- i. The Town Clerk presented the External Audit and asked for Cllrs to approve the Annual Governance statements for the year 2023-24

No questions were received. Cllr S Cursley proposed that the Annual Governance statements for the year 2023-24 be approved and signed. Seconded by Cllr H Siggs. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

- ii. The Town Clerk asked for Cllrs to approve the Annual Statements of Accounts for the year 2023-24

No questions were received. Cllr H Siggs proposed that the Annual Statements of Accounts for the year 2023-24 be approved and signed. Seconded by Cllr S Cursley. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

Cllr J Browne signed the External Audit.

**24/94/C PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**

Cllr D Denis presented the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Cllr D Denis reported that the election of the new Chair and Vice Chair of Planning & Environment Committee will take place at the meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024

The Appeal for application at New House Farm, Wells, Somerset, BA5 1AJ has been sent and received by the Planning Inspectorate

No question received

**24/95/C TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/TRUSTEES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Cllr G Robbins gave a brief presentation on the installation of "Bleed Kits" in Wells. A national campaign is underway to ensure that Bleed kits are more readily available. The kits are not just for assisting with stabbing victims, but are to be used for workplace injuries, car

crashes etc. The Job centre currently has a stab kit but is not available when the premises are closed. There is a National database of locations, which Wells' Bleed kit will be added to. Cllr G Robbins would like the subject discussed, regarding sites for stab kits and numbers of kits needed.

A brief discussion followed about costs of Stab kits which vary from £75 to £130. The feedback from Cllrs was positive about the campaign.

Cllr L Agabani proposed that the meeting vote in principle and after costings and locations have been researched for the proposal to go before the Finance and Council Matters Committee.

Cllr H Siggs seconded the proposal. All Councillors voted in favour of the proposal.

**24/96/C TO RECEIVE ANY WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SOMERSET COUNCILLORS**

None received.

**24/97/C DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The next meeting of Wells City Council will be Thursday 25th July 2024, 7pm

**EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC**

**Note:**

If it is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence, it will be proposed by the Mayor that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended.

**Minutes signed by The Mayor:** ..... **Date:** .....