

WELLS CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE WELLS CITY COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 26th FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7.00PM

Written reports can be viewed on agendas: [Wells City Council](#) website

COUNCILLORS PRESENT: Cllrs: L Agabani (Mayor), T Butt Philip, S Cursley , D Denis (Deputy Mayor), S Eden, J Edmonds, G Folkard, T Kolizeras, D Orrett, S Powell, G Robbins, H Siggs, I Von Mensenkampff, P Welch

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: H Wilkins
RFO: C Woodland
Mace Bearer: C Price
Mayor's Chaplain: A Glanvile
WCC Staff: S Glendinning, C Hobbs, J Nogan
Somerset Cllr for Wells and MP for Wells and Mendip Hills: T Munt
Somerset Council Mendip Hills: Cllr E Hobbs
3 Members of the public

26/22/C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs: J Browne

26/23/C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

None declared.

26/24/C CONDOLENCE RESOLUTION

A vote was taken to suspend the meeting for the council to remember Cllr Tony Robbins.

In remembrance of serving Councillor Tony Robbins, who had unexpectedly passed away on 8th February 2026, Father of the Council, Cllr Harvey Siggs made a statement on behalf of Wells City Council.

Somerset Council Representative, Cllr Theo Butt Philip, made a statement on behalf of Somerset Council.

A minutes silence was held.

A vote was taken to restart the meeting.

26/25/C MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 29th JANUARY 2026

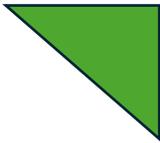
Minutes of the previous meeting were confirmed as a true record and signed by the Mayor

26/26/C ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL HELD ON 29th JANUARY 2026

There were no actions

26/27/C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Mary Ellis JP, Deputy Lord Lieutenant spoke on behalf of the Wells Lions about the Wells Moat Boat Race which has historically taken place in the City since 1963, on August bank holiday. It has been organised by City of Wells Lions and City of Wells Air Cadets with money having been raised for many good causes. Since 2022 the Lions took responsibility but there are now too few members to continue running it. It has become a popular City event and the request was for Wells City Council to consider options to ensure the event continues. The Mayor thanked Ms Ellis for taking the time to bring this matter to the council. It was agreed for the council to review and make recommendations.



26/28/C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Parish Meeting, Wednesday 11th March, 7pm, Wells Town Hall
Legal Service, Sunday 22nd March, 3pm, Wells Cathedral

Mayor's Diary

- i. 7th Mar International Aikido Seminar, Wells Blue Sports Centre
- ii. 11th Mar Annual Parish Meeting, Wells Town Hall
- iii. 18th Mar Abbeyfield AGM
- iv. 20th Mar Mayor's Concert, Cedars Hall
- v. 22nd Mar Legal Service, Wells Cathedral
- vi. 23rd Mar Wells Twinning Association AGM, Wells Town Hall
- vii. 25th Mar Ambassador Gathering, Mayor's Parlour

26/29/C OUTSIDE SPACES COMMITTEE

Cllr D Orrett presented the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2026.
No questions received.

26/30/C ESTATES COMMITTEE

Cllr H Siggs presented the minutes of the meeting held on 5th February 2026. No questions received.

26/31/C STAFFING & PERSONNEL COMMITTEE

Cllr S Eden presented the minutes of the meeting held on 12th February 2026. No questions received.

26/32/C PLANNING ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Cllr S Powell presented the minutes of the meeting held on 19th February 2026. No questions received.

Cllr H Siggs left the meeting

26/33/C NOMINATION OF MAYOR-ELECT AND DEPUTY MAYOR-ELECT

Cllr P Welch proposed Cllr D Denis as Mayor-Elect for May 2026-27, there were no other nominations. It was seconded by Cllr T Kolizeras. A vote was taken and it was agreed by all those present.

Cllr S Cursley proposed Cllr S Powell as Deputy Mayor-Elect for May 2026-27, there were no other nominations. It was seconded by Cllr G Robbins. A vote was taken and it was agreed by all those present.

Cllr D Denis (Mayor-Elect) thanked the council and stated out of respect for Cllr T Robbins, the usual traditions would not take place after this meeting. They would be delayed until after the March meeting.

26/34/C TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNCILLORS/TRUSTEES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

No reports received.

26/35/C TO RECEIVE ANY WRITTEN REPORTS FROM SOMERSET COUNCILLORS

Cllr I Von Mensenkampff asked for an update on speed reduction within the City. The Town Clerk advised a full proposal will be prepared and brought back to Full Council.

Cllr T Butt Philip presented his report, the Mayor asked for a further explanation on the budget for next year and what the Government support constituted. Cllr Butt Philip explained that the support from government allowed Somerset Council account differently and ultimately, funding that would have been considered capital could now be utilised for revenue expenditure. Whilst this doesn't manage the issues associated with expenditure for Adults Social Care, it does offer some respite to the Revenue budget in the short term.



Cllr Orrett asked if the data on pot holes will always be retrospective. Cllr Butt Philip confirmed this would always be the case.

26/36/C FORWARD PLAN

Item	Proposed date for consideration
Full City Council Forward Plan	
Youth Council Proposals	March 2026
Calendar of Meetings and Engagements	March 2026
Preparation for internal audit (Appropriation and Asset List)	March 2026
General Power of Competency	Every political cycle

26/37/C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT

Cllr G Robbins thanked the council and local residents for the kindness shown to her and her mother since the passing of her father, Cllr Tony Robbins.

26/38/C DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of Wells City Council will be Thursday 26th March 2026, 7pm

EXCLUDE THE PRESS AND PUBLIC Note: If it is necessary for matters to be considered in confidence it will be proposed by the Chairman that a resolution be passed under the provisions of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 as amended, excluding the press and public, in order that confidential items can be discussed.

Minutes signed by The Mayor.....Date