

WELLS CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF THE CITY & TOURISM FORUM MEETING HELD IN THE OLD COURT
ROOM, WELLS TOWN HALL, WEDNESDAY 13th JULY 2016 AT 6.00PM

PRESENT: Cllrs: C Cox; R MacKenzie; D Swain (Chairman)
Mr A Webb, Wells Museum/Visitor Information
Ms C Winter, Wells Civic Society
Mr D & Ms S Cooper, Wells Film Centre
M Johns, Wells Chamber of Commerce
Mr M Tobin, Swan Hotel / Visit Somerset (Vice-Chairman)
Ms L Mann, Wells Cathedral
Mrs R Martin, The Bishops Palace
Ms T Chichester, 'B&B' representative

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk: F White;
Cllr C Briton
1 junior member of the public.

16/31CT APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE
Cllrs: Robbins, Wride

16/32CT DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST
None declared.

16/33CT MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING
Minutes of the meeting held on 15th June 2016 were proposed, seconded approved and signed.

16/34CT MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC
None wishing to speak.

16/35CT PROMOTING THE CITY
To consider the 'Visit by Coach' proposals:
Mr Webb presented a project to enter into a contract with 'Visit by Coach'. This has been agreed among key stakeholders in the city.
The project will be managed by The Bishop's Palace, together with the Cathedral; these, with other key groups, will contribute funding and form a Steering Group to oversee the project. Mendip Tourism Ltd has agreed to divert funds to this project from other Wells proposals.
There was some discussion and further questions were answered. It was explained that there would not be an immediate visible benefit but if the plan could be implemented as soon as possible there could be preparation for the 2017 season. It was agreed to meet with the provider on the coming Saturday, if possible.
Full support for this project was given by all those present.

16/36CT 2016 EVENTS
See attached list.

16/37CT ANY OTHER MATTERS OF REPORT
i. Mark Tobin spoke about Somerset Tourism Expo 12th – 14th October 2016.
This will be hosted in Wells by the Swan Hotel in partnership with other key stakeholders. Approximately 40 international tour operators will be given a free visit to Wells and selected Somerset venues. Previous events have been very successful in increasing international tours to Wells.
The Town Clerk will notify SCC Highways and MDC Street Cleaning.

- ii. Filming Protocol. Meetings are being held with Somerset County Council and Mendip District Council to identify key issues around visits from film companies. The aim is to help make Wells a film friendly city while reducing disruption and increasing benefit to Wells. Suggestions for appropriate parking arrangements to be sent to the Town Clerk please.
- iii. Sadler Street coach parking bay. Suggestions for wording of the signage to be sent to the Town Clerk, for discussion with SCC Highways.

16/38CT DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING 6pm on Wednesday 7th September 2016

PUBLIC EVENTS / ROAD CLOSURES SCHEDULED TO TAKE PLACE IN THE CITY OF WELLS 2016

Note: This listing attempts to identify major events likely to cause significant additional traffic or other disruption. Notifications of any other such events will be gratefully received.

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| 30 th July: | Swim/Run event, Wells Leisure Centre |
| 6 th August: | Marathon Run: via Mendip Way crossing New Street |
| 11 th August: | Parking on Recreation ground |
| 13 th August: | Rail Wells Model Railway Show, Town Hall |
| 29 th August: | Moat Boat Race, Moat Walk & Recreation Ground |
| 10 th September | Heritage Open Day, Town Hall (Please notify other Heritage Open Day events to the City Archivist for inclusion in city publicity) |
| 18 th September | Freeman's 'Party in the Square', Market Place |
| October: | FESTIVALS |
| 9 th October | Food Festival, Market Place & Recreation Ground |
| 18 th November: | Wells Carnival - city |
| 16-19 th November | Charter Fair (Fun Fair), Market Place |
| 21-22 November | Christmas lights go up: city centre |
| 4 th December | Reindeer Parade |
| 11 th December | Wells Brocante Fair |
| 21-24 th December | Wells Christmas Market (MDC) |