

**WELLS CITY COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF WELLS CITY COUNCIL HELD IN THE COUNCIL**  
**CHAMBER, WELLS TOWN HALL ON THURSDAY 25<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2012, 7:00PM**

**PRESENT:** Cllrs: M Brandon (The Mayor); C Price; C Briton; A Gibson; H Siggs;  
D Anderson; G Wilson; N Kennedy; A Denison; J North; D Unwin; S Davies.

**IN** Town Clerk: F White, RFO S Luck.

**ATTENDANCE:** Mace-Bearer: J Rood; Chaplain: A Glanville.  
2 Police Officers. 1 member of the press; 1 member of the public.

**12/138C APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Cllr: J Mitchell, unwell. Cllr Kennedy proposed that **Cllr Mitchell's absence be approved until the end of March 2013** for health reasons, this was seconded by Cllr Unwin; a vote was taken and the proposal **agreed**.

Cllrs: T Butt Philip (Deputy Mayor); J Osman; T Robbins.

**12/139C DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS** None.

**12/140C MINUTES** of the meeting of the City Council held on 27<sup>th</sup> September 2012 were proposed, seconded accepted and signed.

**12/141C MEETING OPEN TO THE PUBLIC**

Mr Hudsmith spoke about:

- i. Localism
- ii. Tourism and the promotion of Wells
- iii. The need for affordable housing
- iv. Rent and rate increases in Wells

Councillors answered some of his questions; there was lively debate on the subjects raised.

**12/142C PRESENTATION: Superfast Broadband for Wells**

Richard Roberts, Senior Business Development Officer, Mendip District Council: Presentation by the Officer had been withdrawn. Cllr Siggs spoke on behalf of MDC. It was made clear that the subject concerned BT's roll-out of broadband. Information had been circulated.

A second initiative concerns central government and Somerset County Council funding rural broadband; Cllr Osman had sent his apologies but can provide information on this project if requested.

**12/143C TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE POLICE**

PC Pearson gave his apologies for the previous meeting. He reported the main issues in Wells at present are:

- i. anti-social behaviour after hours at the night club – Police are working with the owners and Licensing authority.
- ii. anti-social behaviour in Whiting Way car park – Police are working with young people and contractors.

There were no further questions. The Mayor thanked the Police for their work and for attending.

**12/144C MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor gave a summary of the months engagements; the Duke of Gloucester had been particularly interested in the Mayoral Insignia. The Mayor especially thanked Cllr Gibson for the Wells in Bloom Presentation evening. She announced some forthcoming dates.

- 12/145C MINUTES OF THE FINANCE & GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**  
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012 and approve recommendations.  
**RECOMMENDED:**
- i. Committee Delegation Scheme - **Approved.**
  - ii. Standing Order 25 - **Approved.**
  - iii. Press and Media Policy – referred back for further revision
  - iv. Complaints Policy - **Approved.**
- The minutes were proposed, seconded, and accepted.
- 12/146C MINUTES OF THE PLANNING & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE**  
To receive the minutes of the meetings held on 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012  
The minutes were proposed, seconded, and accepted.
- 12/147C MINUTES OF THE CEMETERY AND OPEN SPACES COMMITTEE**  
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> October 2012  
The minutes were proposed, seconded, and accepted.
- 12/148C MINUTES OF THE CITY CENTRE MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**  
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2012  
The Chairman summarised the progress of item 12/42CC through both the F&GP Committee and the meeting of the CCM Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> October prior to the current Council meeting.  
The minutes were proposed, seconded, and accepted.
- 12/149C MINUTES OF THE ARCHIVES COMMITTEE**  
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012  
The Chairman congratulated the Archivist for her hard work in promoting the City and the success of the Heritage Open Day. The Mayor reflected that excellent exhibitions had been provided for the events of the year.  
The minutes were proposed, seconded, and accepted.
- 12/150C MINUTES OF THE WELLS IN BLOOM COMMITTEE**  
To receive the minutes of the meeting held on 11<sup>th</sup> October 2012  
The minutes were proposed, seconded, and accepted.
- 12/151C REPORTS FROM COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES AND DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS**
- i. Cllr North reported from the Mendip Economic Development Strategy meeting; the outlook appears positive.
  - ii. Cllr Unwin reported from the MDC Car Parks Working Group giving an update on the Whiting Way car park arrangements.
  - iii. Cllr Kennedy spoke about the Museum and the Visitor Information Centre.
  - iv. Cllr Siggs reported MDC had received a good statement from the auditors. He provided information about car parking enforcement; 375 visits were made to car parks in Wells in September; 27 Penalty Charge Notices issued in Union Street car park.
- 12/152C ANY OTHER URGENT MATTERS OF REPORT**
- i. Water culvert overflowing at bottom of High Street due to blocked grid.
- 12/153C DATE OF NEXT MEETING: 7pm on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> November 2012**