



Wells Town Council

Wells Community Hospital, Mill Rd,
Wells-next-the-Sea, NR23 1RF

MINUTES

2023/09

Town Council Meeting held at the Clore Room, Wells Maltings on 15th May 2023 at 1900 hrs.

Those Present: Mike Gates (Chairman), Roger Arguile, Mel Catton, Pauline Catton, Jessica Curtis, Jen Davies, Lindsay Dew, Peter Rainsford, Joyce Trett & David Wines.

Greg Hewitt (Clerk), Peter Fisher & 2 member of the public.

- 1) Election of Chairman (Declaration of Office to be signed)
Resolved – Mel Catton (Declaration signed) MG stands down and MC takes the chair. MG, the outgoing Chair, thanked everyone for standing for election, thus giving the council a democratic mandate.
- 2) All other Declarations of Office to be signed and to resolve any outstanding Declarations for the new council to be signed at the next appropriate meeting of the Council
All declarations had been signed before the meeting started in the presence of the Clerk bar one (SR) which would be signed at the next appropriate meeting.
- 3) Election of Vice Chairman. Resolved - Lindsay Dew
- 4) Election of Chairman of Planning Committee. Resolved – Pauline Catton
- 5) Election of Vice Chairman of Planning Committee. Resolved – Roger Arguile
- 6) Appointment of Members of Planning Committee. Resolved – To include all members.
- 7) Appointment of any other Standing Committees/Working parties
Resolved – Traffic Management Working Party, to include all members with MC as Chair. Neighbourhood Plan Working Party, RA, CC, LD & PR plus those existing members who are not councillors with RA as Chair.
- 8) Appointment of Portfolio Holders for the coming year.
Resolved – This item was deferred to the next meeting.
- 9) Confirmation of meetings to be held during the next twelve months (see separate list). Resolved – Confirmed.
- 10) Meeting of the Planning Committee – Separate minutes refer.



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Minutes Continued

11) Public Forum

The following issues were brought to the attention of the Council:

Concerns about the risks from traffic to children crossing the entrance to the Co-operative Supermarket, overgrown trees in Northfield Avenue, the building work on Tugboat Yard and graffiti on the Bounty Playboat. It was also announced that the Heritage Harbour signs had been installed and the naming ceremony for the new Lifeboat would be on the 3rd June, with an event open to all on the Quay.

12) Reports

a) Police – No report received.

b) Norfolk County Council, Councillor Michael Dalby
No report received.

c) North Norfolk District Council, Councillor Peter Fisher
A report was received which is available on the website.

13) Apologies – Bob Curtis, Cheryl Curtis and Susan Rainsford. BC & CC did join the meeting by Zoom.

14) To receive Declarations of Interest and consider any requests for Dispensations.
None.

15) To approve the Minutes of the meeting held on 3rd April 2023.
Approved and signed.

16) To receive a report from representatives of the Neighbourhood Plan working party on the work done to date, including the situation regarding new homes for local families.
Resolved – RA presented a report which is available on the website.

17) Reports

a) Town Clerk

The Clerk reported that £2744.60 of unused grant for the completion of the Neighbourhood Plan had been returned to locality. Advice was given to the newly elected councillors on the requirement to submit their expenses form and complete the Register of Interests by 1st June 2023. An invitation had been received for the Chairman and a guest to the official naming ceremony of the new Wells Lifeboat at the boathouse on 3rd June. NNDC had offered a bench to the town to commemorate the Kings coronation (*the council resolved to accept the bench and asked that it be installed on the small section of cobbled pavement by the Town Council Noticeboard*). The Clerk asked if any councillor wished to be the Council's representative on the Norfolk Association of Local Councils.



Minutes Continued

b) Portfolio Holders/Committees/Working Parties/Councillors

RA (Tourism and Neighbourhood Plan) RA reported that if necessary new Town Guides would be produced in the Autumn for 2024.

PC (Health and Wellbeing) PC reports that there will be a new Coastal Community Bus service between the Town and the Community Hospital operating on a Wednesday between 12:30 – 15:30.

PR (Climate and Environment) No improvement to the bus service from Wells to Norwich but there is now an early service to Fakenham and improved service to Sheringham.

JT The Sheringham Shoal Offshore Wind Farm Community Grant Fund is looking for more applications from Wells.

MC (Traffic Management and Buttlands) Members of the Traffic Working Party are having discussions with NNC about possible changes to the parking restrictions and other improvements. The daily installation of the bollards in Staithe Street is making a difference. MC suggested the council should write and thank the Street Party team for the successful event they organised for the Kings Coronation.

18) Financial Report & Accounts for Settlement

The financial reports were circulated. These can be viewed at Appendix A and on the website.

Resolved – Accounts agreed, accepted and signed.

19) To confirm Date of Next Meeting - Confirmed as Monday 5th June 2023.

Meeting ends 2055 hrs.

