

**MINUTES OF THE WELLINGTON TOWN COUNCIL COMMUNITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
HELD AT UNITED REFORMED CHURCH HALL ON MONDAY 21 OCTOBER 2024 AT 6.00PM**

**PRESENT:** Councillor C. Govier (Chair),  
Councillors C Booth, J Cole, M Lithgow, J Lloyd and M McGuffie

**IN ATTENDANCE:** David Farrow – Town Clerk  
Peter Joint – Community Connect Champion  
One member of the press

**341 APOLOGIES**

No apologies were received.

**342 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

**343 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

No members of the public were present.

**344 MINUTES**

**RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the Community Committee meeting held on the 16 September 2024.

**345 COMMUNITY CONNECT CHAMPION UPDATE**

Peter Joint gave an update on the work he is currently involved with. A copy of the notes he referred to is attached to the minutes.

Following a discussion about the role and funding of Parent Family Support Advisers (PFSAs) and the potential role for the Council to support that work the Committee asked the Town Clerk to meet with the head teacher managing PFSA funding in Wellington to explore options and develop proposals.

**346 WINTER FUEL ALLOWANCE PROMOTION**

Councillor McGuffie asked that consideration be given to setting aside funding to allow officers to promote action that needed to be taken to ensure people who were eligible knew what they needed to do to access this benefit. After some discussion it was agreed that the Town Clerk and Community Connect Champion would raise the matter at the next One Team meeting to establish what was already being done and to consider if more needed doing.

**347 BUDGET REPORT**

The budget report for 2024/5 was circulated in advance of the meeting and was noted.

The committee reviewed the proposed budget lines for 2025/6 and made the following recommendations:

- (i) That the budget line for the Pop-Up Shop Overheads should be reduced to £2,000.
- (ii) That the budget lines for Community Safety (58), Community Services and Priorities (60) and Health and Wellbeing (61) should be combined to create a Community Development and Support budget line along with the Youth Services and Cost of Living Fund reserves to give the new Community Development Officer role funding to

work with and deliver projects in 2025/6 whilst establishing what the future budget requirement will be for 2026/7 and beyond.

- (iii) That the budget lines for Emergency Planning (65), CCTV (176), and Bus Shelters (177) and those relating to the Pop-Up Shop and Public Toilets would be better placed with the Economic Development Committee leaving this Committee to focus on community matters.

**348 WORK PLAN 2024/5 UPDATES**

The Committee Work Plan had been circulated in advance of the meeting with updates since the previous meeting and was noted. The Town Clerk was asked to prioritise the activities and to consider whether responsibility for work on 28-30 Fore Street should sit with the Policy and Finance Committee. The Town Clerk highlighted the appointment of Helen Acreman to project manage the fit out of the Kings Arms Community Space

There being no further business the meeting closed at 7.50 pm.

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Councillor C Govier - Chair