



WIRKSWORTH TOWN COUNCIL

TOWN HALL, WIRKSWORTH, DERBYSHIRE DE4 4EU

Email: enquiries@wirksworth.gov.uk

Website: www.wirksworthtowncouncil.gov.uk

Clerk to the Town Council & Responsible Financial Officer:

Paul Jennings

Office hours: 8:30am-12:30pm Mon-Thurs

15 October 2024

Dear Councillor,

You are hereby summonsed to the Meeting of Wirksworth Town Council on MONDAY 21 October 2024 at 6.30 p.m. in the Town Hall, Wirksworth.

Admission of public: If you wish to join the meeting, please contact the Town Clerk for full meeting details. (*If you wish to attend the meeting remotely please contact the Town Clerk)

AGENDA

1. **Apologies for Absence**
2. **Variation of Order of Business**
 - Including to consider a resolution under the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960 s1) to exclude members of the press and public in order to discuss an agenda item.
3. **Members' Interests in Agenda Items**
 - To enable Members to declare the existence and nature of any Disclosable Pecuniary Interests they have in subsequent agenda items, in accordance with the Town Council's Code of Conduct.
4. **Open Forum: (3 minutes per speaker, total available 15 minutes)**
 - Public Forum (At the start of the meeting, a period is available for members of the public to address the Council)
 - Police Matters (A police representative may be in attendance to offer information or respond to questions from Councillors on Police matters)
 - Cllrs with a pecuniary interest making representations, answering questions or giving evidence relating to the business to be transacted
 - District & County Councillor Reports
5. **To confirm the accuracy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Wirksworth Town Council held on 16 September 2024 (attached)**
6. **Town Mayor's Announcements**
7. **To receive the recommendations from Committees:-**
 - Environment and Town dated 7 October 2024 (attached)
 - Finance, Buildings and Personnel dated 14 October 2024 (meeting inquorate - agenda items referred to committee meeting on 11th November)
8. **Accounts Paid**

September 2024 in the sums of £20,115.91
9. **Booking (Lettings) Policy**

To discuss what actions might be taken to address concerns regarding the current process and procedures which are applied when accepting bookings of the Town Council facilities.

Proposed Resolution from Cllr McDonagh & Cllr Jordan

In the light of the recent events surrounding a booking of Town Hall premises, this Council:

 - Confirms its absolute faith in its staff and their decision-making processes;
 - Fully accepts that the decision to accept the booking in the Town Hall was totally in line with the policies laid down by councillors and confirmed by them annually;
 - Is confident that its policy on bookings was applied with rigour and that officers acted very

**Resolution C23/99 - The 3 principles that will underly all Council Decisions are:
Community Cohesion, Communication and Environmental Impact**

professionally and with painstaking diligence;

- Is horrified by the abuse received by staff;
- Is saddened that the outcome is likely to be an overall reduction in the availability to organisations in Wirksworth of space for free and open discussion.

10. Duty of Care to Staff (Cllr McDonagh)

All employers have a duty of care towards their workers, by definition, 'duty of care' means the moral or legal obligation to ensure the safety and wellbeing of others. The Town Council has a Bullying and Harassment policy, following the Civility & Respect Campaign it is recommended that this be updated to a Dignity at Work policy.

11. Flooding in Wirksworth

E&T Resolution (ET24/60) to refer this issue to full council in order to seek a meeting with District and County Councillors for clarification on what actions have been taken and what are proposed to address these issues within the Town.

12. External Audit (attached)

To receive the auditor's report for 2023-24.

13. Budget and Precept 2025-26 (attached)

To consider any issues that should be considered or included in the initial draft budget.

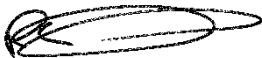
14. Derbyshire County Council Draft Council Plan 2025-29 (attached)

DCC are consulting on their new 4 year plan.

15. Request for Funding (Cllr Carr)

Request for £2000 from Town Council to pay for an evaluation and strategic plan from Esther Morrison following a series of meetings with DDDC Business Advisor Christina Trindade with the Wirksworth Traders Group - "Wirksworth Placemaking - how to increase footfall in the town".

16. Town Councillor Representative Reports



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