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**Minutes of Executive Meeting held at Wellington Town Council Chambers, 28 Fore Street,  
Wellington, Somerset, TA21 8AQ on Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> July 2010**

**Present**

S.White (who chaired the meeting), D.Derrick, H.Thorne, C.Wiggan, A.Carter, I.Stock, J.Pragnell, M.Coate, J.Goss, F.Morris, Cllr A.Govier, Cllr D.Mitton and Cllr V.Stock-Williams (who arrived at 6.40pm).

**Apologies for Absence**

D.King, T.Sanford, S.Mahoney, A.Hunt, S.Hooper, L.Tredwin, D.Hawkins, Cllr J.Govier and Cllr J.Reed.

**Minutes from Previous Meeting**

S.White – chairing the meeting in the absence of T.Sanford – asked for names to be expanded in the minutes from Chamber Executive meetings to ensure that it was clear who a minute referred to; for example Julia Thorne and not just J.Thorne as this could mean Julia or John; D.Derrick to action. It was also good practice to not amend a set of minutes with after meeting notes as the minutes issued should be reflective of the discussions that take place at the meeting only; anything that followed should be mentioned in the matters arising section of the next set of minutes; again D.Derrick to action.

**Matters Arising**

It was announced that the Young Chamber – based at Court Fields Community School – had dissolved and any future meetings were thus cancelled and this was disappointing to hear; the time required for the body to be purposeful and meaningful was not there and the chance to integrate was not there either.

The Young Enterprise Scheme was to be revisited in September.

### **Three Spheres Marketing Study Part Two**

I.Stock reviewed his findings and there were many strands to pick up on; some of the feedback ref the Chamber was felt to be harsh.

Follow up activities would comprise the following – making a representation to Waitrose Ltd for a listing of who they have attracted to towns where they had set up a facility; this was seen as been of importance in respect that a second wave of business set-ups following their own arrival had been mentioned prominently when they had spoken to the Chamber recently.

The use of the old Woolworth's store was of a defined importance to the Chamber and the Town as it had the capacity to house a major business/retail name – Sports Soccer/Sports Direct were seen as potential occupants of this building and discussions were to be entered into in this respect.

### **Wellington Boot Throwing Event – Progress Report**

It was reported that stallholders and raffle prizes were coming through slowly and it was decided to revisit some of those who had already been seen to reinvigorate support.

First aid through St John Ambulance was coming together and the services of the grounds man who was based at Wellington Playing Field had been secured for a small fee.

A meeting of the event's steering group was set for Monday 16<sup>th</sup> August and an open meeting for all Chamber members to attend and lend their support and time to the event was called for Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August and this would replace the usual formal meeting.

### **Festival Fortnight**

The salient points of the fortnight were given by Cllr A.Govier and were as follows,

Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> September – Food Town

Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Charity Cycle Ride in aid of Prostate Cancer and Flower Event at Nynehead Court

Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> September – Sportsman's Dinner at Wellington RFC

Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> September – Wellington Boot Throwing Event at Court Fields Community School;

Evening Comedy event at The Martlett Inn, Langford Budville

Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> September – Concert at Wellington School

Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September – Tour of Britain Cycling event passes through Wellington Town Centre;

Graffiti Classics performing at Wellington School.

Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> September – Model Boat Racing at The Basins

Points to Note – A goody bag had been produced with items relevant to the event in it and was ready for distribution; music was to be a large part of the event and would see such places as local schools and nursing homes receiving visitations from local music and acting companies.

The old Woolworth's shop was available for use ref performers.

A banner advertising the event was to be erected by T.Milton and there was a good feeling ref the event as it came closer to taking place.

### **Food Town**

J.Pragnell announced that he had forty stallholders with interest levels being high; input from Waitrose was of great benefit and sales and marketing for the event was well advanced.

There would be a bandstand which local acts would play in during the event.

A road closure between 6am and 6pm had been applied for and had been granted.

Cllr D.Mitton asked for Chamber members to add to the level of interest in the event by volunteering to carry material related to the event.

A general volunteering request was made in respect of the event.

### **Farmers Market**

M.Coate reported that warm summer weather would see an increase in the price of winter stocks and he explained the reasons for this being the case; principally the long, dry spell had worked against harvesting of hay in the sort of quantities that were required to maintain normal and accepted production levels and so feed stocks were lower and had to go further; this would see an increase in the price of meat in the shops through the autumn and winter periods – the supply chain had to pass these costs on down the chain and ultimately to the consumer.

A double gazebo would be allowed in the vicinity of the Co-Op on market days, but room was still at a premium and to be able to move the seating that – to his mind – got in the way was the way to go. The market was still using the Scout Hall it was reported too; members of the market had been asked to take part in Food Town, but support was not thought to be that strong.

The results of an environmental health visit were reviewed in some depth and all aspects of the Farmers Market operation were assessed with some tough questioning taking place; it was noted that the uniform of the inspector was not of the quality expected for such a visitation. Issues to be addressed with Scout Leaders and other relevant personnel.

### **Wellington Town Council Report**

A copy of the July meeting minutes were to be requested – action D.Derrick.

Chamber attendance at the August meeting on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> through S.White.

The efforts of the South Street group of traders were commended once more and should be a template for the rest of the town.

Parking issues were again topical with stays at no more than the minimum rate with a one hour limit in South Street and a two hour limit in North Street seen as being desirable.

C.Wiggan expanded on the efforts of the South Street traders group and commented that events were planned.

### **Future Presentations**

It was hoped that future Executive Chamber meetings were of a form where they were an advice shop offering help and guidance as well as forum for discussion and debate as at present.

Presentations from such as T.Sanford, D.Hawkins and A.Carter ref their businesses as well as a brief synopsis of the Chamber's meetings for the Wellington Weekly News to be taken forward.

### **Next Meetings**

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> August – Wellington Boot Throwing Event Open Meeting, 6.00pm, Wellington Town Council Chambers

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> September – Executive Meeting, 6.00pm, Wellington Town Council Chambers

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**S.White**  
**Vice Chairman**