

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 1 April 2008**

(7.30pm to 8.00pm)

Present:

Tony Lock – Mayor
Philip Chandler
Clive Davis
Bridget Dollard
Tony Fife
Julian Freke
Dave Gooding
John Grana
Dave Greene
John Hann

Steve Hawker
Simon Hester
Andrew Kendall
Ian Martin
Pat Martin
Tom Parsley
Wes Read
David Recardo
Alan Smith

Also present:

Alan Tawse – Town Clerk

PRAYERS

Reverend Ed Bangay led the Council in prayers on behalf of the Townspeople of Yeovil.

GRANT PRESENTATION

The Mayor presented a grant in the sum of £850 to a representative of the Yeovil Division Guide Headquarters towards the provision of a ramp at Guide Headquarters to improve access for persons with a disability.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/141 MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 March 2008, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

7/142 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from J Vincent Chainey, John Cruddas, Pete Goodman, Peter Gubbins and Ruth Kendall.

7/143 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

7/144 **MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Details of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's recent and forthcoming engagements and announcements had been circulated separately.

7/145 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Town Clerk reported receipt of the following items of correspondence:-

- South Somerset Local Development Framework – Core Strategy “Issues and Options” Stage Publication Consultation – Parish/Town Council presentation workshop – 8 April 2008
- Firstline - First Great Western Stakeholder Newsletter - February/March 2008
- Focus on Volunteering - Volunteers' Newsletter of Somerset Association for the Blind - March 2008
- Somerset Rambler - February 2008
- Strategic Housing Market Assessment Newsletter - March 2008
- Town and Parish Standard - Newsletter of the Standards Board for England - March 2008

7/146 **PUBLIC CONVENIENCES IN YEOVIL**

Council considered the report of the Head of Engineering and Property Services (SSDC) (Agenda item 6 refers).

During the ensuing discussion, Members expressed their support for the proposal to locate the new conveniences in the Peter Street Car Park, which it was noted had been used successfully on previous occasions for the provision of temporary facilities over the Christmas/New Year period.

Reference was made to the previous capacity of the public toilets at the Quedam Shopping Centre (five female cubicles and four male cubicles - along with a urinal) which the new toilets would replace.

Given the needs of the Town and its planned expansion, it was felt that the capacity of the new toilets needed to be of a comparable overall size - with due regard being given to the appropriate mix of cubicles, the needs of persons with a disability and to the provision of baby-changing facilities.

It was further felt that the new toilets should be completed and available for public use by the end of November 2008 - to meet the needs of local residents and visitors to Yeovil over the impending Christmas and New Year period.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the proposal to locate the new public conveniences in the Peter Street car park be supported;
- (2) that the grant of a long lease, at a peppercorn, to Yeovil Town Council to manage and operate the new conveniences be supported; the terms of which to be agreed by the Head of Engineering and Property Services in consultation with the Head of Legal Services, the Portfolio holder for Environment and Property and the Town Council;
- (3) that the agreed funding arrangements be noted;
- (4) that the proposal to grant the Joint Working Group delegated authority to agree the design of the premises be supported - subject to the capacity of the replacement toilets being of a comparable overall size to the former Quedam Centre toilets, and with due regard being given to the appropriate mix of cubicles, the needs of persons with a disability and to the provision of baby-changing facilities; and
- (5) that arrangements be made for the new toilets to be completed and available for public use by the end of November 2008 - to meet the needs of local residents and visitors to Yeovil over the impending Christmas and New Year period.

7/147 NALC CONFERENCE 2008

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 7 refers).

The Town Clerk drew attention, at the meeting, to a similarly worded alternative motion from John Grana and Simon Hester which had been received the previous day. He added that copies of the alternative motion had been emailed to Members on the same day, and hard copies were circulated at the meeting.

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the length of the alternative motion which it was felt would prejudice its chances of being included on the Agenda of Motions for Debate at the forthcoming National Conference.

Given the fact that the wording was similar to the original (revised) motion supported by the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee, it was

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the revised draft motion on the subject of Town Centre Development - as set out in the Agenda - be adopted for submission to this year's NALC Conference.

7/148 **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS**

The Chairmen of the various Committees of the Council presented Minutes from the previous cycle of meetings, drawing attention to specific references to Council and any other matters of particular interest and answering any questions.

Planning and Licensing Committee

25 February 2008
10 March 2008

Grounds and General Maintenance Committee

3 March 2008

Promotions and Activities Committee

11 March 2008

Buildings and Civic Matters Committee

18 March 2008

Policy, Resources and Finance Committee

25 March 2008

7/79 Capital Fund

RESOLVED

- (4) that these contributions be met from the anticipated capital receipt arising from the disposal of the former Goldcroft Allotment Site, and that should this be delayed beyond the required payment dates, approval in principle be given to the contributions being met instead by a loan from the Public Works Loan Board - the amount and duration of which to be considered by the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee and determined by the Town Council.

7/149 **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Yeovil Twinning Association

13 March 2008

Yeovil Youth Council

17 March 2008

7/150 **MAYOR'S THANKS**

The Mayor referred to the forthcoming Annual Meeting of the Town Council at which he would be stepping down as Mayor, and he thanked the Council for their support over the past two years.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

Mayor

AT/JW
02/04/08