

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 6 April 2010**

(7.30pm to 10.00pm)

Present:

Wes Read – Mayor	Steve Hawker
J Vincent Chainey	Simon Hester
Philip Chandler	Andy Kendall
Clive Davis	Ruth Kendall
Bridget Dollard	Tony Lock
Tony Fife	Ian Martin
Julian Freke	Pat Martin
Dave Gooding	Tom Parsley
Pete Goodman	David Recardo
John Grana	Alan Smith
Dave Greene	

Also present:

Alan Tawse	Town Clerk
Andrew Maynard	Property Consultant - Alder King

PRAYERS

Reverend Howard Davenport led the Council in prayers on behalf of the Townspeople of Yeovil.

GRANT PRESENTATIONS

The Mayor presented a grant cheque to a representative of the following organisation for the purposes indicated:

Applicant	Amount	Purpose
The Art Group of Yeovil	£1,000	Costs of the Organisation promoting and developing its activities, with a view to the Group increasing its membership across all sections of the community.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/449 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 2 March 2010, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

7/450 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from John Cruddas, Peter Gubbins and John Hann.

In submitting apologies on behalf of John Cruddas, Tony Fife drew attention to an unexpected temporary deterioration in John's current state of health, which had prevented him from attending that evening's meeting.

He referred to the fact that, owing to long-term sickness, John had been unable to attend any meetings since 3 November 2009 and he requested that the Council give consideration to approving this sickness as a reason for his absence and to extend the period of approved absence by a calendar month to 2 June 2010 by which time it was anticipated that John would be in a position to attend meetings.

Members considered the merits of the request, and it was

RESOLVED

that, in accordance with S.85(1) of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) the reason for John Cruddas being unable to attend meetings since 3 November 2009, which was due to long-term sickness, be approved and, in the circumstances, the period of permitted absence be extended by a calendar month to 2 June 2010.

(John Grana and Simon Hester requested that their vote against the passing of the above resolution be recorded)

7/451 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

7/452 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 were attached to the Agenda.

7/453 CORRESPONDENCE

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

- Somerset County Council Economic Assessment Workshop
- Changes to the maintenance of the public rights of way network
- Letter of thanks from grant recipient - Sutton Bingham and District Canoe Club
- Yeovil District Hospital Newsletter – Spring 2010
- Community Council for Somerset Newsletter – Winter/Spring 2010
- Somerset Ramblers' Association Newsletter – February 2010

7/454 YEOVIL VISION

The Town Council was advised that, for reasons beyond his control, the Assistant Director (Communities) SSDC was not yet in a position to give a full presentation on the future Delivery of the Yeovil Vision.

He had advised the Portfolio Holder for the Yeovil Vision (SSDC) and the Town Clerk of the situation, both of whom supported the deferral of the matter until the June meeting of the Town Council by which time all of the

outstanding matters were expected to have been clarified and the required information received thereby enabling a full presentation to be made.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that, in the circumstances, approval be given to the deferral of the planned presentation until the June 2010 meeting of the Town Council.

7/455 **SERVICE COMMITTEES REVIEW**

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

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered the outcome of the review, and the recommendations of the both the Working Group and the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee on the various issues that had been considered.

Whilst there was some support for some changes to the current arrangements, the vast majority of Members felt that no changes were required at this point in time.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that no changes be made to the existing service committee structure or timetable of meetings.

7/456 **FREEDOM PARADE**

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 8 refers).

The Town Clerk outlined the outcome of a meeting that he and the Mayor had attended to provisionally discuss a request received from the Commanding Officer at RNAS Yeovilton for the Town Council to stage a Freedom Parade to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the commissioning of the Air Station.

He added that, since the publication of the Agenda, he had had further discussions with representatives of the Air Station and the organisers of the Go Yeovil! initiative and it had been agreed that it would not be appropriate to link the two events.

During the ensuing discussion, Members discussed the request and expressed their support for the proposed Parade, which it was felt should be organised as a stand alone civic event without any public fundraising activities.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to the organisation of the proposed Freedom Parade by the Town Council on Thursday 17 June 2010, and up to £2,000 be allocated from Contingencies to cover the costs involved; and

- (3) that, in view of the nature of the event, no street collections be permitted to take place on the day of the Parade.

7/457 **SEVERE WEATHER**

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 9 refers).

Members were advised that since the publication of the Agenda, a response had been received from the Highway Authority, which confirmed that the Town Council would be invited to participate in an anticipated review after the matter had been initially considered by the County Council's Scrutiny Committee.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the Town Clerk be requested to attend the County Council Scrutiny Committee meeting on 11 May, and report the outcome of the meeting back to the Town Council with a view to Members deciding on the best way forward in light of the findings and conclusions of the Committee's initial discussions.

(John Grana requested that his vote against the passing of the above resolution (2) be recorded)

7/458 **YEOVIL SPORTS ZONE**

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 10 refers).

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that Steve Hawker be appointed to represent the Town Council at the forthcoming workshop.

7/459 **OUTSIDE ORGANISATIONS**

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 11 refers).

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that approval be given to the existing standing agenda item heading "Reports from Representatives on Outside Bodies" being extended to include any written or oral reports that Members who serve on such bodies on behalf of the Town Council may wish to make.

7/460 **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS**

The Chairmen of the various Committees of the Council presented the Minutes from the previous cycle of meetings, drawing attention to specific

references to Council, any matters of particular interest and answering any questions.

Planning and Licensing Committee

1 March 2010
15 March 2010

Grounds and General Maintenance Committee

8 March 2010

Promotions and Activities Committee

16 March 2010

Buildings and Civic Matters Committee

23 March 2010

Policy, Resources and Finance Committee

30 March 2010

7/461 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Minutes of the following meetings of Outside Bodies were attached to the Agenda and Members were given an opportunity to raise matters relating to them:

Yeovil Twinning Association

11 February 2010

Yeovil Youth Council

22 March 2010

In response to a query, the Town Clerk indicated that the planned disposal of the former Yeovil Ski and Activity was still under discussion and that at this point of time it would not be in the public interest to disclose the options that were currently being considered.

7/462 PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/463 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED

that the press and public be excluded from the remainder of the meeting in accordance with Section 1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

7/464 **FORMER YEOVIL SKI AND ACTIVITY CENTRE**

Council considered the confidential report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 14 refers).

The Town Clerk distributed a copy of recently circulated correspondence in connection with a further expression of interest, and he outlined the initial views of the Council's Property Agent and the Council's Solicitor on this submission.

Further to the previous meeting, the Town Council's Property Agent was in attendance at the Meeting. In addition to answering Members' questions on a range of issues, he commented on the marketing and disposal process to date and he discussed the options available with reference to the current and future economic climate.

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered recent developments regarding the proposed disposal of the site and the implications of these developments for the future use of the land.

RESOLVED:

- (1) that the recent developments concerning the proposed disposal of the site and the Property Agent's views thereon be noted;
- (2) that arrangements be made for the Yeovil Ski Centre Steering Group to give initial consideration to the further expression of interest received, and their findings and recommendations be reported to the May (reconvened) meeting of the Town Council; and
- (3) that a meeting be held with the relevant bodies and agencies to establish the scope for reviewing various aspects of the current development brief for the site, and the outcome be reported to a future meeting.

Mayor

AT
12/4/2010