

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of the meeting of **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 3 August 2010**

(7.30pm to 8.55pm)

Present:

Philip Chandler – Mayor	Ruth Kendall
Clive Davis	Mike Lock
Bridget Dollard	Tony Lock
Tony Fife	Ian Martin
Julian Freke	Pat Martin
Dave Gooding	Tom Parsley
Pete Goodman	Wes Read
Dave Greene	David Recardo
Steve Hawker	Alan Smith
Andrew Kendall	

Also present:

Alan Tawse	Town Clerk
PC Bill Geddes	South Somerset Community Justice Panel
Gemma North	South Somerset Community Justice Panel

PRAYERS

In the absence of the Mayor's Chaplain, the Mayor asked the Council to quietly reflect on a number of worldwide issues.

GRANT PRESENTATIONS

The Mayor presented a grant cheque to representatives of the following organisations for the purposes indicated:

Applicant	Amount	Purpose
Yeovil and District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Society	£350	Towards the general expenses of running the Society and its shows.
Yeovil Concert Band	£500	To purchase music to expand the Band's repertoire.
Yeovil Olympiads Athletic Club	£900	To meet the costs of the provision of prizes and administration for the 2010 Yeovil Games.
Monday Club	£150	To help with general expenses

PUBLIC COMMENT

Viv Cornelius asked whether the Town Council was satisfied with the recent Yeovil Streetfest event, which had taken place at Yeovil Recreation Ground.

The Town Clerk indicated that, in line with a decision of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee, the organiser of the event had been requested to report back on the success of the event to a future Town Council meeting, and to outline the level of deprivation in various Wards in Yeovil and the work that is being undertaken in the local community to combat this issue. This would provide an opportunity for Members to discuss and comment on the event.

7/507 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 6 July 2010, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

7/508 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from J Vincent Chainey, Peter Gubbins and John Hann.

7/509 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

7/510 **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.

7/511 **CORRESPONDENCE**

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

- Yeovil Federation Director's Report – July 2010
- Yeovil District Hospital Newsletter – Summer 2010
- Letter of thanks from grant recipient – Shopmobility Yeovil
- Letter of thanks from former Councillor John Cruddas on being admitted to the Roll of Honorary Freemen of the Town

The Town Clerk also drew attention to an article which had appeared in the August 2010 edition of Navy News on the recent freedom parade organised by the Town Council to commemorate the 70th anniversary of the commissioning of RNAS Yeovilton.

7/512 **COMMUNITY JUSTICE PANEL**

PC Bill Geddes gave a brief presentation on the success to date of the South Somerset and Area Community Justice Panel and the introduction of a new scheme in Yeovil.

(A summary of the main points covered by the presentation is attached as an appendix to these Minutes).

During his presentation, Bill drew attention to the relatively low re-offending rate that had been achieved by the restorative justice approach, and the opportunity which the scheme provided for victims of crime to discuss their experiences with the perpetrators of such crimes.

He also referred to the community-led nature of the initiative and the option to refer offences to the Crown Prosecution Service if it was felt during the process that a prosecution would be a more appropriate course of action.

In conclusion, Bill indicated that meetings would be held with the community associations in the Town to help promote, engage and develop the scheme in Yeovil, and he introduced the newly appointed Project Co-ordinator, Gemma North – who would be leading the initiative in the Yeovil area.

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the nationally recognised success of the South Somerset and Area restorative justice scheme, and the opportunity which it gave for young offenders to be effectively dealt with outside the traditional criminal justice system.

The Mayor thanked Bill for his interesting and informative presentation, and it was

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted.

7/513 **WINTER MAINTENANCE SERVICES**

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

RESOLVED

- (1) that the developments be noted;
- (2) that Andy Kendall be appointed to attend and contribute to the forthcoming Winter Maintenance Open Evening on 19 August; and
- (3) that all Members be encouraged to complete and return the questionnaire attached to the agenda to the Town Clerk ahead of the Open Evening, and arrangements be made for a collated response to be passed to the Highway Authority at the event.

7/514 **YEOVIL TOWN LADIES FC**

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

RESOLVED

- (1) that approval be given to the award of a Certificate of Recognition to Yeovil Town Ladies FC in winning the South West Combination Women's Football League in 2009/10 and thereby securing promotion to the FA Tesco Women's Premier League; and

- (2) that, with the support of Yeovil Town FC, arrangements be made for the Mayor to present the certificate to the Team during a home match at Huish Park.

7/515 **STREET NAMING**

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

RESOLVED

that the name "Tanyard Terrace" be supported and forwarded to the District Council for consideration.

7/516 **APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEES**

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

Members were advised that, earlier that evening, the Yeovil Central Ward Committee had nominated Mike Lock to serve on the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

The Committee had also appointed Peter Gubbins to serve on the Former Ski and Activity Centre Steering Group, and the Yeovil South Ward Committee had subsequently met and appointed Tom Parsley to serve on the same Group.

The Town Clerk added that Mike Lock had also expressed an interest to serve on the Promotions and Activities Committee.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matters be noted;
- (2) that Mike Lock be appointed to serve on the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee and the Promotions and Activities Committee for the 2010/11 Municipal Year; and
- (3) that the appointment of Peter Gubbins and Tom Parsley to serve on the Former Ski and Activity Centre Steering Group for the 2010/11 Municipal Year be noted.

7/517 **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

5 July 2010
19 July 2010

Grounds and General Maintenance Committee

12 July 2010

Promotions and Activities Committee

13 July 2010

Buildings and Civic Matters Committee

20 July 2010

Minute 7/251 – New Initiatives

In response to a query, the Town Clerk indicated that the legal powers available to the Town Council to fund the initiatives put forward by the service committees during the current cycle of meetings would be investigated as part of the review and report back process.

He also confirmed that all the initiatives which the service committees chose to support during the September cycle of meetings would be referred onto the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee later that month, and then to the meeting of the Town Council in October - at which Members would be asked to make a decision on the allocation of the New Initiatives budget.

Policy, Resources and Finance Committee

27 July 2010

7/518 **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 Crematorium and Cemetery Committee

30 June 2010

Members who represented the Town Council on outside bodies were given an opportunity to report on any matters of interest.

7/519 **WAR MEMORIAL**

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 13 refers).

The Town Clerk gave an update on the developments which had taken place following damage to the War Memorial in the Borough in July.

He explained that the incident had been reported to the Police, who were treating it as a case of suspected criminal damage and were carrying out an investigation.

He added that an image from CCTV footage of the person whom the Police were seeking to assist with their enquiries had been posted on the Crimestoppers website (see weblink below) and that a press release had been issued to make the public aware of the incident, and to enlist their support in helping to identify the culprit:

www.avonandsomerset.police.uk/Crimestoppers/CaseView.aspx?cid=1553

Members were advised that quotations had been sought from three accredited specialist stonemasons for the repair of the monument, one of which had declined to bid, and that the lower of the two bids received was in the sum of £1,200 (plus VAT).

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the Town Clerk be delegated authority to accept a quotation for the repair of the War Memorial following consultation with the Chairman of the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee, and the Chairman of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

7/520 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

Mayor

Community Justice Panel

South Somerset
and Area

Val Keitch
Manager





Safer Stronger Neighbourhoods

- Background
- Community Justice Panel



Community Justice Panels

- Community led
- Local justice for local people
- Assists in reintegration of offenders into their community
- Confidence in Police improved
- Encourages partnership working

Restorative Justice in a Community setting

- Works to resolve conflict and harm
- Encourages the person causing the harm to acknowledge the impact of their actions
- Gives the person harmed the opportunity to have their loss or harm acknowledged
- Community takes responsibility and has a say

How does it work ?

- Agency cooperation-----What agencies ?
- Councils
- Police
- Volunteer groups e.g. Speedwatch
- Crown Prosecution Service
- Housing providers
- Home Office
- SREC
- Protocols with all agencies



Local action groups

- Panel represented on groups
- Community Safety
- Pupil referral units
- Work with schools

Process

- Agency responsible for getting signed agreements
- Agency refers
- Case allocated to volunteer
- Interviews conducted
- Panel date agreed
- Panel held agreement reached

Outcomes

- Acceptable Behaviour Contracts
- Acceptable agreements
- Signed by offender , Facilitator and agency representative
- Reparation in the Community
- Compensation
- Letters of apology

Volunteers

- Local people
- Training
- Community given a real voice
- All ages and walks of life represented
- Regular meetings and debriefings



Case examples

- Neighbour disputes
- Criminal damage
- Assaults
- Anti-Social behaviour



Statistics

- 900 People have been through the process
- Low re-offending rates
- Victim satisfaction high
- Current evaluation taking place



Community engagement

- Local people involved in local solutions
- Better relations with Police
- Less Anti-Social behaviour



Yeovil

- Coordinator appointed
- Training August
- Cases from September