



Yeovil Town Council

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Yeovil Town Council

The Meeting... **Yeovil Town Council**

The Time... **7.30pm**

The Date... **Tuesday 1 December 2009**

The Place... **Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil**

The Town Council will be discussing all the items listed overleaf

If you need this information in large print, Braille, audio or another language, please



QUALITY
TOWN
COUNCIL

Alan Tawse

Alan Tawse

Town Clerk

Please contact Alan Tawse at the Town House for more information about this meeting

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

Wes Read – Mayor of Yeovil Town

Phillip Chandler – Deputy Mayor

J Vincent Chainey

John Cruddas

Clive Davis

Bridget Dollard

Tony Fife

Julian Freke

Dave Gooding

Pete Goodman

John Grana

David Greene

Peter Gubbins

John Hann

Steve Hawker

Simon Hester

Andrew Kendall

Ruth Kendall

Tony Lock

Ian Martin

Pat Martin

Tom Parsley

David Recardo

Alan Smith

**Members are invited to join the Mayor in the Mayor's Parlour
at the close of the meeting for seasonal refreshments**

A G E N D A

Prayers

Grant Presentations

Public Comment (15 Minutes)

1. MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 3 November 2009.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4. MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(See attached at 5 to 7)

5. CORRESPONDENCE

6. TRANSPORT PRIORITIES

Somerset County Council has written to all town and parish councils in Somerset drawing attention to impending changes in the way in which local investment in roads is targeted.

From April 2011, there will be a move away from heavily centrally-prescribed funding linked to nationally-identified goals towards meeting the specific local challenges of Somerset's communities.

The County Council is now starting to prepare its new transport strategies and plans for the future, and part of this process is to define what the specific transport challenges are in Somerset. Whilst the County Council will be drawing on priorities and objectives set out in a range of existing documents, they want to make sure that they capture what is important to communities at a local level.

With this in mind, the County Council have invited Members to outline their views on the transport issues/challenges that are important to Yeovil Town Council.

Council is **RECOMMENDED** to consider the matter with a view to making a response.

(Alan Tawse, Town Clerk = 01935 382424)

7. **MONMOUTH HALL CHARGES**

Council is **RECOMMENDED** to consider adopting the following proposed charges for the use of Monmouth Hall with effect from 1 April 2010. These charges have been increased in line with the anticipated rate of inflation (2%) and are supported by the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee:

Community Use

Daytime (before 5.00pm)	Present	Proposed
First two hours	£10.30	£10.50
Additional hours (per hour)	£6.75	£6.90
Use of kitchen	£6.75	£6.90
Evenings (after 5.00pm)	Present	Proposed
First two hours	£15.75	£16.10
Additional hours (per hour)	£6.75	£6.90
Use of kitchen	£6.75	£6.90
Surcharges for use after 11.00pm	£6.75	£6.90

Commercial Use – Double Community Use Charges

Returnable deposit – £30.00 to cover cost of cleaning up the Hall if hirers fail to do so.

8. **ESTIMATES 2010/11**

(a) To consider estimates from the Council's Committees as attached to the Minutes of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee meeting held on 24 November 2009 (circulated separately).

(b) To fix the Town's precept for 2010/11.

9. **FLOOD AWARENESS WORKSHOPS**

The District Council is organising two further Flood Awareness workshops this winter, including an event at 7.30pm on Thursday 20 January at their Brympton Way Offices, and has invited all town and parish councils to be represented at the workshops.

The events will be open to the general public as well as town and parish council representatives.

The general format of the workshops will be as before – a series of short presentations by various organisations – including the District Council and the Environment Agency – and the provision of information about flood defence measures. There will also be an opportunity for questions and for informal discussions on an individual basis.

By way of background information, the District Council has circulated a leaflet (copy attached at page 8) which summarises existing land drainage responsibilities. These are due to change when the “Flood and Water Management Bill” is enacted (possibly April 2010). This will give county councils and unitary authorities a lead role in respect of many aspects of flooding and surface water flooding in particular. Further information on this issue will be given at the workshops.

Last year, Phil Chandler, Bridget Dollard, Wes Read and David Recardo were appointed to represent the Town Council at a similar event.

Council is **RECOMMENDED** to consider the invitation of the District Council.

(Alan Tawse, Town Clerk – 01935 382424)

10. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS

(The Minutes of the following meetings are open to discussion. Where a Committee has made a recommendation, that will be listed on a separate sheet circulated with the Agenda).

Planning and Licensing Committee

26 October 2009
9 November 2009

Grounds and General Maintenance Committee

2 November 2009

Promotions and Activities Committee

10 November 2009

Buildings and Civic Matters Committee

17 November 2009

Policy, Resources and Finance Committee

24 November 2009

11. REPORTS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Yeovil Twinning Association

10 September 2009 (See attached at 9 to 10)

Public Comment (15 Minutes)

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Committee will be requested to pass a resolution excluding the press and public 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.

12. FORMER GOLDCROFT ALLOTMENT SITE

(The Town Clerk will give an oral confidential report on recent developments).

List of Engagements attended/to be attended by His Worship The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read and the Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler from 3 November 2009 to 5 January 2010

01/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the 'Oh What A Night' show at the Octagon Theatre
05/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read attended Flo and Jim Essex's fundraising 'triathlon'
06/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the prizegiving of the Holy Trinity Christmas Card competition
07/11/09	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, attended Somerset County Federation of Women's Institutes Annual Meeting
08/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, along with Members of the Town Council, attended Remembrance Sunday
09/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the Somerset County Federation Women's Institute AGM
10/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, hosted a visit from the Holy Trinity Scout Group at the Town House
11/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended 'Colossal Colourful Collage' at the Museum of South Somerset
11/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the Armistice Day service
13/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, welcomed a new shop, Resolution, to the Town
16/11/09	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Phillip Chandler, attended the Yeovil Night Shelter
16/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the Yeovil Night Shelter
17/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, hosted a visit from the Wessex Scout Group
18/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended a performance of Footloose by Yeovil Youth Theatre Group
19/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended Preston School Presentation Evening
21/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, opened the Methodist Church's Christmas Fayre
21/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended Leukaemia Research Social Evening
21/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the second of the Yeovil & District Chrysanthemum & Dahlia Society's shows
23/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended Preston School Year 11 Leavers Presentation Evening
25/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the 'Dragons Den' event at Preston School
26/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Good Fellowship Club for Christmas dinner
26/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Christmas Lights Switch-on ceremony
27/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Domestic Abuse Awareness event
27/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will host the Annual Mayor's Charity Ball
28/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Christmas Dinner at St Peters Church.
28/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend 'From a Distance' at the Swan Theatre

28/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend West Abbey Care Centre Annual Christmas Fayre
29/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend St Margaret's Life up a Life Service at St John Church
30/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Yeovil Night Shelter
30/11/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Yeovil Opportunity Group AGM
02/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Arthritis Care Christmas Party
03/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Crewkerne Town Council's Christmas Concert
04/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend a Christmas Concert at St Johns Church, Yeovil
04/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Foyer Lunch and film launch.
04/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Blandford Forum Town Council Civic Christmas Carol Service.
05/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend WCA Christmas Social at St Peters Church Hall.
05/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will officially open the foyer at the Swan Theatre.
06/12/09	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Phillip Chandler will attend Verwood Reception
06/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Shaftesbury Town Council's Christmas Service
06/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Portland Town Council Christmas Carol Service
07/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Somerset County Council's Christmas Celebration Concert
09/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Mayor of Taunton's Charity Carol Service.
09/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend South Somerset Disability Forum's Open meeting
10/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the production of 'Born in a Barn' by Holy Trinity School at Holy Trinity Church.
10/12/09	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, will attend The Park School Carol Service
10/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend St Margaret's Somerset Hospice outdoor celebration in the Quedam Centre
11/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Rowan Place with David Laws MP for the annual Christmas visit
11/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Yeovil District Hospital with David Laws MP for the annual Christmas visit
11/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend The Flexible Learning Centre Christmas Buffet
11/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Friends of Milford Infants School's Christmas Fayre
13/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Holy Trinity Christmas Celebration
13/12/09	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, will attend the earlier of the Yeovil Temple Salvation Army's Carols at Christmas
13/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend later of the Yeovil Temple Salvation Army's Carols at Christmas

14/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the closing ceremony of Parcroft Community Junior School
15/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Further Education Awards 2009 at Westlands.
16/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Wyndham Court, for the annual Christmas visit.
17/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend West Dorset District Council's Christmas Carol Service
19/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Preston Park House, for the annual Christmas visit
19/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Tynedale Nursing Home for the annual Christmas visit
19/12/09	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, will attend Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Authority's Christmas Carol Concert and Standard Dedication
20/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Park Lodge for the Annual Christmas visit
20/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Malmesbury Court for the annual Christmas visit
20/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read will attend Cool Runnings Too Residential Home, for the annual Christmas visit
20/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Lockwood Court Residential Home for the annual Christmas visit
21/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Sunningdale Lodge Residential Home for the annual Christmas visit
21/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Sherborne Care Home for the annual Christmas visit
21/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Forest View Residential Home for the annual Christmas visit
22/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Ivelhurst Nursing Home for the annual Christmas visit
22/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Grovelands Residential Home, for the annual Christmas visit
22/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend West Abbey Nursing Home for the annual Christmas visit
22/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend The Knoll Nursing Home for the annual Christmas visit
23/12/09	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend St Margaret's Hospice for a Christmas visit with David Laws MP.

Land Drainage Responsibilities, Powers, Rights and Roles.

There are, at the local level, a number of organisations that have a role in respect of land drainage and flooding. The statutory powers relating to these are generally embodied in the Water Resources Act 1991 and the Land Drainage Act 1991 although certain functions are also contained within the Public Health Act 1936 the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and the Highways Act 1980 :

Definitions	
'Watercourse'	Defined under the Land Drainage Act 1991 as "all rivers and streams and all ditches, drains, cuts, culverts, dikes, sluices, sewers (other than public sewers within the meaning of the Water Industry Act 1991) and passages through which water flows".
'Main river'	Specifically designated lengths of watercourse and are generally the larger arterial watercourses. Main rivers fall under the jurisdiction of the Environment Agency.
'Ordinary watercourse'	Watercourses that do not form part of a main river. They are generally under the jurisdiction of 'drainage bodies' although the EA act as the consenting authority in respect of any works involving culverting, diversion, abstraction, etc.

Organisation/Group	Responsibilities, Powers, Rights and Roles
Environment Agency	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. general supervisory role over all aspects relating to flood defence with a more specific role in respect of improvements or maintenance to designated 'main rivers'. b. regulating authority for works/activities in and alongside watercourses (except in internal drainage board areas). c. influence, through the planning application process, land use and development particularly within flood plain areas. d. produce Flood Risk mapping and manage historical flood records/data e. install and operate flood warning systems. f. protection and conservation of the natural environment, whilst carrying out flood risk management activities.
Local Authorities: County Council	<p>The County Council has two distinct roles</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Designated as a 'local authority' under the terms of the LD Act with discretionary power to serve Notice on owners requiring them to remove obstructions from 'ordinary watercourses' (S25 of the LD Act). b. As a Highway Authority with responsibility under the Highways Act 1980 to keep roads free from flooding with powers to drain water from a highway into a nearby watercourse and to prevent water flowing on to a highway - this latter power is often difficult to enforce.
District Council	<p>Designated as a 'local authority' under the terms of the Land Drainage Act 1991, District Councils have a role in alleviating flooding problems where possible. Powers exist to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. implement works to prevent, mitigate or remedy flood damage – subject to consent by the EA and b. serve Notice on owners requiring them to remove obstructions from 'ordinary watercourses' in order to secure a proper flow (S25 of the LD Act). <p>The above land drainage powers are discretionary and SSSC's policy is to exercise them where property is at risk of internal flooding. The District Council may also give guidance/assistance on flooding issues and issue sandbags under certain circumstances in times of flooding.</p>
Internal Drainage Boards	<p>Designated as a 'drainage body' under the terms of the Land Drainage Act 1991, Drainage Boards have similar powers to District Councils for certain, specific, generally low-lying areas. Their principal interest is in the protection of agricultural land from flooding and they undertake maintenance work or improvements on certain 'viewed rhynes' with this in mind although they do also carry out works to protect properties from flooding.</p>
Landowners (Riparian owners)	<p>The role of Riparian Owners (<i>the owner of land containing or adjoining a watercourse</i>) is generally not fully understood. Among other things they have the right to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Receive flow of water in its natural state, without undue interference in quantity or quality b. Protect their property from flooding and their land from erosion <p>They also have a responsibility to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Pass on flow without obstruction, pollution or diversion affecting the rights of others. b. Accept flood flows through their land, even if caused by inadequate capacity downstream. c. Maintain the bed and banks of the watercourse (including trees and shrubs growing on the banks, and for clearing any debris, natural or otherwise, even if it did not originate on their land d. Keep the bed and banks clear from any matter that could cause an obstruction. <p>Whilst riparian owners are under no common law duty to clear a watercourse which becomes silted or obstructed through natural causes, under statute law (S25 of the LD Act 1991) drainage authorities <u>may</u> require and enforce them to carry out such works.</p>

YEOVIL TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday 10th September 2009

Present: Jan Aldridge, Roger Baker, Diana Gray (Hosting Officer),
Theresa Mahoney, Sabine Ramel-Blake, Kathy Smyth, Barbara Stimpson (Sec),
Graham Voizey (Chair), Chris West

Apologies: John Attwood, Martin Ford, Andrew Kendall, David Recardo, Richard and Sally Wallis

Minutes: The minutes of the last meeting were agreed and signed.

Matters arising:

- Theresa asked whether anyone from Yeovil was going to the Caldes event. Barbara was asked to find out.
- The coffee morning on 19th June had raised £60.
- The barbecue at Yetminster on the day of the local fair had been a very enjoyable occasion despite the heavy rain. Those present appreciated the delicious spread provided by Tricia and Barrie and were only sorry that so few members attended. The event raised £65.
- As yet Kathy had heard nothing further about the choir.

Correspondence:

- Sherborne Twinning Association's secretary had called to invite YTA to their quiz night on 29th October. Unfortunately this is the evening of our AGM. Barbara to reply with our apologies, requesting to be invited again in the future.
- A couple from West Coker had contacted Barbara for information about YTA activities with a view to joining.
- Details about Somerset Twinning Conference on Wednesday 21st October had been sent, with two tickets. It was agreed that Kathy and Barbara would attend.

Treasurer's Report:

- Barbara produced statements showing YTA's accounts and the costs of the Taunusstein visit.
- Theresa requested a cheque for £80 (prepayment for the minibus for the earlier return from Samarate).
- We have yet to pay for the coach (both ways). It was agreed that Barbara should ask Dave Dollard and Dave Gladding to audit the accounts before the AGM.
- Graham suggested and it was agreed that the honorarium paid to the lady who audits after the AGM should be raised to £25 this year.

Future Visits:

Samarate: 1-5/10 October

- Theresa explained that the minibus will take passengers home. She had emailed Gigi in Samarate to ask about transport over there but had received no reply yet.
- Diana had not received a hosting list yet.
- Graham said individuals would be responsible for settling their own hotel bills and transport costs for the second part of the trip. The hotel would probably be able to assist in arranging transport to the airport and he believed there was also a train from Arona to Malpensa.

Herblay 2010: Despite reminders, there was still no reply from Herblay with regard to dates for our visit next year. Sabine will try to contact Françoise and said she would like to take A level and adult students. She expressed a preference for Christmas time or the summer, when Paris is quieter. Diana explained that because private individuals are the hosts, just before Christmas or summer holiday time could be a problem for them. After a discussion about dates, Graham suggested we ask if either 8th or 13th April would be suitable for the twinned in Herblay. Barbara to email Herblay.

Samarate here 2010: It was decided to talk to Gigi and Mariangela in Samarate during our forthcoming visit and establish when they will come here in 2010.

Taunusstein 2010: No decision was reached about when we should visit.

Socials/Fundraising: Nothing planned before the AGM.

Any Other Business:

Barbara asked if anyone had seen details of the Taunussteiners' visit to Yeovil in the Western Gazette.

It was agreed that a book about Taunusstein originally presented to YTA could be passed on to a local girl who has a new penfriend in that area.

Next Meeting:

The next meeting will be the AGM at 7.30 pm on Thursday 29th October 2009 at the Baptist Church in South Street, Yeovil.

Kathy agreed to arrange coffee/tea and biscuits and a raffle. Any prizes will be welcome.

Barbara will be sending out AGM notices very soon.