

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **PROMOTIONS AND ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 13 January 2009**

(7.00pm to 8.10pm)

Present:

David Recardo – Chairman
Julian Freke
Dave Gooding
John Grana
Simon Hester
Ian Martin
Pat Martin
Wes Read
Alan Smith

Also Present:

Steve Fox - Landscape Officer (SSDC)
Chereen Smith – Regeneration and Renewal Officer (SSDC)
Neil Gage – Finance Administrator

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/126 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 November 2008, copies of which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7/127 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Tony Fife, Ruth Kendall and Tony Lock.

7/128 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

7/129 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence

7/130 **YEOVIL IN BLOOM AND YEOVIL FLOWER AND GARDENERS' MARKET STEERING GROUP MINUTES**

The Committee considered the Minutes of the meeting of the Yeovil in Bloom/ Gardeners' Market Steering Group held on 24 November 2008.

RESOLVED

that the matters be noted

7/131 **YEOVIL IN BLOOM UPDATE**

Steve Fox informed the Committee that 3 winter projects were planned, commencing with Fiveways Roundabout which would involve removing and pruning large elements of shrubs. Projects 2 and 3 would involve new bedding in Bond Street and Petters Way, plus heavy regeneration of Westland and Bunford Hollow roundabouts, and would include turfing as well as the clock design on Bundford Hollow roundabout. This work was anticipated to take approximately 6 to 8 weeks, weather permitting.

Steve also informed the Committee that a new team structure was going to be implemented within the existing crew, and the new team would be responsible directly to Steve.

All 2009 designs had been approved, apart from St John's Churchyard, which it was planned would be a beach theme. All plants had been ordered and Lesley Jelleyman was working on the spring newsletter, as well as liaising with schools.

Steve informed the Committee that a South West in Bloom meeting was to be held in Glastonbury on 5 February 2009, which the Chairman was also attending. The Committee were also informed that the judging criteria was changing and more focus would be on community projects. Steve could not foresee this causing much of a problem as local residents and schools were already involved in the Yeovil in Bloom presentations.

In general discussion, the Committee asked if work could be done in certain areas within the town, which included Sidney Gardens, the corner of Reckleford and Higher Kingston. The Chairman had received correspondence from Brympton Parish Council seeking clarification of the roundabout sponsorship promotion arrangements and the Steering Group membership.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matters be noted; and
- (2) that the Town Clerk be requested to respond to the issues raised by Brympton Parish Council, on behalf of the Committee.

7/132 **SOUTH WEST IN BLOOM REGIONAL PRESENTATIONS 2009**

The Committee was informed that a meeting was arranged for 28 January 2009 at Westland Leisure Complex to discuss the regional presentations between the Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Chairman, Landscape Officer, South West in Bloom Organisers and Westland Leisure Complex management. This would be a fact finding exercise, and the Chairman would report back to the next Yeovil in Bloom meeting on 2 February and the Promotions and Activities Committee.

RESOLVED

that the matters be noted.

7/133 **PRINCES STREET ENHANCEMENT PROJECT PHASE 2**

Chereen Smith – Regeneration and Renewal Officer gave a presentation on the proposed phase 2 of the Princes Street enhancement project. The Committee was informed of the developments so far in regard to phase 1 of the project which included new paving being laid, with minimal disruption to the public, new wall mounted lighting and the de-cluttering of signage in the lower half of Princes Street. There had been positive feedback from the public regarding the work done on the first phase of the project.

A landscape scheme had also been agreed with the District Council Landscape Officer regarding the United Reformed Church area.

Phase 2 would concentrate on the northern end of Princes Street, of which this was a more complex area due to various road junctions and traffic flow. Extensive consultation with the public had taken place, and the main requests were for a clean bright underpass, improved paving, more pedestrian friendly and improved street furniture and signage. Improvements would be made at the North Lane junction with Princes Street, plus traffic calming measures along Park Road at the approach to Princes Street.

Chereen told the Committee that the capital bid might not be successful, and with this possibility in mind that a bid was now being sought from the District Executive, Old Town Station Fund.

In the ensuing discussion, Committee Members voiced concerns regarding the loading bays in lower Princes Street, and the illegal parking of commercial vehicles along this stretch of road and the Committee was informed that the Town Centre Manager was monitoring the situation. It was suggested that the project could be split into modules, and priority given to the most important aspects of the scheme.

RESOLVED

that a contribution of £8,000 be given, on condition that significant funding from the District Council was in place to carry out phase 2 of this project to a satisfactory standard.

7/134 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PERIOD OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2008**

The Committee considered the report of the Finance Administrator (Agenda item 9 refers).

RESOLVED

that the Financial Statement for the period 1 October to 30 November 2008 be noted.

Chairman

NG
14/01/09