



# Yeovil Town Council

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**Yeovil Town Council**

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

The Time... **7.30pm**

The Date... **Tuesday 8 January 2008**

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



*Alan Tawse*

Alan Tawse

Town Clerk

21 December 2007

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

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## **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL**

Tony Lock – Mayor of Yeovil Town

Wes Read – Deputy Mayor

J Vincent Chainey

Philip Chandler

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

Ian Martin

Pat Martin

Tom Parsley

David Recardo

Alan Smith

## **A G E N D A**

### **Prayers**

### **Public Comment (15 Minutes)**

1. **MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 December 2007.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

(See attached at pages 3 to 4)

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

6. **AVON AND SOMERSET CONSTABULARY – PRESENTATION**

Chief Superintendent Nikki Watson of Avon and Somerset Constabulary will attend the meeting and give a short presentation on current issues facing the Police in Yeovil, and the Force's plans for the future.

7. **PUBLIC TOILET PROVISION**

See attached report of the Town Clerk (attached at page 5).

8. **GLENTHORNE AVENUE – TRAFFIC REGULATION**

A further meeting has been arranged between the Headteachers of Milford Junior/Infants School, the Police and the Highway Authority to discuss a number of issues concerning the enforcement of the traffic regulation orders (TRO's) in and around Glenthorne Avenue.

Members will recall that the TRO's were introduced by the Town Council in partnership with the County Council during the summer of 2001 after extensive public consultation in response to calls from the schools, parents of school children and local residents who requested the introduction of traffic calming measures to reduce the potential for accidents in the area.

The meeting is due to take place at 10.00am on Thursday 10 January, and the Council is **RECOMMENDED** to appoint a representative to attend the meeting.

9. **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 November 2007

10 December 2007

10. **REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

**Yeovil Youth Council**

6 - 10

19 November 2007

**Yeovil Town Centre Consultative Panel**

11 - 16

21 November 2007

**Public Comment (15 Minutes)**

**List of Engagements attended/to be attended by His Worship The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock and the Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read from 4 December 2007 to 5 February 2008**

04/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Arthritis Care's Christmas Party
06/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended the Chairman of North Dorset District Council's Carol Service
09/12/07	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor, Wes Read, attended the afternoon performance of the Salvation Army's 'Carols at the Octagon'
09/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended the evening performance of the Salvation Army's 'Carols at the Octagon'
10/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Tynedale Nursing Home for the annual Christmas visit
10/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Cool Runnings Too for the annual Christmas visit
10/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended The Knoll Nursing Home for the annual Christmas visit
10/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Ivelhurst Nursing Home for the annual Christmas visit
10/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended the Chairman of Somerset County Council's Christmas Celebration Concert
11/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Preston Park House for the annual Christmas visit
11/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Grovelands for the annual Christmas visit
11/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Park Lodge for the annual Christmas visit
11/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Lockwood Court for the annual Christmas visit
12/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Malmesbury Court for the annual Christmas visit
12/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Marsh Pattinson House for the annual Christmas visit
12/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Wyndham Court for the annual Christmas visit
12/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended West Abbey Nursing Home for the annual Christmas visit
13/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Sunningdale Lodge for the annual Christmas visit
13/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Compton View for the annual Christmas visit
13/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended The Ferns Nursing Home for the annual Christmas visit
13/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Sherborne House Care Home for the annual Christmas visit
14/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended The Park School Carol Service
14/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended St Margaret's Hospice, along with David Laws MP
15/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Jack and the Beanstalk Pantomime at the Octagon Theatre
16/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended Castaways Theatre Company's Christmas Spectacular at Westland Leisure Complex

17/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended the Milford Junior School Christmas Concert
17/12/07	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the Yeovil Rotary Club Carol Service
18/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended the Yeovil Day Centre Christmas Lunch
18/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended a cheque presentation from the Salvation Army of funds raised at their recent concerts
19/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended the Chairman of West Dorset District Council's Christmas Carol Service
19/12/07	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the Mayor of Weymouth & Portland Borough Council's Carol Service
20/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, attended the Holy Trinity School Carol Service
20/12/07	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, judged, along with Cllr Freke and Mrs Bartlett, the Christmas Lights Competition
04/01/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, will attend the Yeovil College Further Education Awards Ceremony
06/01/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, will attend Sedgemoor District Council's Annual Civic Service
10/01/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, will attend dinner with the Managing Director of Westland
11/01/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, will attend the Mayor of Chard's Charity Dance
25/01/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Holocaust Memorial Day
12/02/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, will attend the Duke of Edinburgh presentation evening
15/02/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, will host a fundraising Fish and Chip Quiz Night at the Yeovil Town Football Club
10/03/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, will host a Civic Evening at the Octagon Theatre
23/03/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock, will host a fundraising charity meal at Yeovil College

## 7. **PUBLIC TOILETS**

The Town Council's application for funding assistance from Somerset County Council towards the provision of a replacement set of public toilet facilities in the Town Centre has been successful. The County Council has agreed to allocate £20,000 to the project in recognition of the fact that it helps deliver various outcomes identified in the Somerset Local Area Agreement (LAA).

In addition, arrangements have been made, in partnership with South Somerset District Council, for a set of temporary toilets to be provided in the Peter Street Car Park over the busy Christmas and New Year period. These were delivered on 12 November – in time for the Christmas Light's Switch-On, and are due to be removed on 14 January following the January sales. A number of temporary signs have been erected to aid visitors, and a press release was issued to the local media to help promote their availability.

The District Council has agreed to make a bid for up to £150,000 from the District's 2008/09 Capital Programme towards a permanent solution in the Town Centre. If successful, this would be combined with the £100,000 allocation that the Town Council has agreed to set aside from the proceeds of the sale of the former Goldcroft Allotment Site. The District Council's bid will be considered during next month's budget-setting round of meetings.

The Mayor, Chairman of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee and the Town Clerk have continued meeting with District Council Members and Officers to help develop a solution to the problem, and work to identify potential sites and related cost estimates is being progressed and options will be presented to Members of both Authorities in due course for consideration.

The District Council has confirmed its intention to continue its policy of maintaining two facilities in Yeovil (Petter's Way and the Bus Station) and has indicated that should an additional facility be constructed and one of the existing Yeovil facilities is subsequently closed, the District Council would take over the operational costs of the new site.

This financial undertaking is in line with the agreed terms for the disposal of the Goldcroft Site, which also provides for the ownership of the proposed toilets being vested in the Town Council (Minute 6/523 refers). However, assuming a *third* set is provided, the issue of how the ongoing *operating* costs of that facility will be met needs to be clarified.

The District Council has provided the following indicative figures, which are based on the current annual operational costs of existing premises:

Cleaning	£5,500
National Non-Domestic Rates (NNDR)	£2,300
Water/Sewerage Rates	£1,000
Electricity	£800
Property Repair/Maintenance	<u>£1,800</u>
<b>Total</b>	<b>£11,400</b>

Council is **RECOMMENDED** to consider a policy on contributing towards the estimated operating costs of the proposed replacement toilets.

(Alan Tawse, Town Clerk – 01935 382424)

## YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

**Minutes** of a meeting of **Yeovil Youth Council** held in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Monday 19 November 2007**

(7.00pm – 9.15pm)

### **Present:**

Sam Ashdown  
Alex Fells  
Tom Harding  
Emily Mangles (from 7.30pm)  
Sienna Rogers  
Jack Webb (until 8.37pm)

### **Also Present:**

Alan Brown     Projects Director, Yeovil Vision  
Alan Tawse     Town Clerk  
Juliette Irving   Committee Administrator  
Zara Case     Area Youth Worker, Somerset Youth Service

### **(1) Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Georgina Ascott and Roberta Burns.

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### **(2) Minutes**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 30 October 2007, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

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### **(3) Yeovil Vision**

Sienna introduced Alan Brown, Projects Director, Yeovil Vision, and welcomed him to the meeting.

Before starting his presentation, a copy of which is attached to these minutes, Alan explained a little about his background in the field of regeneration and emphasised the importance of ensuring that regeneration shaped change for the benefit of everyone.

Alan Brown explained why and how the Yeovil Vision was started and funded and what it was hoped would the project would achieve. He gave details of the delivery plan and examples of proposed projects that would be included in the Yeovil Vision.

Turning to the Ski Centre, Alan Brown asked Members of the Youth Council for their suggestions on its future use as the opportunity had now arisen to plan what could replace it.

Before making their suggestions, Members were reminded that certain factors would have to be taken into account when consideration was given to this matter, for example, planning consent, possible restrictions in the use of land, the sensitivity of any new development due to the close proximity of the Ski Centre to Yeovil Country Park.

Members of the Youth Council were keen to see the return of the live music events as these had proved to be extremely popular with youth.

A further suggestion for the future use was for a facility which including a climbing wall and/or an ice skating rink, although it was recognised that the sloping nature of the site could limit the options available.

Reference was made to the Survey of Play and Leisure Facilities undertaken by the Youth Council earlier this year when, in response to the question “What other leisure facilities would you like to see in Yeovil?” the following responses were received:-

Ice Skating Rink	233
Bigger Swimming Pool/Fun Pool	112
Bigger range of major retail outlets	52
Karting Facility	33
More MUGAs/Skate Parks	49
Other (suggestions included a theme park)	340

In the ensuing discussion, Members agreed that the facility was in an excellent location, close to the Town Centre, with good car parking provision, and a prime site for a “family friendly” facility and stated that whatever the new use of the Ski Centre, it should **not** be for something that was likely to be a “passing craze” but for a use that was sustainable.

Members emphasised the need to advertise the new facility well and stress the fact that it was under new management.

It was further suggested that the apparent decline in the promotion of the Ski Centre and its facilities/events might also have contributed towards its downfall as any advertising had appeared to “fizzle out”.

Alan Brown thanked Members of the Youth Council for their comments and suggestions and, Alan Tawse explained that the final decision on the future use of the Ski Centre would be made by the Town Council, as landowners, in consultation with others and that the Youth Council’s view would be fed into the consultation process.

Alan Brown invited Members of the Youth Council to look at the Yeovil Vision website ([www.yeovilvision.co.uk](http://www.yeovilvision.co.uk)) and pass on any ideas they may have. He then suggested that he attend a further meeting of the Youth Council in, say,

September 2008, to discuss the Yeovil Vision further and to go on a walking tour of the Town to visit areas that were subject to proposals included within the Yeovil Vision project. Members were keen that this should happen.

The Committee then thanked Alan Brown for attending the meeting and for his interesting and informative contribution.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matters be noted; and
- (2) that Alan Brown be invited to attend a further meeting of the Yeovil Youth Council in, say, September 2008, which would include a walking tour of the Town as detailed above.

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### **(4) Promotion of the Yeovil Youth Council**

Zara referred to her meeting with members of the Youth Council on Thursday 8 November 2007 to discuss the future promotion of the Youth Council.

She explained that members were keen to get as much publicity as possible before the next Yeovil Youth Council elections in March 2008 and, in order to be as effective as possible, members had agreed to undertake certain roles/responsibilities.

As a number of Youth Council members who were unable to attend the meeting on 8 November expressed a wish to undertake roles/responsibilities it was agreed that these be undertaken/shared as follows:-

Chairman	Each member would, in turn, act as Chairman at the monthly meetings of the Yeovil Youth Council held at the Town House.
Vice-Chairman	This role would be undertaken by Sienna Rogers, who would act as Chairman in the absence of the nominated Chairman.
Secretary	Roberta Burns
Treasurer	Tom Harding
Publicity	Tom Harding and Emily Mangles
Fundraising	Jack Webb and Alex Fells

Members of the Youth Council had also agreed to meet with Zara Case at Morley House once a fortnight, in addition to the monthly Yeovil Youth Council meetings held at the Town House.

Such meetings would mean that members could update each other on

progress with various projects and topics. They would also prove the ideal opportunity for discussing agenda items in detail before making decisions on them at the Yeovil Youth Council monthly meetings.

Zara explained that at the meeting on 8 November 2007, those present had been given tasks to carry out.

Tom Harding reported that he had been contacting suppliers to investigate the costs of producing Yeovil Youth Council hoodies and Zara explained that the Somerset Youth Service had offered to meet some of the production costs.

Members agreed that a Yeovil Youth Council logo and a “punchy” catchphrase were needed for promotion purposes.

Tom went on to say that he had discussed with Cllr David Greene, the possibility of the provision of funding for a team building exercise for Yeovil Youth Council members at the “Mill on the Brue”, following the Youth Council elections in March 2008.

A response from Cllr Greene, following consultation at a future meeting of Yeovil Town Council, was awaited.

Zara advised members that Roberta Burns had written a letter to South Petherton Youth Parish Council thanking members for the kind donation of the laptop computer.

With regard to the proposed toy collection, Alex explained that she had displayed posters at Westfield School requesting donations of unused toys. Similar collections would take place at Preston School and The Park School.

At their previous meeting on 30 October 2007, members of the Youth Council had suggested making donations of the toys collected to a variety of worthy local organisations and following a discussion, it was agreed that those collected should be shared between the South Somerset Women’s Refuge and the Children’s Ward at Yeovil District Hospital.

Tom explained that he and Roberta had attended a Somerset County Council meeting to learn about AWSOM, a new website that has been created by Somerset County Council and designed by young people to help 11-19 year olds find and participate in all sorts of activities. AWSOM searches over a thousand records to put young people in touch with activities including sky diving in West Somerset, belly dancing in Taunton Deane, climbing and caving in Sedgemoor and even submarine excursions in Mendip.

Visitors to the site ([www.awsom.org.uk](http://www.awsom.org.uk)) simply have to enter the activity they are interested in and their location. They are then given details including dates, times, costs and contact information. There is also a direct link to Transport Direct to help them get to and from the event.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matters be noted;
  - (2) that the toys collected in each of the town's community schools would be distributed evenly between the South Somerset Women's Refuge and the children's ward at Yeovil District Hospital; and
  - (3) that members of the Yeovil Youth Council meet at Morley House at 5.30pm on Tuesday 4 December in order to distribute the toys to the Children's Ward of Yeovil District Hospital and to a representative from South Somerset Women's Refuge. A short meeting would also be held.
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**(5) Visit to Westminster Exhibition**

The remainder of the meeting of the Youth Council was devoted to preparing an exhibition about the visit for display at the Town House, in order to help share their experience with others.

**RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

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**(6) Any Other Business**

There were no further items for discussion.

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**(7) Date and Time of Next Meeting**

**NOTED**

that the next meeting of the Yeovil Youth Council be held at 7.00pm on Monday 21 January 2008 in the Town House.

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Chairman

JHI  
26/11/2007

## **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL**

**NOTES** of a meeting of the **YEOVIL TOWN CENTRE CONSULTATIVE PANEL** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Wednesday 21 November 2007**

(6.00pm – 7.20pm)

### **Present:**

Clive Davis – Yeovil Town Council  
Ian Martin – Yeovil Town Council  
Pat Martin - South Somerset District Council  
Tom Parsley – South Somerset District Council  
Alan Smith – South Somerset District Council  
Chris Cave - Retailers and Retail Group  
Geoff Cave – Retailers and Retail Group  
Desmond Lucas - Retailers and Retail Group  
Tony White – Retailers and Retail Group  
Derrick Pope – Market Traders  
Revd Ed Bangay – St Johns Yeovil Church Ecumenical Team  
Jayne Lewis – Yeovil College  
Harry Gibson – Yeovil Shopmobility  
Frances Peacey – South Somerset Disability Forum  
Joe Conway – Labour Party

### **Also Present:**

Alan Tawse – Town Clerk  
Ian Budd – Town Centre Manager  
Martin Woods – Area Development Manager (South) SSDC  
Ian Morrison – Area Highways Manager (SCC)

### **1. CHAIRMAN**

In the absence of the Chairman and the Vice Chairman,

**IT WAS AGREED** that

Pat Martin be elected Chairman for the meeting.

(Pat Martin in the Chair).

### **2. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

The notes of the previous meeting held on 19 September 2007, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Tony Fife, John Hann, Tony Lock, Wes Read, David Recardo and Nikki Leggett.

#### 4. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

#### 5. **YEOVIL VISION**

Martin Woods, Area Development Manager, circulated a report (copy attached) which included an update on the latest developments regarding the implementation of various projects as part of the Yeovil Vision.

Turning to Foundry House, Martin indicated that a preferred partner had now been chosen to develop the site and the legal agreements and timetable of implementation were expected to be concluded later that week.

In response to a query, Martin indicated that whilst it was not intended to provide a set of public toilets within the planned development, it was expected that toilet facilities would be included in a number of the proposed trading units.

Reference was made to the importance of ensuring that the layout of the site facilitated access by wheelchair users and it was confirmed that the opportunity would be taken to improve access from the site into the adjoining country park where practicable.

Attention was drawn to a bid by South Somerset District Council for funding from the Big Lottery – as part of the People's Millions initiative – which, if successful, would help improve access throughout the country park.

In response to a further query, Martin confirmed that the District Council would be able to exert influence over the future use of the site through its position as land owner and also via the planning process.

Turning to the Princes Street enhancement scheme, a number of traders referred to the considerate and efficient way in which the works involved in Phase 1A of the scheme had been undertaken in recent months. They also expressed their support for the possibility of encouraging pedestrian use of the northern end of the street and the development of a 'café culture' as part of Phase 2 of the development.

The Chairman thanked Martin for his interesting and informative contribution, and

**IT WAS AGREED** that the matters be noted.

#### 6. **TOWN CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT**

Ian Budd reported on the following, recent and forthcoming projects and initiatives with which he had been involved:

- Christmas 2007 lights switch-on (15 November 2007)
- Town Centre Partnership promotion
- Planned food/restaurant guide
- Highways repair reporting service
- Street Dwellers/Helping Hands initiative
- Radio Link service
- Town centre access audit
- Proposed Italian market (28/29 June 2008)
- Development of business plan

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to plans to re-launch and promote the Helping Hands initiative – including an intention to raise public awareness of the location of the collection boxes and the purposes for which the funds collected were used.

Panel members also expressed their satisfaction with this year's Christmas lights display which it was felt made a positive contribution to the attractiveness and vibrancy of the town over the Christmas/New Year period.

**IT WAS AGREED** that the matters be noted.

## **7. ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

### Public Toilets

Alan Tawse referred to temporary arrangements that had been put in place by the Town Council, in partnership with the District Council, to provide additional public toilet facilities over the busy Christmas/New Year period.

Members welcomed the arrangements that had been made and expressed their gratitude to the Town and District Councils for their efforts.

Attention was drawn to the temporary signage that had been erected to help visitors locate the temporary toilets and it was suggested that an additional sign be installed at the junction of the Borough/Wine Street. Alan undertook to arrange for this suggestion to be taken up.

**IT WAS AGREED** that the matter be noted.

## **8. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

**IT WAS AGREED** that meetings of the Panel be held at 6.00pm on the following dates in 2008:

Wednesday 23 January 2008  
Wednesday 19 March 2008  
Wednesday 28 May 2008  
Wednesday 23 July 2008  
Wednesday 24 September 2008  
Wednesday 19 November 2008

Chairman

AT/JW  
20/12/07

## **Update Report to Yeovil Town Centre Consultative Panel Meeting Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> November 2007**

### **1. Sports Zone**

The survey of residents showed strong support for the concept of the Sports Zone. There was overall support for the location, but this was closer. The details of the components of the scheme have been refined. For instance, there is support for a small sized leisure pool element. Outdoor tennis has been replaced by indoor provision on the basis of potential usage. The next stage for this major project is to report the results of the consultation to Area South Committee on 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2008, District Executive on 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2008 and there is likely to be a special Full Council Meeting on either 17<sup>th</sup> or 24<sup>th</sup> January 2008 such is the scale of the project.

### **2. Foundry House**

South Somerset District Council can now reveal the planned developments for a £7.4m mixed-use residential scheme:

- 39 flats and townhouses
- Shops/restaurants on ground floor for mixed use –along Summerhouse Terrace in the area currently used as a temporary car park
- Picturesque courtyard and seating areas
- 21 on site parking places
- Footbridges to link from the town site through to the adjacent Yeovil Country Park
- Exemplar sustainable construction throughout
- Covering the concrete encased Dodham Brook with a cycle path and in its place make an attractive surface level stream and promenade.

The proposals for the former glove factory building - Foundry House- include a ground floor restaurant with courtyard and serviced office space on the second and third floor.

A meeting with the developers is taking place this week, where we hope to finalize the legal agreements and timetable.

### **3. Princes Street Enhancement Scheme**

In June 2007 members of the Area South Committee were asked to approve a sketch scheme for Princes Street, the committee resolved that the sketch scheme be supported.

Following committee approval, a newsletter was circulated in August to traders and residents of Princes Street, along with a copy of the sketch scheme. In September a group of traders contacted the Regeneration Officer and requested a meeting to discuss the proposed footpath widening from the junction of Church Street to the area outside Walter Wall. The sketch scheme proposed that the footpath be widened from 1.7 m to 3.2m at its widest point, almost double the existing width. The traders felt that widening to this degree would cause traffic to back up Park Road when delivery vehicles are parked or that delivery vehicles would be forced up onto the pavement.

They also felt that the proposed loading bay would not be fully utilised. Many of the delivery vehicles are much bigger than the space allocated and they pointed out that enforcement of the current bay is poor.

The officer working group (both SSDC and County Council Officers) worked on a compromise with the traders having considered their views. A suggestion was put forward whereby the footpath would be widened to 2.2m, the same width as the footpath on the opposite side of the road and that the proposed loading bay would be removed. This would allow delivery vehicles to continue to park up along side the footpath on the Walter Wall side of the street without blocking the road, allowing small cars and vans to pass safely. Officers were satisfied with the compromise, however they reminded the trader's that the County Highways Authority would still have to approve the scheme. Feedback would be given in due course.

The Principle Engineer for the scheme has sent both the original scheme and the amended scheme off to County Highways for approval.

An opportunity has presented itself with regards to the Yeovil in Bloom structure (similar to those in Middle Street), there may be an opportunity to site a structure on the entrance to the United Reformed Church, just off the footpath, this would result in maintaining the objective of keeping the footpaths clutter free whilst retaining a floral display for the street.

A meeting took place with a United Reformed Church representative, the Regeneration Officer, an officer from Horticultural Services and the Arts Officer. If members are in agreement there may be an opportunity to carry out an enhancement scheme in partnership with the United Reformed Church to tidy up and replant the beds either side of the footpath leading up to the church, further enhancing the pedestrians experience of Princes Street. It is one of the few green areas along the street. If there is any under spend in the Princes Street budget the Regeneration Officer would like to propose that a small amount of funding could be used to match fund a scheme here, there could also be external funding opportunities. This could be approved in principle with a further detailed report to follow detailing costs.

## Princes Street Phase 2

At the Princes Street Steering Group meeting in September, the approach to the development of the second phase was discussed. Yeovil Vision Projects Director highlighted the importance of this area as a link to and from the hospital and college and suggested that future plans might include measures to encourage pedestrian use of the northern end of the street and perhaps to develop a "café culture" feel to the area.

It was therefore suggested that a short report should be prepared which referenced previous consultation (and recommendations from the UDF) to express the concept for phase two improvements.

A draft document has identified the following key themes from the research:

- Supporting the precedence of pedestrian usage over vehicular use
- Making a safe and welcoming environment
- Encouraging a positive image

It shows how a creative approach can help to reinvigorate this end of the street by focussing on four key areas for improvement:

1. The floorscape
2. The subway
3. The triangle at the junction with Park Road
4. The planting scheme

To achieve this it is recommended that a creative person be engaged as part of the enhancement team, with a specific remit to work up innovative ideas for these key areas, which can then be programmed and fully costed.

#### **4. Somerfield**

Positive discussions have taken place with the new owners of the Somerfield store and there are strong prospects for an exciting development in this important location. The Council is being as positive and supportive as possible.

**Martin Woods**  
**Head of Area Development - South**