

## **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **BUILDINGS AND CIVIC MATTERS COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil, on **Wednesday 20 July 2010**

(7.00 pm – 8.40 pm)

### **Present:**

Andrew Kendall (Vice Chairman, In the Chair)  
Philip Chandler  
Clive Davis  
Bridget Dollard  
Pete Goodman  
Dave Greene  
Peter Gubbins  
John Hann

### **Also Present:**

Alan Tawse – Town Clerk  
Sally Freemantle – Assistant Town Clerk  
Sergeant Mark Hunt – Avon and Somerset Constabulary

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were not comments from members of the public.

### **7/242 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meetings held on 11 May and 19 May 2010, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **7/243 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Dave Gooding, Tony Lock and Wes Read.

### **7/244 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### **7/245 CORRESPONDENCE**

The Assistant Town Clerk informed the Committee that a letter had been received from Somerset County Council providing information about the removal of road signs detailing the silhouette of a camera. The letter explained that the camera signs at the beginning of speed limits would remain in place clearly indicating to road users that cameras may be used in the vicinity however the repeater signs would be taken away.

The Assistant Town Clerk also informed the Committee that a letter had been received from Somerset County Council regarding the prohibition of right turn order (2009) on Hendford Hill Yeovil. A public notice for the order was attached to the letter and available to members on request. The letter explained that the order had been sealed and the prohibition of right turn on Hendford Hill came into operation on 15 July 2010.

#### 7/246 **COMMUNITY SAFETY UPDATE**

The Committee received a presentation by Sergeant Mark Hunt of Avon and Somerset Police Authority who summarised community safety issues across Yeovil. The presentation detailed crime statistics relevant to the Ward of Yeovil and some surrounding areas and Sergeant Mark Hunt explained that the statistics were available to view on Avon and Somerset Police Authority website.

The Committee thanked Sergeant Mark Hunt for the enlightening information and asked some specific enquiries which the Sergeant answered where possible or undertook to investigate further. The Committee found the discussion extremely useful and was keen for Sergeant Mark Hunt to attend the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee meeting twice yearly in the future.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matters be noted,
- (2) that Sergeant Mark Hunt be thanked for his attendance to the meeting and the informative presentation and discussion; and
- (3) that dates be set in advance for Sergeant Mark Hunt to attend future Buildings and Civic Matters meetings on a twice yearly basis.

#### 7/247 **REQUEST FOR ZEBRA CROSSING ON ST MICHAEL'S AVENUE**

The Committee considered the report by the Assistant Town Clerk and correspondence from Somerset County Council's Local Transport Plan Implementation Officer (Agenda item 6 refers). During the ensuing discussion it was highlighted that the development of housing on Bucklers Mead School land had increased the necessity for a safe means of crossing in the area. It was therefore felt that this request was of increased relevance and importance and agreed that the Assistant Town Clerk write a letter in response to that effect.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the Assistant Town Clerk respond to the letter from Somerset County Council's Local Transport Plan Implementation Officer explaining that the increase in housing in the area had exacerbated the existing problem and ask that the request for a zebra crossing on St Michael's Avenue be considered a high priority.

7/248 **FIXING WREATHS TO YEOVIL WAR MEMORIAL UPDATE**

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Town Clerk (Agenda Item 7 refers).

The Town Clerk referred to an email recently circulated to all Members about damage to the War Memorial and gave an update on subsequent developments.

**RESOLVED**

that the report be noted.

7/249 **CLEANING THE MILLENNIUM CLOCK AND THE BOROUGH WAR MEMORIAL**

The Committee considered the report by the Assistant Town Clerk (Agenda item 8 refers) and due to the information provided therein, the Committee felt that no further action should be taken at the time. It was commented that War Memorials in the London areas were cleaned and the Town Clerk explained that he had received an invitation to attend a seminar in Bristol in September regarding the care and maintenance of war memorials. It was therefore suggested that subject to the availability of additional places two members of the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee attend the seminar along with the Town Clerk and the matter be referred to a future meeting of the Building and Civic Matter Committee.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted,
- (2) that no further action be taken at that time; and
- (3) that subject to the availability of additional places, Philip Chandler and Bridget Dollard attend the seminar in Bristol in September along with the Town Clerk regarding the care and maintenance of War memorials and the matter be referred to a future meeting of the Building and Civic Matter Committee.

7/250 **MILFORD HALL**

The Committee considered the report by the Town Clerk (Agenda item 9 refers) and during the ensuing discussion it was suggested that the hall reopen using the existing charges for hire and the increase in rates be addressed once the hall was in use.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the current charges should continue to be applied and be reviewed as part of the forthcoming 2011/2012 budget setting process.

7/251 **NEW INITIATIVES**

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 10 refers) and discussed various potential ideas.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that costings for the following initiatives be investigated, with a report on findings to be included on the next Buildings and Civic Matters Committee meeting:
  - (a) a notice board in each ward;
  - (b) assistance of costs towards an alternative to A frames for the town centre.

7/252 **GRIT BIN PROCUREMENT**

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 11 refers) and the Town Clerk stated that a list of the locations for the new grit bins would be circulated to members of the Committee. He added that a press release would also be issued and thanked Dave Greene for making the funds available from his County Councillors' local discretionary budget.

**RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

7/253 **ROAD NAMING PROPOSAL**

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Town Clerk (Agenda item 12 refers) and agreed that the proposed name was appropriate.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the proposed name of Givele Close for a road in the new development next to Bucklers Mead school be agreed.

7/254 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PERIOD APRIL/MAY 2010**

The Committee considered the report of the Finance Administrator (Agenda item 13 refers).

**RESOLVED**

that the financial statement for the above months be noted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/255 **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 (Admissions 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.

7/256 **PUBLIC TOILETS**

The Committee considered the supplementary confidential report of the Town Clerk.

**RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

Chairman

SF/BK  
26/07/10