

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 **Tuesday 21 July 2009**

(7.00 pm – 7.50 pm)

Present:

Bridget Dollard (Chairman)
J Vincent Chainey
Phil Chandler
John Cruddas
Clive Davis
Dave Gooding
Pete Goodman
Peter Gubbins
John Hann
Steve Hawker
Andrew Kendall
Wes Read

Also Present:

John Grana – (South Ward)
Tom Parsley – (South Ward)
Alan Tawse – Town Clerk
Sarah Hunt – Assistant Town Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/179 MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meetings held on 12 May and 19 May 2009, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

7/180 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Tony Lock and Tony Fife.

7/181 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

7/182 CORRESPONDENCE

The Committee acknowledged the recently circulated results of the May 2009 speed indicator device readings for the South Somerset area. The Town Clerk was hopeful that the survey would soon be extended to the Yeovil area.

7/183 OUTSTANDING TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS - UPDATE

The Committee considered the report of the Highway Engineer (SCC) (Agenda item 6 refers).

David Gooding advised the Committee that the District Council's Street Parking Enforcement team was monitoring waiting times as part of their regular patrols of Lower Middle Street.

RESOLVED

that the matters be noted.

7/184 NOTICE OF INTENTION TO NAME NEW LENGTH OF ROAD

The Town Clerk informed that this item was for information only and that the name of Turnpike Orchard had been chosen in consultation with local historian Jack Sweet and ward members.

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted.

7/185 RAILINGS/BOLLARD AT ENTRANCE TO SILVER STREET

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Town Clerk (Agenda item 7 refers) and the various costed options put forward. She added at the meeting that the cost of providing a standard galvanised, powder-coated guardrail would be £372 plus installation. Phil Chandler informed the Committee that wooden bollards, fashioned out of old railway sleepers, had been installed in Dorchester, as a low cost, effective deterrent.

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the possibility of the Highways Authority meeting the costs of installing the proposed railings/bollards.

The Town Clerk indicated that he had raised the matter with the Assistant Area Highways Manager during a joint site inspection and had been advised that funds were unavailable from that Authority.

Reference was also made to the planned extension of Decriminalised Parking Enforcement (DPE) to the District Councils in Somerset in 2011 and the merits of deferring the matter until that time.

Following discussion, it was

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be deferred, pending the Assistant Town Clerk investigating the costs and practicalities of using wooden bollards similar to those used in Dorchester as a way of resolving the issue and the findings be reported to the next meeting;

- (2) that the Assistant Town Clerk write to Somerset County Highways to a) clarify their policy on town centre highway safety initiatives and b) to ask if there is any funding available to fund the Silver Street scheme; and
- (3) that in the meantime, the Police be urged to closely monitor the situation and take stronger enforcement action against any offenders.

7/186 RESURFACING OF QUEENSWAY PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE

The Committee welcomed the letter from Somerset Highways (Agenda Item 8 refers) and were reassured (by way of a supplementary e-mail from the Highways Authority) that steps would be taken ahead of the coming winter to improve surfacing on both Queensway and Huish Pedestrian bridges.

RESOLVED

that the matters be noted.

7/187 ESTIMATE OF REPAIRS TO ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CHURCH CLOCK

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Town Clerk (Agenda item 9 refers).

The Town Clerk referred to a formal undertaking, which had been given some time previously by the Town Council to take over responsibility for the maintenance of the church clock. Members expressed concern that the costs of repairing the clock might increase exponentially in future years and it was agreed to postpone any repairs until the Town Clerk has had the opportunity to further investigate the terms of the agreement.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the agreement for maintaining St. John the Baptist clock be investigated, with findings brought back to the next meeting; and
- (2) that the terms of the clock agreement be discussed in more detail at the next following Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

7/188 ALCOHOL CONSUMPTION IN PUBLIC PLACES

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 10 refers)

RESOLVED

that the report be noted.

7/189 FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PERIOD APRIL/ MAY 2009

The Committee considered the report of the Finance Administrator (Agenda item 10 refers).

RESOLVED

that the financial statement for the above months be noted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

Chairman

AT/SH
28/07/09