

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 23 March 2010**

(7.00 pm – 7.30 pm)

Present:

Bridget Dollard (Chairman)
J Vincent Chainey
Phil Chandler
David Gooding
Pete Goodman
Peter Gubbins
Steve Hawker

Also Present:

Alan Tawse – Town Clerk
Sarah Hunt – Assistant Town Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/219 MINUTES

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

7/220 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from John Cruddas, Clive Davis, Tony Fife, John Hann, Andrew Kendall, Tony Lock and Wes Read.

7/221 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

7/222 CORRESPONDENCE

The Assistant Town Clerk reported that a letter had been received from the District Council to advise that 'Foxes Rest' had been agreed for a new road leading off Larkhill Road in Yeovil.

7/223 GRIT BINS

Members considered the Town Clerk's report (Agenda Item 5 refers) and noted that the number of grit bins, including the new ones proposed, would equate to approximately 23 – including an additional proposed bin at the junction of Eastland Road/Reckleford.

The Town Clerk drew attention to a copy letter that he had received since the publication of the agenda, which confirmed the County Council's intention to conduct an initial 'desktop' review of the response of that Authority and other public bodies, the outcome of which would be reported to a meeting of the County Council's Scrutiny Committee on 11 May 2010.

He added that whilst he had already written to the District Council and the County Council requesting that the Town Council be invited to participate in any review, he had reiterated this point to the relevant officer of the County Council upon receipt of the copy letter.

Rather than spending money at this point in time on the purchase of new bins, the Town Clerk suggested that any procurement decision should be postponed until after the review. He added that money could be made available from the Community Safety Budget to pay for any new bins.

A discussion ensued about who was responsible for topping up grit bins and what the policy was if members of the public just helped themselves to the grit. The Town Clerk advised that the County Council's current approach was to undertake to fill grit bins during October/November and to re-fill upon request during the winter. He added that the Maintenance Operative would keep a check on bins and report any shortfalls. Phil Chandler suggested that local community associations might be able to help spread grit during really bad weather. It was agreed that the review should clarify the position on refilling the bins. Some members commented that the Town Council should not have to pay for a service normally provided by the Highways Authority.

Peter Gubbins asked the Town Clerk to investigate the possibility of moving a grit bin adjoining Milford Park.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the report be noted;
- (2) that any decision to purchase grit bins be postponed until after the outcome of the forthcoming review by the County Council;
- (3) that Members progress the issue at the next Committee meeting in May; and
- (4) that the Town Clerk investigate whether the grit bin in Milford Park can be moved.

7/224 FIXING WREATHS TO YEOVIL WAR MEMORIAL

Members considered the Assistant Town Clerk's report (Agenda Item 6 refers) and agreed to the proposals put forward.

RESOLVED

- (1) that listed building consent be sought and that subsequently a tendering process undertaken for a temporary restraint system to be erected on the war memorial; and

- (2) that the cost of the work be met from a planned carry forward of an equivalent underspend in the 2009/10 Public Toilets budget.

7/225 ROAD SAFETY IMPROVEMENTS AT CARTGATE ROUNDABOUT

Members considered the Assistant Town Clerk's report (Agenda item 7 refers). They fully supported the safety measures being proposed and particularly welcomed, for aesthetic and safety reasons, the fact that there would be a reduction in road signage on the approach to the junction.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the proposed road safety improvements be supported; and
- (2) that the Committee's views on the welcome reduction of road signage be conveyed to the Highway Improvement Programmer at County Hall.

7/226 HUISH FOOTBRIDGE RESURFACING

Members considered the Assistant Town Clerk's report (Agenda item 8 refers). Some members commented that a more convenient alternative route for local residents was probably to cross Queensway using the The Park Gardens footbridge and walking down Clarence Street.

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted.

7/227 LOADING/UNLOADING PROHIBITION IN SOUTH STREET

Members considered the Assistant Town Clerk's report (Agenda item 9 refers).

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted.

7/228 BUS SHELTER UPDATE

Peter Gubbins highlighted the substantial work done by the Committee in progressing this project (Agenda item 10 refers) and thanked the Chairman for her efforts.

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted.

7/229 FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PERIOD DECEMBER/JANUARY 2010

The Committee considered the report of the Finance Administrator (Agenda item 11 refers).

RESOLVED

that the financial statement for the above months be noted.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

Chairman

SH
29/03/10