

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 19 May 2009**

(7.00pm – 7.50pm)

Present:

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

Also Present:

Alan Tawse – Town Clerk

TOWN BAND – CHEQUE PRESENTATION

The Chairman presented a cheque in the sum of £3,500 to the Chairman of the Band, Paul Armstrong and to the Band Secretary, Christine Buckland in respect of the Town Council's sponsorship of the Band during 2009-10.

Paul and Christine thanked the Town Council for their kind contributions.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/167 MINUTES

The Minutes of the meeting held on 24 March 2009, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 12 May 2009 were not yet available so would be considered at the next meeting of the Committee.

7/168 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from John Cruddas and Tony Fife.

7/169 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

7/170 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Attention was drawn to the temporary closure of the A30 High Street West Coker for two days starting 26 May 2009 to enable Wessex Water to replace and rebed a manhole cover in the road.

7/171 **RAILINGS/BOLLARD AT ENTRANCE TO SILVER STREET**

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Town Clerk (Agenda item 5 refers)

During the ensuing discussion, members reiterated their support for a practical solution to be found to this problem, and to the need for ongoing enforcement action to be taken against drivers parking illegally in this area.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) the intention to report further to the next meeting on the options available to address the problems be noted.

7/172 **OUTSTANDING TRAFFIC REGULATION ORDERS - UPDATE**

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

RESOLVED

that the matters be noted.

7/173 **REQUEST FOR PEDESTRIAN CROSSING AT BUNFORD LANE**

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

During the ensuing discussion reference was made to the need for a pedestrian crossing to be installed at an early date – given the volume of pedestrians accessing the nearby Crematorium front entrance and the plans by a neighbouring supermarket to create a pedestrian access onto Bunford Lane from their car park. It was also pointed out that bus services regularly dropped off and collected passengers along this route.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the attention of the Engineering Programme Manager (SCC) be drawn to the above outlined comments in support of the early introduction of a pedestrian crossing at Bunford Lane.

7/174 **QUEENSWAY FOOTBRIDGE, YEOVIL**

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Town Clerk (Agenda item 8 refers)

The Town Clerk added, at the meeting, that he had recently received a letter from the Bridge Maintenance Team Leader (SCC) who had indicated that the Highway Authority were currently carrying out further investigations into the options available to improve the surfacing over Huish footbridge, and that the works would be carried out as soon as practicable.

During the ensuing discussion, members expressed their appreciation of the Highway Authority's support in this matter, but emphasised the need for the surfacing improvement works to be carried out before the onset of the forthcoming winter.

Attention was also drawn to the condition of the surfacing on the other footbridge straddling Queensway – between The Park and Park Gardens – the present condition of which had already been drawn to the attention of the Highway Authority.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted;
- (2) that the Highway Authority's intention to improve the surfacing of the Huish footbridge over Queensway be supported, and they be urged to undertake these works before the onset of the forthcoming winter; and
- (3) that the Highway Authority be reminded of the present condition of the surfacing on the other footbridge over Queensway, and they be urged to carry out similar improvement works to that footbridge at the same time.

7/175 **BEST VALUE**

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

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the need for lining works relating to new traffic regulation orders to be carried out at an earlier date.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted;
- (2) that the achievements in 2008-09 be noted, and a target be set of implementing 80% of supported traffic regulation orders within 6 months of their initial consideration for the forthcoming year;
- (3) that the support of the County Council be sought towards improving the speed of undertaking lining works associated with such orders to help achieve this objective; and

- (4) that the Committee notes that the bookings of Monmouth Hall in 2008-09 were consistent with the average lettings of the Hall over the past 5 years, which demonstrated steady long-term demand for this important community facility, and seeks to consolidate this year's success by maintaining the average long-term level of bookings (295) over the forthcoming year.

7/176 FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR FEBRUARY/MARCH 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.

7/177 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.

7/178 PUBLIC TOILETS - CLEANING ARRANGEMENTS

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

During the ensuing discussion, members considered various options for procuring the services set out in the report. The Town Clerk drew attention to the budget available for the works and outlined the outcome of discussions that had taken place with the District Council on the matter.

RESOLVED

- (1) that the matter be noted;
- (2) that two additional quotations be sought for the procurement of the services outlined in the report; and
- (3) that the Town Clerk, in consultation with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Committee, be authorised to accept the lowest quotation received provided that it meets the contract specification.

Chairman