

## **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 19 May 2010**

(7.00 pm – 8.05 pm)

### **Present:**

Tony Lock (Chairman)  
Clive Davis  
Bridget Dollard  
Pete Goodman  
Dave Greene  
Peter Gubbins  
John Hann  
Andrew Kendall  
Wes Read

### **Also Present:**

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

## **CHEQUE PRESENTATION**

Two members of the Yeovil Town Band received a cheque for £3,000 from the Chairman of the Building and Civic Matters Committee and thanked those present for their continuing support.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Peter Nitti, on behalf of Yeovil Town Band, said that the Band was looking for a new Band Practice Room. They were currently using a unit at Houndstone but they were looking for somewhere permanent. The Town Clerk advised them to put their request in writing to the Town Council and he would look into available options.

### **7/232 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 March 2010, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **7/233 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Philip Chandler and Dave Gooding.

### **7/234 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## 7/235 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Assistant Town Clerk advised Committee Members that although resurfacing work had started on the Huish footbridge on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> May, the Bridge Maintenance Team Leader had stopped work on finding a number of joint cover plates that needed welding. It was hoped that there would be no more delays and that the footbridge would be resurfaced in time for the May Bank Holiday weekend.

## 7/236 **GRIT BINS**

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda Item 5 refers). Attention was drawn to an e-mail from the County Council that had been received by the Town Clerk and circulated to all members of the Committee, stating that 'the County Council undertakes to continue its support in replenishing grit bins provided by others where resources permit. All bins would be stocked prior to the commencement of winter but there is no guarantee that they can be continually filled during inclement weather as resources may need to be directed elsewhere'. There were anticipated delays in sourcing salt during the winter season as demand often outstripped speed of supply.

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered the merits of going ahead with the procurement of the additional grit bins, which had been deferred from the last meeting, in light of the response from the County Council.

However, given the fact that Cllr. David Greene had already allocated sufficient funds from his County Council local discretionary budget to meet the costs involved and in light of local demand for additional bins, it was felt that they should be purchased and put in place before the coming winter.

It was also agreed to investigate the cost of buying 25kg sacks of salt, a number of which could be safely stored at Goar Knap and which could be used as an emergency measure to re-fill bins in critical areas of the town in the event that the County Council was unable to refill them. The additional, stackable grit bins would be installed and filled around the Town in key locations.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the report be noted;
- (2) that the Town Clerk seek written clarification from the Highways Authority on their policy to re-fill grit bins;
- (3) that 20 grit bins be purchased and located in key areas around the Town, in liaison with South Somerset Highways; and
- (4) that arrangements be made for a reasonable supply of bagged salt to be purchased and kept at the Town Council's depot at Goar Knap for emergencies.

**7/237 FIXING WREATHS TO YEOVIL WAR MEMORIAL**

Members considered the Assistant Town Clerk's update (Agenda Item 6 refers) and agreed that the initial proposal from the consultant for a temporary restraint system was still the most viable and appropriate for the purpose of wreath laying.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the report be noted; and
- (2) that the use of the original proposed restraint system, as supported at the last meeting, be re-affirmed; and
- (3) that prior to the next Committee Meeting in July, the Conservation Officer be invited to a meeting with the Committee Chairman, Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk to discuss how this proposed system may be implemented; or
- (4) should the Conservation Officer be unwilling to support the original proposal, that he be invited to attend the next Meeting to explain his reasons.

**7/238 LOADING/UNLOADING PROHIBITION IN SOUTH STREET**

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

Members noted the fact that the necessary road signing would be carried out as soon as possible.

**RESOLVED**

that the report be noted.

**7/239 ROADSIDE DIRECTIONAL SIGNS**

The Chairman asked for all of his fellow Town Councillors to take note of directional signs, including brown signs, which may be obscuring visibility and causing clutter in Yeovil and to report their findings prior to the next Committee meeting. It was observed that many of the signs were dirty and needed cleaning and that some of them were obscured by foliage.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that written submissions be made to the Assistant Town Clerk prior to the next Meeting on 20 July.

**7/240 SPEED INDICATOR READING DEVICE (SID) READINGS FOR MILFORD ROAD**

Members noted that the speed readings at Milford Road were marginally above 30 mph which it was noted was probably due to the steep incline of the

road between Milford Dip. They felt that this contributed to the higher than average speed readings. It was noted that there were usually a number of parked cars along both sides of the road, which helped to reduce speed during the week.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the Traffic Engineer be asked to continue monitoring Milford Road to see whether or not the situation improves.

7/241 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR PERIOD FEBRUARY/MARCH 2010**

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

SH  
27/05/10