

## YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the meeting of **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 5 October 2010**

(7.30pm to 9.20pm)

### **Present:**

Philip Chandler – Mayor	Steve Hawker
Clive Davis	Andrew Kendall
Bridget Dollard	Mike Lock
Tony Fife	Tony Lock
Julian Freke	Ian Martin
Dave Gooding	Pat Martin
Pete Goodman	Tom Parsley
John Grana	Wes Read
Peter Gubbins	David Recardo
John Hann	Alan Smith

### **Also present:**

Alan Tawse	Town Clerk
Ian Budd	Town Centre Manager
Andrew Maynard	Property Consultant - Alder King
Matthew Halstead	Planning Consultant - Alder King

## PRAYERS

Reverend Howard Davenport led the Council in prayers on behalf of the Townspeople of Yeovil.

## PRESENTATION OF BIBLE

The Mayor was presented with a complimentary copy of the Bible by the Chairman of the Yeovil branch of the Gideon's International, to mark his election to the office of Mayor in 2010/11. The Mayor thanked the Chairman for his kind donation.

## GRANT PRESENTATIONS

The Mayor presented a grant cheque to representatives of the following organisations for the purposes indicated:

<b>Applicant</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Purpose</b>
South Somerset Citizens Advice Bureau	£2,000	Towards the general running costs of the Bureau.
Somerset Area Cruse Bereavement Care	£750	Towards the running costs of the Organisation.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/533 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 7 September 2010, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

7/534 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from J Vincent Chainey, Dave Greene and Ruth Kendall.

7/535 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

7/536 **MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Details of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's recent and forthcoming engagements and announcements were attached to the Agenda.

7/537 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Town Clerk reported receipt of the following items of correspondence:-

- Yeovil District Hospital NHS Trust – Annual Report 2009/10 and Annual Plan 2010/11
- Twentyfourseven – South Western Ambulance Service Newsletter – Summer 2010
- Thatch – Community Council for Somerset Magazine – Summer/Autumn 2010
- Tree News – Newsletter of the Tree Council – Autumn/Winter 2010

7/538 **TOWN CENTRE MANAGEMENT - PRESENTATION**

Ian Budd, Town Centre Manager attended the meeting and gave a presentation on the progress of the Town Centre Partnership and the work of the Town Centre Manager over the past six months.

He drew attention to a number of ongoing and planned activities - including the West Hendford Car Park Arts Project, which had been funded with a grant secured by the Yeovil Youth Council and which was undertaken by local young people during a half-term break earlier in the year.

Ian confirmed that Town Centre leaflets incorporating plans which highlighted the location of individual businesses and other key stakeholders had been circulated to convenient distribution points throughout the Town and that he was looking at ways of enhancing the information on the leaflets and seeking funding towards the costs of production by working with partner organisations.

He also referred to a number of ongoing crime reduction initiatives with which he was involved, and the positive impact that these were having on tackling crime in the Town Centre.

Reference was also made to the development of a new green audit initiative for local businesses with the Somerset Waste Partnership.

Attention was also drawn to various continental markets that had taken place in the Town Centre over the past six months, and the success of the monthly farmers' market, which had been introduced in April 2010.

Finally, Ian outlined the arrangements that had been put in place for the forthcoming Christmas Lights switch-on event, which would be held on 25 November, and the family day of Christmas activities planned for 19 December.

During the ensuing discussion, Members expressed their support for the work that was being undertaken by the Town Centre Partnership and the Town Centre Manager, and their plans for the future.

Reference was made to the condition of a number of drainage grilles in West Hendford and the condition of the white lining on the cycle lane in South Western Terrace, and Ian undertook to raise these matters with the relevant authorities at an early date.

Attention was also drawn to the ongoing issues regarding the use of advertising boards in the Town Centre, and it was pointed out that the Highway Authority was planning to undertake a countywide review of the matter.

The Mayor thanked Ian for his interesting and informative presentation, and it was

## **RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

### **7/539 NEW INITIATIVES BUDGET**

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 7 refers).

## **RESOLVED**

that the proposal by the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee to provide a noticeboard in each of the Town's four wards be noted and referred back to that Committee for the idea to be worked up in detail and to be resubmitted having regard to the issues identified at Minute 7/279 of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

### **7/540 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS**

The Chairmen of the various Committees of the Council presented the Minutes from the previous cycle of meetings, drawing attention to specific references to Council, any matters of particular interest and answering any questions.

## **Planning and Licensing Committee**

31 August 2010

13 September 2010

## **Grounds and General Maintenance Committee**

6 September 2010

## **Promotions and Activities Committee**

14 September 2010

### Minute 7/243 – Yeovil Flower and Gardeners' Market Update

The Chairman of the Yeovil in Bloom Steering Group referred to the success of the Annual Yeovil Flower and Gardeners' Market, which had taken place on 25 September, and he extended his thanks to all the Members of the Promotions and Activities Committee, and to all the staff who had helped to organise and run the event.

## **Buildings and Civic Matters Committee**

22 September 2010

## **Policy, Resources and Finance Committee**

28 September 2010

## **7/541 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

The Minutes of the following meetings of Outside Bodies were attached to the Agenda and Members were given an opportunity to raise matters relating to them:

### **Yeovil Twinning Association**

12 August 2010

Members who represented the Town Council on outside bodies were given an opportunity to report on any matters of interest.

Andrew Kendall gave an update on the Highway Authority's Winter Maintenance Open Evening, which had taken place on 19 August.

Details had been circulated at the event of a new chemical spray product for preventing the formation of ice on footways and pavements, which he felt could be a useful addition to the winter maintenance arrangements.

The Town Clerk undertook to investigate the merits of the new product and to submit a costed report on the matter to the next meeting of the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee.

Reference was also made to the recent delivery and installation of 25 additional grit bins across the Town, details of which had been circulated to all Members of the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee. The Town Clerk undertook to arrange for this information to be additionally copied to all other Members of the Council.

The Chairman of the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee outlined the Highway Authority's policy on the refilling of grit bins, which had been provided by the Town Council for use on a self-help basis.

David Recardo gave an update on the Library Service Focus Group meeting, which had taken place on 30 September.

7/542 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

7/543 **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 (Admission 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.

7/544 **FORMER SKI AND ACTIVITY CENTRE**

Council considered the confidential report of the Town Clerk (agenda item 10 refers).

Andrew Maynard and Matthew Halstead of Alder King gave a joint presentation on the findings and conclusions of their updated Planning Report. They explained that they had reviewed the current development brief and they outlined a number of options, which they had identified to progress the future marketing and disposal of the property.

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered the merits of each option.

It was confirmed by the representatives of Alder King that the costs of producing the updated planning report and pursuing the initial stages of Option 3 would be met from the balance of the agreed initial contract price.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the updated Planning Report be noted;
- (2) that approval be given to Alder King entering into discussions with representatives of the organisation commissioned to prepare an indicative masterplan for the nearby urban village - as part of the emerging Core Strategy (Preferred Options) - with a view to exploring the feasibility of the site being included in the masterplan; and
- (3) that the outcome of these discussions be reported to a future Town Council meeting.

*(John Grana requested that his vote against the passing of Resolution (2) above be recorded)*