



Yeovil Town Council

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Yeovil Town Council

The Meeting... **Yeovil Town Council**

The Time... **7.30pm**

The Date... **Tuesday 2 September 2008**

The Place... **Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil**

The Town Council will be discussing all the items listed overleaf

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**QUALITY
TOWN
COUNCIL**

Alan Tawse

Alan Tawse

Town Clerk

Please contact Alan Tawse at the Town House for more information about this meeting

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

Wes Read – Mayor of Yeovil

Philip Chandler - Deputy Mayor

J Vincent Chainey

John Cruddas

Clive Davis

Bridget Dollard

Tony Fife

Julian Freke

Dave Gooding

Pete Goodman

John Grana

David Greene

Peter Gubbins

John Hann

Steve Hawker

Simon Hester

Andrew Kendall

Ruth Kendall

Tony Lock

Ian Martin

Pat Martin

Tom Parsley

David Recardo

Alan Smith

A G E N D A

Prayers

Public Comment (15 Minutes)

1. MINUTES

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 5 August 2008.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4. MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(See attached at pages 4 to 5)

5. CORRESPONDENCE

6. MILFORD – PLANNING FOR REAL

Martin Woods – Area Development Manager (SSDC) and Natalie Ross – Community Development Worker (SSDC) will give a presentation on the outcome of the Milford Planning for Real Community Consultation exercise that was carried out by the Neighbourhood Initiatives Foundation.

A copy of the executive summary is attached at pages 6 to 9 and the full report is available on request.

An update will be given on action that has been taken since the publication of the report to implement its findings and conclusions – including ideas for improving Milford Community Hall, which is owned by the District Council and leased to the Town Council.

7. REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS

(The Minutes of the following meetings are open to discussion. Where a Committee has made a recommendation, that will be listed on a separate sheet circulated with the Agenda.)

Planning and Licensing Committee

28 July 2008

11 August 2008

8. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Yeovil Town Centre Consultative Panel

10 - 15

23 July 2008

9. WAR MEMORIAL

Last month, the young person who admitted causing thousands of pounds of criminal damage to the Town War Memorial was given a 12 month community rehabilitation order and ordered to pay £100 compensation.

The incident, which took place on Sunday 22 June 2008, was captured on the Town Centre's CCTV system and involved a youth climbing up the War Memorial. As a result, substantial damage was caused to a number of the monument's stone pillars. The total cost of the repair work is £3,300.

In line with the Council's policy on vandalism, every effort has been made to recover the costs involved from the person responsible for the damage – to avoid the costs falling on local council taxpayers. Details of the repair costs were submitted to the Court ahead of last month's hearing, along with a request that the culprit be made to pay the whole cost of repair.

In the meantime, arrangements have been made by the Town Council for the memorial to be repaired in time for this coming November's Remembrance Sunday service and parade.

In line with a decision of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee, legal advice has been sought on the merits of the Town Council taking a civil action to recover the full costs of repair. The advice is set out in the attached confidential report, which has been circulated to Members only.

The Somerset Youth Offending Team has approached the Town Council to ask if a representative of the Council would like to take part in a restorative justice meeting with the youth involved. This invitation has been referred to the Mayor and the Chairmen of the Buildings and Civic Matters Committee and the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee for consideration.

Council is **RECOMMENDED**

- (1) to note the developments to date in the matter; and
- (2) in the closed session of the meeting, to consider the merits of the Town Council pursuing a civil action to recover the full costs of repair.

Public Comment (15 Minutes)

EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

The Committee will be requested to pass a resolution excluding the press and public 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 public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

10. **WAR MEMORIAL**

(Confidential report circulated to Members and Officers only.)

List of Engagements attended/to be attended by His Worship The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read and the Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler from 5 August to 7 October 2008

07/08/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, attended celebrations at Yeovil Penn Mill Station
08/08/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, attended the Summer School's performance of On Your Marks
08/08/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, attended the Wareham Town Council Civic Walkabout
09/08/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, attended a charity evening at The Railway Hotel
13/08/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, attended The Dorchester Art Club Exhibition
15/08/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, attended the Summer School's performance of Midsummer Madness
17/08/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, attended Bridgwater Town Council Civic Service
18/08/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, attended Lyme Regis Town Council Civic Day
23/08/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, sponsored the ball at the YTFC -v- Leeds United match
24/08/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the Annual Civic Service of Burnham-on-Sea and Highbridge Town Council
25/08/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended West Abbey Nursing Home to present a Veterans Badge
27/08/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended Wyndham Court Coffee Morning
28/08/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, attended the Induction and welcome service of Revd Linda Barriball
28/08/08	Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend North Dorset District Council's Civic Day.
05/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Weymouth and Portland Borough Council Civic Day
07/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Elim Pentecostal Church 80 th Anniversary celebrations
07/09/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, will attend the British Legion's Family Fun Day
08/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Friends of St Johns 'A Murder is Announced'
08/09/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, will attend the Friends of St Johns 'A Murder is Announced'
09/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Chard Town Council Civic Breakfast.
10/09/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, will attend the Cruse Bereavement Care Annual Business Meeting
10/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend West Dorset District Council Civic Day
11/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will judge the Flowers and Gardeners Market Window Display Competition.
11/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend a presentation evening of Breatheability

12/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Borough of Poole Civic Day.
12/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Celebratory Concert and Reception of the RAFA (SW) Concert Band.
12/09/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, will attend Crewkerne Town Council Civic Evening
13/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Yeovil Flower and Gardeners' Market, incorporating the Yeovil in Bloom Presentations and Best Kept Allotments Presentations
18/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the opening of a new building at Preston School
18/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the South West in Bloom Presentations in Plymouth
19/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Civic Dinner to celebrate the 120th Anniversary of Somerset County Council
20/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the first of the Yeovil and District Chrysanthemum and Dahlia Show
20/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the Yeovil Freewheelers 30th anniversary celebrations
22/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend the launch of Goldies Sing for Life
24/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Barnabas Housing Association's AGM
26/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Yeovil Baptist Churches Flower Festival
26/09/08	Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Philip Chandler, will attend Wimborne Minster Town Council Civic Day
28/09/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will attend Yeovil Baptist Church Harvest Festival Service
04/10/08	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read, will host a sponsored swimathon at Goldenstones Leisure Centre

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Neighbourhood Initiatives Foundation was appointed in September 2006 by South Somerset District Council to undertake a Planning for Real exercise in Milford, Yeovil.

The purpose of the consultation was to develop a community plan for Milford and also to explore how the community may want to use the community hall in Milford Park in the future. The Town Council were keen to look at ways of either extending and refurbishing the Hall or potentially looking at the possibility of building a new hall on the site of the current building.

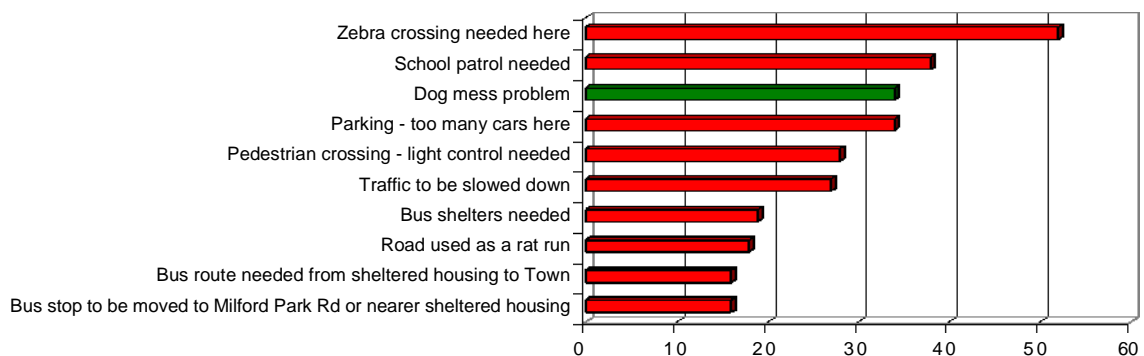
The PfR Process

A large 3D model of Milford was produced by Year 6 pupils at Milford Junior School.

9 consultation events were held at many locations across the estate and resulted in 342 people attending to highlight their concerns and put forward suggestions for improving the estate. Two prioritisation and action planning sessions were held on 10th and 16th July in Milford Hall. The second event was well attended by Service Providers from South Somerset District Council, The Town Council and other Agencies.

During the consultation process a total of 869 suggestions were made highlighting issues of concern to residents and ideas for improving Milford. The graph below indicates the overall top ten suggestions made by residents during the consultation process. The colour coding on the graph relates to the different theme issues used during the consultation process, for example the red line indicate residents concerns about traffic and transport and the dark green are environmental issues.

Overall Top Ten Suggestions



KEY ISSUES:

Concerns about the **traffic problems** in Milford features significantly during the consultation process. Residents highlighted concerns about the speed traffic travels through the area which resulted in many children and their parents and carers highlighting the need for more **crossings and school patrols**. **Dog fouling** was a major issue of concern with many locations being highlighted where this is a problem.

Problems concerning **parking** attracted a lot of comments particularly around the local schools. Measures have been taken to address these issues directly around the schools, but it is evident that many people are ignoring the restrictions. Residents are also concerned about speeding traffic and would like to see mechanisms put in place to slow **traffic down**. A number of roads were also identified that motorists use as short cuts or **rat runs**. Many residents, particularly older residents indicated that there is a need for more **bus shelters** to be installed. It was also identified that a bus route is needed to take elderly residents from the sheltered housing complex into Town. In addition many older residents highlighted that the bus stop on Milford Road needs moving nearer to the Sheltered Accommodation.

The main priorities developed by local residents at the prioritisation events are to:

Improve traffic problems in Milford by:

- Installing traffic calming measures on Milford Road
- Installing a pedestrian crossing/light controlled crossing on Glenthorne Avenue and on Mudford Road near the junction with Glenthorne Avenue
- Slowing traffic down on Chelston Avenue near the school
- Installing a mini roundabout at the junction of Mudford Road and St. Michaels
- Moving the bus stop on Milford Road nearer to the Sheltered Housing Complex
- Developing a bus route from Town to the Sheltered Housing Complex
- Improving the bus services to St. Georges Avenue cul de sac and Milford Road
- Installing traffic lights on Mudford/Goldcroft bend
- Installing a zebra crossing on Goldcroft Road
- Improving the road surface in Glenthorne Avenue

Address the crime and safety issues in Milford by:

- Tackling the problems created by drug dealing in St. Georges Avenue, St. Johns Road and Milford Park
- Tackling the problems created by drug taking in Milford Park
- Clearing up the needles discarded near the Sheltered Housing Complex
- Tackling the problems of solvent abuse in St. Georges Avenue and Milford Park

- Trimming back the shrubs on the ATC land and the Hillcrest Close Footpath
- Removing the shrubs on Wingate footpath
- Removing the hedge/shrubs on Hillcrest Close footpath and replacing with a wall
- Control the area around Milford Hall at all times to prevent vandalism occurring
- Tackling the problems in St. Georges Avenue so residents feel safe and able to go out in the evenings
- Tackling the incidences of vandalism in Milford Park
- Installing security cameras in St. Georges Avenue and Milford Park
- Trimming back the shrubs in Chelston near St. Georges Avenue
- Cleaning up the glass in Milford Park so that children can play there
- Discouraging young people from hanging around in groups making and making a noise near the Sheltered Housing Complex, in St. Georges Avenue and on Bucklers Mead Road
- Discouraging young people from hanging around Melrose bungalows
- Tackling the problems of illegal dumping in Milford Park, at the rear of the houses on Hillcrest and on St. Johns Road
- Improving the lighting in Milford Park
- Tackling the problems created by drunken behaviour in Milford Park
- Providing a more visible police presence near Melrose bungalows, Milford Park, Goldcroft Road, St. Georges Avenue, Glenthorne Avenue and on the allotments near St. David's Crescent
- Installing security lights in Milford Park
- Tackling the problems created by derelict land at the rear of the houses on Hillcrest

Enhance the physical and visual appearance of Milford by:

- Creating a dog free zone in Bucklers Mead playing fields
- Cleaning up Milford Park Road and Milford Park
- Providing dog poop scoop bins at Mudford / Combe Street Lane (at top), on Chelston Avenue near the school, on Glenthorne Avenue near the shops, on Hillcrest footpath, in Milford Park and on Allingham Road footpath
- Tackling the problem created by dog fouling on many of the streets, open spaces and play areas
- Cleaning up the dog fouling, glass and condoms on Chelston footpath near Milford Inn
- Cleaning up the glass in Milford Park
- Cleaning up the used condoms lefts in Milford Park and on Wingate footpath
- Providing litterbins at the shops on Glenthorne Avenue
- Creating a dog free zone around Milford School
- Refurbishing Milford Hall
- Encouraging owners to keep dogs on a lead
- Improving Milford Park
- Planting more trees and shrubs in Milford Park to filter out the noise

Improve leisure facilities for people living in Milford by:

- Establishing football teams for junior age at Milford Park and Milford Junior School
- Setting up football teams
- Installing football goal posts in College Green
- Creating an internet/cyber café in Milford Hall
- Installing floodlights in Milford Park
- Setting up a summer club at Milford Infants School
- Installing football goal posts in Milford park

Enhance work and training opportunities for people living in Milford by:

- Setting up after school clubs in Milford Infants School
- Developing a volunteer centre in Milford Hall
- Setting up a community transport scheme

Establish additional community facilities in Milford by:

- Installing a youth shelter in St. John's Road
- Upgrading the toilets in Milford Hall to provide accessible facilities

Tackle some of the housing issues locally by:

- Providing garages for residents living in the Sheltered Housing Complex to prevent their cars getting continually vandalised
- Talking the problems created by noisy neighbours at the corner of Wingate Avenue and Milford Road
- Improving the collection of large household items from the Sheltered Housing Complex and the land at the rear of St. David's Avenue

Improve health and advice services to residents by:

- Developing more support services for teenage mums

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

NOTES of a meeting of the **YEOVIL TOWN CENTRE CONSULTATIVE PANEL** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Wednesday 23 July 2008**

(6.00pm – 7.10pm)

Present:

Tony Fife (Chairman)
Clive Davis - Yeovil Town Council
Ian Martin – Yeovil Town Council
Pat Martin – South Somerset District Council
Tom Parsley - South Somerset District Council
Geoff Cave – Retailers and Retail Group
Desmond Lucas – Retailers and Retail Group
Nikki Leggett – Western Gazette
Harry Gibson – Yeovil Shopmobility
Penny Mitchell - South Somerset Disability Forum
Sgt Mark Hunt – Avon and Somerset Constabulary
PC Amanda Mehrlich – Avon and Somerset Constabulary

Also Present:

Alan Tawse – Town Clerk
Ian Budd – Town Centre Manager
Ian Morrison – Area Highways Manager (SCC)
Martin Woods – Area Development Manager (South) SSDC

1. NOTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The notes of the previous meeting held on 28 May 2008, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Rev Ed Bangay, John Hann, Jayne Lewis, Tony Lock, David Mills, Derrick Pope, Wes Read, David Recardo and Alan Smith.

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

4. TOWN CENTRE POLICING

Sgt Mark Hunt and PC Amanda Mehrlich of Avon and Somerset Constabulary gave a brief presentation on policing in the Town Centre.

Mark explained the resources available – including Police Community Support Officers (PCSO's) - and how these were deployed to meet operational needs. He also referred to how local intelligence was being used to help combat crime.

Attention was drawn to various crime statistics and Mark indicated that in general terms these were on a downward trend.

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the importance of traders maintaining adequate security measures to help prevent and detect retail crime.

Attention was also drawn to the problems arising from begging, and from cycling in pedestrianised areas in the Town Centre, and the steps that were being taken to overcome these problems.

The Chairman thanked Mark and Amanda for their interesting and informative presentation, and it was

IT WAS AGREED that the matter be noted.

5. YEOVIL VISION

Martin Woods gave an update on the latest developments regarding the implementation of the Yeovil Vision initiative. Details were set out in a progress report (copy attached as an appendix) circulated at the meeting.

Attention was drawn to the progress being made on the restoration of Foundry House and the development of the Mill Lane Site, with work expected to begin in September 2008.

During the ensuing discussion, the Panel expressed their support for the efforts being made to deliver the Yeovil Vision.

IT WAS AGREED that the matter be noted.

6. TOWN CENTRE MANAGER'S REPORT

Ian Budd reported on a number of recent projects and initiatives, with which he was involved:

- Yeovil Town Centre Partnership
- Development of Marketing Strategy
- Crime Prevention and Detection
- Public Consumption of Alcohol – Extension of Control Areas
- Streetscene Improvements
- Disabled Access Award
- Italian Weekend (28/29 June 2008)
- Support to Flower and Gardeners' Market (13 September 2008)
- Christmas 2008 preparations (13 November switch-on)
- St John's Churchyard

Ian also reported on the outcome of a business survey, which had been carried out in recent months. He explained that 66 replies had been received from a wide range of retailers and other stakeholders in the Town Centre.

Amongst the key issues that had emerged was a growing interest amongst retailers in opening for business on Sundays, and the benefits to permanent retailers of occasional continental markets.

Ian also referred to the establishment of Business Improvement Districts (BID's) in Dorchester and Taunton, and his intention to arrange a seminar later in the year to explore the merits of Yeovil adopting a similar approach.

In response to a query, Ian indicated that the final proofs for the new poster inserts had now been received, and that their installation in various noticeboards in the Town Centre was imminent.

Reference was also made to the possibility of installing an electronic video/message board in the Town Centre with the contents being controlled from a remote location.

The Chairman gave an update on the progress that had been made in providing new public toilets in the Peter Street Car Park. Whilst every effort was being made to arrange for the new facilities to be constructed and available for use at an early date, contingency arrangements had been put in place for temporary facilities to be provided at this location if the new toilets were not opened by Christmas 2008.

IT WAS AGREED that the matters be noted.

7. **VACANCIES**

The Panel noted the arrangements that had been made to fill vacancies on the Panel, and it was felt that a review of the operation of the Panel should be undertaken after a consultation exercise had been carried out amongst retailers and other stakeholders.

IT WAS AGREED

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the outcome of the above-mentioned consultation exercise be reported to a future meeting.

8. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

(a) Seagulls

Reference was made to concerns received about the level of seagulls in the Town Centre and ways by which the problems that they created could be addressed.

IT WAS AGREED that the matter be noted.

(b) Market Rents

The Chairman referred to comments made by the Market Trader representative regarding matters raised at the last meeting, and reiterated his

views that the level of market rents was a matter for the District Council, which set the rates following public consultation.

IT WAS AGREED that the matter be noted.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

IT WAS NOTED that the next meeting of the Panel would be held at 6.00pm on Wednesday 24 September 2008.

Chairman

**Update Report to Yeovil Town Centre Consultative Panel Meeting
Wednesday 23rd July 2008**

Yeovil Vision and Regeneration Update

Further to earlier updates, this report highlights some of the areas currently under development with the Yeovil Vision.

1. Foundry House and Mill Lane Site

I can report continued positive progress with solicitors instructed and a development agreement nearing finalization. The development will be an important icon of positiveness amidst the current uncertainty of the property market. The restoration of the listed Grade II mill together with sympathetic development for both residential and evening economy as well as links to the Country Park will be an important contribution to improving the quality and environment of Yeovil.

2. Bus Station, Glovers Walk

Positive engagement of the site owner, Eagle Star, and a brief has been commissioned, consultants appointed who will have their first meeting on 17th July 2008. We are trying to tie the bus station improvement plans into the possible redevelopment of the Quedam.

3. Reckleford Gyratory (Option 5)

The Yeovil Vision Project Director continues to lead a team to assemble the land and ensure that the two-way road improvements are carried forward in the original timetable, with land assembly completed by the end of this year and allowing site works to start at the beginning of next year (2009).

4. Public Realm Master Plan

This project is to ensure that there are substantial improvements to the public realm (streets and public places) in three key areas likely to undergo redevelopment in the near future; these are Reckleford, Wyndam Street and Lower Sherborne Road, Market Street and Queensway, Reckleford. Tenders have been put out and a consultant appointed (Halcrow) who had their first meeting and should be coming forward in October this year.

5. Princes Street

Physical enhancements (widening the pavement, pedestrian crossing areas) completed for Phase I. Phase II will start later this year.

6. Wider Urban Development Framework Review

It has been decided to update the existing Urban Development Framework in light of the Regional Spatial Strategy a brief is being agreed and the work will be set out towards the end of this year.

7. Quedam Centre

It is likely that the proposed expansion plans will be submitted to Area South Committee in September this year, to include a 96,000 sq.ft department store, 140,000 sq.ft other stores.

8. Former Somerfield Store

After a period of relative quiet from the new owners a meeting has finally been arranged on 22nd July 2008.

9. Market Street (Cattle Market)

A planning application is likely to be submitted in September this year to include around 200 dwellings with a residential care home and sheltered housing, there will be improvements to the public realm particularly fronting Market Street.

10. Transport Review

There is going to be a review of traffic movements in and around Yeovil projecting forward into the future, this work will be led by Somerset County Council but SSDC have a key role to play as well.

- 11.** The Vision Director is working on a Vision Town Centre Magazine to be published later this year.

Martin Woods