

## YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **GROUND AND GENERAL MAINTENANCE COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Monday 6 July 2015**

(7:00pm – 8:50pm)

### **Present:**

Manny Roper – Chairman  
Kris Castle  
Philip Chandler  
Andrew Kendall  
Mike Lock  
Evie Potts-Jones  
Darren Shutler

### **Also Present:**

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| Tony Lock        | East Ward Member                                |
| Andrew Pugsley   | South Ward Member                               |
| Sally Freemantle | Acting Town Clerk (Job Share)                   |
| Steve Fox        | Principal Horticultural Officer (SSDC)          |
| Rob Parr         | Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer (SSDC) |

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

### 9/17 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 1 June 2015, copies of which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 9/18 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Joe Conway and Alan Smith.

### 9/19 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### 9/20 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

### 9/21 **ALLOTMENT MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE**

The Committee reviewed the Allotment Maintenance Schedule and some discussion took place regarding the current procedure for maintaining vacant plots.

## **RESOLVED**

(1) that the matter be noted; and

(2) that the Chairman of the Committee meet with the Principal Horticultural Officer to discuss the Allotment Maintenance procedure.

### 9/22 **PLAY AREA REPAIRS – UPDATE REPORT**

The Committee considered the verbal report of the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer who outlined the ongoing maintenance work which included painting the upright posts around the goal area at Rosebery Avenue and Westfield play areas. It was reported that the play equipment was due to be painted at Westfield and Kingston View Play Areas; that the Multipondo (stand on see-saw) was being replaced at Preston Park; and that the skate ramps at Yew Tree Park were in the process of being painted.

It was confirmed that a timber cap had been placed on the top of the steel support at the bottom of the edge of the steps at Summerhouse View play area as requested at the last meeting.

## **RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

### 9/23 **YEOVIL BIKEFEST**

The Committee considered the verbal report of the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer who explained that the inaugural Bikefest would take place on 12 August from 10am – 3.30pm at Birchfield Park and will include:

- Information on cycling proficiency and maintenance
- Guided bicycle rides around the Country Park
- Treasure hunt
- Mobile pump track
- Smoothie bike
- Play Art
- Circus skills
- Spinning classes
- Bicycle stalls

## **RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

*(Tony Lock joined the meeting)*

### 9/24 **OPEN SPACES REPORT**

The Committee considered the verbal report of the Principal Horticultural Officer who informed Members that the results of the last inspections were 95% good and 4% fair pass with 1% minor fail – the minor fail being due to litter.

It was noted that there had been some minor anti-social behaviour and some trees had been vandalised at Howard Road. The Principal Horticultural

Officer also explained that there had been some issues with drinking in public open spaces and that SSDC were working closely with the Police.

Finally, it was reported that the last stretch of the path at Milford Park would be tarmacked.

### **RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

#### 9/25 **ALLOTMENT TENANTS WORKING GROUP**

The Committee considered the minutes of the Allotment Tenants Working Group (circulated separately). Some discussion took place regarding the best way to support the allotment Tenant Representatives and it was suggested that the Acting Town Clerk, the Chairman of the Committee and Kris Castle meet to discuss this.

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the minutes of the Allotment Tenants Working Group be noted; and
- (2) that the Acting Town Clerk, the Chairman of the Committee and Kris Castle meet to discuss ways in which to support the allotments.

#### 9/26 **NEW INITIATIVES**

The Committee considered the New Initiatives Budget report (agenda item 10 refers).

### **RESOLVED**

that the New Initiative budget be noted and that the Members consider submitting bids having regard to the policy and services that fall within the remit of the Committee.

#### 9/27 **BEST VALUE**

The Committee considered the report by the Town Clerk (agenda item 11 refers) and it was

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that this year's achievements in relation to the lettings of allotments be noted, and the target of exceeding next year's lettings at an 80% occupancy rate be set; and
- (2) that the performance indicators be reviewed at a future meeting of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee to possibly include an overview of the Open Spaces reports.

### **RESOLVED**

that the matters be noted.

9/28 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT – APRIL/MAY 2015**

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1 April to 31 May 2015 (Agenda item 12 refers).

**RESOLVED**

that the Financial Statement be noted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

Chairman

SF  
03/08/15