

## **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of the meeting of the **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 30 June 2015**

(7.30pm to 8.35pm)

### **Present:**

Mike Lock – Mayor  
Nagaraja Akkisetty  
Philip Chandler  
Joe Conway  
Gail Freeman-Bell  
Peter Gubbins  
Kaysar Hussain  
Andy Kendall

Terry Ledlie  
Pauline Lock  
Tony Lock  
Sarah Lowery  
Evie Potts-Jones  
Andrew Pugsley  
Manny Roper  
Rob Stickland

### **Also present:**

Alan Tawse  
Steve Hart  
Ali Berry

Town Clerk  
Yeovil Street Pastors  
Yeovil Street Pastors

*(Prior to the start of the meeting, the Mayor's Chaplain led those Members of the Council in attendance in prayers on behalf of the Townspeople of Yeovil).*

### **TONY FIFE**

Members stood and observed a minute's silence in memory of former Mayor, Town and District Councillor Tony Fife who had passed away on the previous Tuesday.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Sheila Larcombe indicated that she was co-ordinating a public petition against the planned closure of the Westland Sports and Leisure Complex and that to date 4,302 signatures had been collected. She added that she would continue collecting signatures and would feed the information into the ongoing discussions that were taking place between AugustaWestland, which owned the facility, and the Town and District Councils.

### **9/20 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meetings held on 19 May (adjourned) and 26 May (reconvened) 2015, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

### **9/21 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Vijay Adampalli, Kris Castle, Tristan Cobb, Graham Oakes, Wes Read, David Recardo, Darren Shutler and Alan Smith.

### **9/22 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no Declarations of Interest.

9/23 **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 circulated at the meeting.

9/24 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Town Clerk referred to the items of correspondence that had been circulated to Members by email since the last Town Council meeting, and indicated that no further items had been received.

The Mayor drew attention to a letter of thanks that had been received from the Commodore of RNAS Yeovilton for the organisation by the Town Council of last month's Freedom Parade, which had been arranged to help the Town commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of VE and VJ Day.

9/25 **YEOVIL STREET PASTORS**

Steve Hart and Ali Berry of the Yeovil Street Pastors gave a presentation on the aims and objectives of the Yeovil Street Pastors' project, their experiences to date and their plans for the future.

They drew attention to the roles played by the volunteers who acted as street pastors and by prayer pastors who supported the street team. It was indicated that 45 street pastors and 18 prayer pastors worked in the Yeovil Town area and that arrangements were made to provide a service each Friday and Saturday night between 10.00pm and 4.00am.

Details of the benefits for the churches that took part in the initiative were also outlined at the meeting along with the commitment that was required from each trained volunteer.

Attention was also drawn to the personal benefits of becoming a street pastor and to the benefits to the local community of their work, which complemented the role undertaken by the emergency services and other organisations involved in the night-time economy in relation to assisting vulnerable people.

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the area of the Town Centre covered by the Street Pastors and the support that they gave to the detection of crime.

The Mayor thanked Steve and Ali for their interesting and informative presentation, and it was

**RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

9/26 **FINAL ACCOUNTS 2014/15**

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

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the position concerning the £77,157 operating budget surplus for the year ended 31 March 2015 be noted;
- (2) that the position concerning the General Reserve, the Capital Fund and the Asset Register be noted; and
- (3) that the draft Statement of Accounts for 2014/15 and the draft Annual Return and Income and Expenditure Account for that period, be received and approved.

9/27 **ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

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

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the draft Statement of Annual Governance in respect of the Financial Year 2014/15 be approved.

9/28 **THE GUILD OF MACE-BEARERS**

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 9 refers).

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that a letter of congratulations be sent to Bruce Trigger on this prestigious honour.

9/29 **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS**

The Chairman of the Planning and Licensing Committee 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**

27 May 2015  
15 June 2015

**Grounds and General Maintenance Committee**

1 June 2015

**Promotions and Activities Committee**

9 June 2015

**Buildings and Civic Matters Committee**

16 June 2015

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

23 June 2015

### **9/30 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 Youth Council**

20 April 2015

18 May 2015

Reference was made to the commendable efforts being made by the Youth Council to stage a charity music concert at The Gateway on Saturday 11 July in aid of the Brake road safety charity.

#### **South Somerset Countryside Steering Group**

21 May 2015

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

During the ensuing discussion, reference was made to the lack of recent reports from the Yeovil Twinning Association on their activities. The Town Clerk undertook to make enquiries and to clarify the current voting arrangements for the Town Council's two appointed representatives on the Association.

### **9/31 PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no further comments from the public.

### **9/32 RETIREMENT OF TOWN CLERK**

The Mayor indicated that Alan Tawse, Town Clerk would shortly be retiring from the Town Council after almost sixteen years' service, and he thanked him for his help and support and wished him a long and happy retirement.

The Chairman of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee paid tribute to the work that Alan had undertaken during that time and expressed his thanks, on behalf of the Town Council, for his contribution and achievements.

Alan responded by thanking the Members and the Staff – past and present - for all their help and support, and he wished the Council well for the future.

Mayor