



Yeovil Town Council

Town House
19 Union Street
Yeovil
Somerset
BA20 1PQ

Mayor : Cllr D Shutler, Town Clerk : Amanda Card BA (Hons), CPFA
T-01935 382424, F-01935 382429, W - www.yeovil.gov.uk
E-mail town.clerk@yeovil.gov.uk

Minutes of the meeting of the Grounds & General Maintenance Committee of Yeovil Town Council held on 20th November 2017 at 7.00pm in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil BA20 1PQ

Present: Cllrs J. Conway, P. Chandler, K. Hussain, M. Lock, A. Pugsley, F. Purbrick, M. Roper, D. Shutler and A. Smith.

Also Present: T Lock (East Ward Member), E Potts-Jones (Park Ward Member).

In Attendance: Sally Freemantle (Deputy Town Clerk), Stephen Fox – Principle Horticultural Officer (SSDC), Katy Menday – Countryside Manager (SSDC), Rob Parr – Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer (SSDC) and Becky Russell – V3 Community Ranger (SSDC).

There were no members of the public or press present.

7.00pm - Meeting commenced.

9/180. Apologies for Absence and to Consider the Reasons Given.

There were no apologies for absence.

9/181. Declarations of Interest.

Members to declare Interests that accord with the Council's adopted Code of Conduct. This does not preclude any later declarations.

There were no declarations of interest.

9/182. Minutes of Last Meeting. The Committee approved the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 11 September 2017.

Resolved: That the Minutes of the meeting of Grounds & General Maintenance Committee held on 11th September 2017 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

It was agreed that items 9/184, 9/185 and 9/186 be heard first (due to the officer being required at another meeting).

9/184. Play Area Update Report.

The Committee considered the report by the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer and Rob Parr added that the planned repairs were now complete with the exception of the rope ladder at Westfield Road Park which was due to be carried out shortly.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

9/185. Grass Royal Play Area

The Committee considered the report by the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer and Rob Parr added that work on the new paths would begin week commencing 27 November, with a schedule of three weeks.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

9/186. Milford Park Lighting.

The Committee considered the report by the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer. The Committee discussed issues including renewable energy, LED lighting, light pollution and noise. It was explained that renewal energy was not feasible and LED lighting was not currently suitable, and that any issues surrounding light pollution and noise would be addressed at the planning application stage.

Concern was raised regarding the loss of trees. It was explained that the trees were causing damage to the Multi Use Games Area surface, and that new trees could be planted at a suitable distance from the court.

The fair proportion of revenue contribution was also discussed and it was agreed that it should be proportionate to the capital contribution to the project.

Resolved: (1) that the report be noted; (2) that the proposed lighting scheme be approved; and (3) that a recommendation be made to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee that an additional revenue contribution of £360 per year be added to the Grounds and General Maintenance budget for maintenance of the lights.

7.30pm – *Rob Parr left the meeting.*

9/183. Yeovil Country Park Update.

The Committee considered the report by the Countryside Manager and V3 Community Ranger. The officers also gave a presentation which demonstrated visually (through power-point) the tremendous amount and variety of work carried out by the team, including volunteers.

Katy and Becky were congratulated on the awards they had received, including the trophy for Outstanding Environmental Initiative and the Green Flag Award and congratulations were extended to the team.

Discussion took place regarding the future of the V3 project and the committee agreed that they would welcome a report from the officers in the New Year regarding the proposals to extend the project beyond Autumn 2018.

Resolved: (1) that the report be noted; (2) that the team be congratulated on excellent work; and (3) that a report in early 2018 be welcomed outlining the proposals for the future sustainability of the V3 project, which would be supported by the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee.

8.00pm – *Katy Menday and Becky Russell left the meeting.*

9/187. Allotment Maintenance Schedule.

The Committee considered the schedule and discussion took place regarding the grass cutting as the October cut had been deferred to November due to grass still growing later in the season.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

9/188. Open Spaces Update Report.

The Committee considered the report by the Principal Horticultural Officer who explained that keeping on top of the grass cutting had been really tricky this year.

Steve Fox added that a compliment on the gardens had been received from a resident near Sidney Gardens.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

9/189. Sidney Gardens.

The Committee considered the report circulated and explained by the Principal Horticultural Officer and discussion took place regarding the proposals.

The Committee supported Cllr M Lock as the SSDC member of the proposed working group.

Resolved: (1) that the report be noted; and (2) that Cllr E Potts-Jones be the Ward Member representing the Town Council on the Working Group.

8.37pm – *Steve Fox left the meeting.*

9/190. Request for Dog Bin – Welbeck Road.

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk.

Resolved: that the report be noted.

9/191. Financial Statement – August/September 2017.

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1 August to 30 September 2017.

Resolved: that the Financial Statement be noted.

Public Comment. There were no members of the public present.

9/192. Exclusion of Press and Public.

Resolved: to exclude 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 of agenda items 9/159 and 9/160 would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted. Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s3

9/193. Rustywell Allotment Site (Commercial in Confidence).

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk who also updated the Committee verbally on progress of the works.

Resolved: (1) that the update be noted; and (2) that the potential requirement to use Standing Order 51 for disposal of the roofing material be acknowledged.

9/194. Budget Proposals (Confidential)

The Committee considered the report by the Town Clerk regarding the proposed budget for 2018/19.

Resolved: (1) to note the report; (2) that a recommendation be made to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee that an additional revenue contribution of £360 per year be added to the Grounds and General Maintenance budget for maintenance of Milford Park lights; and (3) that with the aforementioned amendment, the proposals be referred to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

The meeting closed at 8:55pm.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: