

## YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **PROMOTIONS AND ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 15 January 2013**

(7.00pm to 8.55pm)

### **Present:**

Jon Gleeson – Chairman	Wes Read
Kris Castle	David Recardo
Clive Davis	Manny Roper
Mike Lock	Alan Smith

### **Also Present:**

Alan Tawse	Town Clerk
Sally Freemantle	Assistant Town Clerk (Job Share)
Marie Ainsworth	Regeneration and Renewal Officer (SSDC)

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

### 8/137 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13 November 2012, copies of which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### 8/138 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Peter Brock, Tristan Cobb, Bridget Dollard, Tony Fife and Darren Shutler.

### 8/139 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

### 8/140 **CORRESPONDENCE**

Following on from the last meeting, a letter of thanks had been sent by the Chairman of the Committee to the Horticultural Team for their significant contribution to this year's floral displays as part of Yeovil in Bloom. The Chairman reported that he had received a grateful acknowledgement to the letter.

## **RESOLVED**

that the matter be noted.

#### 8/141 **PRINCES STREET ENHANCEMENT SCHEME**

The Committee considered the report of the Assistant Area Support Team Leader (agenda item 5 refers) and the Regeneration and Renewal Officer said that she would be happy to take any questions.

The main point of discussion was regarding parking as the changes had caused some concern to the traders, particularly in the loading/unloading bays. Marie Ainsworth undertook to speak with the traders, the parking wardens and the Engineering Design Team Manager to resolve the issues.

It was reported that there were still some minor snagging matters which would be resolved in due course, and in answer to a query, it was explained that the public art listed in the report was in reference to the planters and street furniture that had been designed by a local artist and which were consistent with the furniture installed during the refurbishment of Middle Street.

Marie reported that quotations had been sought for the maintenance of this furniture throughout the Town Centre and would be carried out by a local tradesperson who would provide the best value.

Feedback was requested on the update newsletter, which had been circulated in November. All the feedback was positive.

#### **RESOLVED**

that the report and matters be noted.

#### 8/142 **YEOVIL TOWN CENTRE AUDIT GROUP - UPDATE**

The Committee considered the report of the Regeneration and Renewal Officer (agenda item 6 refers) and a spreadsheet of works identified throughout the Town Centre was circulated. Marie Ainsworth outlined the details in the spreadsheet and a number of specific matters were discussed including gully cleaning, maintenance of street furniture (particularly the seats and planters throughout Middle Street which had been extended to Princes Street), pigeons, and a requirement for an additional litter bin along Sherborne Road.

It was felt that gully cleaning should ideally take place more frequently than the County Council had programmed.

The street furniture was considered to be a good investment as the first designer pieces were installed a number of years ago – routine maintenance was therefore welcomed to preserve it.

It was noted that there was a problem with pigeons in Middle Street and the Regeneration and Renewal Officer undertook to investigate potential solutions.

It was indicated that an additional litter bin was required along Sherborne Road to provide a receptacle for take away wrappers and other litter on the eastward route from the Town Centre.

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matters be noted;
- (2) that the suggestion for an additional litter bin on Sherborne Road be supported and referred to Buildings and Civic Matters Committee; and
- (3) that a detailed report on the cost of Town Centre maintenance and potential funding sources be awaited from the Regeneration and Renewal Officer.

### **8/143 YEovil IN BLOOM STEERING GROUP MINUTES**

The Committee considered the minutes of the Steering Group Meetings held on 5 November 2012 (agenda item 7 refers).

## **RESOLVED**

that the minutes be noted.

### **8/144 CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION**

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

It was suggested that Brympton and Yeovil Without Parish Councils be contacted to ask if they would like to become involved in the competition so that the entrants could extend beyond the Yeovil Town boundary, particularly due to the growth over the years of residences in those parishes. This was supported, however it was felt that it would be courteous to check with the Councillor who had donated the cup to ensure that she was happy with this suggestion.

Other suggestions raised were:

- the introduction of categories (ie: schools, businesses, residential, community)
- the ability to enter online
- limitation of number of times one person could win in a row
- using social networking sites to advertise the competition
- form a Steering Group to include representatives from neighbouring parishes to help plan and promote the competition (if they wish to become involved)

## **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matters be noted; and
- (2) that the Councillor who donated the cup be approached with the idea of extending the competition to Brympton and Yeovil Without Parishes and subject to her response, Brympton and Yeovil Without Parishes Councils be asked if they would like to become involved in future Christmas Lights Competitions.

#### 8/145 **TOWN HOUSE DISPLAY**

The Committee considered the report of the Town Clerk (agenda item 9 refers).

The Committee discussed the display and Members were keen to see another upright cabinet to display more items if feasible. In answer to a query regarding the length of time the display would be in place, the Town Clerk explained that this would be discussed with the Community Heritage Access Centre Manager, along with other ideas for future displays.

The Town Clerk also explained that whilst table space was required to enable members of the public to view plans in the foyer area, a proposal had been raised previously to pilot a scheme to display plans on a large wall mounted screen which may free up some space in the entrance area in the future. The Town Clerk also informed the Committee that Yeovil Vision had made a funding bid for more "pop-up museums" (similar to the display in the Quedam Centre in September 2012) in the Town.

#### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matters be noted; and
- (2) that the official launch of the display in the Town House foyer include the Mayor and the Chairman of the Promotions and Activities Committee, and the Chairman of the District Council be invited to participate.

#### 8/146 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2012**

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1 October to 30 November 2012 (agenda item 10 refers).

#### **RESOLVED**

that the Financial Statement be noted.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

#### 8/147 **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.

#### 8/148 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The Committee considered the confidential report of the Town Clerk (agenda item 11 refers).

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered the merits of the proposals outlined in the report, and noted the support of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that the proposals set out in the report be supported, and the following Members of the Committee be appointed to serve on the selection panel:

Jon Gleeson

Mike Lock

David Recardo

Alan Smith

A member of the SSDC Area South Committee

Chairman

SF  
21/1/13