



Yeovil Town Council

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Yeovil Town Council

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

The Time... **7.30pm**

The Date... **Tuesday 4 June 2013**

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

The Town Council will be discussing all the items listed overleaf

If you need this information in large print, Braille, audio or another language, please ring 01935 382424



Alan Tawse

Alan Tawse

Town Clerk

28 May 2013

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

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

Manny Roper – Mayor of Yeovil

Mike Lock – Deputy Mayor

Martin Bailey

Peter Brock

Kris Castle

J Vincent Chainey

Philip Chandler

Tristan Cobb

Leah Cross

Clive Davis

Bridget Dollard

David Dollard

Tony Fife

Jon Gleeson

David Greene

Peter Gubbins

John Hann

Kaysar Hussain

Andrew Kendall

Tony Lock

Wes Read

David Recardo

Darren Shutler

Alan Smith

Equality Act 2010

The *general* public sector equality duty places an obligation on a wide range of public bodies (including town and parish councils) in the exercise of their functions to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not

The protected characteristics are:

Age

Disability

Gender Reassignment

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Pregnancy and Maternity

Race

Religion or Belief

Sex

Sexual Orientation

Prior to the start of the meeting, Members are invited to join the Mayor's Chaplain in the Council Chamber at 7.25pm for prayers.

A G E N D A

Grant Presentations

Public Comment (15 Minutes)

1. **MINUTES**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meetings held on 7 May (adjourned) and 14 May (reconvened) 2013.

2. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

3. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

(See attached at pages 3 to 4)

5. **CORRESPONDENCE**

6. **SOUTH SOMERSET ASSOCIATION FOR VOLUNTARY AND COMMUNITY ACTION**

A representative of South Somerset Association for Voluntary and Community Action (SSVCA) will attend the meeting and give a presentation on the work carried out by the organisation; its aims and objectives and its plans for the future.

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

8 May 2013
22 May 2013

Grounds and General Maintenance Committee

13 May 2013

Promotions and Activities Committee

20 May 2013

(as this meeting was inquorate, members are requested to formally resolve the recommendations of the Members present).

Buildings and Civic Matters Committee

23 May 2013

Policy, Resources and Finance Committee

28 May 2013

8. REPORTS AND REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Yeovil Twinning Association

14 April 2013

5 - 7

South Somerset Countryside Steering Group

16 May 2013

8 - 11

Members who represent the Town Council on Outside Bodies may wish to take the opportunity to report on any matters of interest.

Public Comment (15 Minutes)

List of Engagements attended/to be attended by His Worship The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper and the Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Mike Lock from 7 May – 2 July 2013

08/05/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper hosted a visit to the Town House by the visitors from the twinned town of Herblay, France.
09/05/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper attended the Taunton Deane Annual Meeting of the Council and Mayor Making ceremony.
10/05/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper attended the Yeovil Twinning Association Musical Event at Preston School.
11/05/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper attended Preston Road Methodist Church coffee morning.
12/05/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper attended Wimborne Minster Town Council Civic Thanksgiving Service.
13/05/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper attended Axbridge Town Council Mayor Making ceremony.
15/05/13	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Mike Lock attended Portland Town Council Mayor Making ceremony
19/05/13	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil Councillor Mike Lock attended the League One Playoffs final between Yeovil Town FC and Brentford FC at Wembley Stadium.
21/05/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper welcomed an open-top bus into Yeovil Town Centre which was transporting the players and Manager of Yeovil Town Football Club following their victory in the League One Playoffs final
21/05/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper hosted a Civic Reception at Westland's Sports and Leisure Complex to celebrate the achievements of Yeovil Town Football Club.
29/05/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend the 150 th Royal Bath & West show.
01/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend the Queen's Coronation Anniversary Celebration organised by Princes Street United Reformed Church.
02/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend Wellington Town Council Civic Service
09/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend Ilminster Town Council Civic Evening
13/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend the High Sheriff of Somerset's Garden Party
15/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend the Somerset Schools Folk Dance Festival

18/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend Yeovil College Faculty Awards Ceremony
20/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend the Yeovil College Intergenerational Project
23/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend the SSDC Fun Dog Show at Goldenstones
27/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend Preston School years 7-10 Presentation Evening
29/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend SSAFA Armed Forces Day event
29/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will attend the Royal British Legion Armed Forces Day concert
30/06/13	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Manny Roper will host the Yeovil Town Council Civic Service and Reception.

YEOVIL TWINNING ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the Committee Meeting held on Thursday 14th April 2013

Present: David Recardo (Chair), Theresa Mahoney (Vice Chair), Diana Gray (Hosting Officer), David Torrance (Secretary), Jan Aldridge., Suzanne Biddiscombe, Norma Northcott, Kathy Smyth.

Apologies: John Attwood, Roger Baker, Andy Kendall, Barrie Smallcalder (Treasurer)

Minutes: The minutes of the March meeting were agreed and signed by the Chairman.

Matters Arising:

Matters arising related to the Herblay visit and are dealt with under this heading.

Correspondence

DR had received confirmation that the Mayor would attend the YTA/Herblay concert. DR had also received confirmation that we could leave the Herblay coach in the County Council office car park.

DIT had received details of an Italian woman who was hoping to come to England to improve her English – YTA had been asked if they could help but from the responses this was not possible.

Treasurers Report

The Treasurer was not available

Visits

Herblay - Inward (Wednesday 8th - Sunday 12th May)

DR explained that the County Offices had a caretaker between 7.00am and 12.00pm and that he (DR) would have the key to the gate to enable access on Sunday 12th to enable the coach to leave early. He had been asked to confirm that the Coach would be covered by insurance etc. when parked on Council land.

DR recognised that there was a need to split the Herblay visit to Exmouth into two groups. He had not yet visited the World of County Life but they had said they would produce an itinerary. DR had some doubt as to the journey time and DIT suggested using AA Route planner to determine best time and route. TM queried whether we provide lunch and DR confirmed it would be available at the WOCL if necessary. JA suggested that hosts could provide a packed lunch.

DIT reminded Committee of the Treasurer's caution re the overall costs but it was generally felt that it was now too late to reorganise anything.

DR moved that "the YTA should provide a trip to the World of Country Life, together with lunch, for the association's guests from Herblay" seconded and carried unanimously by the Committee. The hosts will be responsible for their guests and would be asked to keep their receipts to obtain a refund from the Treasurer.

In relation to the visits to the World of Country Life it was felt that the musicians should go on Thursday with the first party so that they would be available to shadow the Preston School students of the Friday pending the concert.

DIT confirmed that three quotations for food for the Concert Night supper had been received and that these had been sent to Committee members prior to the meeting.

DR questioned whether we should spend £450.00 + on food when we could provide our own. TM pointed out that we had previously organised an “American Supper” and supplied the food ourselves. DR felt that we could perhaps make our own food arrangements during the Taunusstein visit as it was a smaller group and this would offset Herblay costs.

Quotations were: Simply Scrumptious @ £12.00 per head, South Street Centre @ £9.00 a head and Field to Fork at £9.50 a head. South Street Centre would prefer to serve the food.

The South Street quote was felt to be acceptable and members also felt that the Association should support an “in house” ie: Yeovil based, catering company.

TM queried the timescales for the concert / supper and JA suggested that the meal could be laid out in the school canteen area – felt it was difficult to use the atrium for the art display.

DR moved that “the YTA should accept the quotation from the South Street Centre to provide a buffet supper for 100 people @ £ 9.00 a head”. This was seconded and carried unanimously by the Committee.

DIT was instructed to confirm the committee’s decision and to discuss with the catering contractor the potential for disposable plates etc. due to the difficulty at the end of the concert with washing up on the premises. JA had used Preston School before and reminded the members that a cleaning charge was payable. JA also queried whether glasses would be available and DIT was asked to clarify this with the caterer.

TM felt that numbers should be finalised now – felt it was essential that all the hosting details were completed ASAP particularly the need to obtain the address and contact details of those Park School families helping with hosting. Numbers for the concert likely to be between 100 & 110 people. DIT was asked to make Preston School aware of the number of people coming to the concert.

The Herblay visit program was reviewed and it was confirmed that Saturday would be a day with the hosts. DR would go on the Thursday trip but who went on what day would have to be decided. DR felt that, if necessary, he could help people as did TM. DIT was hosting the driver and Philippe + a musician and felt he would be unable to help.

TM felt that it was now imperative that DG obtain the details of the Park School families as soon as possible. DIT to draft letter offering support to school hosting families for Theresa Gordon of Park School to approve.

DR explained that he would not be able to meet Tony Bloxham, Head of Preston School, re the concert and asked TM and DIT to do this.

DIT queried the need for the disclaimers for those YTA members who were hosting the young musician. He was asked to ensure that Philippe now included all the young musicians who were under 18.

It was agreed that as the Herblay visitors would be with us for the next scheduled meeting this would be brought forward to Monday 29th April and would be held at DR’s house.

Action: *Hosting details to be finalised-DG, Contact details for Park School hosting families required ASAP – DG: Letter offering help to Park School hosting families-DIT*

Taunusstein – Inward -19th to 24th September 2013

Dates of visit confirmed and members had been informed.

DG circulated hosting list for the Taunusstein visit.

DIT confirmed that he had asked Ingeborg for details of the two airports they were flying to.

DR suggested that DIT ask Graham Voizey to help source coaches to collect and return the visitors.

Action: *Confirm details of arrivals airports – DIT: Ideas for visits – all (outstanding);
Seek help re coaches- DIT*

Samarate - Outward (Thursday 6th - Tuesday 11th June with a hotel extension 11th – Friday 14th June)

TM had written to re Mariangela re the cost of a coach from Stresa to Malpensa as there was a need to provide transport back to the airport. The Italians are giving us a free coach from Samarate to the Airport/Stresa and have also sent a copy of the airport bus timetable. TM will book coach for return journey from Stresa to Airport.

Action: *Finalise travel arrangements etc.-TM;
Circulate pro forma re needs of YTA members so records can be updated– DIT:*

Socials/ Fund Raising

Fish & Chip Quiz evening with Thornford Twinning Association now finalised. TM updated members following on site meeting with Thornford Twinning. TM wanted more YTA table bookings. TM to confirm whether knives and forks were needed – to be provided by caterer?

DR was compiling questions. DIT had produced Joker cards and answer sheet with tick boxes. TM said that volunteers were wanted to help set up the tables etc.

NN wanted to try again with the Cheese & Wine evening. Agreed that this should take place on Sunday 30th June. DIT to notify members.

Action: *Notify members re the Cheeses & Wine evening –DIT:
Work up details of Lottery - DIT*

AOB

DIT advised that the website was not available – he had spoken to Donald Gray and the problem appears due to the fact that the renewal advice from the web provider had been sent to a now defunct email address. DG was rectifying the problem and DIT had asked that he liaise with the Treasurer to ensure payments were made in good time.

The Meeting closed in good order at 8.30pm

Members are advised that the meeting scheduled for 9th May has been brought forward

Next meeting: Monday 29th April

David Recardo's Home, 83 Lyde Road, Yeovil @ 7.00pm

David Torrance

YTA Secretary

01935873979 yeoviltwin@aol.com

South Somerset Countryside Steering Group
Minutes of meeting held on Thursday 16th May 2013 at Ham Hill Country Park

Apologies: Sue Osborne, Alan Smith for walk only

Present: Katy Menday, Josie Mills, Jon Marshman, Viv Keyte, Robin MacKay, Sylvia Seal
Dennis Pearce, Clive Hawkins, Graham Forsyth

Katy to email Alan Smith information on Bronze Age remains.

On the site visit the group walked to the war memorial to look at the proposed solar farm at Tintinhull Forts adjacent to the A303, the documents can be found at www.southsomerset.gov.uk and by typing in 13/01409/FUL into the planning search bar.

The group also looked at the current quarrying operation the Northern Spur and discussed its likely future operations.

Minutes of last meeting

All received and no amendments required

Update from Sites

Katy advised the group about Countryside Intern Oliver Edmonds finishing his 9 month contract on Friday 17 May. The group wish him all the best for the future and thank him for his hard work throughout the winter and spring.

Yeovil Country Park

- Yeovil Country Park Fayre on Monday 27 May. Planning going well and some new exhibitors attending this year.
- Human bones discovered on Wyndham Hill on Tues 7 May. The full description is below.

The remains found at the top of Wyndham Hill were reported to the countryside team by a dog walker on Tuesday lunch time. The gentlemen contacted us as he had spotted the long bones and possible human jaw bone poking out from the sandy soil on the crest of the hill. As you say the cows trampling around on the slopes had disturbed the soil and uncovered the remains, the team are very grateful that the walker contacted us as it meant that the remains could be properly inspected and handled with respect. The rangers immediately attended site to meet the dog walker to confirm the location of the bones and they were certain that they were human. The ranger team covered the bones in situ to protect them and then we contacted the Police. Rachael Whaites was the ranger attending and she said "It certainly isn't an everyday occurrence to discover human bones, I knew that they weren't from an animal like fox or badger bones as they were very distinctive and I knew we were dealing with something very important. Wyndham Hill is very important to people now for walking and as a view point so I can understand if it was a special place for our ancestors in the Bronze Age and we look forward to finding out more about the remains and the importance of Wyndham Hill from our colleagues at the County Council".

The Police carried out an investigation and lifted the visible bones and they have confirmed with us that the bones are ancient, probably Bronze Age. The remains will now be handed to the County Council Heritage Team for cataloguing and preservation. The countryside ranger team will be in touch with the County Heritage team to better understand the importance of this individual and why they were buried on Wyndham Hill.

We would like to ask everyone to please treat Wyndham Hill with respect and not dig or use metal detectors. One metal detectorist was already spotted on the hill top last weekend and their actions could jeopardise future investigations into the site.

- Friends of Yeovil Country Park Eggstravaganza in April was a huge success with nearly 600 children taking part and lots of public support for the event. The trail set up by the rangers around Ninesprings was super and hopefully families will now make a return visit to the park for a walk.
- Friends of Yeovil Country Park going again for WISH money - please collect votes and submit, the money would be used for replanting the bankside in the country park. The Friends have also submitted a bid to ITV's Peoples Millions for improved surfaces on 3km of paths around Ninesprings, the project is being called the 'Jubilee Trail'
- Update on V3 Hub, Community ranger base. A £90K bid has been submitted to Veolia and on June 14 Katy is presenting to their board with a decision expected mid July. In mid June we will hear whether our round 1 bid to the heritage lottery fund has been successful, this funds the research and development required to get us to a round 2 bid submission.

Robin raised the S.106 Barrett's agreement for Wyndham Park. Sylvia explained that a re-negotiation had taken place between SSDC and Barrett and other developers, and that discussions were on going.

Clive raised the quality of the habitat at Riverside Walk (Lyde Road end) and advised that the rough nature of the grassland with some scrub was very valuable for wildlife and we should ensure that this is retained. This was in relation to the fact that new home owners in Wyndham Park may complain at the "messy" nature of the land, but the area is valuable for wildlife and should continue to be managed as is.

Ham Hill

Katy advised that Viv Keyte has been elected as chairman of the Friends of Ham Hill and will be looking at arrangements for Ham Hill Fair and also looking at a recruitment drive for new members.

Katy advised about the Tintinhull Forts solar planning application; please see earlier note in minutes.

Jon updated on practical management on site

- Witcombe wildlife corridor (hedge) has been laid to link Horses wood and the wet woodland

- The spring flowers in Pit Wood are lovely and it is well worth a walk out to see the bluebells.
- Jo Chesworth from Bumblebee Conservation carried out a training day and land management advice for rangers, volunteers and the public.
- Sheep attack on Friday 10th May with loss of ewes and lambs. Police are involved and Katy is working with SSDC Legal to try and manage the situation with the pets at home owner whose dog killed the sheep.

Katy to email Clerk in Norton Sub Hamdon (Louise) and advise that Sylvia raised the sheep escaping from the hill issue – advise that gate being purposefully propped open.

Viv raised the fact that we are likely to get a bumper crop of nettles in Witcombe; Jon said that the cutting and treating is on the schedule for later in the spring.

Katy confirmed that nothing further forthcoming from the archaeologists in relation to the dig in the summer.

Chard

Katy advised that the new Oscar Mayer sponsored panel has been erected.

Katy advised that Minster Veterinary Surgery had approached us suggesting sponsoring a new bench for site, Katy requested money for a leaflet but they wanted to provide a dog bin. Katy to consider options. – Jon suggested funding the revamp of the bird hide.

Graham and Josie flagged up the developments coming up around Chard and the support for the reservoir that has been forthcoming locally.

Moldrums and Eastfields

Great crested newt surveys went very well on site this spring, with a population size of 25 in the top pond. The rangers hope that the population will expand into adjacent ponds. School children from Bourton school have been coming to site with the rangers to see the surveys and have thoroughly enjoyed the experience.

The land management at Eastfield continues to go well with habitat improvements in the grassland obvious in the hope that the large blue butterfly will colonise naturally.

Update on Langport Visitor Centre

The new centre tenants are now all moved in and open for business. Steve and Ruth Loveridge, Levels Basket Centre, opened on 2 May 2013. The building is now called Amphora House. www.somersetlevels.co.uk tel. 01458 259245

Delivery Plan

Circulated to all members. Please email any comments to Katy in advance of next meeting and Katy will discuss key points at each meeting.

Budget

Katy advised that at the end of 2012/13 the countryside budget came in as £16K over spent. Katy explained the main reasons for this:

1. Despite Langport Visitor Centre closing in mid November 2012 the budget stayed with countryside who had to pick up all the renovation charges that property services made to bring the building to standard for its new tenants. This was £6.5K
2. Also in Langport Katy submitted an inescapable bid for 2012/13 to cover the £2.4K cycleway licence charges, this bid was unsuccessful, yet the bills still had to be paid as part of the agreements.
3. Tree team charges at Chard were significantly higher than expected – once they started carrying out tree canopy works on dam wall and highway trees we had to complete the works as they were high risk and the final bill came in at £3.9K
4. In June 2012 the Ham Hill compound was broken into – in order to retain insurance cover for the site an entirely new alarm system had to be set up for the site costing £2.5K.
5. With an ageing fleet the cost from Lufton workshops has been increasing year on year with 2012 being particularly bad.

All of the above reasons, and an inability with such a tight budget to build in contingency, has left countryside with a significant over spend for last year.

Sylvia requested an A4 side that illustrates the key issues from last year in comparison with previous years, it should include:

Comparison of previous fleet charges

An explanation for the need for a contingency fund for high risks at Chard

The cost of vandalism response

Also make mention of:

Acreage vs. employed staff

Low human resource /volunteers

Cost/acres to manage sites

Any Other Business

None raised

Date of Next Meeting

Thursday 12th September at Chard Reservoir

Agenda Items

- Delivery plan
- Budget update

Katy to send delivery plan to all members that were unable to attend.

Stoke and Norton newsletters need the text from Friends of Ham Hill recruitment posters for next newsletter.