



Yeovil Town Council

**Town House
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The Meeting... **Grounds and General Maintenance Committee**

The Time... **7.00pm**

The Date... **Monday 4 March 2013**

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

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



Alan Tawse

Alan Tawse
Town Clerk

26 February 2013

Please contact Jessica Vale at the Town House for more information about this meeting

Grounds and General Maintenance Committee

To: All Members of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee

Martin Bailey

Peter Brock

Philip Chandler

Clive Davis (Ex-officio)

David Dollard (Vice-Chairman)

John Hann

Kaysar Hussain

Andrew Kendall

Wes Read

Manny Roper (Ex-officio)

Alan Smith (Chairman)

Jon Trevett (co-opted – non voting)

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

Race

Disability

Religion or Belief

Gender Reassignment

Sex

Marriage and Civil Partnership

Sexual Orientation

Pregnancy and Maternity

A G E N D A

PUBLIC COMMENT (15 Minutes)

1. MINUTES

To approve as a correct record the Minutes of the meeting held on 7 January 2013.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

4. CORRESPONDENCE

5. OUTDOOR GYM INITIATIVE, MILFORD PARK

To consider a report by the Community Health & Well-being Project Manager (SSDC) attached at pages 3 to 5.

6. PLAY AREA AUDIT

To consider a report from the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer (SSDC) (to follow).

7. PLAY AREAS

To consider a verbal report from the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer (SSDC)

8. PRESTON PARK PLAY AREA UPDATE

To consider a verbal report from the Senior Play and Youth Facilities Officer (SSDC).

9. OPEN SPACES REPRESENTATIVES' REPORTS

Members who are designated Open Spaces Representatives may wish to take the opportunity to report on any matters of interest.

10. REQUEST FOR DOG LITTER BIN

To consider a report by the Assistant Town Clerk attached at page 6.

11. ALLOTMENT TENANT WORKING GROUP MEETING MINUTES

To note the minutes of the Allotment Tenants Working Group meeting held on 11 February 2013 (Copies of the minutes circulated separately).

12. FINANCIAL STATEMENT – DECEMBER 2012/JANUARY 2013

To consider the Financial Statement for the period 1 December 2012 to 31 January 2013 attached at pages 7 to 12.

PUBLIC COMMENT (15 Minutes)

5. OUTDOOR GYM INITIATIVE, MILFORD PARK YEOVIL

This report is intended to consult with and update members about a proposed idea to develop and install a pilot outdoor gym initiative in Milford Park, Yeovil. The initiative will be part of the ongoing Health Inequalities Project running within Yeovil.

The Project Manager – Community Health & Well Being – will attend the meeting to present the proposals, along with the Streetscene Service Manager and the Landscape Officer who will comment on the installation and the long-term maintenance issues.

Public Interest

The Health Inequalities Programme is a multi agency project managed by South Somerset District Council (Area South Development Team). The project is designed to address the health, social and economic inequalities within the Milford & Westfield neighbourhoods of Yeovil.

Background

During 2007 South Somerset Together (SST) commissioned work to assess the health and social inequalities experienced by people living in areas of Yeovil. The report was published in January 2008 and it showed significant health and social inequalities in the wards Yeovil Central, Yeovil East and Yeovil West. In particular these wards showed higher than average levels of income support claimants, crime, numbers of lone parents, low access to cars, exclusion from school, levels of long term limiting illness and teenage pregnancies.

The target areas have high levels of anti-social behaviour. According to the Health and Social Needs in Somerset report, Yeovil Central, East and West wards are in the top five most deprived areas in South Somerset. These wards are also in the top five most deprived wards for children and young people.

These findings confirm the levels of deprivation agencies in South Somerset have been trying to tackle but the report also identified a lack of community/health facilities at a neighbourhood level. Therefore the report suggested creating 'community hubs' and provided an action plan of multi-agency work that could take place from these 'hubs' that would help to reduce the inequalities detailed in the report. Milford Hall was identified as a site for one of these 'hubs'.

The Project

Over the last year, the health inequalities programme has continued to make progress within the Central ward of Yeovil at Milford. The Community Association has continued their development work with the new Adventure play park opened in August 2012, on going education at the community garden site and continued community engagement with regards events such as the big lunch campaign, and community Food Hygiene training courses.

The Health Inequalities project has brought an energy and enthusiasm to the community that has helped develop a strong sustainable infrastructure, a good community spirit and some exciting new projects that have delivered strong examples of health, social and economic outcomes for the area. These are detailed in case studies available as part of the project programme.

The latest initiative being investigated and researched is an 'Outdoor Gym' project, proposed to be installed within the park boundaries. An outdoor gym is a gym built outside in a park, with the all-weather construction of its exercise machines somewhat modelled on playground equipment. See image below:



The proposal is that the 'Outdoor Gym' will form part of a wider development to the park with additional footpaths being installed and current footpaths being improved to establish a circular link around the outside of the current recreation ground. This will improve the access to the park and hall, increasing accessibility for wheel chair and pram usage and forming a potential additional facility of running routes linking a scheme call 3,2,1 running miles measuring markers and the fitness equipment.

The aim is to install these systems in place around the park forming a 'fitness trail' model to the programme.

Financial Implications

The full project including the new footpath installations would be in the region of £40,000 to £50,000 with the Outdoor Gym equipment costing approximately £20,000 - £30,000 (dependent on the amount of equipment purchased). Potential sources of funding for this element will be outlined at the meeting.

The footpath project would be in the region of £20,000 – this would be potentially covered by existing funding.

The Committee is **RECOMMENDED** to note the report and express their views on the matter.

*(James Divall, Community health & well-being project manager SSDC)
james.divall@southsomerset.gov.uk or tel. 01935 462703*

Background Papers: Addressing Health and Social Inequalities in Yeovil Area
South Committee Report 4th March 2009

Addressing Health and Social Inequalities in Yeovil Area
South Committee Report 7th April 2010.

Addressing Health and Social Inequalities in Yeovil Area
South Committee Report 2nd March 2011.

Addressing Health and Social Inequalities in Yeovil Area
South Committee Report 6th July 2011.

Addressing Health and Social Inequalities in Yeovil Area
South Committee Report 4th April 2012.

Addressing Health and Social Inequalities in Yeovil Area
South Committee Report 4th July 2012.

10. REQUEST FOR A DOG WASTE BIN NEAR LYDE ROAD

This report is intended to inform members of progress in providing a dog waste bin at a new location in Yeovil.

Background

On the 22nd January 2013 a member of the public contacted South Somerset District Council to request that a dog waste bin be installed at a new location in Yeovil in Lyde Road between the junctions with Meadow Road and St Johns Road. This person has experienced problems with bagged waste being put into a garden hedge and even thrown into their garden. The area was inspected by the District Council's Environmental Enforcement Officer, who confirmed that there are problems, and proposed to the Town Council that a bin in that area is desirable.

Members may note that the Town Council no longer sets aside budget allocation for new dog waste bins due to the constraints of the District Council's capacity to empty them. The following procedure for dealing with requests for dog waste bins was therefore adopted, and the budget allocation set each year (since the last financial year) is for the repair of existing bins.

*“(i) that any future requests for dog waste bins be referred to the Streetscene Manager for investigation;
(ii) that following the investigation, appropriate enforcement action be carried out by the Streetscene Manager to address the reported problem, and his findings and action be reported to the person making the request;
(iii) that, should it be deemed necessary to move an existing waste bin to resolve the problem, a recommendation to that effect be made by the Streetscene Manager to the Town Clerk, and the proposal be considered and determined in consultation with the relevant ward members;”*

Actions Arising

The Assistant Town Clerk has referred the matter to SSDC's Streetscene Team, who have advised that they will carry out patrols in the area to try to enforce the clearing-up of dog waste by dog-owners. At the same time, they will look to find a bin from elsewhere to relocate to this area. SSDC has quoted a cost of £40 for moving a dog waste bin from elsewhere.

If SSDC is unable to find a bin, the Committee has the option of considering whether to obtain a new bin, subject to confirmation from the Environmental Enforcement Officer that the waste collectors have the capacity to collect from an additional bin. SSDC have sent a quotation for the cost of a new dog bin at £232.60 plus installation costs of £20, total £252.60. We are still awaiting a reply from the Environmental Enforcement Officer as to whether the waste collectors have capacity to collect from an additional bin. Assuming that there is spare capacity, the costs of an additional bin could be met from underspends in this year's dog bin repair budget (£200) and Tenants' Newsletter Budget (£53)

The Committee is **RECOMMENDED** to note the matter and, if supported and spare capacity is identified, to agree to the costs being met from the suggested sources.

(Jessica Vale Assistant Town Clerk tel. 01935 382424)