

## YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

**MINUTES** of the meeting of the **TOWN COUNCIL** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 1 April 2014**

(7.30pm – 8.30pm)

**Present:**

Manny Roper – Mayor  
Martin Bailey  
Bridget Dollard  
David Dollard  
Tony Fife  
Jon Gleeson  
Peter Gubbins

John Hann  
Kaysar Hussain  
Andrew Kendall  
Mike Lock  
Tony Lock  
Wes Read  
Darren Shutler

**Also present:**

Alan Tawse

Town Clerk

*(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).*

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

8/430 **MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 March 2014, copies of which had been circulated, were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Mayor.

8/431 **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Kris Castle, J Vincent Chainey, Tristan Cobb, Clive Davis, Dave Greene, David Recardo and Alan Smith.

8/432 **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Mike Lock declared a personal and prejudicial interest in Agenda item 10 (Former Goldcroft Allotment Site) by virtue of his ownership of a Company that might bid to purchase the land.

8/433 **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 attached to the Agenda.

#### 8/434 **CORRESPONDENCE**

The Town Clerk reported that, in addition to the items of correspondence that had been circulated to Members by email since the last Town Council meeting, the following item had been received:

- Letter of thanks from Somerset Community Foundation for the £1,000 contribution towards the Somerset Flood Relief Fund
- International Tree Foundation Newsletter – February 2014
- Tree Council Newsletter – Spring/Summer 2014

Reference was also made to the receipt of a letter from Glastonbury Town Council that had been sent to all town and parish councils across Somerset seeking their support to oppose the proposed Hinkley C development in West Somerset.

The Clerk indicated that he had discussed the letter with the Chairman of the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee and it had been suggested that in view of the nature of the subject, the location of the proposal and its minimal impact on Yeovil, it would not be appropriate to comment. The Town Council agreed and noted the matter.

#### 8/435 **SOUTH SOMERSET TOGETHER**

Council considered the report of the Town Clerk (agenda item 6 refers).

##### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matter be noted; and
- (2) that David Dollard be appointed to represent the Town Council at the forthcoming event.

#### 8/436 **TOWN MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR**

Council considered nominations for the office of Town Mayor and Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2014/15.

It was proposed by Tony Lock, seconded by Tony Fife and

##### **RESOLVED**

that Mike Lock be nominated for the office of Town Mayor for the Municipal Year 2014/15.

It was then proposed by Tony Lock, seconded by Tony Fife and

##### **RESOLVED**

that Darren Shutler be nominated for the office of Deputy Mayor for the Municipal Year 2014/15.

Mike Lock and Darren Shutler thanked the Council for their support.

## 8/437 **REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS**

The Chairmen of the various Committees of the Council 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**

3 March 2014  
17 March 2014

### **Grounds and General Maintenance Committee**

10 March 2014

### **Promotions and Activities Committee**

11 March 2014

### **Buildings and Civic Matters Committee**

18 March 2014

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

25 March 2014

### **Minute 8/254 – New Initiatives**

### **RESOLVED**

- (1) that approval, in principle, be given to the allocation of £10,000 towards the cost of creating an outdoor gym at Milford Park, and the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee be requested to investigate ways by which the shortfall of £9,345 in the overall costs could be addressed, along with the ongoing maintenance issues;
- (2) that in view of the significant costs involved in installing and operating a Town Centre public Wi-Fi service and the wide availability of wireless broadband via internet service providers, local retailers and emerging wireless technology, no further action be taken regarding the pursuit of this possible initiative;
- (3) that the alternative approach of asking the Town Team to undertake a survey of the shops/businesses in the Town Centre which provide Wi-Fi for their customers be supported – with a view to the results being collated and made available to the public to help them identify where the service is currently available; and
- (4) that to help alleviate problems arising from the use of the Public Entertainment Area for staging Town Council events during inclement

weather, approval be given to the allocation of £735 to meet the cost of hiring a temporary marquee on three separate occasions.

**8/438 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**

24 February 2014

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

**8/439 PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

**8/440 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.

**8/441 FORMER GOLDCROFT ALLOTMENT SITE**

*(Mike Lock, having declared a personal and prejudicial interest in this item, left the meeting during its consideration and took no part in the discussion and voting thereon).*

Council considered the confidential report of the Town Clerk (Agenda item 10 refers).

The report set out further developments that had taken place regarding the disposal of the above land and the advancement of the Town Council's planning interests following the adoption of a revised strategy by the Town Council.

Details of the progress made in relation to the course of action agreed at the May 2013 meeting of the Town Council were set out in the report, along with the options available to progress the disposal of the land following the Council's successful application to obtain reserved matters approval.

The Council's Property Agent attended the meeting and gave his views on the current position, the options available and the best way forward. He also outlined a number of issues related to the disposal process.

During the ensuing discussion, Members considered the merits of the options available having regard to recent developments and the advice of the Council's Property Agent.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the recent further developments in this matter be noted; and
- (2) that the proposed actions set out in the separately circulated confidential minute relating to this matter be approved.

Mayor