

## **YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL**

**MINUTES** of a meeting of the **BUILDINGS AND CIVIC MATTERS COMMITTEE** held in the Council Chamber, Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil, on **Tuesday 22 July 2014**

(7.00pm to 8.40pm)

### **Present:**

Andrew Kendall – Chairman  
Martin Bailey  
Dave Green  
Wes Read  
Darren Shutler

### **Also Present:**

Sally Freemantle – Assistant Town Clerk  
Sergeant Rich Barnett – Avon and Somerset Constabulary

## **CHEQUE PRESENTATION**

The Chairman presented a cheque for £3,000 to Christine Buckland and Pete Nitti of Yeovil Town Band to help meet the Band's running costs. It was noted that in return, the Band performs free of charge at a number of civic and other events throughout the year, which the public were welcome to attend. Pete Nitti expressed the Band's gratitude for the sponsorship.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Peter Egan, resident of St John's Road explained to the Committee that in his opinion, vehicles were still speeding along St John's Road and cars were parking inconsiderately in areas which could cause a danger to pedestrians and other road users.

### **8/253 MINUTES**

The Minutes of the previous meetings held on 13 May and 20 May 2014, copies of which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

### **8/254 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies for absence were received from Bridget Dollard, Peter Gubbins, John Hann and Tony Lock.

### **8/255 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

8/256 **CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence.

8/257 **REPRESENTATIVE FROM AVON AND SOMERSET POLICE CONSTABULARY**

Sergeant Richard Barnett gave an overview of the forthcoming changes in resources on the Yeovil beats which would double the strength of the team in the Yeovil area. The Sergeant explained that ongoing project working included targeting problem areas and ultimately reducing requirements on other authorities. He stated that the feedback he had received from residents was that speeding vehicles were a problem in the area and this had been recently addressed by the introduction of a speed enforcement Officer on a motorbike, because the motorbike could be located in places which were not appropriate for a speed enforcement van. A PCSO had also recently been on speed detection duties and 20 summonses had been issued.

With regard to Anti-social Behaviour, victims are now treated as victims of crime. The Police have been working closely with housing associations to prevent disorder and monitor particular problem areas.

The Sergeant explained that the website [www.police.uk](http://www.police.uk) was a useful source of information for crime statistics, as well as giving the name of the Beat Manager for the area by entering the post code. He encouraged Councillors to report anything suspicious. In answer to questions, Sergeant Barnett explained that the Police does carry out enforcement in 20mph areas and serves penalty notices for use of mobile telephones by people who are driving vehicles.

The Assistant Town Clerk explained that answers had been received via email to the questions which were raised at the last meeting and referred by the PCSO to the relevant department with Avon and Somerset Constabulary. These included queries about the Police response to the consultation for pedestrian refuges along West Coker Road in Yeovil; concern about unauthorised traffic in pedestrianised areas in the Town Centre; and the authority of Police Community Speed Watch.

With regard to the pedestrian refuges along West Coker Road, it was explained that the Police did not object to the proposal, but requested that a suitable scheme to accommodate wide loads of up to 4.3m wide (sometimes running very close to the road surface) be considered. With regard to unauthorised traffic in pedestrianised areas in the Town Centre it was explained that PCSOs and District Officers can deal with this offence. With regard to the authority of Police Community Speed Watch, it was explained that the aim of Community Speed Watch (CSW) is about education and encouragement, with enforcement carried out by Officers if necessary. Sergeant Barnett added that if three letters from CSW are received, a visit by a Police Officer will follow. With regard to the calibration of the speed guns, it was explained that they go through a self-checking cycle before each use and have a certified annual calibration check.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matters be noted; and
- (2) that Sergeant Richard Barnett be thanked for his attendance at, and contribution to the meeting.

8/258 **WEST COKER ROAD**

The Committee considered the report by the Assistant Town Clerk (agenda item 6 refers) regarding the proposals for a new Puffin Crossing and Central Hatching at West Coker Road.

The Assistant Town Clerk also circulated information regarding a proposal for a Right Turn ban on Brunswick Street/Hendford; and also replacement of pedestrian crossings at A30 Hendford Hill and A3088 Lysander Road – both schemes forming part of a County Council Improvement Scheme for Horsey Roundabout and the Eastern Corridor of Yeovil. Members of the Committee had received an email from the Assistant Town Clerk regarding both of these Traffic Regulation Orders and noted that the last day to make comments or representations would be 7 August 2014.

**RESOLVED**

- (1) that the matters be noted; and
- (2) that no comments be made to the County Council.

8/259 **SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES**

The Committee considered the report and the Speed Indicator Device results (agenda item 7 refers). The Assistant Town Clerk also circulated the Speed Indicator Device results which had been received by the Town Council on 22 July 2014 for West Coker Road. The Committee requested that these be added to the agenda for the September meeting of the Committee.

The Committee noted that the Highways Authority had advised that the new signage and white lining for St John's Road would be completed within four weeks.

**RESOLVED**

that the matters be noted.

8/260 **VEHICLE COUNTER CLASSIFIER RESULTS FOR CHELSTON AVENUE**

The Committee considered the Vehicle Counter Classifier results for Chelston Avenue and the copy report and minute by the Assistant Town Clerk (agenda item 8 refers).

**RESOLVED**

that the matters be noted.

8/261 **PRESTON PLUCKNETT WAR MEMORIAL**

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

**RESOLVED**

that the matters be noted

8/262 **NEW INITIATIVES BUDGET**

The Committee considered the report by the Town Clerk (agenda item 10 refers).

**RESOLVED**

that the matters be noted

8/263 **ENHANCEMENT OF YEOVIL CCTV**

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

**RESOLVED**

(1) that the matters be noted; and

(2) that up to £9,760 be allocated to the project, with the condition that the money be spent on one off capital expenditure only.

8/264 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT – APRIL/MAY 2014**

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1 April to 31 May 2014 (agenda item 12 refers).

**RESOLVED**

that the Financial Statement be noted.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no comments from members of the public.

8/265 **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.

8/266 **CCTV MONITORING**

The Committee considered the confidential reports (agenda item 11 refers).

**RESOLVED**

that the matters be noted.

Chairman

SF  
12/8/14