



Yeovil Town Council

Town House
19 Union Street
Yeovil
Somerset
BA20 1PQ

Mayor: Cllr E Potts-Jones, Town Clerk: Amanda Card BA (Hons), CPFA, BSc (Open)
T-01935 382424, W - www.yeovil.gov.uk
E-mail Town.Clerk@yeovil.gov.uk

Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Buildings & Civic Matters Committee 25th May 2021 at 7.00pm held by video-conference using Zoom meeting software; and in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil BA20 1PQ.

Present (in person): Cllrs R Stickland (Chair); N Gage; K Gill; D Gubbins; A Kendall; T Ledlie; E Potts-Jones; D Recardo (from 7:02pm) and H Stonier.

Present (virtually): Cllr T Lock.

In Attendance (in person): A Card (Town Clerk); S Freemantle (Deputy Town Clerk).

In Attendance (virtually): Cllr A Richards (Wyndham Hill Ward)

There were no members of the public, and one member of the press present virtually.

Public Comment

The member of the press enquired whether the Town Council would be having a small ceremony to mark the 100th anniversary of the War Memorial in the Borough. The War Memorial was unveiled on 14th July 2021.

A report was requested from the police for the next meeting of this Committee.

7:00pm – *The meeting commenced.*

10/136 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

There were no apologies.

10/137 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations at this time.

10/138 MINUTES

The Committee confirmed as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings held on 16th March and 4th May 2021.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting held on 16th March and 4th May 2021 and that they be signed as a correct record.

10/139 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – FEBRUARY 2021 / MARCH 2021

Members considered the Financial Statement for the period 1st February 2021 to 31st March 2021.

RESOLVED: that the Financial Statement for the period 1st February 2021 to 31st March 2021 be approved.

10/140 CORRESPONDENCE

Members considered the correspondence requesting the Town Council to provide funding to acquire a brass plaque deemed to be of historical significance to the town. The plaque costs £250.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the correspondence; and (2) to agree (subject to verification of the plaque being genuine and agreeance that Yeovil Town Council will have ownership of the plaque) to provide the sum of £250 to acquire the plaque.

10/141 NON-DOMESTIC RATING (PUBLIC LAVATORIES) ACT 2021

Members considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding 100% relief from business rates with effect from 1st April 2020.

RESOLVED: to note the report.

10/142 PUBLIC PAYPHONE CONSULTATION

Member considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding BT's plan to remove 3 public payphones from the Parish of Yeovil, and whether the Town Council wishes to take the opportunity to adopt the payphone boxes for future locations for defibrillators. South Somerset District Council were operating the consultation and asked for responses by 11th May 2021.

Concerns were raised over potential vandalism and the glass being broken. The Town Clerk stated that if the glass was removed or broken this would not affect the defibrillator. The cabinet which housed the defibrillator was sufficiently weatherproofed, waterproofed and heated. The power was not needed to charge the defibrillator but to keep the unit heated which would preserve the life of the battery.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report; (2) that the clerk investigate the costs associated with the adoption of the phone boxes; (3) that the clerk ascertain assurances from the supplier of the defibrillators that the electricity supply would be sufficient for the defibrillator; and (4) to delegate to the Clerk in consultation with the Chair of the Committee (and feedback from the Committee) on provision of (2) and (3) the final decision on whether to adopt the phone box.

10/143 DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE

Member considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding the update of the Defibrillator project. Following her meeting with the representative of Aero Healthcare Ltd, the question was raised as to whether the defibrillator cabinet should be locked or unlocked. The Clerk

told the committee that following communication with the representative that an unlocked cabinet would reduce access time and time was of the essence to save someone's life. The London Ambulance Service had a policy that all cabinets are unlocked, and she added the statistic that of the 5,000 unlocked external cabinets in London since 2018, only 3 have gone missing.

The Clerk reminded the Committee that this project was not only to provide defibrillators but to also raise awareness. There was also scope to hold Community Training to give the public confidence in using the defibrillators.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report; (2) that the Town Clerk ascertain whether the defibrillators would be insured if the cabinets were unlocked; and (3) that the defibrillator cabinets be unlocked subject to them being insured.

10/144 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED: to exclude the press and public 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 of agenda items 10/145 – 10/146 would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 s3

7:52pm – *the member of the Press left the meeting and did not return.*

10/145 COMMEMORATIVE BENCHES (COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE)

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk (SF).

RESOLVED: (1) to the note the report; (2) to approve the locations of the VE and VJ Day Commemorative benches in St John's Churchyard; (3) to purchase the VE Day bench from David Olgilvie; (4) to purchase a bespoke VJ Day bench (following the VE Day design) changing the words to "VJ Day" and changing the date; (subject to validation from both David Olgilvie and the Royal British Legion that this design was appropriate); (5) to delegate the approval of the design of the NHS bench to be situated at Yeovil District Hospital (design to be submitted by Yeovil District Hospital) to the Clerk in consultation with the Chair of the Committee (and feedback from the Committee); (6) upon the approval of (5) to donate the money (subject to sight of a copy of an official order or receipt) to purchase the bench; (7) that the Mayor officially present the bench to Yeovil District Hospital ; and (8) to submit an update report at the next meeting of this Committee for the public domain.

10/146 PETER STREET TOILETS (CONFIDENTIAL)

Member considered the report of the Town Clerk regarding Peter Street Toilets.

RESOLVED: to the note report.

The meeting closed at 8:40 pm.

Signed:

Dated: