**Yeovil Town Council – Mission Statement**

Yeovil Town Council has adopted a set of aims and values to help it focus on the future. This vision will help members and officers develop a shared understanding of the direction in which the Authority is heading.

**Aims**

The aims of the Council are:

• To work towards securing healthy, safe and active communities in Yeovil and to enhance the quality of life of those living in, working in and visiting the Town

• To support the protection and enhancement of the environment

• To promote the economic, social and environmental well-being of Yeovil

• To continue our development as a community-based consultative and participative Council

• To work in partnership with organisations and individuals towards the achievement of these aims

**Values**

The Council believes in:

• Promoting the well-being of the Town and its people

This includes respect for people and places, creating a sense of belonging which is so vital to the well-being of all the people in Yeovil, raising awareness of environmental issues, improving the quality of the environment and encouraging an environmentally friendly ethos.

• Helping people to help themselves

The Council will help generate local ideas and responses to address local needs; the Council may trigger and nurture ideas itself but, in addition, it will help people to organise and act to sort things out for themselves.

• Involving others and working in partnership

We can only understand, learn and respond effectively to the range of problems and issues faced by local communities through partnerships and involving others in the process; in so doing, we will explore new ways or working and expect to draw on help in kind and other resources from a wide range of organisations, groups and individuals.

• Equality and fairness

Like most growing towns, Yeovil is becoming a more diverse place and we welcome the richness and variety this development brings. It is important that all citizens get equal access to the Council and are treated fairly. We will encourage everyone to participate in the decision-making process and will consider all representations made and viewpoints put forward in making decisions and acting on behalf of the community.

• Being approachable, welcoming, open and honest

The way in which we work helps to build understanding, trust and confidence in those we work with and for; whatever decisions we reach, we hope that all those involved in the process will support the approach we follow.

• Simple, common-sense approaches and solutions

Although we need to recognise the complexity of today’s issues, we must also offer value for money and be efficient so that scarce resources can be channelled to where they are most needed.