

# Yeovil Town Council Annual Report 2022/23

Amanda Card Town Clerk

2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

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# 1 Members of Yeovil Town Council - 2022/23

Evie Potts-Jones-Mayor of Yeovil Town

Andy Kendall – Deputy Mayor of Yeovil Town

**Barry Boyton** 

Jade Cabell

Nigel Gage

Karl Gill

Emma Jayne-Hopkins

Kaysar Hussain

Tony Lock

Pauline Lock

Jamie Lock

Jane Lowery

Sarah Lowery

**Graham Oakes** 

Wes Read

David Recardo

Ashley Richards

**Andy Soughton** 

Jeny Snell

Roy Spinner

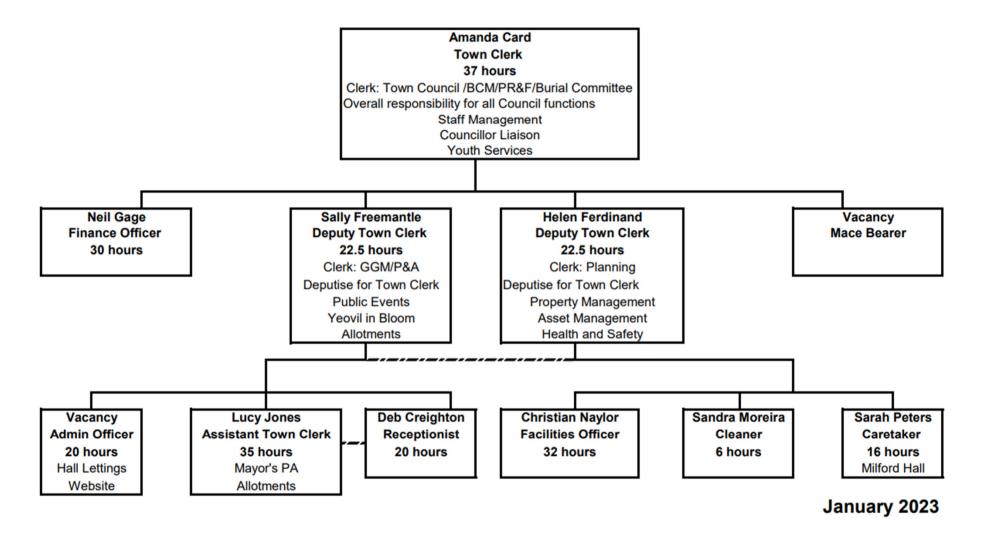
Rob Stickland

Helen Stonier

**Liam Watts** 

Dave Woan

# 2 Team Structure



# 3 Yeovil Town Council

- The Council met on nine occasions during the year. These were face to face meetings with the ability to join virtually.
- In May, we held our Annual Town Council meeting to elect the Mayor and Deputy Mayor. The meeting was reconvened later that month, where we appointed members to serve on the various Committees to the Town Council as well as outside the outside bodies on which the Council is represented. We also elected our Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen on these Committees.
- At the June meeting, the Council approved the Annual Governance Statement and the Accounting Statements for the financial year 2021/22.
- In July, the Town Council agreed to donate £5,000 to help refugees from the Ukraine in Somerset.

The resolutions and recommendations from the Committee meetings were formally ratified, due to some Town Council meetings being held informally during the COVID-19 recovery period.

• At the September meeting, Ian Timms, Yeovil Refresh Project Manager at South Somerset District Council gave an update on Yeovil Refresh. This included the work in the entertainment area, Wyndham Street, Westminster Street and the cycling and walking routes into the town centre.

We received a response from Buckingham Palace thanking the Mayor and Yeovil Town Council for sending their well wishes to Queen Elizabeth II in her Platinum Jubilee year.

 At our November meeting, Peter Lewis, CEO of Somerset NHS Foundation Trust and Yeovil District Hospital gave an update on the progress of the merger of the two Trusts (which merged on 1st April 2023) and the current NHS challenges.

Also, at this meeting the Council were informed of the conclusion of the external auditors regarding the Annual Governance and Accountability Return (AGAR) 2021/22. It was their opinion was that the AGAR had been completed in accordance with Proper Practices and no other matter had come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.

We adopted the Civility and Respect Pledge and agreed that the Town Clerk sign up to the pledge on behalf of Yeovil Town Council.

The Mayor, Cllr Evie Potts-Jones led a minute's silence as a mark of respect to the death of Her late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II.

• In December, Peter Travis, Chair of the Somerset County Council's Bus User and Stakeholder Group raised concerns about the bus service in Yeovil and requested the support of Yeovil Town Council.

Yeovil Town Council received a presentation from some representatives of Leonardo regarding Yeovil's status as "The Home of British Helicopters". We supported this status and that the official signage into Yeovil should declare the Town as being "The Home of British Helicopters".

The draft budget for 2022/23 was noted and further consideration would be given to the setting of the 2022/23 precept pending final notification from South Somerset District Council of the tax base and the Crematorium and Cemetery Committee final budget.

Yeovil Town Council appointed both the Town Clerk and the Mayor as emergency points of contacts with the Somerset Local Authorities' Civil Contingencies Unit.

- At our January meeting, we considered the setting of the 2023/24 budget. We decided to approve the Town Council's precept as £1,335,693, which resulted in an increase on a Band D charge of £2.54 per year (or 5p per week) and increase from £142.59 to £145.13.
- At the April meeting, the Risk Strategy and Risk Assessment for 2023/24 for Yeovil Town Council was approved and adopted. The Financial Regulations were reviewed and amended as appropriate with them being approved and adopted.

Cllr Evie Potts-Jones, Chair of Yeovil Town Council 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

# 4 Planning Committee

The Planning Committee met on 11 occasions during the 2022/23 year.

Numerous applications have continued to be submitted throughout the year and passed to the Town Council for comment. As well as the standard 'full' and 'outline' applications, other proposals for advertisements, works to listed buildings, works to protected trees, and proposed changes of use to land and buildings have also been considered. The Town Council is a consultee in the planning application process and Somerset Council, as the Local Planning Authority, takes the final decision. The final decisions taken by the Local Planning Authority are reported back to the Committee.

There continues to be a wide variety of proposed development to be considered by the Committee. As always, numerous minor domestic extensions have been dealt with (which need to be considered carefully in terms of their potential impact on the occupiers of neighbouring properties and the street scene), as well as larger scale residential and commercial developments which can have a significant impact on the Town as a whole.

One application in particular has attracted considerable interest since August 2021. The proposal (application 21/02466/COU) by Bournemouth Churches Housing Association was to change the use of Acacia Lodge, 166 Hendford Hill from a care home to accommodation for people experiencing homelessness. A large number of concerns were raised, especially by local residents. After listening to the issues raised, the Committee on behalf of the Town Council raised objections to the proposal. The application was eventually considered by the then South Somerset District Council (SSDC) and refused, and the building has now re-opened as a residential care home.

There have been a few other notable applications considered by the Committee during the past year. In November 2022, the Committee considered the proposals to renovate and extend the Octagon Theatre in Yeovil (application 22/02486/FUL). The application was welcomed by the Committee, but a few concerns were raised. The application was then permitted by SSDC in March 2023. Another important application was for the provision of an additional theatre at Yeovil District Hospital (application 23/00399/FUL). The application was supported by the Committee, and subsequently permitted by SSDC.

The redevelopment of the Yeovil College Site on the Mudford Road is a large development comprising the demolition of some existing college buildings and the construction of new buildings for educational purposes, together with the rearrangement of the whole site in general. The Committee was first briefed on

the initial plans in November 2022 when various questions and issues were raised including the traffic management on and off the site, parking provision, and measures to reduce the carbon footprint of the site. The formal application (23/00513/FUL) for the development was then considered at the March 2023 meeting where the Committee supported the proposals, subject to satisfactory proposals for the movement of buses, and the provision of adequate vehicle charging points. The application remains to be determined by Somerset Council.

Whilst the vast majority of planning applications are approved, a small number are refused each year, and the Town Council plays a role in supporting the Local Planning Authority in providing a case to resist inappropriate and unacceptable development when necessary.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff for their commitment and hard work in putting together the agendas and presentations for each meeting throughout the year.

Jeny Snell, Chair of the Planning Committee 2nd May 2023

# 5 Grounds and General Maintenance Committee

The Committee met on six occasions during the year.

# **Play Areas**

The Committee manages 16 play areas across Yeovil and receives regular reports regarding inspection and maintenance.

Partnership working with Somerset Council (formerly South Somerset District Council) continues in line with the 5-year investment plan of improvement to the Town's play and youth facilities. Working Parties were formed to review provision of equipment at Milford and Yew Tree skate parks and the renewal of Yew Tree skate park has recently been completed. The new facility is well designed and is proving very popular, being used by a wide range of the community. Plans to install a play area at Arnewood Park Gardens are still progressing.

#### **Youth Facilities**

The free Open Access Holiday Activities Programme for young people has been highly successful – this was made possible by funding from Yeovil Town Council, South Somerset District Council and Abri Housing Group. The overriding aim has been to provide stimulating things to do and places to go for young people during the school holiday periods. This year the activities included dodgeball and archery, recycling and seasonal themed crafts, roller disco, super skills rugby, reptile fun, felt craft and circus skills. The numbers of young people attending the activities continue to be excellent and the feedback has been very positive. The programme is provided in Milford, Westfield and Yew Tree Park, enabling children and young people across Yeovil access to these exciting opportunities in the school holidays.

#### **Allotments**

The Council's pro-active and flexible approach to allotment management continues to help achieve a thriving allotment community, and the active promotion of vacant allotments, including a targeted publicity drive has improved the level of allotment lettings across the Town's 11 allotment sites, many with waiting lists. The varied benefits of allotment gardening are explained in the publicity of the vacancies which includes advertising on Facebook, in the press and posters in the community. Residents outside as well as within the parish of Yeovil are currently eligible to have the opportunity to take a tenancy of a Yeovil Town Council allotment.

Each allotment site is encouraged to have a nominated Tenants' Representative. These representatives feedback allotment issues to the Town Council which have been raised by their fellow tenants and where necessary they are forwarded to the Committee for their consideration.

The income raised from allotment rents helps to meet the costs of maintaining the Town's allotment sites, and any annual rent increase means that the budgeted income represents an acceptable percentage of the overall costs, whilst also continuing to ensure a fair and sustainable approach to their future provision. A mains water charge now re-charges the cost of mains water used by tenants on a site-by-site basis. This will mean that tenants will be paying for the water actually used, whilst encouraging more environmentally friendly ways of collecting and recycling rainwater thereby reducing the dependency on mains water. This approach is in line with the Council's values of raising awareness of environmental issues, improving the quality of the environment and encouraging an environmentally friendly ethos in line with the Climate Control Policy.

An Allotment Maintenance Working Party continues to review the Allotment Tenancy agreements in line with Town Council policies and legislation. The group also assists in addressing relevant issues and one of the members has recently been appointed as a representative on the Yeovil Allotment Association meeting to improve two-way communication between the association members and the Town Council.

Yeovil Town Council continues to contract a local contractor for general allotment site maintenance who has proven to be extremely efficient.

The hard work of the allotment tenants does not go unnoticed, and appreciation is rewarded for those whose outstanding efforts impress the most. The Best Kept Allotment Competition is judged every year in both summer and winter and the winner and runner up of each of the eight categories were awarded prizes at a presentation evening in October. The judges all agreed that the general standard of the allotment plots continues to improve and the vibrant community spirit is apparent on the allotment sites.

#### **Greenspace Areas**

The Committee has continued to fund the maintenance of an extensive number of areas of amenity and open spaces in the Town – including our Green Flag Award winning Yeovil Country Park. This ensures that local communities have ongoing access to public areas of green space close to where they live. Organised monitoring and review arrangements have taken place to identify issues affecting open spaces across the town.

Repairs were made to the trackway at Sunningdale Doorstep Green to ensure that access is maintained through this green space area, connecting residential parts of the town on either side of the allotment site.

The Committee is supportive of the Countryside team's (Somerset Council) ongoing work at Yeovil Country Park. The team, including volunteers, reaches out to a wide variety of community groups and their work has been vital, especially as the significance of greenspace has become so precious for wellbeing and continues to

provide a place where people can socialise in the fresh air. The Ninesprings Café, Education and Information Centre, which the Town Council helped to fund, is an invaluable resource, both in terms of an excellent facility for communication and marketing, and a lovely meeting point for social and educational purposes.

The Committee continued to work with Streetscene services to monitor the provision and use of dog waste bins allocated throughout Yeovil Town, responding as appropriate to suggestions from the community regarding prevention of fouling. A presentation was received by the Team Leader Landscaping and Small Works (Somerset Council) regarding the future of waste bins in the town which would provide larger capacity for waste, reducing the number of emptying rounds and freeing up capacity for street cleaning.

A close working relationship with Somerset Council (formerly South Somerset District Council) has continued, with the Service Level Agreement as a foundation document for streamlining services and setting out the best way to progress with joint future initiatives.

Royston Spinner, Chair of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee 2nd May 2023

# 6 Promotions and Activities Committee

The Committee met on six occasions during the year.

#### **Eat: Festival**

During this municipal year, three events had been commission by Eat:Festivals:

- Super Saturday (Cancelled due to the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II);
- Christmas Eat: Festival (10<sup>th</sup> December 2022); and
- Town Criers (22<sup>nd</sup> April 2023)

Feedback had been received stating that the events had been well organised, encouraging footfall figures, good atmosphere and those who attended enjoyed the events.

#### **Queens Platinum Jubilee**

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee event took place on Friday 3rd June at Yeovil Recreation Ground, 12 noon until 10pm. A huge amount of additional work had gone into the preparation for the day and the commitment of staff leading up to, during and after the event was outstanding. The adherence of the conditions of the license were of paramount importance and the team worked well with contracted security and built-up strong relationships with contractors to ensure that the event was safe and ran smoothly. It was a long and exhausting day, yet hugely successful. It was agreed that a 2-day event take place in May 2023 and that there would be an expectation that everyone within the Council would need to be involved before, during and after the event. Thanks were extended to those Councillors who worked very hard in setting up, on the event day, and clearing up the day after.

The lighting of the beacon at St Johns Church took place on Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> June and was contracted to Love Yeovil to deliver. It was agreed by those who had attended that it was a lovely event.

#### Yeovil in Bloom

Yeovil in Bloom won a Gold award in South West in Bloom. All the "It's Your Neighbourhood" entrants did exceptionally well and the following groups received the highest grading of 5\* Outstanding:

- Able to Achieve
- Kenmore Gardeners
- The Brookie Bridge Community Project
- Yeovil Rivers Community Trust
- Yeovil District Hospital Gardens

Wyndham Park Community Association

The Yeovil in Bloom gardening competition had been judged, including front and back gardens; and shop fronts. An awards ceremony was held one evening at Milford Hall. It was very well attended.

The town and St John's Churchyard looked lovely with all the floral displays.

# **Christmas Lights**

Due to Yeovil Refresh the Christmas Light displays were reduced for Christmas. The Light Switch on was ran by Radio Ninesprings.

The Lighting Scheme for 2023 was due to be changed with the tender process commencing in January. However, in light of the Yeovil Refresh work and not only the likelihood of the works being incomplete for the Switch on event but also the difficulties in producing a specification, it was agreed to extend the current lighting scheme for another year.

#### Yeovil Super Saturday 2022

The event had to be postponed until December, due to the death of Her Late Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. The event included Eat:Festivals, traditional funfair games, a walkabout act, Buskfest, local performances, Punch and Judy, Town Crier 'Give it go' and local community stalls. There were some restrictions on the areas of the town available for use this year due to Yeovil Refresh.

The event, although cold was very well received.

#### **Town Criers**

Our longstanding Town Crier retired during the year. We have been unsuccessful in recruiting a new Town Crier. We had a "Give it a go" at Super Saturday.

Unfortunately, the Town Crier's Competition was cancelled due to low uptake by competitors and also the complications of the Yeovil Refresh work in the Borough.

# **Yeovil Together**

The Council financially supported the Yeovil Together Event. It was an extraordinarily successful day, with the public taking part in activities that the various communities ran.

#### **Yeovil Art Space**

The Committee agreed a Service Level Agreement with Yeovil Art Space with the aim of achieving the following aspects:

creativity as a social tool for making impact;

- connecting the public/community through creativity and development of change;
- outreach to audiences with hard hitting messages; and
- adding value to existing events

The core funding provides more than just resource to achieve these aspects, but also serves as accreditation by the Town Council to support Yeovil Art Space in applications and funding bids for valuable projects such as "The Story of Yeovil" and the aspiration to create an Arts, Culture and Heritage centre in the town centre. Collaboration with the community would be hugely important in the process and Yeovil Art Space had been working extremely hard to connect with as many agencies and community groups as possible to ensure that the projects delivered meet the correct needs and fit in with the wider strategy for Yeovil. The strong relationships created will be developed alongside the projects which will take advantage of the opportunities presented during the transition of the town centre and the Octagon Theatre.

Sarah Lowery, Chair of the Promotions and Activities Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

# 7 Buildings and Civic Matters Committee

The Committee met on five occasions during the year.

## **Defibrillators**

The Council are now the guardian of 10 defibrillators in the parish of Yeovil:

- 1. Nationwide Yeovil Branch, Middle Street (available 24/7)
- 2. Cow & Apple, Church Street (available 24/7)
- 3. Ninesprings Café, Brunswick Street (Yeovil Country Park) (available 24/7)
- 4. St Andrew's Scout Group, Preston Grove (available 24/7)
- 5. St Peter's Community Centre, Westfield (available 24/7)
- 6. Dunelm, Quedam Shopping Centre (available 24/7)
- 7. Birchfield Community Centre, Birchfield (available 24/7)
- 8. The Quicksilver Mail, Hendford Hill (available 24/7)
- 9. Milford Hall, Milford Park (available 24/7)
- 10. Town House, Union Street (limited availability office hours).

It has been agreed that the next two locations will be Holy Trinity Church (partially funded by the church) and a location within the Southville area of Yeovil.

The Town Council register the defibrillators with the Circuit: <a href="https://www.thecircuit.uk">https://www.thecircuit.uk</a> (which indicates when the defibrillator has been used or when it needs attention) and HeartSafe: <a href="https://www.heartsafe.org.uk/aed-locations/">https://www.heartsafe.org.uk/aed-locations/</a> (which indicates where registered defibrillators are located). Locations could be registered regardless of whether they are 24/7 or limited availability.

#### **Police**

We heard about the changes in the Neighbourhood team with Neighbourhood Inspector Rachel Clark and Neighbourhood Sergeant Dan Crawford. They attended two meetings and explained the issues in Yeovil. They stressed that all issues should be reported (f it is an emergency then use 999 and non-emergency 101 or online), as the data highlights the priorities and where to direct resources.

#### **Yeovil Crime Reduction Team**

Gareth Williams, the Co-ordinator from Yeovil Crime Reduction Team attended a meeting and explained the remit of his organisation. They operated Shop Watch, Pub Watch, Radio link and dealt with issues within the Town Centre. They work very closely with Bridgwater CCTV. The scope of their work is growing due to the lack of resources of the Police. He explained that they were a self-funded organisation. As part of his role, he undertook to help change people's lives and looked to sign post individuals to

the help that was available. He felt that this was very important as the courts always questioned what interventions have taken place before court action.

#### **Toilets**

The Town Council continue to maintain the toilets at Petters Way and Peter Street.

#### **Town House**

The Committee agreed to replace both existing gas boilers in the Town House and install a single new and more efficient gas boiler with a control system (which would zone Town House at different temperatures giving more control of the whole heating system). This should result in greater efficiency and lower costs. The water heater located in the roof space had sprung a leak and had run down into the Mayor's Parlour where the carpet had become water-logged. The system has been drained and will be removed. This is to be included in the works to replace the boiler. The carpet in the Mayor's Parlour was dried and there was no lasting damage. Whilst this work was being scoped, an issue relating to the external wall was identified. A structural survey had been carried out and the relevant work to remedy the situation has been identified and is due to take place soon.

Solar Panels were considered for Town House, but after seeking pre-application advice, the Conservation Specialist stated that an objection would be raised as the building was listed and in a conservation area.

The Committee discussed the potential of letting the offices in the Ante Chamber.

#### Milford Hall

Solar Panels were considered for Milford Hall as they would make significant energy savings. Permission has been sought and given by South Somerset District Council to install solar panels (as the building is on a long-lease from South Somerset District Council). Now that this permission has been granted, the necessary planning application can be prepared and submitted.

The main hall lights were replaced with LED lights which will reduce electricity expenditure. The remaining lights will also be replaced with LED fittings soon.

The Family Time Service (part of Children Services at Somerset Council) is now leasing the sub hall and meeting room as their base in South Somerset.

#### Millennium Clock

During the year, the millennium clock had been cleaned professionally and serviced. Currently, the clock is not working as there is an issue with the electrical supply which has occurred due to the Yeovil Refresh work.

#### **Notice Boards**

A notice board had gone missing at Larkhill and it was agreed to replace this.

An audit of all other notice boards was carried out. Based on their condition, it was agreed in principle that that they would be replaced and it was hoped that buying in bulk would encourage some favourable discounts.

The location of the notice board at Town House was also discussed. It was felt that the current location created safety issues both in terms of obstructing views on exit of the car park, but also concealed some anti-social activities.

# **Remembrance Sunday**

A meeting between the Town Council and the Royal British Legion took place to ensure a smooth running of the parade and service in 2023. Work being carried out in the Borough as part of Yeovil Refresh may impact on Remembrance Sunday, so consideration would have to be given to the logistics of the parade and service for 2023.

#### **Mace Bearer**

Our longstanding Mace Bearer retired during the year. The Committee thanked the outgoing Mace Bearer for all he had done for the Council. We have been through a recruitment process and the new Mace Bearer is due to start in mid-May.

## Somerset Bus Partnership

The Committee discussed their support to the Somerset Bus Partnership to help improve the bus services in Yeovil. This included writing to various Government ministers to continue with COVID Recovery Grant (Bus Service Operator Grant) had been extended until June 2023 as had the £2 maximum fare scheme.

Cllr Rob Stickland, Chair of Buildings and Civic Matters Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023

# 8 Policy, Resources and Finance Committee

The Committee met on six occasions during the year.

# **Grants and Service Level Agreements**

The Policy, Resources and Finance Committee considered four grant applications in accordance with our Small Grant Assistance to Local Organisation policy and made awards for £8,400 to 7 local organisations.

Organisation	Purpose of Grant Application	Amount
		awarded
Yeovil Arts Group	Support to a group of local artists who	£500
	meet, acquire skills and socialise	
We Hear You	Counselling for Yeovil residents giving	£1,000
	emotional support to patients, families,	
	friends and carers who have been touched	
	by cancer or any other life-threatening	
	illness	
Yeovil Opportunity Group	Financial support to enhance the	£2,500
	development and education of children, in	
	particular those with additional needs by	
	offering appropriate play, education and	
	care facilities.	
Home-Start Blackmore	Pilot project in Yeovil to support families	£1,000
Vale	(with a child under 5 years old), going	
	through a difficult time in their lives.	
Good Fellowship Club	To provide a weekly meeting space with	£2,000
	activities for the senior citizens in Yeovil, in	
	order to improve their quality of life through	
	regular social contact.	
1032 (Yeovil) Squadron	Towards the cost of a gazebo	£500
Royal Air Force Cadets		
Westfield Community	Towards the cost of the Coronation	£400
Association	(Avenue) Street Party	

Yeovil Town Council contributed £5,000 to "Somerset Supports the Ukraine", towards supporting displaced people from the Ukraine.

The Service Level Agreement with The Octagon Theatre towards the provision of the annual Octagon Theatre School that caters for young people between the ages of 7 and 16 years old was extended for the value of £1,000.

#### **Policies**

The Policy, Resources and Finance Committee have agreed that unless a change was required due to legal requirements, recommended changes in practices or change in internal operations, that policies would not need to be reviewed every year. They agreed that those policies that were either new or had a major policy revision would be reviewed one year after its effective date, and thereafter no less that every five years.

The following policies were approved and adopted:

Policy	New	Reviewed
Financial Regulations		✓
Public Participation	✓	
Risk Strategy and Risk Assessment		✓
Civility and Respect Pledge	✓	

The Policy, Resources and Finance Committee have agreed that unless a change was required due to legal requirements, recommended changes in practices or change in internal operations, that policies would not need to be reviewed every year. They agreed that those policies that were either new or had a major policy revision would be reviewed one year after its effective date, and thereafter no less that every five years.

# Youth Services in Yeovil

The partnership between the YMCA Brunel Group and Yeovil Town Council continues to deliver a successful Youth Provision in Yeovil. This includes the running of two youth clubs in Yeovil - Milford Hall and Yeovil Recreation Centre as well as a detached and outreach service.

Yeovil Town Council entered into a 3-year Service Level Agreement which financially supported St Peter's Community Church for youth services in the Westfield area of Yeovil, including a weekly open access youth drop-in, detached youth work and one-to-one engagement with young people.

## Statement of Accounts and Revenue Budget Outturn Report for 2021/22

The Statement of Accounts and Revenue Budget Outturn Report for 2021/22 were approved. There was an underspend of £178,482 for 2021/22 (£156,415 for 2020/21). As at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022, the earmarked reserves (reserves set aside for specific purposes) totalled £331,502 (compared to £200,594 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021) and the unallocated general fund balance was £860,189 (compared to £744,615 as at 31<sup>st</sup> March 2021).

# **Civility and Respect**

We signed up to the Civility and Respect Pledge, demonstrating that our council is committed to treating Councillors, clerks, employees, members of the public, representatives of partner organisations, and volunteers, with civility and respect in their role. As part of this pledge, Yeovil Town Council are committed to an on-going training programme for both Councillors and employees, and e-learning modules are in place for this to happen.

# **Local Community Networks (LCNs)**

We responded to the LCN consultation on behalf of the Council, where the Committee considered 3 models that best represented how an LCN should look graphically. We highlighted our preferred models. We suggested of 3 other parishes Northeast of Yeovil to be included within the LCN which incorporated Yeovil. As a result of our response, Yeovilton and Ilchester have now been included.

#### **Climate Control Action Plan**

We have been busy making progress on our Climate Control Action Plan. Consideration for the environment is given on all aspects of work that Yeovil Town Council is involved with.

#### **Staff**

I would like to thank Officers on behalf of all the Councillors for their work over the past year and recognise that all the staff have worked very hard to keep the Council functioning during very difficult times.

Cllr Graham Oakes, Chair of Policy, Resources and Finance Committee 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2023