



# Yeovil Town Council

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**Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Buildings & Civic Matters Committee 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 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); T Casey; K Gill; A Kendall; T Lock; J Lowery; E Potts-Jones; W Read; A Richards; A Soughton and H Stonier.

**In Attendance (in person):** Cllr K Fieldsend (Yeovil Summerlands Ward); A Wilkes (Abbey Manor South Ward); A Card (Town Clerk); and L Ryder (Deputy Town Clerk).

There was one member of the press present virtually.

## **Public Comment**

The Police were not in attendance and the Chair stated that any queries relating to the police should be passed to the Town Clerk.

The member of the press spoke in support of the pedestrian crossing request at Kingston/Higher Kingston (Agenda Item 11/170).

*7:05pm – The meeting commenced.*

## **11/164 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN**

There were no apologies.

*\*Legislation requires that Councillors need to be physically present at the meeting to be shown as present. If a Councillor is unable to attend in person but can attend virtually, then apologies for absence should be given.*

## **11/165 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations at this time.

## **11/166 MINUTES**

The Committee confirmed as a correct record the Minutes of the meetings held on 19<sup>th</sup> March 2024.

**RESOLVED:** that the Minutes of the meetings held on 19th March 2024 be signed by the Chair as a correct record.

**11/167     FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – FEBRUARY 2024 / MARCH 2024**

Members considered the Financial Statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

**RESOLVED:** that the Financial Statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> February 2024 to 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024.

**11/168     DEFIBRILLATOR UPDATE**

The Town Clerk announced that the 14<sup>th</sup> defibrillator situated at Progress Gym on the Lynx Trading Estate has now been installed and is now live. The defibrillators have now been accessed 50 times.

**RESOLVED:** to note the report.

**11/169     SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE REQUESTS**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk (SF) regarding the requests for Speed Indicator Devices (SIDs) at St Michael's Avenue and Stiby Road. The Community Speed Watch was discussed as a mechanism which could be beneficial to reduce speeding in the community.

Concerns were raised with the request for a SID on St Michael's Avenue as that particular location would not be practical for the installation of a SID.

Several members spoke on behalf of the SID on Stiby Road (near the Westfield Grove junction). They spoke of the importance such an installation would have on the community.

**RESOLVED: (1)** to note the report; (2) that no action be taken regarding an installation of the SID on St Michael's Avenue; and (3) that further investigation be carried out regarding the feasibility of the SID on Stiby Road, and a report be submitted to a future meeting of this Committee.

**11/170     PEDESTRIAN CROSSING REQUEST AT KINGSTON/HIGHER KINGSTON**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk (HF) regarding the request for a pedestrian crossing at Kingston/Higher Kingston.

Discussions were held on the concerns of the location suggested in regard to safety. Councillors highlighted that the underpass was the safest route (albeit a short distance away) as it did not interfere with the traffic. Councillors felt that pedestrians should be dissuaded from crossing this very busy road.

Discussions took place regarding the action to take in light of the request. They felt they could not support the request but the situation raised concerns.

The Town Clerk highlighted that the guidance on Somerset Council's website (as the Highway Authority) stated that "If you would like to request a pedestrian crossing, you should contact the appropriate parish council. They will contact the Area Highways Office on your behalf if they support your request". She pointed out that although the Councillors did not support the request, they could highlight their concerns to the Area Highways Office.

**RESOLVED:** (1) to note the report; (2) that the committee do not support the request for a pedestrian crossing at Kingston/ Higher Kingston; (3) that the request is forwarded to the Area Highways Office, stating that the Town Council do not support it, but they do have concerns about the safety of people crossing the road at that location, and request that the Area Highways Office investigate how to ensure the safety of pedestrians, such as dissuading crossing at that point or devising an alternative scheme to allow safe crossing at that location.

#### **11/171 URGENT BUSINESS: MILFORD HALL HVAC SYSTEM**

The Committee considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk (HF). In accordance with Standing Orders, paragraph 4d (xiv) 'Urgent Business', it was agreed that the fan and inverters boards of the heating and ventilation system at Milford Hall be replaced.

**RESOLVED:** to note the report.

*7:46pm – Cllr W Read left the room.*

*7:47pm – Cllr W Read returned to the meeting.*

#### **11/172 SOMERSET COUNCIL LICENSING UPDATE**

Cllr T Lock gave a verbal update on licensing at Somerset Council in particular the hackney carriage ranks in Yeovil. Further information can be found on the agenda and minutes of the Somerset Council Licensing and Regulatory Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> February 2024, which can be found following this link : [Agenda for Licensing and Regulatory Committee on Thursday, 15th February, 2024, 2.00 pm - Modern Council \(somerset.gov.uk\)](#).

**RESOLVED:** to note the verbal report.

#### **11/173 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 11/158 to 11/159 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

7:59pm – *The member of the press left the meeting and did not return..*

**11/174    CCTV INVOICE AND UPDATE (CONFIDENTIAL)**

Members considered the report of the Deputy Town Clerk (HF) regarding the invoice for CCTV from Somerset Council for 2023/24.

**RESOLVED:** (1) to note the report; and (2) to agree that the invoice for 2023/24 should not be paid.

The meeting closed at 8:09pm.

Signed: .....

Dated: .....