



# Yeovil Town Council

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**Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Promotions and Activities Committee held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2021 at 7.00pm held by video-conference using Zoom meeting software; and in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil BA20 1PQ.**

**Committee Members Present (in person):** Cllrs S Lowery (Chair); A Kendall; E Potts-Jones and W Read.

**Committee Members Present (virtually):** Cllr J Dash; T Ledlie and D Recardo.

**Also Present (virtually):** Cllrs K Gill (Yeovil College Ward); T Lock (Yeovil Lyde Ward) and A Richards (Wyndham Hill Ward); Mrs B Milner Simonds (eat:festivals) and Mr J Tovey (Quedam Centre Manager).

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

**Public Comment.** There were no members of the public, and one member of the press present virtually. There were no comments.

**7.00pm – Meeting Commenced**

## **10/131. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN**

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr J Lowery (conflicting engagement) and H Stonier (conflicting engagement).

## **10/132. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **10/133. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The Committee approved as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021.

**RESOLVED:** That the Minutes of the meeting of the Promotions and Activities Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

**10/134. EAT:FESTIVALS CHRISTMAS 2021**

The Deputy Town Clerk explained that eat:festivals had been in contact with the Quedam Centre Manager to enquire about holding the Christmas eat:festivals in the Quedam due to the potential and unknown temporary disruption in the town centre while the works on Yeovil Refresh are carried out. The committee was asked to consider this proposal. It was explained that the location that eat:festivals used in the summer (St John's Churchyard) would not be suitable during the winter as the vehicles and footfall could damage the grass. Bev Milner Simonds from eat:festivals and James Tovey, Quedam Centre Manager both agreed that they could arrange for the event to take place in the Quedam. The committee supported the proposal.

**RESOLVED:** that the Christmas eat:festivals event take place in the Quedam, either in part or completely, depending on availability of other space in Yeovil Town Centre.

*7.08pm – James Tovey left the meeting and did not return.*

**10/135. EAT:FESTIVALS PROPOSED DATES 2022**

The committee considered the proposed dates for eat:festivals events in Yeovil town centre in 2022, as set out in the agenda, subject to agreement of funding.

**RESOLVED:** 1) that the proposed dates for the eat:festivals events in Yeovil town centre of 23<sup>rd</sup> April, 17<sup>th</sup> September and 10<sup>th</sup> December be agreed in principle subject to funding approval (10/144).

*7.11pm – Bev Milner Simonds left the meeting and did not return.*

**10/136. QUEEN'S JUBILEE 2022: EVENT**

The Vice Chairman of the Queen's Jubilee Working Group explained that the group had met again and that work was in progress on the preparations for the event.

**RESOLVED:** that the update be noted.

**10/137. YEOVIL IN BLOOM**

The Committee considered the minutes of the Yeovil in Bloom Steering Groups held on 13<sup>th</sup> July and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021. The Deputy Town Clerk drew members attention to the request that Natasha Rand from Yeovil Art Space/Yeovil Arts Action Group be invited to a future meeting of the Town Council to give a presentation about the community work of Yeovil Arts Action Group.

Cllr D Recardo (Vice Chairman of Yeovil in Bloom) explained that the Yeovil in Bloom Gardening Competition awards were due to be handed out from a dedicated stall at Super Saturday, but that the stall unfortunately would now not be at Super Saturday. An award event would be arranged instead.

**RESOLVED:** 1) that the minutes of the Yeovil in Bloom Steering Group meetings held on 13<sup>th</sup> July and 6<sup>th</sup> September 2021 be noted; 2) that Natasha Rand from Yeovil Art Space/Yeovil Arts Action Group be invited to a future meeting of the Town Council to give a presentation about the community work of Yeovil Arts Action Group; and 3) to note that a prizegiving event would be arranged for the award winners of the Yeovil in Bloom gardening competition.

#### **10/138. NEW INITIATIVE PROPOSAL: PLAQUES AROUND TOWN**

Cllr K Gill presented his proposal for historic plaques around the town which would be accompanied by a web-based information trail which could be accessed by scanning QR codes at relevant sites of historical interest. The committee were keen to find out more about the feasibility of the initiative and potential costs.

**RESOLVED:** 1) that Cllr K Gill investigate the feasibility of the historic plaque trail and ascertain costings; and 2) that the matter be referred to a future meeting of the Promotions and Activities Committee.

#### **10/139. TOWN GUIDE**

The Deputy Town Clerk explained that the publisher of the Town Guide had made some suggestions regarding the frequency of publication of the guide and incentives for new independent businesses to advertise. Support from the Promotions and Activities Committee was sought to publish the Town Guide annually, and for the Council to support a promotional incentive for new independent businesses to be given an introductory promotional rate.

**RESOLVED:** 1) that the suggestions be noted; 2) that no change be made at this stage to the frequency of publication of the Town Guide; and 3) that any introductory promotional incentive offered to new independent businesses be offered by the publisher.

#### **10/140. SUPER SATURDAY**

The Committee considered a verbal report by the Deputy Town Clerk and fliers were distributed to members present. It was explained that the flier, containing a map of the event, was also available on the Super Saturday Facebook page. The Deputy Town Clerk thanked Councillors who had volunteered to help out on the day.

**RESOLVED:** that the arrangements for Super Saturday on 18<sup>th</sup> September 2021 be noted.

**10/141. YEOVIL ART & HERITAGE WORKING GROUP**

The Committee considered a verbal report by the Deputy Town Clerk who explained the background of the group and that she had been invited to be a member of the Working Group on behalf of Yeovil Town Council.

**RESOLVED:** 1) that the report about Yeovil Art & Heritage Working Group be noted; and 2) that it be approved that the Deputy Town Clerk accept the invitation to become a member of the Yeovil Art & Heritage Working Group on behalf of Yeovil Town Council.

**10/142. FINANCIAL STATEMENT – JUNE AND JULY 2021**

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021.

**RESOLVED:** that the Financial Statement for the period 1<sup>st</sup> June to 31<sup>st</sup> July 2021 be approved.

**Public Comment.** Steve Sowden (Yeovil Press) explained that he is a member of the Yeovil Art & Heritage Working Group and felt that it would be useful for the group to be made aware of the initiative suggested by Cllr K Gill about historic plaques around the town.

*8.15pm – The member of the press left the meeting and did not return.*

**10/143. 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 10/117 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

**10/144. EAT:FESTIVALS PROPOSED DATES 2022 (CONFIDENTIAL)**

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk.

**RESOLVED:** 1) that the report be noted; and 2) that eat:festivals be contracted for the proposed dates in 2022 in accordance with the costs quoted; and 3) that the matter be referred to the Policy Resources and Finance Committee to request the funding required.

The meeting closed at 8.06pm.

Signed: ..... (Chairman)

Date: .....