



Yeovil Town Council

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Mayor: Cllr E Potts-Jones, Town Clerk: Amanda Card BA (Hons), CPFA, BSc (Open)
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Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee held on Monday 10th January 2022 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 R Spinner (Chair); A Kendall; E Potts-Jones and A Richards.

Committee Members Present (virtually): Cllrs G Hunting; P Lock and A Soughton.

Councillors Also Present (virtually): Cllrs T Lock (Yeovil Lyde Ward) and G Oakes (Yeovil Lyde Ward) (from 7.36pm).

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

Public Comment. There were no members of the public or press present.

7.00pm – Meeting Commenced.

10/172. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr T Ledlie (conflicting engagement). Apologies for absence were also received from Mr M Roper (co-opted non-voting).

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies with the reasons given.

10/173. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest made at this time. This did not exclude any later declarations.

10/174. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Committee approved as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th November 2021.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee held on 8th November 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10/175. SKATE PARKS REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

No update had been received.

RESOLVED: to defer this matter to the next meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee.

10/176. ARNEWOOD PARK GARDENS PROJECT UPDATE

No update had been received.

RESOLVED: to defer this matter to the next meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee.

10/177. DRAINAGE/MAINTENANCE – LAND ADJACENT TO CHARLTON CLOSE

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: (1) that the report be noted; (2) that the drain at Charlton Close and the drain outside of the Royal Marine public house be cleared as a one off gesture of good will; and (3) that a decision regarding the unadopted section of land be deferred to a future meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee.

10/178. CORRESPONDENCE REGARDING WATER CHARGES

The Committee considered the letter received from an allotment tenant.

RESOLVED: (1) that the letter be noted; and (2) that the tenant continues to be liable for the water charges and no waiver be permitted.

10/179. FINANCIAL STATEMENT – OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2021

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1st October to 30th November 2021.

RESOLVED: that the Financial Statement for the period 1st October to 30th November 2021 be approved.

10/180 DRAFT BUDGET 2022/23

The Committee considered the draft budget which had already been referred to the previous Grounds and General Maintenance Committee meeting and recommended to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

7.36pm – Cllr G Oakes joined the meeting virtually.

Cllr A Richards raised some points which were discussed/answered.

RESOLVED: that the final Grounds and General Maintenance Budget be referred to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee for inclusion within the 2022/23 budget.

Public Comment. There were no members of the public or press present.

10/181. 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 10/182 – 10/185 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

10/182. PLOTHOLDER REQUEST (CONFIDENTIAL)

7.52pm – Cllr A Richards left the meeting.

The Committee considered the request.

RESOLVED: to note the request and refuse it.

7.54pm – Cllr A Richards returned to the meeting.

10/183. ELIZABETH FLATS ALLOTMENT SITE COMPLAINT (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Committee considered the complaint and the update from the Deputy Town Clerk. The complaint letter was circulated to Councillors present and read out to those attending the meeting virtually.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the matter; (2) to request an inspection of the work by the structural engineer; and (3) to seek to recoup 50% of costs and take the matter to the small claims court if necessary.

10/184. BOUNDARY FENCING AT ST GEORGE'S ALLOTMENT SITE (COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE)

The Committee considered the verbal update by the Deputy Town Clerk and noted the current position.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the matter; and (2) that the Town Council's Standing Orders 4 (d) (xiv) be used to progress the matter.

8.30pm – Amanda Card (Town Clerk) left the meeting and did not return.

8.30pm – the meeting was adjourned for two minutes.

8.32pm – the meeting recommenced.

10/185. ALLOTMENT COMPLAINT (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Deputy Town Clerk outlined the issues, details of which had been circulated in advance of the meeting.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report, (2) to refuse the requests within the delegated powers of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee; (3) to refer the other matter to the relevant Committee; and (4) to seek training from Safer Somerset Partnership.

The meeting closed at 9.16pm.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: