



Yeovil Town Council

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Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee held on Monday 13th 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 R Spinner (Chair); G Hunting; A Kendall; T Ledlie; E Potts-Jones; A Richards; A Soughton and Mr M Roper.

Committee Members Present (virtually): Cllr P Lock.

Councillors Also Present (virtually): Cllr T Lock (Yeovil Lyde Ward).

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

Public Comment. There was one member of the public, and no members of the press present. Mr A Mather explained that he was speaking with reference to the agenda item regarding Charlton Close Drainage (10/150). He explained that County Highways had lowered the kerb into the close; the close had flooded and the gully drain outside number 4 Charlton Close had become blocked with mud; County Highways had since returned to raise the kerb.

7.03pm – Meeting Commenced

10/147. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

There were no apologies for absence.

10/148. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Manny Roper declared a personal interest in agenda items 10/151, *Goldcroft Former Allotment Site*, due to his allotment tenancies with Yeovil Town Council at Milford Dip Allotment site (situated opposite).

10/149. MINUTES OF LAST MEETINGS

The Committee approved as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 19th July 2021.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee held on 19th July 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10/150. CHARLTON CLOSE DRAINAGE

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk explaining the complaint received from a resident at Charlton Close regarding the blocked drain and poor surface of the close.

Discussion took place regarding the lack of storm water drains on road adjacent to Charlton Close. Members felt that Yeovil Town Council could, as a gesture of good will, request that the Maintenance Operative clear the drain as much as he could.

Cllr T Lock suggested that Mr Mather contact him to arrange a site visit with County Highways.

RESOLVED: (1) that the report be noted; (2) the Maintenance Operative clear the mud from the drain as much as possible; and (3) that Mr Mather be given Cllr T Lock's contact details so that a site visit could be arranged with County Highways.

7.22pm – the member of the public left the meeting and did not return.

10/151. GOLDCROFT FORMER ALLOTMENT SITE

The Committee considered a report by the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: (1) that the report be noted; and (2) that a quote to clear the whole site be awaited.

10/152. FINANCIAL STATEMENT – JUNE AND JULY 2021

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

RESOLVED: that the Financial Statement for the period 1st June to 31st July 2021 be approved.

Public Comment. There were no comments from members of the public.

7.28pm – Mr M Roper left the meeting and did not return.

10/153. 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 10/154 – 10/159 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

10/154. WALL ADJACENT TO ELIZABETH FLATS ALLOTMENT SITE (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report; (2) to note the additional specification for the weep holes from the Structural Engineer; (3) to accept the quote from South Somerset District Council to carry out the work as specified by the Structural Engineer; and (4) to seek to recover 50% of total costs from the neighbouring property owner.

10/155. SUNNINGDALE ALLOTMENT SITE FENCING (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report and the withdrawal of the contractors who were appointed in May 2021; (2) to approve Ark South Ltd (who tendered £21,934); (3) that this work be partly funded by the £6,500 held within the allotment fence reserve budget allocation; and (4) that it be recommend to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee that the additional £15,434 be funded from the contingency budget.

10/156. BOUNDARY FENCING AT ST GEORGE'S ALLOTMENT SITE FENCE (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report; and (2) to defer the matter to a future meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee when advice from the Horticulture and Operational management Specialist (SSDC) is available.

10/157. ELIZABETH FLATS ALLOTMENT SITE COMPLAINT (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Committee considered the report by the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report; and (2) that no action be taken with the complaint.

10/158. SUNNINGDALE ALLOTMENT SITE ISSUES (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Committee considered the report by the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report; (2) that the tenant be asked to attend a meeting with the Town Clerk regarding termination of the tenancy; and (3) that the cost of £2772.68 for cutting

back the tree line overhanging the pathway (Doorstep Green) adjacent to the allotment site be referred to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

10/159. BADGERS AT RUSTYWELL ALLOTMENT SITE (COMMERCIAL IN CONFIDENCE)

The Deputy Town Clerk outlined the ongoing issues with badgers on the site and explained that the remedial costs were still awaited.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report, (2) to await remedial costs and an update at the next meeting of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 8.32pm.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: