



Yeovil Town Council

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Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee held on Monday 7th March 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; T Ledlie; E Potts-Jones; A Richards and A Soughton.

Committee Members Present (virtually): Cllr P Lock.

Councillors Also Present (virtually): Cllrs T Lock (Yeovil Lyde Ward) and J Snell (Westlands Ward).

In Attendance (in person): H Ferdinand (Deputy Town Clerk); S Freemantle (Deputy Town Clerk) and S Fox (Specialist: Horticulture with Operational Management (SSDC)).

Also In Attendance (virtually): T Isaacs (Locality Officer (SSDC)) and N Turnbull (Locality Officer (SSDC)).

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

7.00pm – Meeting Commenced.

10/186. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr G Hunting (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.

10/187. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

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

10/188. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Committee approved as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 10th January 2022.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee held on 10th January 2022 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10/189. SKATE PARKS REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Committee considered the report by the Locality Officer (SSDC). The Locality Officer explained that updates were awaited from Maverick, and that an application had been made to the National Lottery which would be a welcome boost to the overall budget.

RESOLVED: to note the report and the update from the Locality Officer (SSDC).

10/190. PLAY AREA UPDATE INCLUDING ARNEWOOD PARK GARDENS PROJECT

The Committee considered the report by the Locality Officer (SSDC). Terena Isaacs (Locality Officer (SSDC)) explained that Kenton Bourne sent his apologies, but that she would answer any questions. There being no questions it was

RESOLVED: to note the report and the update from the Locality Officer (SSDC).

10/191. SCHOOL'S OUT PROGRAMME UPDATE

The Committee considered the report by the Locality Officer (SSDC)

RESOLVED: to note the report and the update from the Locality Officer (SSDC).

7.06pm – T Isaacs (Locality Officer (SSDC)) and N Turnbull (Locality Officer (SSDC)) left the meeting and did not return.

10/192. CEDAR TREE AT SIDNEY GARDENS

The Committee considered the report by the Specialist: Horticulture with Operational Management (SSDC) and the options presented were considered and discussed.

RESOLVED: (1) that the report be noted; (2) that the replanting take place with the Friends of Sidney Gardens and the Wrens; (3) that the Specialist: Horticulture with Operational Management (SSDC) investigate costs for bench/sculpture carving options (including possible fencing) and the planking of the remaining wood for use in a suitable structure and report back to a future meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee; and (4) that an engraving commemorating the Queen's Platinum Jubilee year be added to one of the structures.

10/193. FINANCIAL STATEMENT – DECEMBER 2021 AND JANUARY 2022

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1st December 2021 to 31st January 2022.

RESOLVED: that the Financial Statement for the period 1st December 2021 to 31st January 2022 be approved.

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

10/194. 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 10/195 – 10/197 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

10/195. OPEN SPACES UPDATE REPORT (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Committee considered the report and the Specialist: Horticulture with Operational Management (SSDC) provided background to the report and answered questions.

7.41pm – Cllr J Snell left the meeting and did not return.

RESOLVED: to note the report and thank the Specialist: Horticulture with Operational Management (SSDC) for his work.

7.53pm – S Fox (Specialist: Horticulture with Operational Management (SSDC)) left the meeting and did not return.

10/196. SUNNINGDALE ALLOTMENT SITE ISSUES (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Deputy Town Clerk (SF) provided an update on the issues regarding the badger gates at Sunningdale Allotment site.

RESOLVED: that the update be noted.

10/197. ELIZABETH FLATS ALLOTMENT SITE (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Deputy Town Clerk (SF) explained that a section of the fence required replacing and that consideration could be given to the remaining boundary fencing on the site.

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

The Committee felt that other allotment sites required review.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the matter; (2) to replace the broken section of fence, waiving Standing Order 11.1 (h) to progress the matter as soon as possible due to urgency; (3) to seek quotes for the replacement of the remaining boundary fencing on Elizabeth Flats allotment site; and (4) to request an estimate from SSDC for an officer inspection review of all Yeovil Town Council's allotment sites.

The meeting closed at 8.12pm.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: