



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 8th November 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; P Lock; A Soughton and Mr M Roper (co-opted non-voting).

Committee Members Present (virtually): Cllrs A Kendall and T Ledlie.

Councillors Also Present (in person): Cllr M Lock (Yeovil College Ward).

Councillors Also Present (virtually): Cllrs T Lock (Yeovil Lyde Ward) and D Recardo (Yeovil Lyde Ward).

In Attendance (in person): A Card (Town Clerk); S Freemantle (Deputy Town Clerk), N Turnbull, Locality Officer (SSDC).

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

7.00pm – Meeting Commenced.

10/160. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr A Richards (personal reasons).

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies with the reasons given.

10/161. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Mr Manny Roper declared an interest and Cllr D Recardo declared a Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in in agenda item 10/165 Allotment Rent Review due to their allotment tenancies with Yeovil Town Council.

10/162. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Committee approved as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 13th September 2021.

RESOLVED: that the Minutes of the meeting of the Grounds and General Maintenance Committee held on 13th September 2021 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

10/163. SKATE PARKS REDEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The Committee considered the report by the Locality Officer (SSDC) who explained that a representative from Maverick would attend a future meeting.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

7.04pm – the Locality Officer left the meeting and did not return.

10/164. OPEN SPACES REPRESENTATION

The Committee considered a table by the Town Clerk which identified the open spaces in the Town and the ward representation by Committee member of each open space. Two of the wards do not have representation on this Committee so it was agreed that Cllr P Lock will represent the Committee for the open spaces in Lyde Ward and Cllr A Soughton will represent the Committee for the open spaces in Crofton Park ward. Site visits to the open spaces will commence in the spring.

RESOLVED: (1) that the report be noted; and (2) that Cllr P Lock will represent the Committee for the open spaces in Lyde ward and Cllr A Soughton will represent the Committee for the open spaces in Crofton Park ward.

10/165. ALLOTMENT RENT REVIEW

7.16pm – Cllr D Recardo left the meeting and did not return.

7.17pm – Mr M Roper left the meeting and did not return.

7.17pm – Cllr E Potts-Jones joined the meeting virtually.

The Committee considered the report by the Town Clerk and it was agreed to increase the allotment rent to 43p per square metre for the year commencing 1st January 2023.

RESOLVED: (1) that the report be noted; and (2) that it be proposed to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee that the allotment rent be increased to 43p per square metre for the year commencing 1st January 2023.

10/166. FINANCIAL STATEMENT – AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER 2021

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1st August to 30th September 2021.

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

10/167 DRAFT BUDGET 2022/23

The Committee considered the draft budget.

RESOLVED: that the draft Grounds and General Maintenance Budget be referred to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

Public Comment. The member of the press confirmed with the Committee the annual cost of the rent increase for a 200 square metre allotment plot, commencing in January 2023.

7.50pm – The member of the press left the meeting and did not return.

10/168. 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 10/169 – 10/171 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

10/169. BOUNDARY FENCING AT ST GEORGE'S ALLOTMENT SITE (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Committee considered the verbal update by the Deputy Town Clerk and noted that further information regarding costings was awaited.

RESOLVED: to note the matter.

10/170. SUNNINGDALE ALLOTMENT SITE ISSUE (CONFIDENTIAL)

The Committee considered the report and update by the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED: to note the report and update.

10/171. 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 advice was awaited.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report, (2) to await advice and an update at a future meeting of the Committee.

The meeting closed at 8.30pm.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: