



Yeovil Town Council

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Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Promotions and Activities Committee held on Tuesday 9th January 2024 at 7.00pm in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil BA20 1PQ; and by video-conference using Zoom meeting software.

Committee Members Present (in person): Cllrs E Potts-Jones (In the Chair); Jade Cabell; T Casey; E Hopkins; A Kendall; J Lowery; W Read and D Woan.

Members Also Present (virtually): Cllr A Wilkes (Abbey Manor South Ward).

Also Present: N Rand (Yeovil Art Space); Z Li (Yeovil Art Space).

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

Public Comment. There were two members of the public present. No members of the press were present.

The members of the public, Duane Holden and Anita Spalding from the 94 Club in Middle Street gave a summary of the history of the club and outlined how the community currently use and value the facility. They raised concerns about the future of the club and how it would continue to be part of the wider community and be aesthetically pleasing in light of other changes in the surroundings.

7.28pm – The members of the public left the meeting and did not return.

7.28pm – Meeting Commenced

11/107. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies for absence (*LGA 1972 s85(1)*) were received from Cllrs Kayleigh Fieldsend (working) and S Lowery (working).

RESOLVED: to accept the apologies with the reasons given.

11/108. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

11/109. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The Committee approved as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meeting held on 14th November 2023.

RESOLVED: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Promotions and Activities Committee held on 14th November 2023 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

11/110. PRESENTATION BY YEOVIL ART SPACE

The Committee received a verbal update from Yeovil Art Space. Natasha Rand and Zoe Li gave a presentation to the Committee outlining the work they had carried out over the past six months and their forthcoming plans. These included:

- A multi-cultural event in July with over 150 children creating artwork which would be displayed in an exhibition.
- Involvement with Super Saturday and 350 people engaging with artists in Yeovil Art Space.
- A music exhibition (in collaboration with Chris Lowe from Acorn Records).
- The “Sound of Yeovil” exhibition, part of the “Story of Yeovil” arts and heritage project, which has so far attracted over 3,000 visitors.
- Collaboration with EPS to host a music event at the end of Super Saturday at the 94 Club.
- Partnership working with Love Yeovil and the Quedam to provide the light-up heart at the Christmas Lights Switch-on event.
- A silent disco as a finale to “Sound of Yeovil” – 60 headsets were able to be hired.
- An exhibition of past/historic Christmas photographs including the Christmas decorations around the old Denner’s storefront (articles on loan to Yeovil Art Space from South Somerset Heritage Collection).
- The launch of “Taste of Yeovil” on 20th January in Yeovil Art Space (all Councillors invited).
- Re-creation of The Cottage Café at Yeovil Art Space.
- A book launch for a recipe book with 9 recipes and 9 stories of Yeovil linked to the recipes on 8th March.
- Yeovil Creatives International workshop, creating a bowl and discussing food/recipes and how Yeovil became home.
- Booklets published for Primary and SEND schools.
- Lantern Parade and Wassail at Yeovil Country Park on 15th February.

Community engagement work carried out by YAS resulted in Yeovil being selected as one of 10 towns to pilot “Understory” software which is a package which maps and filters community groups in the area, providing a visual reference for the community landscape and a tool to filter the links between organisations and their main and ancillary purposes. This tool will be instrumental in future community work, projects and assist with fundraising applications and further work on it will commence in January.

The Arts Action Group involves many of these organisations in projects and events, and the work by Yeovil Art Space has facilitated the communication between organisations, improving support networks and helping agencies support each other in projects and events. Natasha Rand was selected to take the role of Community Champion to strengthen community engagement through art and creativity.

Work is continuing on the Young Ambassadors programme.

An Arts Council Application will be submitted to support funding in championing creativity and supporting the local economy.

Natasha Rand and Zoe Li were thanked for all their hard work.

RESOLVED: that the report be noted.

11/111. YEOVIL CELEBRATES

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk regarding the two-day celebration event.

The Deputy Town Clerk summarised the plans so far and the work carried out to liaise with Somerset Council regarding the “handing over” of the venue site at Yeovil Recreation Ground to the Town Council in the week leading up to the event and the “handing back” afterwards.

Discussion took place regarding sponsorship, and it was suggested that a summary of the event and a call for sponsorship document is made available for Councillors.

The requirement for all Councillors to be available to help during the event was re-iterated.

RESOLVED: (1) that the report on the “*Yeovil Celebrates*” event due to be held on 25th and 26th May 2024 be noted; and (2) that Councillors will let the officers know about their availability to help.

11/112. SUPER SATURDAY

The Committee considered the report by the Deputy Town Clerk regarding the plans for the Super Saturday events. It was suggested that the events are a good opportunity for the

Town Councillors to run a stall to engage with the public and that these Town Centre events could be a good opportunity to showcase new areas of the town.

RESOLVED that the report be noted.

11/113. YEOVIL IN BLOOM MINUTES

The Committee considered the minutes of the Yeovil in Bloom meeting held on 11th December 2023.

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Yeovil in Bloom meeting held on 11th December 2023 be noted.

11/114. MARTYN'S LAW

The Committee considered the summary by the Deputy Town Clerk and it was agreed to send the ACT link to all Councillors.

RESOLVED: (1) that the summary be noted; and (2) that the ACT link be sent to all Councillors.

11/115. FINANCIAL STATEMENT – OCTOBER AND NOVEMBER 2023

The Committee considered the Financial Statement for the period 1st October to 30th November 2023.

RESOLVED: that the Financial Statement for the period 1st October to 30th November 2023 be approved.

11/116. DRAFT BUDGET 2024/25

There was no further information to add to the draft budget.

RESOLVED: that the draft Promotions and Activities Budget be noted and referred to the Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

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

8.06pm – The representatives from Yeovil Art Space left the meeting and did not return.

11/117. 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 item 11/118 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

11/118. EAT:FESTIVALS - CONFIDENTIAL

The Committee considered the proposed agreement.

RESOLVED (1) that the proposed agreement be noted; and (2) that the agreement be agreed with the exception of clause 5.

The meeting closed at 8.13pm.

Signed: (Chairman)

Date: