



Yeovil Town Council

Town House
19 Union Street
Yeovil
Somerset
BA20 1PQ

Mayor: Cllr A Kendall, Town Clerk: Amanda Card BA (Hons), CPFA, BSc (Open)
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Minutes of the meeting of Yeovil Town Council held on Tuesday 5th December 2023 at 7:30pm held by video-conference using Zoom meeting software; and in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil BA20 1PQ.

Present: Cllrs A Kendall (in the chair); B Boyton; T Casey; E Hopkins; T Lock; J Lock; J Lowery; G Oakes; E Potts-Jones; W Read; A Richards; A Soughton; R Spinner; R Stickland; H Stonier and D Woan.

In Attendance (in person): A Card (Town Clerk); H Ferdinand (Deputy Town Clerk); Rev D Crouch; A Locke (Mace Bearer); Steve Fox (Environmental Services Manager, Somerset Council); Manny Roper (Chair of Yeovil in Bloom); Joe Warton (Assistant Director - Major and Special Projects, Somerset Council); and Darren Trott (Project Officer - Major and Special Projects., Somerset Council).

There was 4 members of the public present in person. There was 3 members of the public present virtually.

Public Comment

Rev D Crouch gave his reflections.

Steve Fox (Environmental Services Manager, Somerset Council) and Manny Roper (Chair of Yeovil in Bloom) gave a presentation about Yeovil in Bloom.

Mr Fox explained that the Yeovil are in the South West Region of "In Bloom". He explained the process of the judging. There are the "Three Pillars of Bloom" which are floral (accounting for 40% of the mark); sustainability and the environment (30%) and community (30%).

8:02 pm Steve Fox (Environmental Services Manager, Somerset Council); Manny Roper (Chair of Yeovil in Bloom) left the room and did not return.

A member of the public spoke on the closure of hyper acute stroke unit. He spoke of the public consultation and the petition created by the Quicksilver Community Group. Over 7,000 Yeovilians signed that petition. NHS Somerset has agreed that the acute stroke unit remain in Yeovil but the hyper acute stroke unit will close. He asked that Yeovil Town Council to come on board and have a public meeting.

A number of Councillors responded to the member of the public.

At this stage, Cllr A Kendall declared a personal interest in that he was recovering from a stroke.

8:18 pm 3 members of the public left the room and did not return.

The next member of the public to speak represented South West Transport Network. He updated Council on the bus depot and flagged a few concerns. He spoke of the Somerset Council's financial emergency and the future of services with town and parish councils.

8:22pm Cllr J Lock left the meeting

8:23 pm The meeting commenced.

11/122 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

Council to receive apologies for absence and consider the reasons given. LGA 1972 s85(1)

Apologies were received from Cllrs J Cabell (conflicting engagement); K Fieldsend (work commitments); K Gill (transport issues); K Hussain (conflicting engagement); and S Lowery (conflicting engagement).

RESOLVED: to accept the apologies with the reasons given.

11/123 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Members to declare any interests, including Disclosable Pecuniary Interests (DPI) they may have in agenda items that accord with the requirements of the Town Council's Code of Conduct and to consider any requests from members for Dispensations that accord with Localism Act 2011 s33(b-e). (NB this does not preclude any later declarations).

Councillor	Reason	Interest
Cllr A Kendall Cllr T Lock Cllr G Oakes Cllr E Potts-Jones Cllr W Read Cllr J Snell Cllr A Soughton Cllr D Woan	Member of: Somerset Council	Personal

There were no other declarations at this time.

11/124 MINUTES OF PREVIOUS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the previous Town Council Meetings held on 7th November 2023.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the previous Town Council Meetings held on 7th November 2023.

11/125 MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S RECENT AN FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr B Boyton stated that he was glad to see Cllr A Kendall, Mayor of Yeovil back and in the public eyes.

RESOLVED: to note the Mayor's and Deputy Mayor's recent and forthcoming appointments and engagements.

11/126 CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

11/118 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS

Planning Committee – 20th November 2023

Presented by Cllr Evie Potts-Jones. An update of planning applications was given to Council. There were no questions.

8:27pm Cllr J Lock returned to the meeting

Promotions and Activities Committee – 14th November 2023

Presented by Cllr Evie Potts-Jones. She spoke of Super Saturday and the additional Super Saturday (to be held in July 2024), the Eats Festival and Yeovil Celebrates. There were no questions.

Grounds and General Maintenance Committee – 13th November 2023

Presented by Cllr Royston Spinner. He reported that 92% of allotments were let. There were no questions.

Buildings and Civic Matters Committee – 21st November 2023

Presented by Cllr Rob Stickland. He mentioned Sergeant Dan Crawford attending the meeting. He reported that the defibrillators had now been accessed 34 times and talks were being held with the tenants of Maltravers House. Reference was made to the Milford Hall charges. He also reported that the notice boards had now been installed but that in a week, the noticeboard at Monmouth Hall had already been vandalised. There were no further questions

Policy, Resources and Finance Committee – 28th November 2023

Presented by Cllr Graham Oakes. He stated that many of the items that were discussed were on the Town Council agenda. There were no questions.

RESOLVED: that the minutes of the above Committees be noted together with any resolutions and recommendations contained therein to be ratified.

11/128 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Members who represent the Town Council on Outside Bodies were invited to take the opportunity to report on any matters of interest.

- Local Community Network – Yeovil – 1st November 2023 (minutes previously circulated).

There were no other reports from representatives on Outside Bodies.

RESOLVED: to note the reports given.

11/129 DRAFT BUDGET 2024/25

Cllr G Oakes stated that due to the financial emergency at Somerset Council that the budget may be amended before the final budget is agreed.

It was proposed by Cllr G Oakes and seconded by Cllr R Stickland that the draft budget as within the agenda is agreed.

RESOLVED: to approve the draft budget for the financial year 2023/24 (subject to receiving the tax base from Somerset Council for 2023/24; and the Crematorium and Cemetery Committee budget) (*Voting: for - unanimous*).

11/130 AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDER

Council considered the amendments in Standing Orders as recommended by Policy, Resources and Finance Committee.

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report; and (2) that both amendment 1 and amendment 2 as details within the report are agreed and adopted within the Standing Orders.

11/131 PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2024/25

Council considered the draft programme of meetings for 2024/25.

RESOLVED: to agree the programme of meeting for 2024/25.

11/132 FORWARD PLAN

RESOLVED: to approve the forward plan as detailed within the agenda.

Public Comment

There were no further comments.

8:43 pm – the remaining member of the public and Rev D Crouch left the room and did not return.

11/133 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 the remaining agenda items 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.

11/134 REGENERATION AND COMMERCIAL UPDATE (CONFIDENTIAL)

Council received a presentation from the Assistant Director Major and Special Projects at Somerset Council.

RESOLVED: to note the presentation and support the next steps.

9:38 pm – Cllr H Stonier left the room and did not return.

11/135 EMERGENCY CONFIDENTIAL BRIEFING OUTCOMES (CONFIDENTIAL)

RESOLVED: to agree the outcomes from the emergency confidential briefing.

Meeting closed at 9:44 pm.

Signed:

Date: