



# Yeovil Town Council

Town House  
19 Union Street  
Yeovil  
Somerset  
BA20 1PQ

Mayor : Cllr D Recardo  
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## Minutes of the meeting of Yeovil Town Council held on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2019 at 7.30pm in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil BA20 1PQ

**Present:** Cllrs D Recardo (Chairman and Mayor); J Dash; N Gage; K Gill; D Gubbins; G Hunting; K Hussain; A Kendall; T Lock; J Lowery; S Lowery; G Oakes; E Potts-Jones; W Read; A Soughton; R Spinner; H Stonier; and R Stickland.

In Attendance: A Card (Town Clerk); Rachael Whaites (Countryside Manager); Becky Russell (Community Heritage Ranger) and Kristy Davies (Lead Ranger at Yeovil Country Park) and Rev J Pearce (Mayor's Chaplain).

There were no further members of the public and one member of the press present.

### Public Comment

Cllr W Read congratulated the Mayor on a successful ball.

Kristy Davies (Lead Ranger at Yeovil Country Park) explained that it had been yet another busy year, and they were particularly grateful for the help of the volunteers. She spoke of the Countryside event trails, the Friends of Yeovil Country Park and the projects undertaken. She also highlighted the new species which had been located at the Country Park. Racheal Whaites (Countryside Manager) spoke of the joint working with the Yeovil Rivers Community Trust. She talked about the many activities undertaken including wildlife surveys, park run and park yoga. There had also been vandalism at the park whereby information panels had been destroyed. There was a lot of support from the community and local businesses. Becky Russell (Community Heritage Ranger) explained that her new role was working across South Somerset alongside the Community Heritage Access Centre (CHAC), working with several groups, including schools and those with Mental Health issues.

*8:16pm Rachael Whaites, Becky Russell and Kristy Davies left the meeting and did not return.*

*8:17pm – The meeting commenced.*

### **10/50 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: A Grieves (conflicting engagement); P Gubbins (conflicting engagement); T Ledlie (conflicting engagement); M Lock (conflicting engagement) and P Lock (conflicting engagement).

**RESOLVED:** to accept the apologies with the reasons given.

#### **10/51 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).

There were no declarations made at this time.

#### **10/52 MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the previous meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019.

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the previous meetings held on 5<sup>th</sup> November 2019 be signed as a correct record.

#### **10/53 MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor announced that the Mayor's Charity ball had raised £4,498 for his Charity – Yeovil Hospital Charity – Breast Cancer Unit Appeal. He thanked all those Councillors that attended.

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

#### **10/54 CORRESPONDANCE**

The Town Clerk brought one item of correspondence to Council's attention, regarding the Remembrance Sunday Parade from the Yeovil and District Branch of the Royal British Legion. The Branch Chairman and Parade Commander congratulated the Mayor and staff for the high level of communication and the handling of logistical matters to aid the occasion.

**RESOLVED:** that the correspondence be noted.

#### **10/55 REPORT OF RECOMMENDATIONS & RESOLUTIONS FROM COUNCIL'S COMMITTEES**

##### **Planning Committee – 11<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Presented by Cllr S Lowery. There were no questions.

##### **Grounds and General Maintenance Committee – 18<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Presented by Cllr A Kendall. He informed Council that the Allotment Maintenance Working Party had met to discuss the maintenance of allotments.

##### **Promotions and Activities Committee – 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Presented by Cllr E Potts-Jones. Cllr Potts-Jones summarised the work that the VE Day Working Party had done to date. Questions were raised about the possibilities of getting a Spitfire or Seafire to fly over the town, and for a similar event for VJ Day.

##### **Buildings and Civic Matters Committee – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Presented by Cllr R Stickland. There were no questions.

## **Policy, Resources and Finance Committee – 26<sup>th</sup> November 2019**

Presented by Cllr G Oakes. Cllr E Potts-Jones told Council she had recently attended the Westfield Youth Club and it was being well run.

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the above Committee be accepted together with any resolutions and recommendations contained therein.

### **10/56 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.

**Westfield Community Association** – 11<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (minutes previously circulated). Cllr J Lowery informed Council the Westfield Community Association was on 5<sup>th</sup> December 2019.

**Yeovil Rivers Community Trust** – 16<sup>th</sup> October 2019 and 30<sup>th</sup> October 2019 (minutes previously circulated)

**RESOLVED:** to note the minutes of the above Outside Bodies.

### **10/57 DRAFT BUDGET 2020/21**

Members considered the Draft Budget for 2020/21. Members reviewed the budget for each Committee. The Mayoral Allowance was discussed, the allowance has not been increased for 10 years. It was agreed that the Mayoral Allowance be increased to £10,000 and that in future years CPI be applied. The contribution towards a hospice/In Patient Unit was discussed and the wording for this should be changed to “ A sum of £25,000 is set per annum for 3 years in principle, as a contribution to help fund the running costs at the IPU in the first 3 years. This would be subject to a satisfactory business plan and due diligence”.

**RESOLVED:** to approve the draft budget for the financial year 2020/21 (subject to receiving the tax base from South Somerset District Council for 2020/21; the Crematorium and Cemetery Committee final budget; and including the Mayoral Allowance and funding for an IPU as detailed above.

*(Voting: unanimous)*

### **10/49 FORWARD PLAN**

Members to approve the forward plan as detailed within the agenda. Yeovil District Hospital have confirmed that they are able to attend in April 2020.

**RESOLVED:** to approve the forward plan.

### **Public Comment**

There were no public.

Meeting closed at 8:48pm.

Signed:

Dated: