

YEOVIL TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES of a meeting of the **PROMOTIONS AND ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE** held in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil on **Tuesday 9 July 2013**

(7.00pm to 7.45pm)

Present:

Jon Gleeson – Chairman
Martin Bailey
Peter Brock
Phil Chandler
Tristan Cobb
Clive Davis
Wes Read
Manny Roper

Also Present:

Alan Tawse – Town Clerk
Juliet Sims - Assistant Town Clerk

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from members of the public

8/167 MINUTES

The Minutes of the previous meeting held on 15 May 2013, copies of which had been circulated, were approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

8/168 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Kris Castle, Clive Davis, David Recardo and Alan Smith.

8/169 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

8/170 CORRESPONDENCE

There were no items of correspondence.

8/171 PRINCES STREET PHASE II

The Committee considered the Princes Street Enhancement Scheme Phase II Report. (Agenda Item 5 refers),

Members were supportive of the work that had taken place, and felt that the Enhancement Scheme was a great success. There were some comments that the entrances and exits to the subway were overgrown and needed trimming, and that where work had progressed around the subway entrances

and exits the area had been cleared so much that more suitable planting would be required.

It was also noted that there was graffiti on the southern wall of one of the subways where it was understood that anti-graffiti paint would be used.

During the ensuing discussion, attention was drawn to the removal of the round benches in Lower Middle Street (near Wilkinson), and were these used in the Enhancement Scheme, and would they be replaced.

RESOLVED

- 1) that the report be noted;
- 2) that the Assistant Town Clerk would write to Somerset County Council regarding the subway for both the trimming and replanting of the exits and entrances;
- 3) that the Assistant Town Clerk would write to the District Council regarding the graffiti in one of the subways; and investigate the matter of the benches in Lower Middle Street and report her findings back to the Committee.

8/172 YEOVIL IN BLOOM STEERING GROUP MINUTES

Members considered the Minutes of the Yeovil In Bloom Steering Groups meetings held on 20 May and 1 July 2013. (Agenda item 6 refers)

RESOLVED

that the minutes be noted.

8/173 NEW INITIATIVES BUDGET

The Committee considered the report by the Town Clerk (agenda item 7 refers). A discussion took place regarding possible options for inclusion in the bid for funding from the New Initiatives budget, and the following ideas emerged:

Free WiFi for the Town Centre. This is currently available in Exeter, Norwich and Swindon. The Town Clerk indicated that the Yeovil Town Team which includes representatives of local businesses, were already looking at this item following its suggestion by Yeovil Youth Council.

A Cover for the Performing Arts Area. During the ensuing discussion, several options were discussed, including covers which would be collapsible, semi-permanent (Summer) and a permanent roof, possibly with removable sides.

During the ensuing discussions reference was then made to ways of encouraging local organisations to use the Performing Arts Area on a more frequent basis, which it was felt would attract more shoppers and visitors into the Town Centre.

The Town Clerk indicated that the Yeovil Town Team was looking at ways of achieving this objective as part of an overall strategy in promoting the Town Centre.

RESOLVED

- 1) that the matter be noted, and
- 2) that the Town Clerk and Assistant Town Clerk would research the two proposed New Initiatives and report back to the next meeting.

8/174 **COMMEMORATIVE PLAQUE**

The Committee considered the report by the Assistant Town Clerk (agenda item 8 refers).

RESOLVED

that the matter be noted

8/175 **FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR APRIL/MAY 2013**

The Members present considered the Financial Statement for the period 1 April 2013 to 31 May 2013.

RESOLVED

that the Financial Statement be noted.

8/176 **CHRISTMAS LIGHTS**

The Committee considered the confidential report by the Town Clerk (agenda item 10 refers).

Reference was made to necessary infrastructure works at the meeting and the costs involved in their implementation.

RESOLVED

- 1) that the matter be noted, and
- 2) that implementation of the necessary infrastructure works be supported and referred to the Policy, Resource and Finance Committee for further consideration and possible funding from contingencies.

Chairman

JS
17/07/2013