

# Yeovil Town Council



Town House  
19 Union Street  
Yeovil  
Somerset  
BA20 1PQ

Yeovil Town Council

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## Yeovil Town Council

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2026

7:30pm

Face-to-face at Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil  
BA20 1PQ; and virtual using Zoom meeting software

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For further information on the items to be discussed, please contact  
[town.clerk@yeovil.gov.uk](mailto:town.clerk@yeovil.gov.uk).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Amanda Card'.

Amanda Card, Chief Executive / Town Clerk  
25<sup>th</sup> February 2026

### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86366871764?pwd=J27KuO4moDT4g94BbyQsl8TkMEoiGh.1>

This information is also available on our website: [www.yeovil.gov.uk](http://www.yeovil.gov.uk)

**Members of Yeovil Town Council are summoned to attend:**

Tony Lock – Mayor of Yeovil Town

Wes Read – Deputy Mayor of Yeovil Town

Barry Boyton

Karina Parsons

Jade Cabell

Evie Potts-Jones

Tareth Casey

Ashley Richards

Karl Gill

Jeny Snell

Emma-Jayne Hopkins

Andy Soughton

Kaysar Hussain

Roy Spinner

Justice Jimba

Rob Stickland

Andy Kendall

Helen Stonier

Jamie Lock

Ruth White

Jane Lowery

Adrian Wilkes

Graham Oakes

Dave Woan

**Public Comments at meetings**

Members of the public may attend the meeting either physically or via Zoom.

If you wish to the join the meeting via Zoom following this link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86366871764?pwd=J27KuO4moDT4g94BbyQsl8TkMEoiGh.1>

## **Equality Act 2010**

The general public sector equality duty places an obligation on a wide range of public bodies (including town and parish councils) in the exercise of their functions to have due regard to the need to:

- Eliminate unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and other conduct prohibited by the Act
- Advance equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not
- Foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and those who do not

The protected characteristics are:

Age	Race
Disability	Religion or Belief
Gender Reassignment	Sex
Marriage and Civil Partnership	Sexual Orientation
Pregnancy and Maternity	

## **Recording of Council Meetings**

The Local Audit and Accountability Act 2014 allows both the public and press to take photographs, film and audio record the proceedings and report on all public meetings (including on social media).

Any member of the public wishing to record or film proceedings must let the Chairman of the meeting know prior to, or at the start of, the meeting and the recording must be overt (i.e. clearly visible to anyone at the meeting), but non-disruptive. Please refer to our Policy on audio/visual recording and photography at Council meetings at [www.yeovil.gov.uk](http://www.yeovil.gov.uk). This permission does not extend to private meetings or parts of meetings which are not open to the public.

Members of the public exercising their right to speak during the time allocated for Public Comment who do not wish to be recorded or filmed, need to inform the Chairman who will instruct those taking a recording or filming to cease doing so while they speak.

Prior to the start of the meeting, Members are invited to join the Mayor's Chaplain in the Council Chamber for "Reflections".

## A G E N D A

### Public Comment (15 Minutes)

#### 11/315 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND TO CONSIDER THE REASONS GIVEN

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

#### 11/316 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).

#### 11/317 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

To confirm as a correct record the Minutes of the previous Town Council Meetings held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2026.

#### 11/318 MAYOR AND DEPUTY MAYOR'S RECENT AND FORTHCOMING ENGAGEMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

To note the Mayor and Deputy Mayor's recent and forthcoming engagements as attached at pages 6 to 7.

#### 11/319 CORRESPONDENCE

Members to consider any correspondence received.

#### 11/320 REPORTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS FROM COMMITTEES AND OTHER MEETINGS

To note the meetings of each Committee, any resolutions and recommendations contained therein to be ratified.

#### 11/321 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Members who represent the Town Council on outside bodies should take this opportunity to report on any matters of interest.

#### 11/322 PWLB LOAN APPROVAL

Members to consider the report of the Chief Executive / Town Clerk regarding the PWLB Loan (Report to follow).

**11/323 MOTION**

Notice of Motion received from Cllr T Casey on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026: *Standing Order s9* (as attached at page 8 to 9)

**11/324 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC**

The Committee is requested to pass a resolution excluding 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 would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

**11/325 REQUEST FOR DISPENSATION – SIX MONTH ATTENDANCE RULE  
(CONFIDENTIAL)**

Members to consider the report of the Chief Executive / Town Clerk attached at page 10.

**List of Engagements attended/to be attended by the Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock and Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read from 27 January 2025 to 7 April 2026**

<b><u>January Engagements</u></b>	
29/01/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock attended The St Gildas Feast at St Gildas Primary School
<b><u>February Engagements</u></b>	
07/02/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock attended the Crewkerne Civic Reception
18/02/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock attended the grand reopening of The Arrow
20/02/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock attended the grand reopening of The Joanna France Club House
24/02/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock attended Dorset Council Civic Day
<b><u>March Engagements</u></b>	
01/03/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock attended Axbridge Civic Service
02/03/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock and Deputy Mayor Cllr Wes Read attended the Annual Faith Group and Clergy Tea at the Town House
17/03/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock will attend Yeovil Amateur Operatic Society's production 'Fiddler on the Roof' at Westlands Entertainment Venue

19/03/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock will attend the Somerset Dementia Conference: Putting People First in Taunton
19/03/2026	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read will visit LifeWays Mental Health Division at Thorne House
22/03/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock will attend a Luncheon with The High Sheriff at Wells Town Hall followed by a procession to the Legal Service at Wells Cathedral
29/03/2026	The Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Tony Lock will attend the Yeovil Half Marathon, 10k and Mini Mile
<b><u>April Engagements</u></b>	
02/04/2026	The Deputy Mayor of Yeovil, Councillor Wes Read will attend Compton View Easter Party

**11/323      MOTION**

Notice of Motion received from Cllr T Casey on 18<sup>th</sup> February 2026: *Standing Order s9*

The Council will debate the following motion:

**Follow-Up to Secretary of State Call-In Request – Investigation of Legal Options Regarding the Closure of Yeovil HASU.**

This Council notes:

1. That Yeovil Town Council formally requested the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care to call in the decision of NHS Somerset Integrated Care Board (ICB) to close the Hyper Acute Stroke Unit (HASU) at Yeovil District Hospital.
2. That the Secretary of State has now confirmed, in correspondence dated 25 November 2025, that:
  - No material change in circumstances has been identified;
  - No new issues have been raised requiring further investigation;
  - The original decision not to call in the proposal remains final in the absence of materially different evidence;
  - Responsibility for decisions relating to stroke service reconfiguration remains with the ICB. Letter to Yeovil Town Council.
3. That the proposed closure of Yeovil's HASU remains scheduled for Spring 2026 and will result in the removal of consultant-led hyper-acute stroke services from Yeovil District Hospital.
4. That Yeovil Town Council previously resolved that, should ministerial intervention not be forthcoming, it would investigate the possibility of pursuing legal proceedings to challenge both the process and outcome of the decision.

This Council therefore resolves:

1. To acknowledge that the ministerial call-in route has now been exhausted.
2. To instruct the Town Clerk to obtain specialist legal advice from counsel or a firm experienced in public law and NHS reconfiguration matters on:
  - Whether there are viable grounds for Judicial Review or other legal challenge;
  - Whether the statutory tests for service reconfiguration were lawfully applied;
  - Whether the consultation and decision-making process was procedurally sound;
  - Whether relevant clinical evidence was properly considered;
  - Applicable time limits for challenge;

- The likely costs, risks and prospects of success.
3. To explore whether any potential legal action could be undertaken jointly with other affected councils, Members of Parliament, or stakeholder organisations to:
- Share financial exposure;
  - Strengthen representation;
  - Avoid duplication of action.
4. To require that a confidential report be brought back to Full Council setting out:
- The strength of any legal case;
  - Estimated financial exposure (including adverse cost risk);
  - Procedural deadlines;
  - Strategic options available to the Council.