



Yeovil Town Council

Town House
19 Union Street
Yeovil
Somerset
BA20 1PQ

Mayor: Cllr T Lock
Chief Executive / Town Clerk: Amanda Card BA (Hons), FCPFA, BSc (Open)
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Minutes of the hybrid meeting of the Extraordinary Property & Community Committee 3rd August 2026 at 7.00pm held by video-conference using Zoom meeting software; and in the Town House, 19 Union Street, Yeovil BA20 1PQ.

Present (in person): Cllrs R Stickland (Chair); T Casey; A Kendall; T Lock; A Richards; A Soughton; H Stonier and D Woan.

In Attendance (in person): Cllr E Hopkins; Cllr G Oakes; Cllr K Parsons; Cllr A Wilkes; A Card (Chief Executive / Town Clerk); L Ryder (Deputy Town Clerk); and T McKay (Events Officer).

There were no members of the public or press present.

Public Comment

There were no public comments.

7:00pm – The meeting commenced.

11/346 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 K Gill (conflicting engagement); J Lowery (conflicting engagement); and W Read (conflicting engagement).

**Legislation requires that Councillors need to be physically present at the meeting to be shown as present. If a Councillor is unable to attend in person but can attend virtually, then apologies for absence should be given.*

RESOLVED: to accept the apologies with the reasons given.

11/347 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

The Chair advised that only recommendation 2 fell within the remit of the Property and Communities Committee. Recommendations relating to events and cultural programming would be considered separately by the Culture Committee.

Cllr Casey introduced the motion and requested that item 1 remain under consideration, noting that informal discussions had already taken place and that these discussions should now be formalised. The Chief Executive/Town Clerk confirmed that informal discussions with Somerset Council and the Yeovil Refresh Manager had been had and that Somerset Council appeared receptive to Yeovil Town Council taking on management responsibilities for the Triangle public space, the water feature, the digital screen, event booking and management of the area and the Glover's Walk meanwhile use site.

It was stressed that any arrangement would relate to management responsibilities only and would not involve a transfer of ownership, as the land would remain highway land under Somerset Council's ownership and control.

Members recognised a number of potential benefits arising from the proposed arrangement. These included opportunities to support and enhance town events, ensure that the site was maintained to an appropriate standard and provide greater local influence over the use and presentation of the space while it remained a temporary meanwhile use area.

A number of concerns were raised during the discussion. Members highlighted the potential maintenance obligations associated with managing the site, including grass cutting, planting and routine upkeep. Concerns were also expressed regarding possible staffing, financial, health and safety and operational implications. Members further agreed that the proposed feasibility assessment should include consideration of anti-social behaviour, public safety and security matters before any decision was taken on transferring management responsibilities.

The Chief Executive/Town Clerk advised that a feasibility assessment would be undertaken before any final decision was made. It was explained that the assessment would consider governance arrangements, operational responsibilities, maintenance obligations, staffing requirements, legal considerations, financial impacts, and anti-social behaviour and safety implications.

Members agreed that item 1 should be amended to reflect the fact that informal discussions had already taken place. Rather than requesting discussions with Somerset Council, the revised wording would provide for Yeovil Town Council to formally write to Somerset Council to progress the transfer of management responsibilities. Members also agreed to remove references to the future of Glover's Walk and replace them with references specifically to the management of the meanwhile use site. In addition, an amendment was made to ensure that the feasibility assessment would include a review of anti-social behaviour and safety implications.

RESOLVED: (1) subject to The Culture Committee agreeing (3) and (4) of the motion, to formally write to Somerset Council, when appropriate, to progress transfer of the management responsibility for: the Triangle public space; the water feature; the digital screen; event booking and programming of the area; and the Glovers Walk Meanwhile Use site; and (2) subject to The Culture Committee agreeing (3) and (4) of the motion, to request that officers of both councils undertake an initial feasibility assessment covering governance arrangements, operational responsibilities, maintenance obligations, staffing requirements, legal considerations, financial implication and a review of antisocial behaviour and safety.

The meeting closed at 7.29pm.

Signed:

Dated: