



Yeovil Town Council

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Mayor: Cllr T Lock
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Minutes of the extraordinary meeting of Yeovil Town Council held on Tuesday 1st October 2025 at 7:30pm held at Westlands Entertainment Venue, Westbourne Grove, Yeovil, BA20 2DD.

Present: Cllrs T Lock (Mayor); B Boyton; J Cabell; T Casey; K Gill; K Hussain; J Jimba; A Kendall; G Oakes; E Potts-Jones; A Richards; W Read; A Soughton; R Stickland; H Stonier; R White; A Wilkes and D Woan.

In Attendance (in person): A Card (Chief Executive/Town Clerk); A Burgan (Director of Culture, Events & Promotions); L Ryder (Deputy Town Clerk); Chris Hall (Executive Director, Community, Place & Economy - Somerset Council) and Cllr Liz Leyshon (Deputy Leader of the Council; Lead Member for Finance, Procurement and Performance).

There was 216 members of the public present in person.

The Chair addressed the public by welcoming them to the meeting and explaining the process for the meeting.

Public Comment

A motion was proposed by Cllr A Wilkes to restrict public speaking at the meeting to either parishioners of the parish of Yeovil — on the grounds that the consultation is only open to them and any financial implications of the decision would directly affect them; or representatives of parish councils wishing to pledge financial support. Cllr R White seconded the motion.

*(Voting: 3 for; 14 against; 1abstention) **

** For (Cllrs T Casey; R White and A Wilkes); Against (Cllrs T Lock; B Boyton; J Cabell; K Gill; K Hussain; J Jimba; A Kendall; G Oakes; E Potts-Jone; W Read; A Soughton; R Stickland; H Stonier and D Woan); Abstention (A Richards).*

Public Speaker 1 (Yeovil parishioner): The speaker shared that he began his journey in the Youth Theatre, which he described as life changing. He explained how the experience significantly improved his confidence and emphasised the values of inclusivity and community connection fostered through the theatre. He concluded by stating that the Octagon is more than just a theatre — it is "Yeovil's beating heart."

Public Speaker 2 (Yeovil parishioner): The speaker addressed the meeting as a member of both the Octagon Choir and Dance Inclusivity, highlighting her lifelong engagement with the Octagon's facilities. Speaking as a mother of a daughter with disabilities who is a wheelchair user, she shared how the Octagon Theatre has been vital in providing inclusive opportunities — specifically through its Dance Inclusive classes. She stated that without the Octagon, her daughter would have no reason or opportunity to leave the house. She urged those present to consider not only the needs of able-bodied individuals but also the importance of supporting facilities that serve disabled people.

Public Speaker 3 (Reading on behalf of her daughter, Non-Parishioner): In the statement, her daughter shared how she found her voice through performing on stage at the Octagon, and how the performing arts have since become a significant part of her life. The speaker emphasised the theatre's role as a vital focal point for Yeovil, contributing to a strong sense of place and promoting community cohesion.

Public Speaker 4 (Non-Parishioner): The speaker, who resides outside the parish, spoke about the confidence that performing at the Octagon Theatre had given her and many others.

Public Speaker 5 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker highlighted the wide range of activities offered at the Octagon Theatre for both young and older members of the community, stressing the importance of supporting health and wellbeing. While she acknowledged the existence of the Westlands Entertainment Venue, she emphasised that it is not a replacement for the Octagon, describing it instead as a general entertainment venue. She reflected on the historic significance of the Johnson Hall — the original theatre space used by previous generations — stating that it was needed then and remains essential today. She expressed a strong desire for future generations, including children and grandchildren, to continue benefiting from the facility.

Public Speaker 6 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker reflected on the many opportunities she had personally gained through the Octagon Theatre. She noted that while many people enjoy West End productions and pantomimes, a significant number of professional actors began their journeys in local theatres like the Octagon. She also highlighted the limitations of the Westlands Entertainment Venue, particularly the lack of suitable backstage infrastructure, such as changing facilities, which are essential for performers.

Public Speaker 7 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker, a professional performer, shared her journey that began at the Octagon Theatre, where she first engaged in the performing arts before entering drama school at the age of 16. She highlighted how the Octagon provided her with valuable backstage experience, which supported her development into an international performer, now working on cruise ships and in hotels around the world. She described the Octagon Theatre as one of the best in the world. Additionally, she emphasised the theatre's economic contribution to Yeovil, noting that theatregoers often support local businesses such as restaurants and other services. She also remarked on the theatre's excellent geographical location.

Public Speaker 8 (Non-Parishioner, Age 14): The speaker, a 14-year-old who lives outside the parish, shared his personal experience of performing at the Octagon Theatre, which he said gave him both the confidence and the foundation to pursue further opportunities in the

performing arts. He was part of the UK professional tour of *Les Misérables* and recalled being told it was unusual for a child from the Southwest to appear in such a production. He reflected on how most children in similar roles often came from families who could afford a second home in London or had a parent able to stop working to support them. He emphasised that the Octagon Theatre plays a crucial role in levelling the playing field, providing the next generation of children with the opportunity to step on stage and realise their dreams.

Public Speaker 9 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker raised concerns about a statement made by a Councillor on social media in relation to the Council's finances. He questioned whether the residents of Yeovil truly wished to take on a financial liability of £15 million over the next 20 years, potentially placing a long-term debt burden on future generations.

Public Speaker 10 (Non-Parishioner): The speaker shared how a 1998 performance of *The Nutcracker* inspired her to pursue ballet. Since then, she has toured across Europe and gained a deep understanding of the importance of theatre to audiences. She noted that in many European countries, theatres are government-funded, supporting orchestras, opera, dance, and drama that provide full-time employment. She commented that while not everyone uses all the services funded by Council Tax, these services are supported because they hold intrinsic value for the community.

Public Speaker 11 (Non-Parishioner): The speaker shared that performing at the Octagon Theatre had significantly boosted her confidence. She noted that each of her performances encouraged family and friends to attend and support the shows. She expressed her belief that reopening the Octagon would revitalise Yeovil, attracting people to dine in restaurants, shop locally, and thereby strengthen the town's economy.

Public Speaker 12 (Non-Parishioner): The speaker, involved with several local groups, expressed his desire to see the community thrive. He acknowledged that some people had voiced opposition to funding the Octagon but noted that many of those same people enjoy other artistic forms like radio and films—arts that also begin with grassroots support. He emphasised that the Octagon is more than a theatre; it is a vital community resource that brings people together to connect, citing groups such as the Silver Swans and the Teatime Tappers, which provide not only exercise but important social benefits. He argued that an improved venue would attract more visitors to the town, increasing local spending. Although he does not live within the parish, he indicated he would be willing to see his parish council offer financial support.

Public Speaker 13 (Non-Parishioner): The speaker, representing Yeovil Amateur Operatic Society (YAOS), highlighted the benefits of the Octagon Theatre, noting that the Westlands Entertainment Venue falls short in comparison. He specifically mentioned the lack of adequate backstage facilities at Westlands, such as performers having to use toilets as changing rooms. He expressed a strong commitment from YAOS to support the reopening of the Octagon Theatre.

Public Speaker 14 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker questioned the reasons behind the theatre's closure and expressed concerns that the proposed reopening appeared to be a 'vanity project.' He argued that the borrowing required to fund the project would place an unnecessary financial burden on Council Taxpayers.

Public Speaker 15 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker, a member of Castaways, described the group as a safe and supportive space. She shared how performing at the Octagon Theatre has helped her cope with bullying at school by allowing her to express her emotions through singing and dancing. She highlighted the positive impact that the theatre and performing arts have had on her wellbeing.

Public Speaker 16 (Non-Parishioner): The speaker, an aspiring professional dancer, explained that growing up in the Southwest has made it challenging to find performance opportunities, which is what makes the Octagon Theatre particularly valuable. She emphasised that the Octagon Theatre offers both chances to perform and the opportunity to watch professional productions, which have been a source of inspiration for her. She also noted that visits to the Octagon generate wider economic benefits, including spending at local restaurants and shops. She expressed her strong commitment to supporting the theatre's reopening.

Public Speaker 17 (Non-Parishioner): The speaker, who began his career on the Octagon Theatre stage, shared that the experience gave him confidence, purpose, and clarity about his lifelong career path. He acknowledged that not everyone is interested in performing or attending theatre but responded to challenges regarding the theatre's essential role in Yeovil's community. He highlighted research showing that theatre attendance contributes to longer life expectancy and benefits mental health, physical activity and social inclusion. Additionally, he noted the theatre's positive impact on the local economy. The speaker committed to continuing his fundraising efforts in support of the Octagon Theatre.

Public Speaker 18 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker, who has been attending the Octagon Theatre since moving to Yeovil, expressed strong support for the theatre's reopening. He began to read a statement from a Councillor regarding the Council's finances and audits but was reminded by the Chair to focus on the Octagon Theatre. He expressed the view that a £15 million project was unnecessary. He also highlighted concerns about fairness, noting that of the seven deprived areas in South Somerset, six are in Yeovil, and questioned whether it was appropriate for these communities to bear the financial burden of the project.

Public Speaker 19 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker expressed concern that the project would result in a significant debt burden. She urged that alternative options for reopening the Octagon Theatre should be thoroughly explored before committing to the current proposal.

8:40pm – Cllrs K Hussain and R White left the meeting.

8:43pm – Cllr R White returned.

8:43pm – Cllr K Hussain returned.

Public Speaker 20 (Non-Parishioner): The speaker acknowledged the strong community support for reopening the Octagon Theatre but emphasised that the main concern was the financing and the financial burden placed on the parish of Yeovil. He sought clarification on what guarantees exist to keep the within the budget and questioned what measures would be in place if costs were to escalate.

Public Speaker 21 (Non-Parishioner): The speaker affirmed that the Octagon Theatre is a resource for everyone. She shared that she and her team have voluntarily run the Castaways Theatre Group for 23 years, during which hundreds of children have participated. Through the

group, children learn stage skills, teamwork, and build friendships and confidence, preparing them for life beyond theatre. She also highlighted the wealth of talent present in Yeovil.

Public Speaker 22 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker, a 12-year-old who has grown up performing on the Octagon Theatre stage, shared his excitement about recently being accepted into the West End production of Matilda, an opportunity he attributed to the theatre. He highlighted the many opportunities the Octagon Theatre has provided to other children. Although he was not eligible to participate in the consultation, he expressed that he would have answered “yes” in support of the theatre and stated that when he is older, he would gladly contribute to its costs.

Public Speaker 23 (Yeovil Parishioner): The speaker expressed sadness over the closure of the Octagon Theatre by Somerset Council and noted that £1.77 million had already been spent on design preparations. He voiced strong support for reopening the theatre but questioned the necessity of spending £15 million on the project.

Adam Dance MP (Representative for Yeovil Parish): He commended the young people who spoke eloquently about the importance of the Octagon Theatre. He explained that £10 million of the project funding comes from central government and has been ringfenced specifically for the Octagon Theatre, meaning it cannot be allocated elsewhere. He warned that if the project does not proceed, the funding will be lost, and Somerset will likely never have a similar opportunity again.

The Director of Culture, Events & Promotions read out statements submitted by members of the public who were unable to attend the meeting in person. These statements reflected a range of views regarding the Octagon Theatre and its reopening.

Sarah Parish MBE wrote to express her support for the Octagon Theatre reopening project. She credited the theatre with helping her discover her passion for performance, which ultimately led to her pursuing a successful career in acting.

The Chair Of Yeovil Community Arts Association (YCAA) highlighted that the Octagon Theatre is recognised globally. The YCAA runs an annual international writing competition, with winners this year from countries including Cambodia, the USA, Malaysia, as well as from locations in England such as Weymouth, The Cotswolds and Yeovil. They emphasised that there are many ways to bring culture to Yeovil, and that the Octagon Theatre plays a key role in raising the town's profile on the global stage.

A written statement was read out for a professional dancer and resident of Yeovil. The statement emphasised that theatre offers much more than just entertainment. It benefits the community by improving mental and physical wellbeing, providing respite for teenagers who are carers in their families, and offering inclusive dance classes catering to individuals of varying abilities, including children with additional learning needs.

The Chair read out an email that he had received from a resident. The resident expressed that it was unfair he was not consulted about contributing to the theatre project, despite having already made a financial contribution. He commented on the importance of cultural attractions and good amenities in Yeovil to help attract professionals such as doctors, nurses, care

workers and teachers. The Chair noted that this statement reflected many comments received from the public.

8:54 pm The meeting commenced.

11/279 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 E Hopkins (conflicting engagement); J Lock (conflicting engagement); J Lowery (conflicting engagement); and J Snell (unwell).

**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.

11/280 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

Cllr R Stickland declared a personal interest, noting that he is Chair of Yeovil Without Parish Council, which has pledged financial support to the Octagon Theatre project. He clarified that, as a member of that council, he did not participate in the decision to pledge funds.

11/281 OCTOGON THEATRE PROJECT APPROVAL

The Town Clerk/Chief Executive presented the report using a PowerPoint presentation, which highlighted the key points and findings within the report related to the Octagon Theatre project.

She clarified that the total capital cost would be £15 million, funded by:

Government Funding (DCMS)	£10,000,000
Yeovil Town Council	£3,750,000

Ticket Levy – Existing Funding generated by users of the Octagon Theatre and Westlands Entertainment Venue (held by Somerset Council)	£541,000
Fundraising and other grants	£444,000
Somerset Council	£265,000
Total	£15,000,000

She added that the officers managing the project at Somerset Council are providing their services in kind, meaning their work is contributed without additional charge.

There would be a total commitment of £3,694,500 including stamp duty for the transfer of ownership. This would be funded from existing reserves (£639,500) and a loan from the Public Works Loan Board (£3.325 million). Based on an interest rate of 5.8% over a 20-year term, there would be an estimated annual repayment of £283,550.63 (funded by £173,000 ticket levy and £110,063 increase in Town Council's precept.), resulting in a 3.3% increase equivalent to £11.60 per year.

The scope of the project includes: auditorium refurbishment; participatory studio; enhanced café bar; front of house and customer facilities; accessibility improvements; backstage and technical enhancements; and sustainability and environmental impact.

She spoke of the many public consultation activities that the Council had carried out.

The Council had approached other Councils where feedback was made. To date the following feedback has been given:

- Yeovil Without Parish Council – pledged capital contribution of £70,000
- Brympton Parish Council and Ilminster Town Council – invited to October Meeting
- Huish Episcopi Parish Council and Langport Town Council – encourage to submit applications for small grant
- Bruton Town Council, Castle Cary Town Council, Mudford Parish Council, East Coker – could not contribute due to priorities in their own parishes
- Still to receive responses from other Councils

On 27 August 2025, there were 22,848 registered electors within the parish of Yeovil. Yeovil Town Council received a total of 3,393 valid consultation responses, resulting in a response rate of 14.85%.

The results for Question 1: Are you in **FAVOUR** of Yeovil Town Council going ahead with the contribution of £3,964,500 (including Stamp Duty) towards the Octagon Theatre Project resulting in borrowing of £3,325,000? 50.84% were in favour, and 47.42% were not.

Question 2: Are you in **FAVOUR** of Yeovil Town Council going ahead with the contribution of £3,964,500 (including Stamp Duty) towards the Octagon Theatre Project resulting in borrowing of £3,325,000, if it includes a Council tax precept increase of 3.3% (equivalent to £110,062.69) for the purpose of the loan repayments? 44.56% were in favour whilst 55.03% were not.

The Town Clerk/Chief Executive spoke about the next steps.

The Executive Director, Community, Place & Economy at Somerset Council addressed some of the public questions, emphasising that there is no Plan C for the Octagon Theatre project. He explained that Plan A—the original project—was deemed unviable by Somerset Council, and the current proposal is Plan B. He made it clear that if the proposals are not supported at the meeting, the business case will not be submitted, resulting in the loss of the £10 million funding from the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS). Somerset Council cannot fund the project should Yeovil Town Council reject the proposal. In such a scenario, the theatre would remain closed and the building declared a surplus asset.

Regarding budget concerns, he assured everyone that Somerset Council is committed to delivering the project within the £15 million budget, with no capacity to exceed it. A significant contingency has been allocated, and professional surveys have been conducted to minimise risk. If tender costs exceed the budget, the design will be reviewed and value engineering undertaken, a standard process in large-scale capital projects. The more preparatory work done upfront, the less likely value engineering will be necessary.

The Chair thanked the officers for their presentations.

9.22pm – Cllr A Wilkes left the meeting.

9:24pm – Cllr A Wilkes returned to the meeting.

Cllr A Richards raised a procedural issue concerning a point of order during the meeting and reserved the right to speak again later.

Cllr A Wilkes expressed agreement with the many passionate speeches in support of the theatre and acknowledged Yeovil's need for one. However, he argued that the funding should come from the regional authority—Somerset Council—as they own the Octagon Theatre, which has been closed since 2023. He questioned why Somerset Council could not raise council tax by 1p to fund the theatre, citing pressures on mandatory services like Children's services as reasons for Somerset Council's reluctance. He emphasised fairness, noting that 55% of those consulted opposed funding the theatre through council tax. He disagreed with the current financial plan, particularly the projected £250,000 annual loss. He highlighted that Yeovil Town Council taxpayers have faced a 140% tax increase over the past two years and pointed out that the abolition of South Somerset District Council removed a financial buffer, increasing costs for individual councils. He called for fairer funding mechanisms.

Cllr E Potts-Jones acknowledged the responsibility she holds as an elected representative to serve the public, noting that some decisions are difficult due to the diverse views of residents. She expressed her deep affection for Yeovil and emphasised the importance of preserving and enhancing the town. She stated her intention to be the Councillor who proposes that the Council proceed with the loan process to support the Octagon Theatre project.

The Executive Director, Community, Place & Economy at Somerset Council confirmed that Somerset Council inherited all schemes, assets, and responsibilities from the former district and county councils, including the Octagon Theatre, which was deemed unaffordable for them to maintain. However, members at Somerset Council were keen to find an alternative solution, and through partnership working with Yeovil Town Council, a viable plan has been developed.

Cllr L Leyshon spoke about the financial pressures facing Somerset Council, particularly due to demands on Adult and Children's services, which impact funding available for other services. She highlighted that the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport (DCMS) grant covers 66% of the total cost of the Octagon Theatre project, funding which comes from taxpayers across the UK.

The Director of Culture, Events & Promotions highlighted that Yeovil Town Council has agreed to subsidise the Octagon Theatre to the tune of £210,000. He explained that theatres of the Octagon's size commonly receive subsidies, with even large institutions like the National Theatre receiving financial support. Many other council services are also subsidised. The Council determines the subsidy amount to ensure the theatre operates as a community asset, serving residents' interests. This includes offering discounted tickets, leveraging national funding from bodies like the Arts Council, and providing reduced hire rates to local amateur groups, community groups, and charities. The subsidy can be viewed either as a loss or as an investment in the community. The Council could choose to reduce the subsidy and run the theatre more commercially if desired, and there are ways to implement that.

Cllr D Woan emphasised that this is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity, warning that if the project is not approved, the £10 million funding will be lost. Despite past challenges, the Council has reached a stage where it must commit to delivering the project. He expressed his understanding of the impact on Yeovil from losing important town centre facilities and stressed that he does not want the Octagon Theatre to be added to that list. He highlighted that arts, music, and culture serve as the essential "glue" that binds communities together.

Cllr K Gill reflected on his personal involvement with the Octagon Theatre and emphasised that its future belongs to everyone. He highlighted the wide-ranging benefits the theatre brings to the community. While advocating for exploring all possible alternative funding options, he stressed that if the investment is not made now, the opportunity to secure the £10 million funding will be lost forever.

Cllr A Kendall inquired about the potential implications for Somerset Council if a Section 114 (S114) notice were to be issued, seeking clarification on the financial and operational consequences.

The Executive Director, Community, Place & Economy at Somerset Council assured that Somerset Council is doing everything possible to avoid the issuance of a Section 114 (S114) notice, which is effectively a declaration of bankruptcy. He explained that if such a notice were issued, commissioners would scrutinise the Council's budget in detail, identifying and potentially removing all non-statutory and non-health-and-safety services, putting many services at risk. He noted that since Somerset Council is not financially contributing to the Octagon Theatre project, terminating it would not provide any financial relief or help close budget gaps.

Cllr G Oakes described the meeting as a historic moment. He shared that he had challenged many opponents of the current funding plan to propose alternative solutions but none had been put forward. He emphasised that if the Council wishes to honour the community's desire to reopen the Octagon Theatre, borrowing money is necessary. He stressed that the Council must find a way to manage the financial impact of the resulting precept increase.

Cllr A Soughton acknowledged the extensive weeks of work that had gone into reaching this point and thanked the Officers for their efforts during a challenging period. Addressing concerns about fairness, he reminded everyone that there was no alternative Plan C. He highlighted the risk associated with the Westland Entertainment Venue, which is leased with the next break clause in 2031—if exercised by Leonardo, Yeovil would be left without a venue for entertainment. He urged Members not to deny young people the opportunity to engage with culture in Yeovil.

Cllr T Casey acknowledged the heartfelt speeches from young people, relating personally as a father of a daughter who has performed at the Octagon since the age of 3. He recognised the Octagon Theatre as an integral part of Yeovil's culture. However, he emphasised that the core issue is whether Yeovil Town Council should assume millions in debt and the associated long-term financial risks. He noted that Somerset Council had shifted this financial risk onto Yeovil Town Council. Highlighting recent significant council tax increases faced by residents, he stated his responsibility to represent local people and cautioned that ignoring public concerns could erode trust in the Council. He stressed the importance of fairness and accountability, questioning why Yeovil parish taxpayers should bear the full financial burden for a theatre owned by Somerset Council.

Cllr A Richard addressed the principle of Community Asset Transfer, expressing concern that it could be perceived as an improper cost-shifting measure. He stated his desire to see the Octagon reopen but emphasised that it must be sustainable and significantly improved compared to its current state.

10:15pm – Cllr A Richards left the meeting.

Cllr A Soughton proposed an amendment to recommendation 4 within the report, which was seconded by Cllr W Read. There were no other amendments.

10:17pm – Cllr A Richards returned to the meeting (Cllr A Richards was not present whilst the amended motion was put forward and therefore did not vote on resolution 4).

RESOLVED: (1) to note the report; (2) to proceed with the loan (*Voting: 14 for; 4 against;*)*¹; (3) to seek the approval of the Secretary of State for Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government to apply for the Public Works Loan Board loan of £3,325,000* over the borrowing term of 20 years for the contribution towards the Octagon Theatre Project. The annual loan repayment will come to approximately £283,063 **The loan application amount will be for £3,325,000 subject to reduction by any one-off financial contributions secured from other towns and parish Councils (Voting: 14 for; 2 against; 2 abstentions)**²; and (4) to explore alternative funding sources to contribute towards the annual loan repayments, and to report findings to a future meeting of Town Council to enable agreement on the funding structure (*Voting: 15 for; 2 abstentions*)*³.

**¹ For (Cllrs T Lock; B Boyton; J Cabell; K Gill; K Hussain; J Jimba; A Kendall; G Oakes; E Potts-Jone; W Read; A Soughton; R Stickland; H Stonier and D Woan); Against (Cllrs T Casey; R White and A Wilkes); Abstention (A Richards).*

**² For (Cllrs T Lock; B Boyton; J Cabell; K Gill; K Hussain; J Jimba; A Kendall; G Oakes; E Potts-Jone; W Read; A Soughton; R Stickland; H Stonier and D Woan); Against (Cllrs A Richard and R White); Abstention (Cllrs T Casey and A Wilkes).*

**3 For (Cllrs T Lock; B Boyton; J Cabell; K Gill; K Hussain; J Jimba; A Kendall; G Oakes; E Potts-Jone; W Read; A Soughton; R Stickland; H Stonier; A Wilkes and D Woan); Abstention (Cllrs T Casey and R White).*

Cllr T Lock thanked everyone for attending.

Meeting closed at 10:19 pm.

Signed:

Date: