

MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 27 APRIL 2021 FROM 6.30PM – 6.50PM VIA ZOOM VIDEO CONFERENCING

PRESENT

Councillor Karl Tomasin – Town Mayor/Chair

Members of Yate Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council – Councillors Mike Drew, John Ford (part-meeting), John Gawn, Cheryl Kirby, Margaret Marshall (part-meeting), Alan Monaghan, Ben Nutland, Jane Price, Penny Thoyts (part-meeting), and Chris Willmore.

1 member of the public.

Town Clerk, Retiring Responsible Finance Officer and Finance Manager & RFO - Yate Town Council.

Apologies were received from Yate Town Councillors Wully Perks and John Serle.

1 NOTICE OF MEETING

It was confirmed that the notice of meeting had been advertised according to the law. The Chair declared the meeting to be a properly constituted meeting.

2 MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

The minutes of the previous Annual Town Meeting held on 30 April 2019 were received (as **NOTED** at the Yate Town Council meeting held on 14th May 2019), and were approved as a true and accurate record and signed by the Chair.

It was **NOTED** that in 2020, the Annual Town Meeting did not take place owing to Covid-19 restrictions at the time. (See Minute No.154 of the Full Council Minutes, 12th May 2020).

3 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor Karl Tomasin presented a written report providing an overview of Town Council business and his experience as Mayor and Chair for the period 2019 – 2020. Councillor Tomasin also expressed sadness at the passing of Prince Philip earlier this month and it was **NOTED** that entries had been made by the chair on behalf of the Town Council into the Book of Condolence.

Thanks were given to all Town Council staff and in particular, to Steph Davies, Retiring RFO (and former Deputy Town Clerk), for 30 years of valued service to the local community and to the Town Council.

4 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

A detailed statement of the Town Council's accounts for period ending 31 March 2020 were presented to the meeting by the Retiring RFO, along with the external audit report.

RESOLVED The Town Council's statement of accounts for period ending 31 March 2020 be accepted by the Annual Town Meeting.

5 ANNUAL REPORT FROM CHAIR OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

A report prepared by Councillor Alan Monaghan (Chair of the Environment and Planning Committee) was received and **NOTED**. Councillor Monaghan commented that it has been a difficult year owing to Covid-19 and he expressed his thanks to all members and staff of the Town Council.

(Councillor John Ford and Penny Thoys entered the meeting).

6 ANNUAL REPORT FROM CHAIR OF FINANCE AND GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

A report prepared by Councillor Cheryl Kirby (Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee) was received and **NOTED**. Councillor Kirby gave personal thanks to the Retiring RFO and the wider team for all the help and support shown over the last year.

7 ANNUAL REPORT FROM CHAIR OF PLANNING AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

A report prepared by Councillor John Gawn (Chair of the Planning and Transportation Committee) was received and **NOTED**.

Councillor Gawn thanked everyone at Yate Town Council, in particular Karen Harris (Service Support Assistant), for their assistance and support over the past year.

It was **NOTED** that a positive meeting had taken place with representatives of South Gloucestershire Council on 27th April in the discussion of the Station Road area.

8 CHARITY REPORTS

8/1 Wills Davis Atwell Charity

A report from the Wills Davis Atwell Charity was received and **NOTED**.

It was reported that the Charity seeks to help young people of the parish and a plea was made for applications from those who meet the criteria and who could benefit from a grant.

8/2 Yate United Charities

A report from Yate United Charities was received and **NOTED**. It was further **NOTED** that the future of the charity remains under discussion by the Trustees.

8/3 Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust

A report from Yate & District Heritage Centre was received and **NOTED**.

9 REPORTS FROM SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLORS

Written reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors John Gawn, Ben Nutland, Ruth Davis, Tony Davis and Louise Harris were received and **NOTED**.

Councillor Drew provided a verbal update to the meeting, explaining an impact of Covid-19 on South Gloucestershire Council administration and its calendar of meetings.

The Chair of Yate Town Council gave thanks to all the South Gloucestershire Councillors for Yate for representing Yate / Dodington to get the best for our town and our community.

10 TOWN AFFAIRS

No matters were raised.

10/1 Vote of Thanks

The Chair of Yate Town Council formally thanked the staff of Yate Town Council for their work over the past year during Covid-19, and thanked the Councillors of Yate Town Council for their support to the residents of the town. The Chair also thanked the residents of the town and local businesses, and in particular, thanked all those who had made a contribution locally in the face of Covid-19.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 6.50pm.