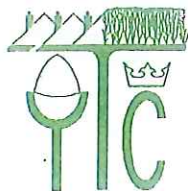


YATE TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2013/2014

TO BE PRESENTED AT THE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 29 APRIL 2014
AT POOLE COURT, YATE.

CONTENTS

Annual Town Meeting Agenda	1
Minutes of Annual Town Meeting held on Tuesday 23 April 2013	2 - 6
Annual Report from Councillor Wully Perks (Chair of Yate Town Council and Town Mayor) – to be delivered at the meeting	7-8
Statement of Accounts for year ended 31 March 2013	9-25
Annual Report from Councillor John Ford (Chair of Yate Town Council's Environment and Planning Committee)	26-27
Annual Report from Councillor John Davis (Chair of Yate Town Council Finance and General Purposes Committee)	28
Wills Davis Atwell Charity Accounts	29
Yate United Charity Accounts	30-31
Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust Report	32-34
Reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors for Yate:	
Councillor Ruth Davis Yate Central	35
Councillor Sue Walker Yate Central	36-37
Councillor Ian Blair Yate North	38
Councillor Mike Drew Yate North	39-40
Councillor Mike Robbins Yate North	41
Councillor Tony Davis Dodington	42
Councillor Alan Lawrance Dodington	43
Contact details for Yate Town Councillors	44
Contact details for Yate Town Council Officers	45-46



Tuesday 22 April 2014

**THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE
ON TUESDAY 29 APRIL 2014 FROM 7.30PM-9.00PM AT POOLE COURT, YATE**

A G E N D A

1. To confirm that the notice of meeting has been advertised according to the law.
2. To note the minutes of the previous Annual Town Meeting held on Tuesday 23 April 2013. *(The minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record at the Town Council meeting held on 7 May 2013).*
3. To receive the Yate Town Council annual report comprising of:-
 - (a) annual report from Councillor Wully Perks, Chair of Yate Town Council and Town Mayor;
 - (b) statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2013;
 - (c) annual report from Councillor John Ford, Chair of Yate Town Council's Environment and Planning Committee;
 - (d) annual report from Councillor John Davis, Chair of Yate Town Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee.
4. To receive annual reports from parochial charities:-
 - (a) Wills Davis Atwell Charity;
 - (b) Yate United Charities;
 - (c) Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust.
5. To receive annual reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors for Yate:-

Councillor Ruth Davis	Yate Central
Councillor Sue Walker	Yate Central
Councillor Ian Blair	Yate North
Councillor Mike Drew	Yate North
Councillor Mike Robbins	Yate North
Councillor Tony Davis	Dodington
Councillor Alan Lawrance	Dodington
6. Town Affairs.

Signed:

Councillor Wully Perks, Yate Town Council Chair & Town Mayor

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 23 APRIL
2013 FROM 7.30PM – 9.00PM AT POOLE COURT, YATE**

PRESENT

Councillor Martin Monk – Town Mayor/Chair

**Members of Yate Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council -
Councillors John Davis, Ruth Davis, Tony Davis, Mike Drew, David Evan-Jones,
John Ford, Alan Lawrance, Alan Monaghan, Wully Perks, Mike Robbins, Cleo
Trotter and Chris Willmore.**

Reverend Ian Wallace – Parish Rector

6 members of the public. 1 member of the press.

**Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk/RFO and Senior Administrative Officer.
Yate Town Council.**

**Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Ian Blair, Sue Evan-Jones
and Sue Walker. Councillors Aziz Chowdhry and Margaret Marshall were
absent.**

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 24 April 2012 were
received and NOTED having been approved and signed by the Chair as a true and
accurate record at the Town Council meeting held on 15 May 2012 (minute number
101).**

3 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

**Councillor Martin Monk presented a written report providing an overview of Town
Council business 2012 – 2013 and invited any questions, but none were received.**

A member of the public thanked Councillor Monk for his work as Mayor.

4 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

**A detailed statement of the Town Council's accounts for period ending 31 March
2012 was presented to the meeting. The Assistant Town Clerk/Responsible Finance
Officer offered to respond to any questions, but none were received.**

**RESOLVED The Town Council's statement of accounts for period ending 31 March
2012 be accepted by the Annual Town Meeting.**

5 ANNUAL REPORT FROM CHAIR OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

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

6 ANNUAL REPORT FROM CHAIR OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

A report prepared by Alan Lawrance (Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee) was received and **NOTED**.

Concern was raised by a member of the public that Yate Town Council will have less money to do the same services if cuts are made by South Gloucestershire Council and that this could lead to the precept being increased. Councillors responded that there was no guarantee that the transitional grant received to cover the shortfall (caused by the 15% reduction in Housing Benefit value) in the precept received would continue year on year. It was also commented that the government may put a cap on the percentage increase that Town and Parish councils can apply to the precept.

The meeting was advised that;

- additional money has been made available through the New Homes Bonus and money from this source will be used this year to enhance play areas which would normally have been paid from the precept;
- As South Gloucestershire Council has withdrawn from funding direct youth services, Yate Town Council made the commitment for this transitional year (2013/2014) that it would cover the shortfall in the difference in funding required between monies provided by other sources and the money required to maintain status quo for its youth provision.

7 CHARITY REPORTS

7/1 Wills Davis Atwell Charity

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

It was explained that the empty vacancy was a small plot of land adjacent to Leech Poole dairy farm which is let on an agricultural tenancy, a new tenant has not yet been found.

It was suggested that Trustees may like to consider:-

- extending the terms of reference for grant awards to cover funding of apprenticeships or internships;
- advertising the availability of grant funding via social media and at the Armadillo.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Trustees would be asked to consider the suggestions at the next meeting of the Charity.

7/2 Yate United Charities

A report from Yate United Charities was received and **NOTED**.

7/3 Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust

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

It was commented that the total amount of funding from Yate Town Council was not shown in the report and a request made that the level of funding support from Yate Town Council be made transparent in future reports.

8 REPORTS FROM SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLORS

Written reports from South Gloucestershire Councillors Ian Blair, Mike Drew, Ruth Davis, Tony Davis, Alan Lawrance, Mike Robbins and Sue Walker, were received and **NOTED**.

Councillor Mike Drew added that he also serves on the Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Panel as well as Vice Chair of Avon Fire Authority. Councillor Drew advised that the precept to the Fire Authority was adjusted following the 2011 census and the amount received via the precept dropped by approximately one million pounds. Difficulties are foreseen and it is possible that a ballot may be called to find out if tax payers are prepared to pay more for the service.

Cllr Tony Davis advised that a recent spring clean had taken place at Abbotswood Shopping Centre and surrounding area and several tons of rubbish were taken away. Public bodies were involved in the spring clean, police, fire officers, Streetcare and members of the public and the area is looking better.

It was commented that it is difficult to engage residents and create a community spirit and not everyone wishes to be involved, however using different techniques such as those used in aid work could be useful.

The Community Engagement Officer at South Gloucestershire Council and the Reverend Iain MacFarlane were thanked for all their hard work over the last year.

A member of the public thanked all the South Gloucestershire Councillors for all their hard work.

9 TOWN AFFAIRS

9/1 Abbotswood Area

The Chair of Abbotswood Action read out a statement in relation to the ownership and upkeep of the area and the following points were **NOTED**;

- the agent for the landlord responded very promptly when permission was requested to access the land for the Big Spring Clean although in general, it is very difficult to engage the landlord;

- the Big Spring Clean saw many tons of rubbish removed from the shopping centre area and surrounding car parks;
- the number of takeaways in the area have led to a lot of litter being left;
- as the area has been used for a number of years as a thoroughfare, could it be made a Public Right of Way?
- Discussion took place about ways in which the community could be engaged;
- What is the criteria for compulsory purchase?
- Discussion took place about the management of the flats;
- Thanks were extended to Jacqui Ward and Mary Wright for their work in the Abbotswood area.

The meeting was advised that Yate Town Council does not have any compulsory purchase rights. The value of the site could be a six figure sum as the acreage of development would be used to calculate the value and Yate Town Council could not raise that sum of money.

It was suggested that a more realistic source of funds would be from a Housing Association who would purchase and manage the scheme.

9/2 Litter

A local resident expressed concern about the amount of litter in the town and the time spent by South Gloucestershire Council and Yate Town Council staff in picking it up.

It was suggested that Yate Town Council might like to consider more attractive litter bins with motivational stickers/posters to alert people to how proud we are of the area and how much work is done. The posters could be designed by local children and a name and shame system could be considered for those that are caught littering.

9/3 Housing

A local resident expressed confusion as to how many houses were to be built in Yate and asked whether affordable housing would be included.

Councillor Chris Willmore advised that it was not surprising that the people were confused by the total amount of new housing in Yate as the figures keep changing.

It was **NOTED** that consent has been given for development at Elswick Park and Coopers site, a planning application is in for approx. 250 houses at Peg Hill which will be followed by a further 2750 houses in North Yate/Brimsham area.

Approximately 2500 new houses will be built between now and 2026 (which will include a percentage of affordable housing).

9/4 Bus Service from Yate to Southmead Hospital

The meeting was advised that if residents of Yate need to attend or visit Southmead Hospital there is no direct bus service. The current journey involves changing buses,

using trains and buses and long waiting times which can take up to 1 hour and 45 minutes.

RESOLVED That a request be made that this matter is raised at the Annual Town Council meeting on 7 May 2013 and South Gloucestershire Council strongly pursued to supply appropriate direct public transport provision for the residents of Yate to get to Southmead Hospital.

9/5 Vote of Thanks

The Mayor formally thanked the Officers and Staff of Yate Town Council for their work.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 9.00pm.

S:\Annual Town Meeting\2013\Minutes 23 April 2013.doc

ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF YATE TOWN COUNCIL AND TOWN MAYOR
WULLY PERKS 2013-2014

It gives me great pleasure in my first year as Mayor to give this Annual Report. It has been for me a humbling and exciting year and a great privilege to be Mayor of such a vibrant town that I feel Yate is.

And what a year it's been for me, my first engagement was to welcome the Princess Royal to open our new Academy. It was a wonderful day all who met her were impressed by her warmth, charm and interest, a day not to be forgotten. A day too when I met Hon Hugh Tollemarche, the High Sheriff with his wife Rosie and Dame Janet Trotter, Lord Lt. Lady Later the High Sheriff made a private visit to our town another red letter day and I was honoured in March to be invited to Gloucester cathedral for his farewell and to welcome the new High Sheriff Hon Tom Frost from Thornbury, who in his year promises to bring South Glos more to the fore. We look forward to a visit in the new year. We have also had the great success of our community events such as the St. George's day celebrations, the international Festival and the Kingsgate Music Festival.

All this aside, I would especially like to thank all those who have been so welcoming to me my fellow councillors, who do so much for our town, all at Poole Court and so many organisations who make this such a vibrant community. From the very young to the not so young.

I have met this year so many aspiring young people in schools, at the Armadillo, the Peg Hill Skate Park, Scouts cubs and our service cadets. Not forgetting musical talent as shown by 5th South Glos young musicians and young artists from Yate who made my Annual Civic service at the academy so memorable and I must not forget our wonderful young gymnast who have performed in this country and overseas promoting our town. The future of Yate is in very good hands.

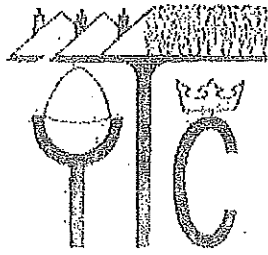
I am so proud of members of Yate and Dodington in Bloom and our estates team for achieving Silver Gilt award in the Royal Horticultural Society South West in Bloom not forgetting work at Yate Railway Station, which celebrates its 25 years of re-opening this month and the Friends of Kingsgate Park being awarded a level 5 outstanding "it's your neighbourhood" award, the highest award possible.

I must not forget the stirring work by Friends of the Common, it's a real joy to walk around. One of my saddest moments this year was to attend the funeral of its Chair Lyn Kendall who worked so tirelessly there.

This year it was also a joy to welcome civic guests from our twin town of Bad Salzdetfurth for their annual visit our Yate Twinning group is to visit in August. Another sadness for me was the death of the Twinning Chair Nigel Ellis, who in his short time as Chair did so much to foster deeper relationships with our German Friends and it was a great privilege to conduct his funeral service at Winterbourne. So much more I could write, the work of CASAL for the bereaved and disabled clubs who do such valuable work tirelessly for the good of the town.

My final word is to thank all who give so much and work tirelessly to make this town of Yate so very special, it is indeed a great honour to be your mayor. Yate wouldn't be the town it is without the work of all the wonderful folk.

Chair of Council Wully Perks
April 2014



YATE TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

INDEX

for the Year Ended 31st March 2013

Page Numbers

1	Council Information
2	Internal Auditors Report
3	Income and Expenditure Account
4	Balance Sheet
5 to 15	Notes to the Accounts

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Council Information

Mayor:

- 1 Councillor Martin Monk

Councillors:

- | | | |
|----|--------------------|------------------------|
| 2 | Arthur Adams | (Until 17 August 2012) |
| 3 | Ian Blair | |
| 4 | Aziz Chowdhry | |
| 5 | John Davis | |
| 6 | Tony Davis | |
| 7 | Mike Drew | |
| 8 | David Evan - Jones | |
| 9 | Sue Evan - Jones | |
| 10 | John Ford | |
| 11 | Alan Lawrance | |
| 12 | Margaret Marshall | (From November 2012) |
| 13 | Alan Monaghan | |
| 14 | Wully Perks | |
| 15 | Mike Robbins | |
| 16 | Cleo Trotter | |
| 17 | Sue Walker | |
| 18 | Chris Willmore | |

Clerk:

Hayley Townsend

Responsible Finance Officer:

Stephanie Davies

Auditors:

Grant Thornton UL LLP, Hartwell House, 55-61 Victoria Street, Bristol, BS1 6FT.

Internal Auditors:

South Gloucestershire Council

Section 4 – Annual internal audit report 2012/13 to YATE TOWN COUNCIL

The council's internal audit, acting independently and on the basis of an assessment of risk, carried out a selective assessment of compliance with relevant procedures and controls expected to be in operation during the financial year ended 31 March 2013.

Internal audit has been carried out in accordance with the council's needs and planned coverage. On the basis of the findings in the areas examined, the internal audit conclusions are summarised in this table. Set out below are the objectives of internal control and alongside are the internal audit conclusions on whether, in all significant respects, the control objectives were being achieved throughout the financial year to a standard adequate to meet the needs of the council.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| A | Appropriate books of account have been kept properly throughout the year. | ✓ |
| B | The council's financial regulations have been met, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for. | ✓ |
| C | The council assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these. | ✓ |
| D | The annual precept requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate. | ✓ |
| E | Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for. | ✓ |
| F | Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for. | ✓ |
| G | Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with council approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied. | ✓ |
| H | Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained. | ✓ |
| I | Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out. | ✓ |
| J | Accounting statements prepared during the year were prepared on the correct accounting basis (receipts and payments or income and expenditure), agreed to the cash book, were supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records, and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded. | ✓ |
| K | Trust funds (including charitable) The council met its responsibilities as a trustee. | ✓ |

For any other risk areas identified by the council (list any other risk areas below or on separate sheets if needed) adequate controls existed:

Name of person who carried out the internal audit **HILARY GREENE CIPFA**

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit *Hilary Greene* Date **11/6/13**

***Note:** If the response is 'no' please state the implications and action being taken to address any weakness in control identified (add separate sheets if needed).

****Note:** If the response is 'not covered' please state when the most recent internal audit work was done in this area and when it is next planned, or, if coverage is not required, internal audit must explain why not (add separate sheets if needed).

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Income and Expenditure Account For the Year Ended 31 March 2013

	Notes	2013 £	2012 £
INCOME			
Precept on District Council		804,828	796,247
Agency Services	3	3,184	3,797
Loan and Capital Receipts		119,780	-
Interest and Investment Income	2	10,078	10,529
Leisure and Recreation		34,049	31,622
Play Areas		-	1,250
Open Spaces and Public Rights of Way		1,126	3,067
Estates Dept		-	636
YTC Grants and Community Support		-	-
Transport Initiatives		-	3,482
Establishment/General Administration		380	32
Civic and Demographic		-	465
Other Services		13,109	8,851
Heritage Centre		3,000	4,770
Parish Hall		10,828	13,429
Pop Inn Café		30,453	34,637
Poole Court		57,485	65,339
Youth Café		22,611	-
		<u>1,110,911</u>	<u>978,153</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Establishment/General Administration	5	212,697	206,221
S137 Expenditure	6	-	3,577
Capital Expenditure	8	29,983	240,819
Loan Charges	14	55,941	55,942
Lease and HP repayments		-	-
Operational Expenditure:			
Leisure and Recreation		28,443	33,555
Childrens Play Areas		8,464	8,264
Open Spaces and Public Rights of Way		6,070	8,306
Estates Department		182,955	189,358
Grants and Community Support		70,676	79,646
Transport Initiatives		441	4,161
Civic and Demographic		7,477	22,976
Other Services		50,850	38,445
Heritage Centre		57,803	52,498
Parish Hall		13,263	12,842
Pop Inn Café		35,354	37,041
Poole Court		65,438	63,193
Youth Café		98,945	99,790
		<u>924,800</u>	<u>1,156,634</u>
General Fund			
Balance as at 1 April 2012		451,487	450,791
Add: Total Income		<u>1,110,911</u>	<u>978,153</u>
		1,562,398	1,428,944
Deduct: Total Expenditure		<u>(924,800)</u>	<u>(1,156,634)</u>
		637,598	272,310
Transfer (to) other Reserves	15	(247,461)	179,177
General Reserve Balance at 31 March 2012		<u>390,137</u>	<u>451,487</u>

These financial statements are un-audited and do not comply with statutory requirements. A copy of the audited statement of accounts is available from the office on request.

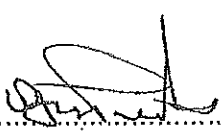
YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2013

	Notes	2013 £	2013 £	2012 £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets			7,826,559	7,629,637
Current Assets				
Stock	10	-		-
Debtors	11	24,840		24,854
Cash at Bank and In Hand		885,534		700,857
		<u>910,374</u>		<u>725,711</u>
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and accrued expenses	12	(68,110)		(69,558)
Net Current Assets			842,265	656,154
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			<u>8,668,824</u>	<u>8,285,791</u>
Long Term Liabilities				
Creditors - More Than One Year	14		(608,475)	(635,190)
			<u>8,060,348</u>	<u>7,650,601</u>
Capital and Reserves				
Council Resources Invested in fixed Assets			7,218,084	6,994,447
Earmarked Reserves	15	452,128		204,667
General Reserve		<u>390,137</u>		<u>451,487</u>
Council Resources Available			<u>842,265</u>	<u>656,154</u>
			<u>8,060,349</u>	<u>7,650,601</u>

The statement of accounts represent fairly the financial position of the council as at 31 March 2013 and reflects the Income and Expenditure for the year.

These accounts have been approved by the Council.


Councillor Wully Perks
Mayor

Date 25/6/13


Stephanie Davies
Responsible Finance Officer

Date 25/6/13

These financial statements are un-audited and do not comply with statutory requirements. A copy of the audited statement of accounts is available from the office on request.

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2013

1 Principal Accounting Policies

Accounting Convention

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the Accounting Guidance Notes for Local Council (the Guide) issued by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy (CIPFA) as applicable to a medium sized council.

As a consequence the latest accounting policies, as set out in the Guide and so far as they apply to this council, have been adopted for the council's statement of account.

Fixed Assets

All expenditure on the acquisition, creation or enhancement of fixed assets is reported in the notes to other accounts, provided that the fixed asset yields benefits to the authority and the services it provides, for a period of more than one year. Fixed assets are valued on the basis recommended by CIPFA. The year end values are stated on the following basis:

land, operational properties and other operational assets are reported in the accounts at current insurance values as approximating to the lower of net current replacement cost and net realisable value.

certain community assets are the subject of restrictive covenants as to their use and/or future disposal. Such assets are therefore considered to have no appreciable realisable value and are included at a nominal value only.

Debtors and Creditors

The revenue accounts of the council are maintained on an accrual basis in accordance with the guide. That is sums due to or from the council during the year are included whether or not the cash has actually been received or paid in the year. Exceptions to this are payment of insurance premiums and regular quarterly accounts (e.g. telephone, electricity). This policy is applied consistently each year. Therefore, it will not have a material effect on the year's accounts or on the council's annual budget.

Stocks and Work in Progress

All stocks have been treated as consumed because their value was not material.

External Loan Repayments

Details of the council's external borrowings are shown at note 14.

Leases

Details of the council's obligations under finance leases are shown at note 13.

Reserves

The council maintains certain reserves to meet general and specific future expenditure. The purpose of the council's reserves is explained in note 15.

Interest Income

All interest receipts are credited initially to the general funds.

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2013

Pensions

The pension costs that are charged to the council's accounts in respect of its employees are equal to contributions paid to the funded pension scheme for these employees.

These contributions are determined by the fund's actuary on a triennial basis and are set to meet 100% of the liabilities of the pension fund. In accordance with the relevant government regulations.

The last actuarial valuation took place on 31 March 2010 and any changes in contribution rates as a result of that valuation took effect as from 1st April 2011. The next valuation is due to take place in 2013 based upon the of this valuation, will take effect as from 1 April 2014. The next valuation following this is due on 31 March 2016.

2	Interest and Investment Income	2013 £	2012 £
	Interest Income - General Funds	10,078	10,529
		<u>10,078</u>	<u>10,529</u>

3 Agency Work

During the year the council undertook the following agency work on behalf of other authorities and organisations:

Commissioning Authority and Nature of Work	2013 £	2012 £
Dodington, Downend & Bromley Heath, Frampton Cotterell, Mangotsfield, Pucklechurch, Sodbury & Westerleigh Parish and Town Councils -		
Administration of Joint Parish Meetings	1,477	1,862
Administration of Community Plan meetings	1,138	1,366
Administration of Wills Davis Atwell Charity meetings	569	569
	<u>3,184</u>	<u>3,797</u>

Commissioned Authority and Nature of Work	2013 £	2012 £
South Gloucestershire Council - Internal Audit	651	651
South Gloucestershire Council - Detached Youth Work	19,537	45,852
	<u>20,188</u>	<u>46,503</u>

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2013

4 Tenancies

During the year the following tenancies were held:

Council as landlord

Tenant	Property	Rent p.a.	Repairing/Non Repairing
CPRE	Office, Poole Court	1,200	Non - repairing
CVS	Office, Poole Court	3,791	Non - repairing
South Gloucestershire Council Registrar (April - November 2012)	Office, Poole Court	13,000	Non - repairing
Steve Webb MP	Office, Poole Court	6,000	Non - repairing
South Gloucestershire Deaf Association (April - October 2012)	Office, Poole Court	3,041	Non - repairing
South Gloucestershire Deaf Association (November 2012 - March 2013)	Office, Poole Court	3,699	Non - repairing
South Gloucestershire Council	Land at Brinsham - Yate Outdoor Sport Complex	1 Peppercorn	N/A

Council as tenant

Landlord	Property	Rent p.a.	Repairing/Non Repairing
South Gloucestershire Council	Land for Bus Shelter	£ 2	N/A
South Gloucestershire Council	Brinsham Park	Nil	N/A
South Gloucestershire Council	Play Area and Open Space Land at Millside	Nil	N/A
South Gloucestershire Council	Land at Wellington Road	Nil	N/A
South Gloucestershire Council	Land for Kingsgate Park	1 Peppercorn	N/A
South Gloucestershire Council	Land at Yate Common	1 Peppercorn	N/A
South Gloucestershire Council	Land for 3 Play Areas	1 Peppercorn each	N/A
South Gloucestershire Council	Land at Fromebank Junior School	£1 per annum	N/A
South Gloucestershire Council	Public Open Space at Longs Drive	1 Peppercorn	N/A

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2013

5 Publicity

Section 5 of the Local Government Act 1986 requires the council to disclose expenditure on publicity. Details are shown under the following broad categories:

	2013 £	2012 £
Other Advertising	56	2,229
Publicity	1,793	1,208
	<u>1,849</u>	<u>3,437</u>

6 Section 137 Expenditure

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) enables the council to spend up to the product of £6.80 per head of the electoral roll in any one year for the benefit of the people in its area on activities or projects not specifically authorised by others. However councils qualified to use the Power of General Competence no longer need to ask whether they have specific powers to act. The General Power of Competence (LA2011 s1(1)) is a power of first report. Yate Town Council qualified to use the General Power of Competence in 2012 and therefore no longer uses section 137.

	2013 £	2012 £
The total amount available for this purpose was	<u>116,192</u>	<u>108,482</u>
Expenditure was incurred for the following purposes:		
Grants, Gifts and Donations	-	3,577
	-	<u>3,577</u>

It should be noted that grants to bodies such as the Citizen Advice Bureau are made under other specific legal powers and so are not included in the above figures.

7 Pensions

For the year of account the council's contributions equals 11.3% of employees' pensionable pay, plus £9,400 deficit recovery.

These contributions will remain at 11.3% until revaluated by the funds actuary plus a deficit recovery sum of £9,800 in year 3 of the recovery period.

8 Fixed Assets - Additions and Disposals

During the year the following assets were purchased or disposed of:

	2013 £ Cost	2012 £ Cost
Freehold Land and Buildings	-	654,050
Vehicles and Equipment	-	-
Infrastructure Assets	-	-
Community Assets	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>654,050</u>
	-	<u>654,050</u>

No assets were disposed of during the year, other than by way of scrap.

These financial statements are un-audited and do not comply with statutory requirements. A copy of the audited statement of accounts is available from the office on request.

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2013

9 Fixed Assets

At 31st March the following assets were held:

	2013 £ Value	2012 £ Value
<u>Freehold Land and Buildings</u>		
Poole Court	3,317,831	3,221,195
Eggshill Lane/Station Road Parish Hall	562,972	536,866
Broad Lane Sports Complex	14,000	14,000
Sunnyside Sports Pavilions	789,789	766,786
Sunnyside Bowling Green	45,448	44,125
Heritage Centre	473,098	459,318
Pop Inn Café	245,765	238,607
Tennis Courts at Sunnyside and Howard Lewis	215,000	215,000
Armadillo Yate Youth Venue & Cafe (Jointly owned asset with South Gloucestershire Council)	650,000	650,000
	<u>6,303,903</u>	<u>6,145,897</u>
<u>Vehicles and Equipment</u>		
Community Buildings Furniture and Equipment	97,810	98,074
Office Equipment	51,143	45,620
Estates Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	54,384	52,855
Play Equipment	1,049,959	1,019,959
	<u>1,253,296</u>	<u>1,216,508</u>
<u>Infrastructure Assets</u>		
Bus Shelters	33,553	31,627
Footpaths	3,900	3,900
Skateboard Park	175,000	175,000
Fencing and Gates	27,487	27,487
Teenage Shelter (Longs drive)	3,967	3,967
St Mary's Wall	21,157	21,157
	<u>265,064</u>	<u>263,138</u>
<u>Community Assets</u>		
Council Regalia	4,000	4,000
Lye Field	1	1
St Mary's Green	1	1
Village Green (Goose Green)	1	1
Village Green (Yate Rocks)	1	1
Play Areas (4)	4	4
Tyler Field - Woodland	1	1
Stanshawes Drive Footpath	1	1
Lych- Gate St Mary's Church	1	1
Parnall Memorial St Mary's Church	1	1
Litter Bins	138	50
Dog Bins	42	12
Seats	104	20
	<u>4,296</u>	<u>4,094</u>
	<u>7,826,559</u>	<u>7,629,637</u>

The basis of valuation of the above assets is set out in the Accounting Policies (Note 1)

These financial statements are un-audited and do not comply with statutory requirements. A copy of the audited statement of accounts is available from the office on request.

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2013

10 Stocks

2013	2012
£	£
-	-
-	-

11 Debtors

	2013	2012
	£	£
Trade Debtors	3,594	8,938
Booking Deposits	-	-
VAT Recoverable	8,058	9,691
Other Debtors	-	761
Payments and Accrued Income	13,188	5,465
	<u>24,840</u>	<u>24,854</u>

12 Creditors and Accrued Expenses

	2013	2012
	£	£
Trade Creditors	44,446	18,093
Accruals and Deferred Income	22,964	50,914
Booking Deposits Received	700	550
	<u>68,110</u>	<u>69,558</u>

13 Hire Purchase and Lease Obligations

At 31st March the following hire purchase agreement(s) and lease/leases were in operation:

Hirer/Lessor	Purpose	Annual Lease/Hire Payable £	Year of Expiry
South Gloucestershire Council	Estates Crewcab Truck	3,982.15	2014
Lloyds TSB Auto Lease	Estates Ford Ranger Pickup	2,627.40	2014
Lloyds TSB Auto Lease	Estates Astra Van	2,252.88	2012 - currently on informal extension
Siemens	Photocopier	1,892.00	2015
New Holland Finance	Estates Tractor	25.00	None
ING Lease	Estates Mower	104.71	None

These financial statements are un-audited and do not comply with statutory requirements. A copy of the audited statement of accounts is available from the office on request.

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2013

14	Long Term Liabilities	2013	2012
		£	£
	Public Works Loan Board	608,475	635,190
	HP & Lease Creditors	-	-
		<u>608,475</u>	<u>635,190</u>

At the close of business on 31 March 2013 the following loans to the council were outstanding:

Lender	Amount £	Years Remaining
Public Works Loan Board	158,768	13
Public Works Loan Board	449,708	17

15 Earmarked Reserves

	Balance at 1/4/2012 £	Contribution to reserve £	Contribution from reserve £	Balance at 31/3/2013 £
Capital Earmarked Reserves	172,818	293,179	-	422,237
Other Earmarked Reserves	31,849	21,873	-	29,891
	<u>204,667</u>	<u>315,052</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>452,128</u>

The Other Earmarked reserves are credited with amounts set aside from revenue to fund specific known commitments of the council.

For details see page 12.

16 Capital Commitments

The council had no capital commitments as 31st March 2013 not otherwise provided for in these accounts.

17 Contingent Liabilities

The council is not aware of any contingent liabilities at the date of these accounts.

18 Other Accounts

Yate Town Council also administers the following accounts:

1) Joint Parishes Youth Forum Steering Group Account. This account holds contributions from each member Council: Dodington, Sodbury, Westerleigh and Yate to fund the Joint Parishes Youth Forum Development Worker. See details page 13.

MOVEMENTS ON RESERVES 2012/2013

Earmarked Reserves

Description	O/Bal April 2012	From ER to GR	From GR to ER	Earmarked Reserves 2013/2014
Park Upgrades				
Grasscrete to the common	40,000	40,000		0
Kickabout Projects				
Play Area Projects	77,404			77,404
Buildings				
Building Fund	27,000	3,480	4,000	27,520
Poole Court Refurb	15,242	280		14,962
Poole Court Hatch Reinstatement	0		1,500	1,500
Youth Café	1,277		91,466	92,743
Other Projects				
Allotments	12,000			12,000
Estates Equipment	0		15,000	15,000
Project Support	0		181,213	181,213
Committed Revenue Expenditure				
Elections	5,913		5,410	11,323
Grant Funding	10,875	10,875		0
Jubilee - Heritage Map	0		2,000	2,000
Kingsgate Park Management Plan	0		1,000	1,000
Public Rights of Way	10,000	8,000		2,000
Yate Community Plan (Other Services)	4,956	4,956	0	0
Youth Provision	0		13,463	13,463
	<u>204,667</u>	<u>67,591</u>	<u>315,052</u>	<u>452,128</u>

General Reserves

General Reserves as at 31.03.13	389,912
Less recommended reserves (3 months net plus £25,000 contingency)	<u>238,457</u>
The remaining funds carried forward to fund planned expenditure in the 2013/2014 budget	<u>151,455</u>

JPYFSG RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS TO 31 March 2013

Chq No	Bfwd	2012/2013		
		Receipts	Payments	Balance
		£ -	£ -	£ 5,311.76
		<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 5,311.76</u>

Represented by	
Current a/c balance as at 3 March 2013	£ 5,311.76
Cheque not yet presented	<u>£ 5,311.76</u>

Note: There is currently no contract in place with South Gloucestershire Council for the provision of youth services.

Community Plan Income & Expenditure to 31 March 2013

Income

		2012	2013
In Bloom Income (see attached In Bloom account)		5,579	9,840
Grants: Yate Town Council	1,366		
South Glos Council	950		
Bank Interest Refund	8	1,366	2,324
		<u>5,579</u>	<u>12,164</u>

Expenditure

		2012	2013
Administration Community Plan		1,366	1,366
Grant to In Bloom Group		1,000	-
In Bloom (see attached In Bloom account)		2,351	5,958
		<u>4,717</u>	<u>7,324</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31 December 2013

Funds:

Opening balance 1 March 2012	4,957
Plus Income	12,164
Less Expenditure	<u>7,324</u>
	<u>9,797</u>

Represented By

Assets

Yate Community Plan Bank Account Balance as at 31 March 2013.	9,896
Less cheques not yet presented	99
	<u>9,797</u>

Made up as follows:

Yate Community Plan balance of funds	2,687
In Bloom Balance of funds	<u>7,110</u>
	<u>9,797</u>

In Bloom Income & Expenditure to 31 March 2013

Income

		2012	2013
Grants:			
Dodington Parish Council	450		
South Glos Council RHS Seminar	90		
Frme Val Area Forum Planters	2,000		
SGC Safer and Stronger Funding	7,000		
Yate Town Council Jubilee Planting	300	<u>9,840</u>	9,840
Grant income 2011/2012		5,555	
Sales of goods		11	
Bank charge reimbursed		13	
		<u>5,579</u>	<u>9,840</u>

Expenditure

		2012	2013
In Bloom: Planting	540		
Administration	106		
Training & Development	216		
Protective clothing & development	38		
Judges expenses	26		
Misc.	20		
Exhibition & publicity	49		
Garden Competition	110		
Planters	2,060		
Cranleigh Crt & Mosaic	992		
Station Road Regeneration	1,802	<u>5,958</u>	5,958
2011/2012 expenditure		2,351	
		<u>2,351</u>	<u>5,958</u>
Balance of funds available to In Bloom	2012/2013		3,882
Balance of Funds Bought Forward	2011/2012		<u>3,227</u>
Total Balance of Funding Available to In Bloom			<u>7,110</u>

**ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT
AND PLANNING COMMITTEE 2012-2013
COUNCILLOR JOHN FORD (YATE CENTRAL)**

The Environment and Planning Committee has had a busy year planning new projects and organising events that have now become an annual tradition.

ANNUAL TOWN SPRING CLEAN

Councillors and volunteers cleared litter from Yate Common this spring.

My thanks to the members of the public and Friends of the Common that gave up a few hours of their time, worked hard and made a big difference to the appearance of the common.

EVENTS

Easter Egg Hunt

The Easter Egg Hunt was held in Kingsgate Park on Easter Monday. Children brought their families along and great fun was had by all.

My thanks to the Friends of Kingsgate and the Estates Staff who got up early and made this a successful event and to Tesco's Store in Yate, Hollisters, Murray Hire and Waitrose, who donated the eggs. Also to the Children's Playground Company, ASMC, NSG Security, Re-Energise, Dodington Parish Council, Morrisons and the Rotary Club for their generous cash donations.

Music Event

Kingsgate Park two day music event was held in June. The weather was not as we would have wished, but the rain held off and an estimated 5,000 people attended throughout the Saturday and several hundred on the Sunday.

My thanks to all who came, making it a fantastic event with community spirit in abundance and Christ the Rock for their organisation and hard work on the Sunday, the musicians on the Saturday, who gave their time and talents for free and the Friends of the Kingsgate Park and others who erected the marquee and worked all day.

Also a big thanks to the Yate Town Council ladies who re-invented the Art and Craft movement which was a great success with young children.

It will be held again this year on 21 and 22 June.

Carol Concert

This was held in the Heritage Centre and the mulled wine helped raise the spirits of those that ventured out on a very wet evening.

My thanks to the Friends of Kingsgate Park and Yate Town Council staff for their hard work and Mrs Mary Perks for playing the keyboard and helping make the event a success.

**ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE ENVIRONMENT
AND PLANNING COMMITTEE 2012-2013
COUNCILLOR JOHN FORD (YATE CENTRAL)**

PLAY AREAS

Consultation is presently being carried out on the plans to enhance the Witches Hat Play Area and Tyndale Park.

Peg Hill Skate Park is also receiving a makeover which will include a lighting installation to allow it to be used until 8.00pm during the late autumn/winter seasons.

Brimsham Park is benefitting from the hard work of the Estates Staff and fundraising of the Friends of Brimsham.

A new jetty is to be installed soon.

We are hoping to hold an event in the park in August.

ALLOTMENTS

The Town Council is in the process of negotiating land for allotments. Currently, as last year, there are two sites that look very favourable.

I would like to offer my thanks to all members of the Environment and Planning Committee and Council staff for their hard work and support during my year as Chair of the Committee.

**Councillor John Ford
Chair of Environment and Planning Committee**

April 2014

Yate Town Council Finance and General Purposes Committee

Annual Report 2013/14

Yate Town Council continues to work in partnership with local community groups, businesses and South Gloucestershire Council to provide tailored services for residents living in the Yate area now, whilst planning for the needs of the future development of our thriving town.

Our staff continues to be as dedicated as ever in maintaining the council facilities, such as halls, parks and playing fields. An example of this is Kingsgate Park, which is used for the Music Festival and Easter Egg Hunt, both of which continue to be as popular as ever. This year has also seen Yate Town Council take on apprentices in all areas of work.

The Armadillo continues to improve both its viability and service to young people, even during the uncertainty caused by South Gloucestershire Council's notice to withdraw from the project. Yate Town Council has committed to continuing the project on its own.

During the financial year there was concern that the Government would impose a cap on parish and town council precept setting. This fortunately did not come to pass as this would have significantly reduced Yate Town Council's ability to fund additional services that would otherwise have been reduced by South Gloucestershire Council, such as paying to maintain youth work in the area and the current level of grass verge cutting.

Whilst Yate Town Council is about to lose one hundred houses from its council tax base in the coming year, due to the reallocation of Chedworth to Dodington Parish, there will still be an overall increase because of numerous housing development being occupied, such as Elswick Park and Westerleigh Mews.

From these new housing developments Yate has already benefited from New Homes Bonus grants that has enabled the refurbishment of Tyndale Park and there are future plans to rejuvenate the Witches Hat play area.

Many thanks must go to all our community groups. Even in the current economic climate Yate Town Council recognises their worth and continues to grant funding to assist many of them.

Finally my thanks also go to all officers and councillors whose hard work and dedication, working with the community, help to make Yate great.

Cllr John Davis

Chairman of Finance and General Purposes Committee

1st April 2014

WILLS DAVIS ATWELL CHARITY

ACCOUNTS AND REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2014

Trustees: Rev Wallace, Cllr Mike Drew and Cllr Alan Lawrance

ASSETS		EXPENDITURE	
Balance Brought Forward		Expenditure	
1yr Fixed Rate Bond	£50,000	Grants Paid	£3,201.14
Business Select Account	£24,013.07	Admin Costs	£569
Co-op Community Direct	£3,000.15	Hedge Flailing	£192
		Unpresented cheques	-£180
Total	<u>£77,013.22</u>	Total	<u>£3,782.14</u>
Income		Balance Carried Forward	
Bank Interest	£10.90	1 yr F/R Bond	£50,000.00
Rent	£340.00	Business Select Account	£22,020.55
Fixed Rate Bond Interest	£1,001.55	Co-op Community Direct	£2,562.98
Total	<u>£1,360.31</u>	Total	<u>£74,583.53</u>
	<u>£78,365.67</u>		<u>£78,365.67</u>

The Charity owns two parcels of land, one is currently let on an agricultural tenancy and the other is currently vacant.

The yearly income of the Charity is applied by the Trustees in assisting young people under the age of 21 years and a bona fide resident in the Parish of Yate, to further their education or training to purchase the necessary equipment for their advancement in life or to enable them to earn their own living.

The availability of the Trust Fund is advertised widely through the Town Council Annual Newsletter and web site, on notice boards in local schools, through the Youth Service, Leisure Centre, Library, Shopping Centre, local colleges and businesses.

If you know of any young person who may be eligible for a grant please ask them to telephone the Town Council Office 01454 866506 or email info@yate-town-council.gov.uk

YATE UNITED CHARITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2014

Financial Statement Year Ending 31.3.14

<u>Income</u>	£	<u>Expenditure</u>	£
01.04.13 Balance at Bank	497.29	15.08.13 Payments to Woodleaze Amenity Fund	100.00
31.05.13 Dividend from Shareholdings	44.78	15.08.13 Cambrian Green Day Service (South Glos.)	100.00
30.08.13 Dividend from Shareholdings	51.44	15.08.13 Sequel Trust	100.00
29.11.13 Dividend from Shareholdings	42.54	15.08.13 Yate Stroke Club	100.00
28.02.14 Dividend from Shareholdings	29.52	15.08.13 Award to one individual	20.00
	-----	31.03.14 Balance at Bank	245.57
	665.57		-----
			665.57

Total Dividends paid in year end 31.03.12 168.28

Value of Shareholdings held as at 31.12.13

	£
Account Number 4531 80001B	520.71
Account Number 4531 80001T	476.63
Account Number 4531 80002T	3189.69

	4187.03

NB. Value as at 31.12.12 - £3833.55 an increase of £353.48

Trustee Membership

The scheme allows for seven (7) Trustees. Following the induction the Rev. Ian Wallace there are now six (6) Trustees. It is not proposed to appoint a seventh Trustee pending the merger with the Wills Davis Atwell Charity.

Other trustees are:-

Councillor Cleo Trotter } appointments by
Mrs Margaret Bracey } Yate Town Council
Miss Monica Nelson
R M McGurk
R G Hawkins

Yate Heritage Centre

Community Heritage Officer Report 2013-14

2013-14 has proved to be a good year building on the positive aspects of past years allied with inspiring new developments. Visitor figures remain high as we aim to be as dynamic as we can be with once again over 10,000 users (10,248) including over 9,000 through the door. Once again we are thankful to Yate Town Council for enabling these encouraging outcomes to occur and for their unswerving support.

Education

Cherry Hubbard has continued to be popular in her second year working at the Centre and has engaged a wide range of schools in the area. As well as bringing specialist knowledge of Roman and Tudor materials, she is now developing Roman, Saxon and Medieval costume for children to complement our popular Victorian costume.

Gradually, we are working more with local community groups and those with learning difficulties. Consequently, they are using our services on a regular basis as well as visiting the Centre more.

Intern

Both interns who were with us last year proved to be great value and popular with the staff. Allied to the good work Henry Dyhouse did last Spring, James Higgs continued in the same vein; James transformed the Murray Dowding collection, which can be accessed in wholly different ways and has inspired further usage of his work in our own exhibitions.

Events

Our events continue to be a big hit with visitors with numerous spin offs from these big days.

The St George and International Festival once again recorded high numbers with a record attendance at the St George event of 2300 visitors. Our third main event was the Archaeology Festival in July, which was a real highlight of the year demonstrating the popularity history events have. The range of history demonstrations from Medieval cookery, to 18th century Medicine to World War II military equipment was enjoyed by over a thousand visitors, while many were able to see local volunteers reveal the mysteries of modern archaeology in the shape of Geo-physical recording.

Holiday events and workshops remain a key part of our education service with both Cherry and Gloucester Records able to add extra history activities to our regular craft based workshops.

A positive move this year has been the collaboration between the Centre and Bristol Museums archaeology group. Hitherto we have had a holiday workshop via the museum and the possibility of an archaeological event in the Summer.

Exhibitions and Projects

During 2013-14 we were able to examine different aspects of our local history. Our intern was able to produce a community based display on local traders, while a host of other volunteers were involved in bringing the history of local food and road travel to life.

Once again, we have formed partnerships with other history groups and historians in the course of this work. Our Victorian census display in the Autumn utilised research from family historians to reveal a full picture of Victorian life in our area.

Naturally the Great War has featured prominently. Currently, we are putting together a major display, booklet and event to mark the Centenary, focussing largely on civilian life and modern industry, which in turn has engendered much new local history for this period.

Collections & Research

A key part of our work in 2013 was developing the Murray Dowding collection. High quality images can now be accessed through History Pin and Picassa at the Heritage Centre. Dowding images are sure to be the backdrop for many future displays.

"The Fall and Rise of Newman Industries" booklet was finished and printed in the New Year. It has been a roaring success with the first run of a 100 selling out in six weeks and we are well into the second run now. We plan to produce a similar booklet on the history of the Parnall site for early next year.

Victoria County History

The Victoria County History is now eagerly anticipated as the most in depth history of Yate. Hitherto, the research has been wonderful and the full history will be of incalculable use to future local historians.

Fundraising & the Friends

Yate Heritage Centre has continued to raise funds for general activities at the Centre. We are grateful to the Town Council for enabling us to operate, provide salaries and continue to be generous in making funds available for exhibitions, events such as the St George Celebrations (£500), the education and the general running of the building.

With regards to the Friends group and fundraising there is no letting up with their vigorous fundraising. During 2013-14 over £1500 was raised at the 3 main events and coffee mornings.

Other major funding included: - Engage gave £2000 for events and activities, South Gloucestershire Council gave £1230 for a laptop and £960 towards holiday workshops. Quartet, Parish Councils and Hansons have also given useful amounts.

And Finally.....

I would like to pay tribute to all our volunteer staff, who reliably turn up day in day out to support us either staffing the building, working on projects or organising and managing events.

Yate Town Council also deserve a big thank you for all their support of the Heritage Centre in a period, where public finances remain tight.

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR RUTH DAVIS 2013/4

I continue to deal with casework and take an active interest in Yate Common. It is twenty-five years since the Common was saved from development, thanks to action taken by local residents. It has now been designated a Queen Elizabeth 2 Jubilee Field in Trust, which gives it yet more protection.

I regularly attend the Frome Vale Area Forum as a local member and am leader of the Liberal Democrat group, which means I am our lead member on Policy and Resources committee. I also attend other committees when sensitive issues are discussed and decided, as I am an ex officio member of all committees.

Frome Vale area forum has been delegated even more funds to be spent on local projects, including youth activities and local road schemes. This is in recognition of the important work that is done in communities locally by giving more financial help, despite the Council having already cut millions of pounds from its budget and looking at ways to save even more, whilst trying to protect frontline services, as its spending power will be significantly reduced over the next ten years. Some New Homes Bonus is also given for areas that have taken new housing. There are plans to delegate Safer and Stronger grants and Environmental grants as well as making grant applications easier by a common application process.

I attend both the Local Strategic Partnership and the Economy and Skills Partnership where South Gloucestershire works closely with other agencies, such as the emergency services, local Health Trust, the voluntary sector and business, to get better local solutions to challenges in our area.

Locally I belong to the Town Centre Strategy Group which includes all organisations with an interest in the centre. All the new shops opposite Tesco's are now open for business. When possible tenants are moved around to enable groups of empty shops to be reconfigured in to better shapes and sizes for current demands, such as the new Bottelino's, which needed extra strong bank walls to be demolished. The shopping centre owners have submitted a planning application for a leisure and cinema complex on the overflow car park, which, if successful, will meet a longstanding desire of local residents.

South Gloucestershire's Core Strategy, which identifies where housing and other sites will be for the period up to 2027 has now been adopted without an legal challenge. The Yate/Sodbury area will provide at least an additional 3000 homes. I will continue to work with other members and officers to get the best deal we can for additional facilities for residents from any housing that is brought to the area.

Councillor Ruth Davis
Yate Central ward
South Gloucestershire Council

6th April 14

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR SUE WALKER 2013 – 2014

(SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR YATE CENTRAL)

My Council and Community duties as a councillor average 30 hours per week. The workload has been busier than ever this year and is biased towards casework and working with community groups

My Committees include;

Licensing and General Purposes Committee

Various complaints panels

Representing South Gloucestershire on the board of the Lower Severn Drainage Board I serve on H.R and Pensions Sub-Committee following improvements to governance.

This year the board has been concentrating on making changes to the pension scheme. I have also been involved in making changes to the recruitment, short listing and interview set up procedures.

I also represent the council on the Yate Library management committee. The library continues to build stronger links with the community through community events, visiting speakers, and opening their facilities for community groups to hold coffee mornings there. The computer suite is always very popular as are the children's holiday activities.

I also serve as a trustee at the Yate heritage centre which also has had another successful year building on strong community links with family history, school visits, exhibitions and events providing popular and well attended.

As the funding for local government is reduced and more services are provided by community groups I have found myself spending more of my time working with and supporting community groups .

I have been helping pre-schools, church and sports groups with information on grants and how to apply. I have spent many hours raising lottery and grant funding for a local sports club to enable them to build new changing rooms. This will many benefit young sportsmen from this area as fundraising is getting increasingly complex, time consuming and competitive, but when successful is very rewarding. It was also a pleasure to work with the Ridgewood pre-school group who successfully managed to turn their group around from the verge of collapse to a financially viable successful group. I continue to support Yate Food bank with their fundraising and am currently looking for more dry and secure storage for them too.

I have been looking at the needs of our growing elderly population talking to groups and service providers. At present I am looking particularly at the needs of those suffering with dementia and their carers and I am looking into Yate becoming a dementia friendly Town.

Casework has increased with surrounding benefits, changes to street lighting and green bin collection all featuring highly.

Parking close to the school gates continues to be a major problem most of my complaints are about parents from the Ridge and Broadway infants causing obstruction and preventing

residents entering and leaving their own property. The P.C.S.O.s have been very helpful in responding to this type of problem.

Abuse of the one way system and parking in the Eggshill lane area is also still a concern. The area forum has now allocated further funding to try to improve this.

Finally there have been a great many changes both at South Gloucestershire Council and at Yate Town Council and I would like to thank all the council staff for their loyalty and hard work for the residents and the Town of Yate.

Sue Walker
Councillor Yate Central Area

Annual Report to Yate Town Council – April 2014

South Gloucestershire Lead Member for Children & Young People

South Gloucestershire Committees:

Children & Young People Committee (Chair)

Frome Vale Area Forum

Policy & Resources Committee

Children's Safeguarding Board

Corporate Parenting Steering Group

Chair of the Virtual School Governing Body (to monitor the educational outcomes for Looked after Children)

Children's Trust Board

Health & Wellbeing Partnership

LEA Governor Tyndale Primary School

My main work continues to centre around young people. There continues to be changes to how vulnerable young people and their families are supported in South Gloucestershire and I have been heavily involved in ensuring that these changes give better outcomes and improved life chances. I do this through the various committees involved with young people listed above.

With the approval of outline planning permission for the North Yate development I and colleagues have been working with officers to ensure appropriate measures are in place to mitigate the impact of the development; measures including the siting and future maintenance of open space and the provision of public facilities including sports facilities within the development.

In the present financial climate Liberal Democrat councillors have made and will continue to make difficult decisions on how the Council can make the monetary savings it needs to and still maintain a high level of service to the community. This has meant concentrating on the services that the Council has to deliver by law and has resulted in reducing services that we all like to have but cannot afford. Liberal Democrat councillors have sought to ensure that where services are reduced they will still be in a position to be re-established when/if resources become available.

I have been contacted by a number of local residents whom I have been able to help directly or taken up their problem with appropriate officers.



Ian Blair (South Gloucestershire Member Yate North)

Annual Report by Councillor Mike Drew 2013-2014

South Gloucestershire Councillor for Yate North

This year has been another important year for Yate. The Core Strategy has reached finale approval after the Planning Inspectors decision despite our (your South Glos councillors, the Town Council and local people) objections. We now have the job to make the new North Yate Neighbourhood as it is currently being called as good as we can and minimise the adverse impact on the current residents, particularly the residents of Brismsham Park.

South Gloucestershire Council has had to cope with further cuts to central government grants and plan for further reductions in the future. There was a cross party consensus that the public could not afford and were not willing to pay an increase in Council tax. This was not helped by the Department of Communities and Local Government not being able to decide its capping criteria so that we had to work on the details of the budget in the dark.

My main South Glos role as joint lead member of Resources gives me responsibility in identifying the least damaging way forward. Although the localisation of Street Care was a response to Highways department having to identify savings it does give people in their own areas involvement in how they want their services delivered and to what extent. I, believe that the more we can devolve services to the Town Council the better those services can be without costing more.

We found that we were unable to continue the full continuation of the localised Council Tax Benefit provision. This has meant that many of those who did not have to pay council tax previously not have to pay at least a proportion.

The new all party Committee Structure has embedded in well with most members recognising that we all have responsibility for making decisions. There are the odd occasions when some members pretend that they are not responsible for deciding how to make the cuts that the budget they voted for require. The charges for the Green Bin waste is the prime example. (The Tories voted for the Communities Committee to make savings but would not accept the Green Bin charge or make an alternative workable proposal.)

In addition to serving on South Gloucestershire Committees, I am vice chair of the Avon Fire Authority: a service we all hope we never have to use! There has been talk from Central Government that we should have fewer Fire & Rescue Services which would be detrimental to local service. Avon's Firefighters have not had to face the volumes of Floods that our neighbours in Somerset for example have had to face. They however had provided assistance and equipment for our neighbouring counties.

The Authority is in the process of revamping the location of its Fire Stations to take account of the new developments since Avon was formed. This will involve a new Station at Hicks Gate to replace the Keynsham Fire Station which is in the middle of the site of

the new development there. This enables us to close, Speedwell and Brislington Stations yet provide a better coverage of its 8 minute response time. We will also build a new station on the new Airfield Development which will replace the Southmead and Patchway stations again without detriment to response coverage. This will mean that the planned reduction in Fire Fighters can still provide the service required.

I continue to be a Trustee of Gambia and Avon Fire Services in Partnership (GAFSIP).

I also continue to sit on South Gloucestershire Employee Appeals panel and Complaints Panel; Avon Pension Committee; South West Provincial Employers. I now represent the Pensions Committee on the National Association of Pension Funds Forum and represent SWPE on the National Association of Regional Employers.

I continue to be a Council appointed Director of Merlin where I have just become Vice-Chairman. Merlin has just appoint a new Chief Executive to take the Society forward. The Society has to manage the changing financial climate and improve its capacity to provide new social housing for the growing population of South Gloucestershire.

Annual Report by Councillor Mike Robbins
South Gloucestershire Councillor for Yate North

South Gloucestershire Committees on which I serve.

Development Control East Planning
Development Control East Sites
Frome Vale Area Forum
Joint Area Forum
Planning, Transportation and Strategic Environment

Local Committees

Yate Town Centre Strategy Committees
Yate Finance and General Purposes Committees
Yate Environment and Planning Committee
Friends of Ridgewood
Friends of Brimsham Green
Yate and District Twinning Association
Planning Sub Committee
Yate Oral History
Yate Heritage Centre Events Meeting
Pop Inn Cafe Meeting
Quarry Liaison Committees

The main focus of my casework has been the state of the roads after the wet weather we have had, monies have been set aside but I fear it will not cover the damage.

Problems with the Public Transport and Bus Shelters which are unsuitable for the job and does not provide shelter for wheelchair users.

Reduction of lighting has caused concern but seems to be not so bad as first thought

Councillor Mike Robbins
April 2014

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR TONY DAVIS 2013 – 2014

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR DODINGTON WARD

On South Gloucestershire Council I serve on the Communities Committee, which deals with a range of issues including waste, streetcare, sports, leisure and libraries. I also serve on the Avon Fire and Rescue Authority. As a new councillor I have undertaken a number of training courses so I am able to substitute on other committees.

In the Yate area, I'm the South Gloucestershire representative on the Yate Town Centre Strategy Group which influences the development of the town centre. I am also on the panel which appoints school governors throughout South Gloucestershire. As a South Gloucestershire Councillor I attend the local Frome Vale area forum, which take decisions on local transport schemes and allocate grants to local voluntary organisations, and at which local people can have their say. I also attend the Yate area Safer Stronger meeting.

In addition to casework, I have been working with others to resolve the issues around the Abbotswood area. I have also been working with residents to try and get the best outcome in relation to the old Rodford School site.

I have been liaising with Officers and fellow councillors to minimise the effect of the projected 3000 new homes coming to Yate, as these will obviously bring extra pressure on local roads and services.

Councillor Tony Davis
April 2014

Annual Report by Councillor Alan Lawrance

2013/2014

South Gloucestershire Councillor for Dodington.

I have continued to work with other Councillors on a variety of Committees including South Gloucestershire's D. C. East (Planning & Sites), the Regulatory Committee, Licensing, Complaints and Appeals Panels and locally join other Councillors on the Frome Vale Forum. I meet with local Councillors and Officers from both Yate Town Council and Dodington Parish Council.

Focus in the ward continues to be Abbotswood, but the Abbotswood Action Group in liaison with South Gloucestershire Officers and other local Groups have worked most positively to improve the wider area. As was expressed at one meeting "a cleaner, safer neighbourhood equals more football, more business and more income". A succession of "clean ups" have taken place throughout the year, whilst a Community Engagement Officer has lead the development of an area Community Plan. Initial consultation has been completed, and it is not surprising that the main issues were around the area associated with the shops, general litter and footpath maintenance. Though the land ownership and management issue continues to irritate, the local community are now acting in a much more pro-active manner.

With the reduction in night lighting many residents have expressed concern, though in reality there has been little negative impact. To accommodate some concerns there are proposals to make use of LED lighting in the shopping area throughout the night. This aspect has yet to be completed.

The areas associated with Wapley Court and Rodford School have been the subject of planning applications. Councillors and residents have kept a close eye on these two sites and the proposals.

A variety of opinions have also been expressed about cycle path proposals through the ward. Consultation continues before routes are fixed.

At the local Frome Vale Forum significant funds are now available for local groups and projects and interested parties should be encouraged to bid for resources. I have concerns about the New Homes Bonus for a Ward such as Dodington, a very compact area, which could well be overlooked and fail to benefit fully from this fund. I continue to remind colleagues of this issue.

The area is fortunate to have two concerned Parish/Town Councils which continue to maintain and improve conditions for the community.

It is a pleasure to represent the ward.

Alan Lawrance

16th April 2014

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