



YATE TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2016/2017

**TO BE PRESENTED AT THE ANNUAL
TOWN MEETING
AT 7.30PM ON TUESDAY 25 APRIL 2017
POOLE COURT, YATE**

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10th April 2017

**THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE
ON TUESDAY 25th APRIL 2017 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 26th April 2016 (*The minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record at the Town Council meeting held on 17th May 2016 minute no.103*).
3. To receive the Yate Town Council annual report comprising of:-
 - (a) annual report from Councillor Tony Davis, Chair of Yate Town Council and Town Mayor;
 - (b) statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2016 & external audit report;
 - (c) annual report from Councillor Alan Monaghan, Chair of Yate Town Council's Environment and Planning Committee;
 - (d) annual report from Councillor Mike Drew, 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 John Davis	Yate North
Councillor Tony Davis	Dodington
Councillor Gloria Stephen	Dodington
6. Town Affairs.

Signed:

Councillor Tony Davis, Yate Town Council Chair & Town Mayor

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MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 26 APRIL 2016 FROM 7.30PM – 8.35PM AT POOLE COURT, YATE

PRESENT

Councillor Tony Davis – Town Mayor/Chair

Members of Yate Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council – Councillors Ian Blair, John Davis, Mike Drew, John Ford, John Gawn, Margaret Marshall, Alan Monaghan, Wully Perks, Sue Walker and Chris Willmore.

Councillor Paul Hulbert – Dodington Parish Council.

3 members of the public.

Town Clerk, Deputy Town Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer and Senior Administrative Officer - Yate Town Council.

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 28 April 2015 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 19 May 2015.

3 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor Tony Davis presented a written report providing an overview of Town Council business and his experience as Mayor for 2015 – 2016 and invited any questions, but none were received.

4 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

A detailed statement of the Town Council's accounts for period ending 31 March 2015 was presented to the meeting by the Deputy Town Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer.

RESOLVED The Town Council's statement of accounts for period ending 31 March 2014 be accepted by the Annual Town Meeting. Thanks be relayed to the Deputy Town Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer.

It was further **RESOLVED** that in future, a copy of the annual external audit report be added to the Statement of Accounts.

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**.

6 ANNUAL REPORT FROM CHAIR OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

A report prepared by Councillor Mike Drew (Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee) was received and **NOTED**.

7 CHARITY REPORTS

7/1 Wills Davis Atwell Charity

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

It was explained by a Trustee that the charity is likely to receive a substantial amount of money from the sale of a parcel of land in North Yate. This will mean increased fund availability, therefore it may be necessary to review the objectives of the charity and make a case to the Charity Commission to make funds more widely available.

7/2 Yate United Charities

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

No Trustees were at the meeting available to comment.

RESOLVED That a request be made at the Annual Town Council meeting on 17 May 2016 to review the Yate Town Council Appointed Trustees.

7/3 Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust

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

It was **RESOLVED** to re-send the press release to the Bristol Evening Post in respect of the Yate Town Council St George's Day event at Yate Heritage Centre as those present were disappointed to note that reference was made by the paper suggesting that no St George's Day events took place in Yate.

7/4 Dementia Awareness Report

A report from the Community Development Worker in respect of Dementia Awareness in Yate was received and **NOTED**.

8 REPORTS FROM SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLORS

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

Councillor John Ford drew attention to the South Gloucestershire Council review of the Waste Strategy. Whilst the new registration system at the Sort It centre is designed to stop residents from neighbouring authorities using South Gloucestershire facilities, the knock on effect has unfortunately been that an increase in fly tipping has occurred. Councillor Ford stressed that offenders should be reported as South Gloucestershire Council has recently made several successful convictions.

Councillor Tony Davis spoke about the success of the Town Council initiative to make Yate a Dementia Friendly town and advised that Dementia Awareness was also rolling out into local primary schools.

RESOLVED That a request be made at the Annual Town Council meeting on 17 May 2016 to consider a review of volunteer training across all of the Town Council facilities.

9 TOWN AFFAIRS

9/1 Anti Social Behaviour – Cranleigh Court Road

A member of the public wished to advise the meeting about an ongoing spate of anti-social behaviour that she had been experiencing in respect of young children climbing onto a bin store area and causing a nuisance by throwing items over the fence into her garden, shouting obscenities and generally making a nuisance.

Whilst having reported to the Police and the Housing Association the resident felt she had exhausted most avenues of help and asked for any advice or assistance.

Councillor Sue Walker asked if the Housing Association had been asked to move the bin store and suggested reporting to South Gloucestershire Environmental Health team if the bins themselves were causing an issue. Councillor Walker also advised that the Housing Association Tenants Association also has a pot of money that they might be able to help with a project or equipment to give the young children.

Councillor Mike Drew offered to visit the resident at home and to then approach the Housing Association on her behalf.

9/2 Land at Ridgewood Centre behind Bennetts Court

A member of the public advised the meeting that there were a number of residents in Bennetts Court who would like to be involved with a possible 'Friends' group should Yate Town Council take over the management of the land at Ridgewood behind Bennetts Court. Residents of Bennetts Court would like to protect the natural environment and would not like to see any development.

Councillor Willmore advised the resident that Yate Town Council is currently in negotiation with South Gloucestershire Council to obtain a long term lease for this area of land and the aspiration is to save the land from development.

9/3 Sharp Interpack Ltd Silos

A member of the public from Bennetts Court advised the meeting that an objection on behalf of the Residents Association of Bennetts Court has been lodged with South Gloucestershire Council in respect of the Sharp Interpack's application to erect 4 50ft silos at their site on Station Road in Yate.

Councillor Willmore advised the member of the public to request that the residents of Bennett's Court that object to the silos should also register their objections individually.

The member of the public was advised that Yate Town Council has also objected to the erection of the new silos.

9/4 Vote of Thanks

The Mayor formally thanked the Officers and Staff of Yate Town Council for their work in what has been a particularly busy year and the Councillors of Yate Town Council for their support.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.35pm.

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It has been another interesting and busy year for both the council and the town.

The Armadillo is going from strength to strength, catering for the needs of the young people of Yate, along with the Youth Clubs at Abbotswood and Brinsham Green.

We have also just ordered a new URBIE (the van that youth workers use to work with young people out on the streets) as the last one was worn out.

Also talks with South Gloucestershire Council about taking over Yate Common are continuing, which will mean a more responsive local management.

We worked with volunteers to set up a charity to keep Yate Outdoor Sports Centre open. They have done an amazing job and the complex is much busier, with additional activities and clubs. They have started on a programme of upgrading facilities and the centre is looking really good.

We continue to work with Abbotswood Action, along with local residents and groups, to further improve the area.

The Council continues to develop and enhance our many open spaces, with the welcome assistance of our friends' groups.

Events at Kingsgate Park, Brinsham Fields and Abbotswood continue to be a great success.

This year's Easter egg hunt was a great success with a record number of amazing Easter hats for me to judge. I am also looking forward to the ever popular "Yate Rocks" music festival in June this year, followed on the Sunday by "Praise in the Park" and a big band concert.

We are also rightly proud of our play areas which we are refurbishing on a rolling programme. The latest area to be done is the St Marys, which has proved to be very popular. There are a couple more in the pipeline, these being Howard Lewis and Brinsham Fields.

One of the very pleasing duties of being Mayor is attending the official openings and awards to local firms, including "The Queens Award to Industry". I have also had the pleasure of reopening some local businesses, following refurbishment of their premises, showing that they are committed to continuing to trade in Yate.

We have succeeded in our ambition to make Yate a Dementia Friendly Town with several groups continuing the good work. It is particularly pleasing that Dementia Awareness sessions are now being run in primary schools.

Finally, and most importantly, I would like to thank the volunteers, local organisations, council staff, and fellow councillors for all their time and commitment to the wonderful place I am so proud to represent.

Cllr Tony Davis



YATE TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2016

YATE TOWN COUNCIL
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for the Year Ended 31st March 2016

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YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Council Information

Mayor:

1 Councillor Tony Davis

Councillors:

2 Ian Blair
3 Ben Campbell
4 Aziz Chowdhry
5 John Davis
6 Mike Drew
7 Chris Edmonds
8 John Gawn
9 John Ford
10 Cheryl Kirby
11 Margaret Marshall
12 Alan Monaghan
13 Wully Perks
14 Penny Thoyts
15 Karl Tomasin
16 Sue Walker
17 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

Annual internal audit report 2015/16 to

Enter name of smaller authority here:

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

This smaller authority'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 2016.

Internal audit has been carried out in accordance with this smaller authority'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 this smaller authority.

Internal control objective	Agreed? Please choose only one of the following		
	Yes	No*	Not covered**
A. Appropriate accounting records have been kept properly throughout the year.	Yes		
B. This smaller authority met its financial regulations, payments were supported by invoices, all expenditure was approved and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	Yes		
C. This smaller authority assessed the significant risks to achieving its objectives and reviewed the adequacy of arrangements to manage these.	Yes		
D. The precept or rates requirement resulted from an adequate budgetary process; progress against the budget was regularly monitored; and reserves were appropriate.	Yes		
E. Expected income was fully received, based on correct prices, properly recorded and promptly banked; and VAT was appropriately accounted for.	Yes		
F. Petty cash payments were properly supported by receipts, all petty cash expenditure was approved and VAT appropriately accounted for.	Yes		
G. Salaries to employees and allowances to members were paid in accordance with this smaller authority's approvals, and PAYE and NI requirements were properly applied.	Yes		
H. Asset and investments registers were complete and accurate and properly maintained.	Yes		
I. Periodic and year-end bank account reconciliations were properly carried out.	Yes		
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, supported by an adequate audit trail from underlying records and where appropriate debtors and creditors were properly recorded.	Yes		

K. (For local councils only) Trust funds (including charitable) – The council met its responsibilities as a trustee.	Yes	No	Not applicable
			N/A

For any other risk areas identified by this smaller authority adequate controls existed (list any other risk areas below or on separate sheets if needed)

Name of person who carried out the internal audit

MARIA BOWES for: KATE BALL FCCA CIA

Signature of person who carried out the internal audit

KBall

Date

10/06/2016

*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).

In Bloom Income & Expenditure to 31 March 2016

Income

	2015	2016
Grants:	7,402	-
Sales	-	
Bank Interest	10	4
	<u>7,412</u>	<u>4</u>

Expenditure

	2015	2016
In Bloom: Station Road Regeneration & Priority Neighbourhoods	6,863	1,798
Heritage Map		600
Judges expenses	89	
Misc.	22	
Exhibition & publicity		
Garden Competition		
Planting		
Cranleigh Crt & Mosaic		
 Total Expenditure	 <u>6,974</u>	 <u>2,398</u>

Balance of funds available to In Bloom	2015/2016	-	2,395
Balance of Funds Bought Forward	2014/2015	-	<u>9,425</u>
Total Balance of Funding Available to In Bloom			<u>7,031</u>

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

**Income and Expenditure Account
For the Year Ended 31 March 2016**

	Notes	2016 £	2015 £
INCOME			
Precept on District Council		873,514	831,530
Local Council Tax Support Grant		87,083	83,448
Agency Services	3	3,518	2,940
Loan and Capital Receipts		121,137	109,493
Interest and Investment Income	2	10,985	7,704
Leisure and Recreation		180,915	35,010
Play Areas		-	-
Open Spaces and Public Rights of Way		600	211
Estates Dept.		3,834	4,658
YTC Grants and Community Support		44,229	27,102
Transport Initiatives		656	-
Establishment/General Administration		149	1,967
Civic and Demographic		805	267
Other Services		6,100	4,184
Heritage Centre		3,190	3,148
Parish Hall		11,553	13,027
Pop Inn Café		24,495	26,395
Poole Court		48,262	67,173
Armadillo	15	442,531	30,162
		<u>1,863,556</u>	<u>1,248,419</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Establishment/General Administration	5	273,032	255,537
Capital Expenditure		228,415	145,058
Loan Charges	11	55,941	55,941
Lease and HP repayments		-	-
Operational Expenditure:			
Leisure and Recreation		104,479	36,955
Childrens Play Areas		16,581	13,988
Open Spaces and Public Rights of Way		36,350	36,209
Estates Department		239,384	230,062
Grants and Community Support		105,960	77,242
Transport Initiatives		1,201	316
Civic and Democratic		19,588	4,824
Other Services		24,171	28,490
Heritage Centre		56,397	56,364
Parish Hall		13,982	11,035
Pop Inn Café		32,928	32,761
Poole Court		74,432	67,202
Armadillo		175,664	99,649
		<u>1,458,505</u>	<u>1,151,633</u>
General Fund			
Balance as at 1 April 2015		422,684	411,118
Add: Total Income		1,863,556	1,248,419
		<u>2,286,240</u>	<u>1,659,537</u>
Deduct: Total Expenditure		<u>(1,458,505)</u>	<u>(1,151,633)</u>
		827,735	507,904
Transfer (to) other Reserves	12	<u>(374,473)</u>	<u>(85,220)</u>
General Reserve Balance at 31 March 2016		<u>453,262</u>	<u>422,684</u>

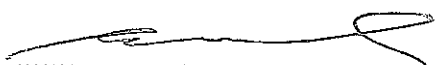
YATE TOWN COUNCIL

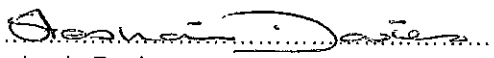
**Balance Sheet
as at 31 March 2016**

	Notes	2016 £	2016 £	2015 £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets	7		4,489,020	3,355,744
Current Assets				
Debtors	8	54,972		117,396
Cash at Bank and In Hand		<u>1,393,882</u>		<u>870,581</u>
		1,448,854		987,977
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and accrued expenses	9	(126,054)		(70,228)
Net Current Assets			1,322,800	917,749
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			<u>5,811,820</u>	<u>4,273,493</u>
Long Term Liabilities				
Creditors - More Than One Year	11		<u>(520,411)</u>	<u>(551,149)</u>
			<u>5,291,409</u>	<u>3,722,344</u>
Capital and Reserves				
Council Resources Invested in fixed Assets			3,968,609	2,804,595
Earmarked Reserves	12	869,538		495,065
General Reserve		<u>453,262</u>		<u>422,684</u>
Council Resources Available			<u>1,322,800</u>	<u>917,749</u>
			<u>5,291,409</u>	<u>3,722,344</u>

The statement of accounts represent fairly the financial position of the council as at 31 March 2016 and reflects the Income and Expenditure for the year.

These accounts have been approved by the Council.


.....
Councillor Tony Davis
Mayor


.....
Stephanie Davies
Responsible Finance Officer

Date..... 28.06.16

Date..... 28.06.16

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2016

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 the accounts, provided that the fixed asset yields benefits to the authority and the services it provides is for a period of one year or more. 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 notes to the accounts at cost (where known) or at the earliest known valuation current when first reported as approximating to the lower of net replacement cost and net realisable value at the time.

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.

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 general funds.

Power of General Competence

With effect from 08.01.2013 Yate Town Council acquired the right to exercise the general Power of Competence extended to Town and Parish Councils under the Localism Act 2011 by S.I. 2012 No 965 (The Parish Councils (General Power of Competence) (Prescribed Conditions) Order 2012). Therefore, with effect from 08.01.2013 the council no longer exercises the powers conveyed by Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

**Notes to the Accounts
31 March 2016**

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 2013 and any changes in contribution rates as a result of that valuation took effect as from 1st April 2015. The next valuation is due to take place in March 2016.

2	Interest and Investment Income	2016	2015
		£	£
	Interest Income - General Funds	10,985	7,704
		<u>10,985</u>	<u>7,704</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

Dodington, Downend & Bromley Heath, Frampton Cotterell, Mangotsfield, Pucklechurch, Sodbury & Westerleigh Parish and Town Councils -

	2016	2015
	£	£
Administration of Joint Parish Meetings	2,665	607
Administration of Community Plan meetings	569	2,048
Administration of Wills Davis Atwell Charity meetings	285	285
	<u>3,518</u>	<u>2,940</u>

Works undertaken during the year by other authorities on behalf of Yate Town Council

Commissioned Authority and Nature of Work

	2016	2015
	£	£
South Gloucestershire Council - Internal Audit	448	663
South Gloucestershire Council - Youth Work	65,481	44,141
South Gloucestershire Council - Highways Maintenance	26,284	25,849
	<u>92,213</u>	<u>70,653</u>

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2016

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
Parents & Carers	Office, Poole Court	2,570	Non - repairing
Steve Webb MP	Office, Poole Court	921	Non - repairing
South Gloucestershire Deaf Association	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 2016

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:

	2016	2015
	£	£
Other Advertising	10	530
Publicity	839	2,975
	<u>849</u>	<u>3,505</u>

11200

6 Pensions

For the year of account the council's contributions equals 13.3% of employees' pensionable pay, plus £11,200 deficit recovery.

Following the 2013 actuarial valuation the council's contribution rates has increased to 14.3% plus a deficit recovery sum of £12,100 for 2016/2017.

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

**Notes to the Accounts
31 March 2015**

7 Fixed Assets	2016	2015
	£	£
	Value	Value
At 31st March the following assets were held:		
NB: Some asset, where applicable, have been re-instated in 2014/2015 to the earliest known value in line with the Fixed Asset Principal Accounting Policies - see note 1		
<u>Freehold Land and Buildings</u>		
Poole Court	450,000	450,000
Eggshill Lane/Station Road Parish Hall	56,000	56,000
Broad Lane Sports Complex	14,000	14,000
Sunnyside Sports Pavilions	13,800	13,800
Sunnyside Bowling Green	46,812	46,812
Heritage Centre	300,000	300,000
Pop Inn Café	150,000	150,000
Tennis Courts at Sunnyside and Howard Lewis	40,400	40,400
Armadillo Yate Youth Venue & Cafe (joint ownership transferred from SGC 8.4.15)	1,347,344	673,672
Abbotswood	19,800	-
	693,472	
	<u>2,438,156</u>	<u>1,744,684</u>
<u>Vehicles and Equipment</u>		
Community Buildings Furniture and Equipment	110,959	102,158
Office Equipment	47,988	52,063
Estates Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	82,105	49,867
Play Equipment	1,429,078	1,258,672
Armadillo Equipment	213,535	-
	420,905	
	<u>1,883,665</u>	<u>1,462,760</u>
<u>Infrastructure Assets</u>		
Bus Shelters	34,559	35,597
Footpaths	3,900	3,900
Fencing and Gates	27,487	27,487
Teenage Shelter (Longs Drive, Witches Hat, Wellington Rd(2))	17,901	3,967
St Mary's Wall	21,157	21,157
Seats (116)	58,000	52,000
	18,896	
	<u>163,004</u>	<u>144,108</u>
	439,801	
<u>Community Assets</u>		
Council Regalia	4,000	4,000
Lye Field	1	1
St Mary's Green (incorporating verges adjacent to Lawns Inn)	1	1
Village Green (Goose Green)	1	1
Village Green (Yate Rocks)	1	1
Play Areas (Howard Lewis Park, Peg Hill Skate Park, Eggshill, Lye Field)	4	4
Tyler Field - Woodland	1	1
Westerleigh Road	1	1
Lych- Gate St Mary's Church	1	1
Parnall Memorial St Mary's Church	1	1
Litter Bins	142	138
Dog Bins	41	42
	<u>4,195</u>	<u>4,192</u>
	<u>4,489,020</u>	<u>3,355,744</u>

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

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

**Notes to the Accounts
31 March 2016**

8	Debtors	2016	2015
		£	£
	Trade Debtors	23,985	4,908
	Booking Deposits	- 150	-
	VAT Recoverable	18,817	20,425
	Other Debtors	2,177	78,343
	Pre-payments and Accrued Income	10,144	13,720
		<u>54,972</u>	<u>117,396</u>

9	Creditors and Accrued Expenses	2016	2015
		£	£
	Trade Creditors	96,243	26,576
	Accruals and Deferred Income	28,834	40,852
	Booking Deposits Received	977	850
	Superannuation Payable	-	1,950
		<u>126,054</u>	<u>70,228</u>

10 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	2015 - currently on informal extension
Lloyds TSB Auto Lease	Estates Ford Ranger Pickup	2,627.40	2015 - currently on informal extension
Siemens	Photocopier	2,080.00	2018
New Holland Finance	Estates Tractor	25.00	None
ING Lease	Estates Mower	104.71	None

YATE TOWN COUNCIL

**Notes to the Accounts
31 March 2016**

11	Long Term Liabilities	2016	2015
		£	£
	Public Works Loan Board	520,411	551,149
	HP & Lease Creditors	-	-
		520,411	551,149

At the close of business on 31 March 2016 the following loans to the council were outstanding:

Lender	Amount	Years
	£	Remaining
Public Works Loan Board	127,993	10
Public Works Loan Board	392,418	14

12 Earmarked Reserves

	01/04/2015	Contribution to reserve	Contribution from reserve	Balance at 31/3/2016
	£		£	£
Capital Earmarked Reserves	356,490	271,683	298,955	329,218
Other Earmarked Reserves	138,575	591,200	189,455	540,320
	495,065	862,883	488,410	869,538

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

13 Capital Commitments

The council had no capital commitments as 31st March 2016 not otherwise provided for in these accounts.

14 Contingent Liabilities

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

15 Other Accounts

The Armadillo accounts were incorporated into the Yate Town Council accounts in the 2015/2016 financial year following the business transfer of the half in South Gloucestershire Council's ownership to Yate Town Council.

16 Other Accounts

Yate Town Council also administers the following accounts, they do not form part of Yate Town Council's accounts but are included for information only as related party disclosure:

- 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 appendix b.
- 2) Yate Community Plan Account. See details appendix c.

EARMARKED RESERVES (ER)

<u>EARMARKED RESERVES</u>	Opening Bal April 2015	From ER to GR	From GR to ER	Balance
PARK UPGRADES				
ER - MILLSIDE RESTORATION PROJECT	700			700
PLAY AREA REFURBISHMENT				
ER - PLAY AREA PROJECTS	77,404	44,269		33,135
ER - PROVISION FOR HOWARD LEWIS RESURFACE	3,900			3,900
BUILDINGS				
ER - ARMADILLO SINKING FUND	30,162		97,434	127,596
ER - BUILDING FUND	16,858		10,001	26,859
ER - POOLE COURT REFURB	(192)		1,692	1,500
ER - POOLE COURT HATCH REFURBISHMENT	1,500			1,500
ER - CHARGING POINT KP	2,500	2,500		0
OTHER PROJECTS				
ER - ALLOTMENTS	12,000			12,000
ER - ESTATES EQUIPMENT	6,107	21,271	15,164	0
ER - PROJECT SUPPORT	155,062	62,794	9,735	102,003
ER - SEEDING PROJECT RIVER FROME	250			250
ER - BATWING MOWER	11,814	11,814		0
ER - PROVISION FOR BIKE	850	850		0
ER - ARMADILLO TRANSFER FUNDS	0	98,000	297,000	199,000
ER - YOSC TRANSFER FUNDS	0	44,022	134,392	90,370
ER - NOTICEBOARD REFURBISHMENT	0		13,000	13,000
ER - ARMADILLO PROJECT FUND	18,658			18,658
ER - ARMADILLO APPRENTICE FUNDS	0		25,000	25,000
COMMITTED REVENUE EXPENDITURE				
ER - ELECTION EXPENSES	31,323	14,224		17,099
ER - COMMUNITY WORK IN YATE	12,675	12,750	75	0
ER - CIVIC SERVICE	0		250	250
ER - GRANT FUNDING	1,362	942		420
ER - JUBILEE HERITAGE MAP	120	120		0
ER - KINGSGATE PARK MANAGEMENT PLAN	625	625		0
ER - PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY	6,081			6,081
ER - SERVICE SUPPORT (PS)	0		24,498	24,498
ER - YOUTH PROVISION	105,306		60,413	165,719
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	495,065	314,181	688,654	869,538

**JOINT PARISHES YOUTH FORUM STEERING GROUP (JPYFSG)
RECEIPTS AND PAYMENTS TO 31 March 2016**

Chq No	Bfwd	2015/2016		Balance
		Receipts	Payments	
		£ -	£ -	£ 5,311.76
		<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ -</u>	<u>£ 5,311.76</u>

Represented by

Current a/c balance as at 08 January 2016

£ 5,311.76

Cheque not yet presented

£ 5,311.76

Community Plan Income & Expenditure to 31 March 2016

Income

	2015	2016
In Bloom Income (see attached In Bloom account)	7,412	4
Grants: Yate Town Council	2,048	2,731
Bank Interest	7	6
	<u>9,467</u>	<u>2,741</u>

Expenditure

	2015	2016
Administration Community Plan	2,048	2,731
Community Plan Expenditure (Shopping Centre Mural)	-	762
In Bloom (see attached In Bloom account)	6,974	2,398
	<u>9,022</u>	<u>5,892</u>

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2016**Funds:**

Opening balance 1 March 2015	12,147
Plus income	2,741
Less Expenditure	<u>5,892</u>
	<u>8,996</u>

Represented By**Assets**

Yate Community Plan Bank Account Balance as at 31 March 2016.	10,069
Less cheques not yet presented	<u>1,073</u>
	<u>8,996</u>

Made up as follows:

Yate Community Plan balance of funds	1,965
In Bloom Balance of funds	<u>7,031</u>
	<u>8,996</u>

Yate Town Council Annual Town Meeting.

Environment and Planning Report. April 2017.

Councillors and volunteers have again supported many events around the town and continue to enjoy working together on projects and with groups that seem to have an unquenchable passion for making our town a safe and enjoyable place for us all to live, work and prosper together. It is difficult to list all of the active groups and their achievements, so I would like to say a collective thank you to you all, and to draw attention to the events and activities that have taken places in our parks and open spaces. These events have brought an immense amount of pleasure to many thousands of our residents and will leave happy memories of Easter egg hunting, celebrating, learning, heritage experience and discovery to so many of our town's children and adults.

The Environment and Planning Committee continue to work to support the Council's recognition of the importance of play and our commitment to maintain and improve our play areas and open spaces. We are delighted with improvements such as the refurbishment of St Mary's play area that now offers a wider range of new and exciting play activities that can be enjoyed by the children and young adults living in the area.

Yate Town Council set about saving our Outdoor Sports Complex. Again, the rescue package is working because of the support of user groups and volunteers. Some of the many improvements that have been made in a relatively short space of time include redecoration, replacement carpet in the community room, installation of a bar and commercial kitchen. We now have a programme of regular maintenance on the pitches, and a refurbishment of the floodlighting. Saving YOSC has been a remarkable achievement that is testament to the determination of our community to pull together and to save our important facilities by hard work, imagination and determination.

Yate now has a cinema! It's hard to believe, but after so many years, a facility that so many people have wanted to see in our town finally opened to the public after an opening ceremony carried out by our Mayor, Councillor Tony Davis.

The new Riverside development has brought more people and traffic to Yate. We now have a working group of Yate and Dodington Councillors that are looking at our traffic and travel frustrations and the key strategic issues that we face. These issues have been identified and detailed in our 'Let's Get Yate Moving' document. We have called upon South Gloucestershire Council to respond to these issues and are hoping that they will identify a source of funding and action plans that will address our concerns.

I would like to record my thanks to my fellow Councillors and the staff of Yate Town Council for their hard work and dedication to keeping our town a pleasant and enjoyable place to live and work.

Alan Monaghan.

April 2017.

Report of the Chair of Finance and General Purpose Committee

Cllr. Mike Drew

The Town Council's Finances, as they were last year, are still in good order but we have had, again, to increase our Council Tax in order to maintain this and still provide the services which people of the Town want. The particular reasons are:

Local Council Tax Support Grant

In 2013 the government cut the tax base (this is the number of band D properties upon which councils use to calculate its precept). This in effect was to enable the move of government underwriting unpaid council tax from central government to local authorities and this had an effect of the money that parish and town council could raise through precept.

This loss of money has been substituted over the past 4 years by way of a local council tax support grant from South Gloucestershire Council. South Gloucestershire Council has now cut this grant further for 2017/2018.

Youth Provision in Yate

South Gloucestershire Council withdrew the provision of youth services in 2013. Since then Yate Town Council has ensured the youth provision in Yate has been delivered. Grants have been received from South Gloucestershire Council to assist with the delivery, however, due to cut backs it is not expected that South Gloucestershire Council will provide grant funding which will result in a loss of a further £12,000 towards the cost of the service provided.

Pay Awards

A 1% increase has been applied to all salaries of SCP 18 and above, those below this scale have had a larger increases applied to take into account any restructure. The Council pays the Living Wage Foundations definition of Living Wage which is higher than the new "National Living Wage".

We now have taken over the financial responsibility of YOSC as well as most of the Town's Youth Service.

Yate had benefitted in the past few years from South Gloucestershire Grants allocated by the Frome Vale Forum. Since the new Conservative led Council scrapped the Forum and have reduced the amount of grant available - and allocated a small amount to individual councillors with the In particular the New Homes Bonus grant fund has been withdrawn and since this was allocated to areas of new housing we did benefit from this over the last few years.

Town Council Staff has been under considerable pressure over the last few year and we undertook a review of staffing structure and functions with the assistance of South Gloucestershire HR department. We are in the process of implementing the recommendations.

With increasing dependence on IT the council reviewed its IT support. After going out for competitive tender we awarded the IT Support Contract to Integra - the Trading Arm of South Gloucestershire Council. This will result in a much more resilient system and improved use.

We continue to negotiate with some frustration with South Gloucestershire over the handing over of YOSC and the promised compensation funds. We set up the independent Community Interest Company - YOSC limited to run the facility. We are jointly undertaking refurbishment, repair and improvements to YOSC.

WILLS DAVIS ATWELL CHARITY
ACCOUNTS AND REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31ST MARCH 2017
Trustees: Rev Wallace, Cllr Mike Drew and Ald. Alan Lawrance

ASSETS

Balances Brought Forward

Instant Saver (Nationwide)	£ 30,303.59
Business Select (Co-op)	£ 13,307.22
Community Direct (Co-op)	£ 3,758.88
Triodos	£ 50,000.00
Total	£ 97,369.69

Total	£ 97,369.69
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INCOME

Co-op refund of charges	£ 220.00
Nationwide Bank Interest	£ 192.20
Co-op Bank Interest	£ 9.44
Rent	£ 250.00
Triodos interest	£ 600.00
Total	£ 1,271.64

£ 98,641.33

EXPENDITURE

Grants Awarded	£ 5,685.82
Admin Costs for 2015/2016	£ 1,024.20
Grants cheques not yet banked	-£ 245.76
Grants awarded not claimed	-£ 1,072.00
Grant from previous year banked in this year	£ 500.00
Honorarium to independent review of accounts	£ 100.00
End of Tenancy payment	£ 850.00
Total	£ 6,842.26

BALANCES CARRIED FORWARD

Instant Saver (Nationwide)	£ 30,495.79
Business Select (Co-op)	£ 7,316.66
Community Direct (Co-op)	£ 3,386.62
Triodos	£ 50,600.00
Total	£ 91,799.07

£ 98,641.33

The Charity owns two parcels of land, both are currently let.

Negotiations currently underway with Heron Homes to agree sale of land at Well Riding

The funds of the Charity are 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 social media, on notice boards in local schools, through the Youth Service, Leisure Centre, Library, Shopping Centre, local colleges and businesses.

This year grants were awarded to 30 young people.

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@yatetowncouncil.gov.uk

YATE UNITED CHARITIES ANNUAL REPORT 2017

1. Financial Statement Year Ending 31.3.17

<u>Income</u>	£	<u>Expenditure</u>	£
01.04.16 Balance at Bank	147.31	04.08.16 Awarded to Woodleaze Community Fund	30.00
31.05.16 Dividend from Shareholdings	47.90	04.08.16 Yate Stroke Association	50.00
31.08.16 Dividend from Shareholdings	45.91	17.09.16 Southern Brookes (Dementia)	50.00
30.11.15 Dividend from Shareholdings	41.27	30.08.16 St Nicholas Firendship	50.00
28.02.17 Dividend from Shareholdings	40.23	31.03.16 Balance at Bank	142.62
	-----		-----
	322.62		322.62
	-----		-----
Total Dividends paid in year end 2017	175.31		
Total Dividends paid in year end 2016	172.33		

2. Value of Shareholdings held as at 30.09.16

NB. Statements usually issued at 6 month by intervals – at the time of constructing this report figures for 31.3.2017 had not been received.

R. Hawkins 12.4.2017

	£
Account Number 4531 80001B	598.88
Account Number 4531 80001T	546.60
Account Number 4531 80002T	3657.95

	4803.43

Value at last 31.3.16 £ 4192.86

3. Trustee Membership

Ex-officio Trustee

The Rector, The Reverend Ian Wallace

Nominated Trustee

(appointed by Town Council)

Councillor Cheryl Kirby

Councillor Karl Tomasin

Cooptative Trustees

Mrs Margaret Bracey

Miss Monica Nelson

Roger Hawkins

Vacancy

YATE & DISTRICT HERITAGE CENTRE TRUST

REPORT TO YATE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING 2017

TRUSTEES: Ian Blair, Cheryl Kirby, Roy Murley, Jean Phillips and Sue Walker

As part of their duties as Trustees for the Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust, it is with great pleasure that the Trustees can report that the Trust has had another successful year and maintained budgets accordingly.

The Trust continues to oversee/monitor/report on the financial affairs of the Trust and can confirm that proper records continue to be kept, effective financial procedures continue to be in place, and the necessary financial report/return submissions, such as the Charity Commission Annual Submission of Accounts, are compliant and timely.

It is also pleasing to note that the Trust has continued to provide for a wide range of events, lectures, displays and children workshops from within the Heritage Centre.

Visitor figures have remained high with over 9,000 users including nearly 7,933 visitors to the Centre in the last year and 1,474 for outreach numbers.

The Heritage Centre is a Yate Town Council facility, and all the building running costs and staffing costs, are met by the Council, as part of their initiative to support the protection of Yate's heritage.

Without this valuable and irreplaceable assistance, the Heritage Centre would simply not exist.

Additionally, the Council have also continued to help fund and assist in various activities, events, exhibitions, etc through out the year.

The Heritage Centre has had, and continues to have, an active and strong Management Committee, together with a loyal, hard working and supportive group of volunteers.

Yate Town Council, its councillors and staff also continue to strongly support the Heritage Centre, which is well used by the residents and a source of envy from those visiting from other districts.

The Friends of Yate Heritage Centre have continued their strong, outstanding efforts in much needed fund-raising for the Heritage Centre and its activities.

Yate Town Council staff have continued to support the Heritage Centre strongly in all areas, and their assistance at various events has been invaluable and very gratefully received.

Together, Yate Town Council, the volunteers, the Friends Group, the Management Committee and the Trustees have worked closely in partnership to ensure that this well used facility is available to the community as part of the commitment of saving our local heritage and providing local history information.

Discussions continues with stakeholders regarding the possibility of extending the Heritage Centre with the much needed space to meet the expanding needs of its users, community and volunteers. The aim of the extension is to build a space that fits within the existing cluster of listed buildings and the village green, which will better allow the Heritage Centre to build on its success and continue to develop its facilities.

The Trust would also like to give grateful thanks all the businesses, local organisations, Yate Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council for all their financial support at a time of great austerity, and for which the Centre simply could not exist without.

The Trust would also like to take this opportunity to thank all the Volunteers and Yate Town Council staff who have worked, and continue to work, so tirelessly and patiently, to ensure that the Heritage Centre is available to all on a daily basis.

David Hardill, Community Heritage Officer, will be presenting a more detailed and costed report to Council Members at Yate Town Council Annual Meeting.

If anyone would like a copy of this Report, it will be available on the Heritage Centre's and Yate Town Council's web sites, or, a copy can be obtained from Yate Heritage Centre or Yate Town Council Office in Poole Court.

Yate & District Heritage Centre is poised to continue its good and valuable work for the coming years for the benefit of the surrounding communities.

Cheryl Kirby
Chair of Trustees
April 2017.

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR RUTH DAVIS 2016/7

I continue to deal with casework and take an active interest in Yate Common, being a member of both the Friends group and the Action group.

I regularly attend the Community Engagement Forum meetings that have replaced Frome Vale Area Forum as a local member and am leader of the Liberal Democrat group on South Gloucestershire Council, 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. This will change in May as the Conservative majority on South Gloucestershire Council have advised that they want to change to a cabinet and leader model of governance.

The area forum grants have been replaced by Member Award funding. Each councillor has £3000 to spend to the benefit of their residents. If you know of any organisation that would like to apply please contact me.

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.

The Yate/Sodbury area will provide at least an additional 3000 homes in north Yate and work has already started on that site. In the latest draft of the Joint Strategic Plan for the West of England the Yate and Sodbury area has been allocated a further 2600 houses up to year 2036, with a further 1300 at Coalpit Heath. There is also a proposal to have an additional motorway exit around about Emersons Green which will also have an impact on our area, with a possible new road to Yate.

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. This will include fighting for measures to help people get around, with better bus and train services and road management.

Councillor Ruth Davis
Yate Central ward
South Gloucestershire Council

27th March 17

Annual Town Meeting April 25th 2017

Report to Yate Town Council by Councillor Sue Walker

South Gloucestershire Councillor for Yate Central Ward

This year has been another busy year for South Gloucestershire Councillors as government funding is reduced further and community groups, volunteers and the Town Council try and ensure that important services can continue.

Congratulations to the trustees, volunteers and Yate Town Council for their efforts to keep to keep and develop the Yate Outdoor Sports Complex. It has now been handed over to the Trust.

Ridgewood Community Centre has also now been handed over to the Community Association and is doing very well for bookings but is still looking for help to improve the boilers – another local success story.

As a member of the management committee at Yate Library, I can report that the library has had another very successful year with countless community events, coffee mornings, talks from authors and children's events.

Yate Libraries computer suite is very well used and has become vital to residents, staff are there to help the community to use and develop computer skills. The cuts in funding mean that the opening hours will have to be reduced although there will be 'self-service' times when members of the Library can access the library using their library cards.

My work representing South Gloucestershire Council on the Lower Severn Drainage Board has taken up a lot of time and whilst the governance and pension arrangements are largely sorted, staff recruitment has been a large portion of the work.

The parking of vehicles around schools and in the corners of estates remains a big problem. I have met with groups of residents from the Ridge and Bennetts Court on these and other road safety matters. Residents have now largely accepted that more yellow lines is not the answer as it just moves the parking problem from one area to another. More limits on corners is seen as helpful to improve visibility and residents would like to see waiting restrictions in the Leisure Centre Car Park to prevent commuters parking there all day.

I have been in contact with residents and the council over the last few weeks and arranged for changes to be made to the new crossing in Station Road to improve visibility and lighting, I am very pleased to see work has already started.

Getting to and from Southmead and parking once there is still a problem and local residents welcome the increased use of Emmersons Green, Cosham and Bath Hospitals.

The longer opening hours of the minor injuries unit is welcome but I have been pressing for Saturday afternoon opening when families and sports people often need the unit.

The Members Awarded Grants have been problematic and the new system has been unsatisfactory. Applicants are confused as to who to apply too and with the busy town centre ward my applications were over prescribed. I thought about it very carefully and tried to give grants to a cross section of the young, old, disabled, sport groups and those with social needs.

I still tend to get quite a lot of casework – helping with attendance allowance, applications, housing issues and parking as always. I also continue to help groups applying for grants and funding.

To close, thanks to the Town Clerk and all the Town Council staff of Yate Town Council for all their dedication and hard work. We are very fortunate to have such a loyal workforce, who makes such a difference to our town.

Annual Report to Yate Town Council – April 2017

Vice-chair of Council
South Gloucestershire Committees:
Children, Adults and Health Committee
Corporate Parenting Steering Group
Chair of the Virtual School Governing
Development Control (East)

The role of Chair of South Gloucestershire Council is quite demanding and I have often been required to deputise. It has given me great pleasure to attend these events as many have involved the young people of South Gloucestershire.

There has been further restructuring within the Council this year which has resulted in a decrease in the number of committees. However, I have been working closely with officers and members on the corporate Parenting Steering Group and the Virtual School Governing Body to ensure that those most vulnerable young people, those looked after by the local authority have the best possible outcomes and are well prepared for their futures.

Housing development in South Gloucestershire remains one of the most controversial areas for the Council. Weighing up the increasing need for new housing in the area against the impact it will have on existing residents continues to tax those members of Development Control. With the demands from Central government there is often a block on the influence we can bear. Ensuring that infrastructure comes along with any development is a major concern.

Working with other local councillors and South Gloucestershire officers we have sought to identify real solutions that contribute to our long term aim of "Let's get Yate Moving".

I have been contacted by a number of local residents about a variety of issues whom I have been able to help directly or signpost to appropriate officers.



Ian Blair (South Gloucestershire Member Yate North)

Mike Drew, Yate North – Report to Annual Parish Meeting 2016-2017

The Lib Dem group remains in opposition to the ruling Conservative majority who have confirmed that they wish to rule a single party Cabinet. Removing most councillors from the decision making process. A great deal of work has been done by the officers to reorganise this decision making process which will come into effect at the annual meeting in May.

This system will leave all other members in just a scrutiny role but even if they do find that they disagree with a cabinet decision they can only ask the Cabinet or Executive Member to consider the matter again but there is no obligation to change their mind and they can continue with the original decision. So the Council can pursue a policy which the overwhelming majority oppose. Conservative members say in private they are unhappy with this but put their hands up to vote for.

The Government has modified the Council Tax capping rules to allow Councils with Adult Social Services responsibilities to add an extra 3% council tax provided it is spent on that service in addition to allowing an extra 2% for other services to cover the reduction in central government grant and additional cost.

It is noticeable that despite their promise to scrap the “Green Bin Charge” there have been no further reductions as it is unaffordable to do so - as we said all along.

I continue to be the Liberal Democrat Lead on the Resources Sub-committee and a Member of the Policy & Resources Committee although there now appears to be little point to the Resources Sub-committee as it meets just prior to P&R and rarely has much on the agenda.

As part of the responsibility of the P&R committee is the capital programme - a very major part approved for the coming year is the repair of the Frome Viaduct of the Ring Road. This is programmed to take nearly a year and will have a major impact on traffic for a year. The Council is putting in a bid for additional funds to try to reduce the time by half. When I asked if they had included this extra money in the original bid the Conservative Transport Lead replied that they had not realised how much disruption it would cause at the time.

Fire Authority

In my capacity as a Deputy Chair of the Fire Authority I have worked to maintain the ability of the Fire Service to respond to calls and carry out preventative work despite the cuts to the Authority’s budget. As part of the cost cutting is the change at Yate Fire Station from full time fire fighter cover at night to Retained Fire Fighters. I worked hard together with the Town Council to challenge the proposals. In the end we were able to maintain a two fire engine cover at night.

Other savings the Fire Authority is making is moving its HQ to share the Avon & Somerset Police HQ outside Portishead. This will save running cost and need to refurbish the present HQ or buy a new one. It will also enable the sale of the HQ site to

provide money in the future to keep the Fire & Rescue Service in good condition. Unfortunately as this will be a capital receipt it cannot be spent on revenue cost such as employing more Fire Fighting Staff.

Avon Pension's Committee

I continue to represent South Gloucestershire on the Avon Local Government Pensions Committee, where I am able to make sure that the interest of Parish and Town Councils are not lost. I represent the Avon Fund on the Local Authorities' Pension Fund Forum – the national body which enables the Local Government Pension Funds to work together to influence the companies in which they have considerable investments. LAPFF has led moves to curtail unjust pay rises for Directors and is involved in a campaign to change the EU & British accounting rules to make it more difficult for companies to hide losses such as those which led to the financial crisis.

The Government has forced the LGPS schemes to pool their assets in order (it is claimed) save money on hiring the Asset Managers who manage the funds on a day to day basis. The Avon fund has joined with the other South West county funds to form Brunel a company owned by the Pension Funds. I am not convince that it will actually save money when the cost of setting it up and managing it are taken into account. Any savings that are made are likely to be insignificant compared to the day to day fluctuation in the value of the Fund due to the stock market. There is also a fear that Government may compel the funds into "investing" into its pet infrastructure projects at a cost to the fund.

South West Employers

I also continue to represent South Gloucestershire on the South West Local Government Employers' Organisation, where I am Vice-Chair – again I am able to make sure that Town & Parish Councils are not overlooked. I also represent the SW on the National Association of Regional Employers (NARE).

Other

I remain a governor on Brimsham Green School – the Head, Senior Leaders and Staff work extremely hard to do their best for the students. However they are obliged to concentrate on examination results and the National Curriculum which may not be in the interest of all round education.

I also remain a member of the Avon Local Councils' Association Committee and I am the Avon representative on the National Association. I have just been elected to NALC's Finance Committee. NALC has been very important in making sure that the introduction of the Localisation of Housing Benefit system which reduced Town & Parish council tax base was mitigated by the introduction of grants from the Collecting Authorities. I am also a directly elected member of NALC's Larger Councils' committee where we champion the capabilities of large Town and Parish Councils to serve the public effectively and efficiently.

Report for 2016/7 from Cllr John Davis

Yate North Ward

South Gloucestershire Council

- Audit & Accounts Committee
- Environment & Community Services Committee

My work on Audit & Accounts has been to work in conjunction with the officers, our internal auditors and external auditors to agree new policies and changes to existing policies. To help improve efficiencies in procedures and ensure the council maintains its high standards, this has also included debate and analysis with regards to investment of the council's finances and awareness of the current volatile financial market post Brexit.

I am also a member of the council's Environment & Community Services committee where we endeavour to make the most of some of the council's front line services. This year has seen a lot of work surrounding the libraries' budget within South Gloucestershire and has unfortunately lead to reductions in service. Hopefully some of this reduction can be managed by the introduction of a new library access system. Recycling and improving waste management continues to be worked on and will hopefully lead to a greener Council and help with some of the savings still being imposed on the council by the Conservative central government.

This year is the first year of the Member Allocated Funding scheme where each councillor is given £3,000 to issue as grants to their local community. Whilst the scheme has been difficult to administer and improvements are continuing it has meant I have been able to support local groups such as the Food Bank and South Gloucestershire Youth Housing, in the absence of the area forum grants which were discontinued by the controlling party last year. Fortunately as councillors we now have the Community Engagement Forums to interact with the public in a similar manner to the Safer Stronger Community Groups which were also discontinued by the controlling party.

Much of the upcoming training and work on the council will focus around the West of England Combined Authority and making sure South Gloucestershire and Yate receive the best result it can working with the soon to be elected Metro Mayor.

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR TONY DAVIS 2016– 2017

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR DODINGTON WARD

On South Gloucestershire Council, I serve as lead member on the Regulatory Committee, which deals with taxi and pub licences as well as public rights of way and commons.

I also sit on the Standards Committee which deals with complaints about councillors

I also serve on the Avon Fire and Rescue Authority, where I am involved in the reorganisation and updating of services.

I have recently been appointed as a trustee of Circadian that runs the Active leisure centres in South Gloucestershire.

In the Yate area, I am the South Gloucestershire representative on the Yate Town Centre Strategy Group which influences the development of the town centre.

Recently I managed to get funds allocated to change the road layouts at the Rodford Way/Sundridge Park and Shire Way junctions, as well as the entrance to Abbotswood, two accident black spots.

I also regularly attend the Yate area Community Engagement Forum

In addition to casework, I have been working with others to resolve the issues around the Abbotswood precinct, supporting the Action Group in their work to enhance the 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 representing residents on planning issues and submitting petitions on their behalf.

I have been liaising with Officers and fellow councillors to minimise the effect of the projected additional 3000 new homes coming to Yate, on top of the 2600 already allocated, as these will obviously bring extra pressure on local roads and services.

Councillor Tony Davis
April 2017



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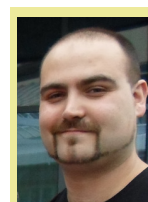
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Tony Davis

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Annual Town Meeting 2016/2017

YATE TOWN COUNCIL STAFF

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South Gloucestershire BS37 5PP
Town Council Telephone: 01454 866506

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Hayley Townsend hayley.townsend@yatetowncouncil.gov.uk

Deputy Town Clerk/Responsible Finance Officer

Stephanie Davies steph.davies@yatetowncouncil.gov.uk

SERVICE SUPPORT TEAM

Service Support Manager

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Service Support Assistant

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Service Support Assistant

Appointment vacant

Service Support Apprentice

Brogan Wilcox brogan.wilcox@yatetowncouncil.gov.uk

Events and Marketing Apprentice

Appointment vacant

FINANCE TEAM

Deputy Responsible Finance Officer

Catherine Demmery catherine.demmery@yatetowncouncil.gov.uk

Finance Assistant

Lauren Wixon lauren.wixon@yatetowncouncil.gov.uk

Finance Assistant part time

Appointment pending

ESTATES TEAM

Estates Manager

Phil Jones phil.jones@yatetowncouncil.gov.uk

Estates Supervisor

Rob Noble

Estates Person

Matt Evans

Carl Meacham

John Cox

Tom Edge

Appointment vacant

Estates Cleaner

Jeff Lane

Andy Underwood

Resident Caretaker - Poole Court

Appointment pending

COMMUNITY PROJECTS TEAM

Community Projects Manager

Lucy Shilcock

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Community Projects Officer

Appointment pending

Events and Marketing Apprentice

Appointment pending

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Community Heritage Officer

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Heritage Education Assistant

Cherry Hubbard

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Pop Inn Café telephone number 01454 313202

Pop Inn Café Co-ordinator

Roger Hawkins

ARMADILLO

Armadillo telephone number 01454 869441

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Youth Coordinator

Jacqui Conway

Steve Voake

Venue Assistant

Kelly Rogers

Joshua Watkins

Jodi Soper

Stephanie Thorne

Venue Assistant in Training

Matthew Hallett