



YATE TOWN COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORT 2007/2008

TO BE PRESENTED AT THE
ANNUAL TOWN MEETING
AT 7.30PM ON 29 APRIL 2008
AT POOLE COURT, YATE.

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Tuesday 8 April 2008

**THE ANNUAL TOWN MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE
ON TUESDAY 29 APRIL 2008 AT 7.30PM 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 24 April 2007. *(The Minutes were approved and signed as a true and accurate record at the Town Council meeting held on 15 May 2007).*
- 3 To receive the Yate Town Council Annual Report:
 - (a) To receive annual report from Councillor Mike Robbins, Chair of Yate Town Council and Town Mayor.
 - (b) To receive and approve statement of accounts for the year ended 31 March 2007.
 - (c) To receive annual report from the Chair of Yate Town Council's Environment and Planning Committee.
 - (d) To receive annual report from the Chair of Yate Town Council's Finance and General Purposes Committee.
 - (e) To receive annual report from Wills Davis Atwell Charity.
 - (f) To receive annual report from Yate United Charities.
 - (g) To receive report from Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust.
 - (h) 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 Kay Crowe	Dodington
Councillor Alan Lawrance	Dodington

- 4 Town Affairs.

Signed:

Councillor Mike Robbins
Yate Town Council Chair & Town Mayor

**MINUTES OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 24 APRIL
2007 FROM 7.30PM – 8.30PM AT POOLE COURT, YATE**

PRESENT

Councillor Margaret Marshall – Town Mayor/Chair

Members of Yate Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council. Councillors Justin Aldhouse (part-meeting) Ian Blair, Margaret Bracey, Kay Crowe, Tony Davis, Ruth Davis, Mike Drew, Sue Evan-Jones, John Ford, Martin Monk, Wully Perks, Mike Robbins, Cleo Trotter, Sue Walker and Chris Willmore (part-meeting). Pat Taylor (South Gloucestershire Community Services).

Members of the public.

Town Clerk and RFO.

Apologies received from Councillor Alan Lawrance.

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 25 April 2006 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 9 May 2006.

3 CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

Councillor Margaret Marshall welcomed everyone to the meeting and proceeded to report on Town Council activities during 2006/2007.

It was explained that there had been several very successful Town Council events during the year - the Music Festival, St George's Day, International Festival, and Easter Egg Hunt etc.

Consultations were now well underway on the proposed refurbishment/rebuild of the Parish Hall and the architect was currently collating responses. It was hoped that the design based on comments received from the public would be available soon.

It was explained that the Town Centre Strategy Group led by the Town Council brings everyone with an interest in the Town Centre together. Tesco is about to produce plans for redevelopment following lengthy consultation. Dominion Trust is continuing to improve facilities in the Shopping Centre and Primary Care Trust has secured funding to rebuild the Health Centre. The library has recently submitted a lottery bid to improve the library facility.

The meeting was reminded of the successful link between Yate and Badsalzdeturth.

Finally the achievement of the Town Council in securing a £20,000 grant from the Market and Coastal Town Association to develop a Town Plan was noted. A Steering Group had been established and the initial meeting would take place shortly.

The Mayor invited people to let the Town Council know if they had any ideas on what they would like to see in the town to make it an ever better place.

4 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

A detailed statement of the Town Council's accounts for period ending 31 March 2006 was presented to the meeting. The RFO offered to respond to any questions. No questions were raised.

RESOLVED The Town Council's statement of accounts for period ending 31 March 2006 be accepted.

5 ANNUAL REPORT FROM CHAIR OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

Councillor Margaret Bracey (Chair of the Environment and Planning Committee) presented a written report. The report highlighted some of the environmental events undertaken by the Town Council during the past year including the Spring Clean and Annual Garden Competition.

It was **NOTED** that Yate Town Council is regularly consulted on highways and planning matters and continues to play an active role in submitting comments in response to these consultations.

Councillor Margaret Bracey advised the meeting that sadly she would not be standing for re-election, explaining how much she had enjoyed being a Councillor for Yate and how much she would miss the work and the people, thanking other Councillors and staff for their fantastic support over so many years.

6 ANNUAL REPORT FROM CHAIR OF FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

Councillor Martin Monk, the Chair of the Town Council Finance and General Purposes Committee, having circulated a written report, offered to respond to any questions. No questions were received.

Martin Monk indicated that he felt his main aim as Chair of the Finance and General Purposes Committee is to ensure that all opinions are heard and that good use is made of Town Council funds. The Town Council has been steadily increasing the involvement of all citizens in the decisions it makes and aims to continue doing so.

Martin Monk explained that although only a small part of the overall budget, he felt that the Town Plan could be one of the most significant projects started this year, because of the involvement of such a wide range of people who live or work in Yate. It could be a focus for the growth of a healthy community over the next 10 to 20 years.

7 CHARITY REPORTS

A report was received from the Wills Davis Atwell Charity and was accepted by the meeting.

A report was also received from Yate United Charities and was accepted by the meeting.

It was suggested that due to the nominal monetary assets, the charity either wind itself up and donate the proceeds to a relevant body in the area or transfer the funds to a body such as Age Concern or the Pop Inn Café and ask that they apply the funds to a project which will benefit the elderly of Yate. This information be conveyed to Trust.

No report was received from the Heritage Centre Trust.

8 REPORTS FROM SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLORS

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

9 TOWN AFFAIRS

9/1 Bennett's Court, Yate

A local resident from Bennett's Court raised a number of concerns in relation to activities in the proximity of her home, falling down walls and youth rowdiness at night, backing up lorries waiting to go into the factory opposite, smells from the factory opposite, cars parked in the road by South Gloucestershire Council employees and cars driving across verges.

The meeting reassured the resident that issues relating to the wall were being pursued by local South Gloucestershire Councillors, youth rowdiness would be raised with the police, the lorry queues, parking issues and cars driving across verges would be raised with South Gloucestershire Council Highways Department. With regard to problems associated with the factory opposite it was understood that this was already being addressed by South Gloucestershire Council.

9/2 Frenchay Hospital

The meeting **RESOLVED** that it be **RECOMMENDED** to the Town Council that as a corporate body, the Town Council should sign the current petition in relation to the future of Frenchay Hospital.

9/3 Plans for New Health Facility in the Town Centre

The proposed plans for the new health service would be going out for consultation over two days at the beginning of June. The meeting encouraged people to get involved so that the town received the best facility possible.

9/4 Litter outside King Edmund School

Concern was expressed over the large amount of litter outside King Edmunds School. Members of the public should telephone South Gloucestershire Council Streetcare bearing in mind the more calls that are made, the higher up the priority list the problem goes.

9/5 Town Centre

It was felt that the general appearance around the periphery of the shopping centre could be improved if all the facilities within the centre, together with the Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council, worked closely together on a cohesive plan to maintain the area. This issue to be referred to the Town Council.

9/6 Vote of Thanks

A vote of thanks was extended to all Councillors and staff for all their work over the past year and particular reference was made in relation to Councillor Tony Davis who had worked tirelessly as a South Gloucestershire Councillor and had decided not to stand again.

The Mayor thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.30pm

MAYOR'S ANNUAL REPORT 2007 – 2008

COUNCILLOR MIKE ROBBINS (YATE NORTH)

To be the Mayor of Yate was a dream realized and my first year as Mayor was an experience that I enjoyed beyond expectation.

Awards evenings are always an occasion to be savoured, as with the Air Cadet Force to whom I was privileged to present their annual Awards. One young man of 16 years is now able to fly solo over Yate in a glider but is not allowed to drive, in company with his father, a small car. We have strange priorities!

Our thanks to all the people from the Baptist Church who joined with others to clean up the rubbish that makes the Link Road Car Park and the banks of the River Frome such an unsightly place for a Town Centre.

A number of events were held in the Town and I was honoured to open these occasions. Included in these events was:

- the switching on of the Christmas Lights and the visit of Father Christmas and the Reindeer which I attended with my wife and two Work Experience Students from our Twin Town in Germany;
- the visit of the Council from Bad Salzdetfurth and young people from the schools of Yate, Bochnia and Bad Salzdetfurth to present the results of the first part of Comenius Project, a tremendous achievement;
- the Kingsgate Park Community Music Festival was a superb presentation. The weather made the occasion one that was enjoyed by all (no Glastonbury here, fingers crossed for the future!)
- the opening of the firework display at the Fair on The Common was an event put on by Mr. Lock, the Fair's owner, at his expense, for the benefit of the Town and me and a free trip to the Fair for some unfortunate young people was also a very kind gesture for which I would like to say once again, thank you very much Mr. Lock;
- the opening of the Play Area in Kingsgate Park, the Easter Egg Hunt and the Easter Bonnet competition which I also helped to judge, guided by a lady from the Friends of Kingsgate Park and one of her relations, a charming lady from America. My thanks go to the Friends of Kingsgate Park for all their hard work.

Talking of hard work, I feel I should mention Lin Kendall and the Friends of Yate Common for continuing to improve The Common for the benefit of us all. The Friends of Ridgewood are also to be thanked for the continuing improvement of Ridgewoods and the wish to see the completion of the footpath from Bowling Hill to Peg Hill. That really will be an achievement. Thank you Mr. Capnos and friends. Our thanks also go to the Friends of Brimsham Park for your sterling work and hope

that this year sees the installation of the disabled fishing platforms, to extend the areas of enjoyment to another section of the public.

The St. Georges Day Festival turned out to be wet but enjoyable. My thanks to St. Mary's Church, David from the Heritage Centre, St. George, The Dragon and Victoria for making the day successful.

I also had the opportunity to present a number of Golden Wedding Bouquets and a 100 Birthday Bouquet, which was good fun.

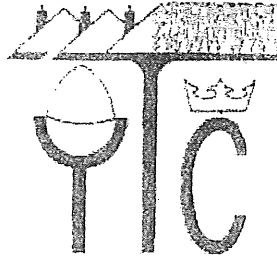
My thanks to the Deputy Mayor Councillor Ian Blair for all his help in the past year.

Having mentioned a few, I would like to say thank you to all the volunteering public who help our young people enjoy their leisure from football, rugby, cricket and swimming coaches. The martial arts trainers, tennis and badminton coaches, the Scouts and Guide Association Leaders - without you and the volunteers in other societies, what would we do? We owe you so much.

My activities as councillor for the Lib Dems in North Yate have been concerned with the reoccurring problems with waste (mainly plastic), the promise of 5,000 houses in Yate over the next few years and the infrastructure that will be required for that kind of expansion, the expansion of Yate Leisure Centre, the Community Health Care Centre and the Library, and when it happens Tesco's. For another year the Swan remains boarded and empty; what a waste. We would like to use it as a centre for young people. Dominion Trust would like to knock it down for an extension to the car park. What a waste. We could do so much with that building.

Plans are in the pipeline for the Sea Stores, the Parish Hall (with the cooperation of the Community Centre we could make serious progress) and we would like to take over Brimsham Park from South Gloucestershire so that Yate's Brimsham Volunteers could do with the area what they would like to do. We have high hopes.

Councillor Mike Robbins
Yate Town Mayor/Chair of Yate Town Council
April 2008



YATE TOWN COUNCIL
FINANCIAL STATEMENT
FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2007

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

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for the Year Ended 31st March 2007

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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

Council Information

Mayor:

1 Councillor Margaret Marshall

Councillors:

2 Arthur Adams
3 Diane Adams
4 Justine Aldhouse
5 Clare Beasley
6 Ian Blair
7 Margaret Bracey
8 Tony Davis
9 Mike Drew
10 Sue Evan - Jones
11 John Ford
12 Alan Lawrance
13 David Marshall
14 Alan Monaghan
15 Martin Monk
16 Wully Perks
17 Mike Robbins
18 Geoff Say
19 Cleo Trotter
20 Sue Walker
21 Chris Willmore
22 Audrey Young

Clerk:

Susan Tubey

RFO:

Stephanie Davies

Auditors:

Mazars LLP, Regency House, 3 Grosvenor Square, Southampton, Hampshire, SO15 2BE

Internal Auditors:

South Gloucestershire Council

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YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Income and Expenditure Account For the Year Ended 31 March 2007

	Notes	2007 £	2006 £
INCOME			
Precept on District Council		612,112	592,653
Agency Services	3	1,560	1,560
Loan and Capital Receipts		-	-
Interest and Investment Income	2	27,762	23,741
Leisure and Recreation		21,922	24,145
Play Areas		7,226	3,716
Open Spaces and Public Rights of Way		5,988	11,364
Planning and Development		-	3,099
Transport Initiatives		673	8,987
Establishment/General Administration		864	493
Civic and Demographic		216	939
Other Services		2,306	1,563
Heritage Centre		4,269	2,802
Parish Hall		10,817	12,337
Pop Inn Café		42,308	38,786
Poole Court		65,426	60,783
		<u>803,449</u>	<u>786,968</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Establishment/General Administration	5	227,033	214,364
S137 Expenditure	6	7,730	18,937
Capital Expenditure	8	58,483	58,276
Loan Charges	14	21,410	24,698
Lease and HP repayments		-	8,378
Operational Expenditure:			
Leisure and Recreation		29,262	26,146
Childrens Play Areas		17,091	11,982
Open Spaces and Public Rights of Way		10,295	15,731
Estates Department		142,665	129,711
Grants and Community Support		47,647	44,187
Transport Initiatives		11,174	11,122
Civic and Demographic		3,277	3,250
Other Services		26,525	11,101
Heritage Centre		42,083	28,202
Parish Hall		18,075	17,782
Pop Inn Café		38,010	37,039
Poole Court		64,491	58,801
		<u>765,251</u>	<u>719,707</u>
General Fund			
Balance as at 1 April 2006		240,757	201,167
Add: Total Income		<u>803,449</u>	<u>786,968</u>
		1,044,206	988,135
Deduct: Total Expenditure		<u>- 765,251</u>	<u>- 719,707</u>
		278,955	268,428
Transfer (to) other Reserves	15	62,225	- 27,671
General Reserve Balance at 31 March 2007		<u>341,180</u>	<u>240,757</u>

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YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Balance Sheet as at 31 March 2007

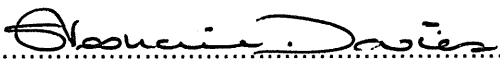
	Notes	2007 £	2007 £	2006 £
Fixed Assets				
Tangible Fixed Assets			5,809,865	5,788,192
Current Assets				
Stock	10	1,568		1,780
Debtors	11	14,154		14,223
Cash at Bank and In Hand		581,962		558,431
		<u>597,684</u>		<u>574,434</u>
Current Liabilities				
Creditors and accrued expenses	12	(39,021)		(53,969)
Net Current Assets			558,663	520,465
Total Assets Less Current Liabilities			<u>6,368,528</u>	<u>6,308,657</u>
Long Term Liabilities				
Creditors - More Than One Year	14		(214,106)	(217,246)
			<u>6,154,422</u>	<u>6,091,411</u>
Capital and Reserves				
Council Resources Invested in fixed Assets			5,595,759	5,570,946
Earmarked Reserves	15	217,483		279,711
General Reserve		<u>341,180</u>		<u>240,754</u>
Council Resources Available			<u>558,663</u>	<u>520,465</u>
			<u>6,154,422</u>	<u>6,091,411</u>

The statement of accounts represent fairly the financial position of the council as at 31 March 2007 and reflect Income and Expenditure for the year.

These accounts have been approved by the Council.


.....
Councillor Margaret Marshall
Mayor

Date 26/6/07


.....
Stephanie Davies
Responsible Finance Officer

Date 26 June 2007

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 2007

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 ether 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

Stocks of stationery are valued at cost. All other 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.

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YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2007

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 next actuarial valuation due on 31 March 2007 and any changes in contribution rates as a result of that valuation will take effect from 1st April 2008.

2	Interest and Investment Income	2007	2006
		£	£
	Interest Income - General Funds	27,762	23,741
		<u>27,762</u>	<u>23,741</u>

3 Agency Work

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

Commissioning Authority and Nature of Work

	2007	2006
	£	£
Dodington Parish Council - Playground Inspections	1,560	1,560
	<u>1,560</u>	<u>1,560</u>

Commissioned Authority and Nature of Work

	2007	2006
	£	£
South Gloucestershire Council - Internal Audit	615	600
	<u>615</u>	<u>600</u>

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YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2007

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	1,000	Non - repairing
South Gloucestershire Council Registrar	Office, Poole Court	8,750	Non - repairing
Steve Webb MP	Office, Poole Court	5,850	Non - repairing
Yate, Sodbury & District Community Transport (this tenancy ended in October 2007)	Office, Poole Court	4,700	Non - repairing
South Gloucestershire Council Registrar (this tenancy commenced in December 2007)	Office, Poole Court	2,379	Non - repairing

Council as tenant

Landlord	Property	Rent p.a.	Repairing/Non Repairing
		£	
South Gloucestershire Council	Land for Bus Shelter	2	N/A
	Play Area Land		
South Gloucestershire Council	Brimsham Park	Nil	N/A
	Land at Wellington		
South Gloucestershire Council	Road	Nil	N/A
	Land for Kingsgate		
South Gloucestershire Council	Park	1 Peppercorn	N/A
	Land at Yate		
South Gloucestershire Council	Common	1 Peppercorn	N/A
	Land for 3 Play	1 Peppercorn	
South Gloucestershire Council	Areas	each	N/A

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:

	2007	2006
	£	£
Other Advertising	82	749
Publicity	1,889	1,256
	<u>1,971</u>	<u>2,005</u>

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YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2007

6 Section 137 Expenditure

Section 137 of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended) enables the council to spend up to the product of £5.44 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.

	2007 £	2006 £
The total amount available for this purpose was	91,963	88,616
Expenditure was incurred for the following purposes:		
Grants and Donations	7,730	18,937
	<u>7,730</u>	<u>18,937</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 equal 12.80% of employees' pensionable pay. These contributions will remain at 12.80% until revaluated by the funds actuary. These contributions are expected to provide adequately for known liabilities.

8 Fixed Assets - Additions and Disposals

	2007 £	2006 £
During the year the following assets were purchased:	Cost	Cost
Operational Land and Buildings	17,622	-
Vehicles and Equipment	42,061	15,944
Infrastructure Assets	-	42,332
Community Assets	-	-
	<u>59,683</u>	<u>58,276</u>
Equipment supplied by South Gloucestershire Council at no cost to Yate Town Council	- 1,200	
	<u>58,483</u>	

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

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YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2007

9 Fixed Assets

	2007 £	2006 £
At 31st March the following assets were held:	Value	Value
<u>Freehold Land and Buildings</u>		
Poole Court	2,700,000	2,700,000
Eggshill Lane/Station Road Parish Hall	450,000	450,000
Broad Lane Sports Complex	14,000	14,000
Sunnyside Sports Pavilion	667,622	650,000
Heritage Centre	385,000	385,000
Pop Inn Café	200,000	200,000
Tennis Courts at Sunnyside and Howard Lewis	215,000	215,000
	<u>4,631,622</u>	<u>4,614,000</u>
<u>Vehicles and Equipment</u>		
Community Buildings Furniture and Equipment	100,792	100,792
Office Equipment	43,496	39,776
Estates Vehicles, Machinery and Equipment	52,990	52,659
Play Equipment	680,000	680,000
	<u>877,278</u>	<u>873,227</u>
<u>Infrastructure Assets</u>		
Bus Shelters	65,446	65,446
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>296,957</u>	<u>296,957</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
	<u>4,008</u>	<u>4,008</u>
	<u>5,809,865</u>	<u>5,788,192</u>

NB: Play Equipment to the value of £38,010 acquired in 2006/2007 has not been recorded above as it was included in the revaluation which took place in May 2006 and was used for the 2005/2006 accounts.

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

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YATE TOWN COUNCIL

Notes to the Accounts 31 March 2007

10 Stocks

	2007	2006
	£	£
Stationery	1,568	1,780
	<u>1,568</u>	<u>1,780</u>

11 Debtors

	2007	2006
	£	£
Trade Debtors	1,561	1,419
VAT Recoverable	9,094	8,161
Other Debtors	-	2,076
Payments and Accrued Income	3,499	2,567
	<u>14,154</u>	<u>14,223</u>

12 Creditors and Accrued Expenses

	2007	2006
	£	£
Trade Creditors	28,054	40,425
Accruals and Deferred Income	10,367	12,794
Booking Deposits Received	600	750
	<u>39,021</u>	<u>53,969</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
The Consortium	Estates Van	1,868.50	2007
The Consortium	Estates Truck	4,052.00	2009
BNP Paribas	Photocopier	2,551.32	2007
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 2007

14	Long Term Liabilities	2007	2006
		£	£
	Public Works Loan Board	214,106	217,246
	HP & Lease Creditors	-	-
		<u>214,106</u>	<u>217,246</u>

At the close of business on 31 March 2007 the following loans to the council were outstanding:

Lender	Amount	Years
	£	Remaining
Public Works Loan Board	214,107	19

15 Earmarked Reserves

	Balance	Contribution	Contribution	Balance at
	at	to reserve	from reserve	31/3/2007
	1/4/2006			
	£	£	£	£
Other Earmarked Reserves	279,711	(42,986)	105,214	217,483
	<u>279,711</u>	<u>(42,986)</u>	<u>105,214</u>	<u>217,483</u>

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

16 Capital Commitments

The council had no capital commitments as 31st March 2007 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.

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.

MOVEMENTS ON RESERVES FOR 2006/2007

Earmarked Reserves

Description	O/Bal	Expenditure	Income	From ER to GR	From GR to ER	Cfwd to Earmarked Reserve
Bus Shelters	1,500					1,500
Play Area Refurbishment	83,670					57,135
Kingsgate Park Upgrade		1,975				0
Millside Plazone		38,010		39,985	13,450	
Peg Hill Teenage Maint & Initiatives	7,619			7,619	8,586	8,586
Park Upgrades						
St Mary's Green Wall & Sensory Garden	5,000					5,000
Tyndale Park	0					0
Kickabout Projects						
Yate West Kickabout Project	100,000			5,000		95,000
Sunnyside Car Park Extension/Lights						
Estates Equipment	0					0
Office Equipment	3,812					3,812
Youth Projects/Parish Hall	70,000	1,391		50,000	-1,391	18,609
Elections	4,000				2,000	6,000
Committed Revenue Expenditure						
Friends of Yate Common	0				1,100	1,100
Ridgewood Community Association	1,500					1,500
Detached Youth Work Funding	0				18,000	18,000
Public Rights of Way	0				500	500
Civic	0				650	650
PIYE Start Up Grant	0				91	91
Night Bus Funding (05/06 grant)	2,610			2,610		0
	<u>279,711</u>	<u>41,376</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>105,214</u>	<u>42,986</u>	<u>217,483</u>

FOR INFORMATION ONLY

General Reserves

General Reserves as at 31.03.07	341,180
Less recommended reserves (3 month net expenditure plus £25,000 contingency)	-180,998
The remaining funds allocated in the 2007/2008 budget.	<u>160,182</u>

**ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE
ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE 2007 - 2008**

COUNCILLOR MARGARET MARSHALL (YATE SOUTH EAST)

This has been a busy year for the Environment and Planning Committee. I will start with our input into planning issues as that is an extremely visible part of our work at the moment. You only have to look at the developments in the Town Centre area.

We have been taking part and considering many consultations on the new developments. Tesco, the Library, the new PCT buildings, the Sea Stores, the Leisure Centre site and a bit further away the Barnhill Quarry development.

The E&P committee is always concerned about Highways issues and this year we have been concerned about the abuse of the one-way system in Eggshill Lane. We were also alerted to the dangerous phasing of the traffic lights near Brimsham Green School as well as speeding and parking issues.

Although we are concerned about motorists we are also trying to improve greener modes of transport and encourage walking to reduce traffic congestion. We know that this will not happen without good affordable bus and rail links and make sure that we influence whenever we can. We have Councillors working on other Sub-Committees like the Public Rights of Way (PROW) and the Joint Cycleway Groups where these issues can be discussed at length. The PROW group has redrafted our walkway leaflets so look out for them as they are extremely informative and you can do your health a lot of good by trying the walks. They are fun. Make sure you have your say when Yate Town Council consults on the proposed changes to the Ridge Wood to Peg Hill footpaths. This will be issued shortly. I am also pleased to be able to report that the Stanshawe Crescent to Kennedy Way footpath has been made safer following concerns by residents and motorists and that we are still following up the link to the Shopping Centre from it.

I am proud that so many residents are taking part in Environmental Events like the Planting Day along the Scott Way fenceline in Kingsgate Park held in January this year. Our groups of Friends are very active and make such a difference to our parks and commons, so a very big thank you to all that are involved. Also a vote of thanks to all those taking part in our regular Spring Cleans. This year they tackled The River Frome and the Peg Hill area. The Town Council could not do all of this on our own and we rely on your help to improve our Environment.

Slightly more controversial, dog control orders will be introduced at some of our open spaces. We hope we have managed to strike the right balance of control that allows dog owners the freedom to exercise their pets as we recognise their value to people whilst ensuring that other members of the Community feel protected. We know most dog owners are extremely responsible but unfortunately there is an element of owners who do not clean up after their dogs or let them run loose when it is inappropriate.

I am sure you will agree with us that the bulb planting and landscaping works that are carried out regularly make our town look lovely especially in the spring. We have many visitors to the town who comment on how lovely the place looks. I hope you

will join in with me in thanking our team that is responsible for keeping the area looking so nice. I get so many comments on how much the area has improved since Yate Town Council has taken control of looking after some of our open spaces.

Yate Town Council has always tried to have some of the best play areas for our children. We have a rolling programme to maintain them to a high standard. This year saw the very successful completion of our £200,000 project to enhance Kingsgate Park. The new play area was opened Easter Monday and has been welcomed by our young people and seen a considerable increase in the number of people using the park. YTC also submitted bids to South Gloucestershire Council so look out for a new Beacon Site in Millside Play Area (£20,000), a new play area in Longs Drive (£35,000) and a new water feature in Kingsgate Park (£20,000). We also have the Play Ranger Team visiting Tyndale Park regularly.

Finally I must mention that we continue to employ our full-time Street Cleaner who works very hard to keep Yate looking clean! He does a brilliant job so if you have an area that needs clearing just phone our Town Council office. He has made such a difference to our area.

I hope this gives you an idea of the projects our Environment and Planning Committee has been involved in this year. Please keep your comments coming forward. Many of our projects are taken on following your responses. A big thanks to all involved, staff, councillors and all the residents taking part in our initiatives.

Councillor Margaret Marshall
Chair of Environment & Planning Committee
April 2008

**ANNUAL REPORT BY THE CHAIR OF THE
FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE 2007 - 2008**

COUNCILLOR MARTIN MONK (YATE WEST)

This last year has seen a major project in Kingsgate Park and the usual events, but the unfortunate delay of the West Yate Kickabout project until this year because of unforeseen events.

We have however all heard of the changes that will be happening over the next twenty years that could have untold consequences for all of the people living in Yate, our neighbouring parishes and those that come to live and work here in the future.

Already changes are evident; the medical centre being improved and enlarged, the Library and Leisure Centre about to be updated and plans for an enlarged Tesco before South Gloucestershire Council. But these are to serve an existing population. Another 20,000 people will need more.

I think that the Town Council has to ensure that the facilities we already have are maintained to the highest standard and resources we have been fighting for are in place before a major input of people happens.

This will enable us to better calculate the needs that are necessary to cope with such changes. Also to fight to ensure they are provided.

I believe that the staff and members of Yate Town Council will rise to this challenge.

Councillor Martin Monk
Chair of Finance & General Purposes Committee
April 2008

WILLS DAVIS ATWELL CHARITY

ACCOUNTS AND REPORT FOR YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2008

Trustees: Rev. David Harrex, Mike Drew and Alan Lawrance

Clerk to the Trustees: Susan Tubey

INCOME

Balance Brought forward

1yr Fixed Rate	46,975.36
Business Reserve	3,518.32
Current Account	875.38
COIF Charities Invest.	
Income units held 31.12.06	5,758.30

57,127.36

Income

COIF Interest	188.28
Fixed rate bond interest	2,423.93
Rents	421.00
Int. Business Reserve	82.85
COIF Units increase	
01.01.07-31.12.07	120.38

3,236.44

£60,363.80

OUTGOINGS

Expenditure

Grant Paid	594.00
------------	--------

594.00

Balance Carried Fwd.

1yr Fixed Rate	49,399.29
Business Reserve	3,601.17
Current Account	890.72
COIF Investment	
Income units held	
31.12.07	5,878.62

59,769.80

£60,363.80

The Charity owns two parcels of land which they current lease.

The funds are applied as follows:

Education, etc. – the yearly income of the Charities shall be applied by the Trustees in assisting poor your people under the age of 21 years 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 at the Trustees think fit.

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

Applications are available by telephoning 01454 866506 all completed application forms to be returned to Poole Court by 30 September each year.

Wills Davis Disc2.accounts.

YATE UNITED CHARITIES
FINANCIAL STATEMENT YEAR END 31 MARCH 2008

Income

2007		£
April 01:	Balance at bank	313.96
May 31	Dividends from shareholdings	32.67
Aug 31:	Dividends from shareholdings	33.93
Nov 30:	Dividends from shareholdings	34.24
2008		
Feb 29:	Dividends from shareholdings	47.18
March 31:		<hr/>
		461.98

Expenditure

2007		£
May 29:	Awards to 10 beneficiaries	100.00
2008		
March 31:	Balance at bank	361.98
		<hr/>
		461.98

Notes

Charities Fixed Income Fund (COIF)
Holdings at last statement of account dated 31 December 2007:

A/C No 453180001B	£523.02
A/C No 453180001T	£479.93
A/C No 453180002T	<u>£3211.76</u>
	£4144.20

Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust Report

Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust have had a good year and continue to consolidate the progress we have made over the last few years in supporting the work of Yate & District Heritage Centre.

Below are the Fundraising efforts of the Centre linked to the Trust and the most recent accounts for the Trust (2006-7).

Fundraising

Last, but certainly not least, fundraising in its many forms has enabled us to maintain a good quality heritage service.

Once again we were able to raise money for putting on big events. As well as Yate Town Council the Co-op and Hanson have funded this year's St George event, while Engage and the Mall Foundation supported the Yate international Festival to over £2500.

The other fundraising highlights were South Gloucestershire Museums and Engage funding the anti-slavery exhibition, anti-slavery drama, workshop objects and a booklet to the tune of nearly £3000.

Capital Grant aid at South Gloucestershire Council has also enabled us to purchase items of equipment notably a data projector, display boards and recording equipment.

Perhaps the most significant fundraising was obtaining money for general costs. South Gloucestershire Museums gave us £1000 for Pat Lacy our Education Assistant, while a number of local parish councils also chipped in useful 3 figure sums.

Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust
Accounts 1/4/2006 to 31/3/2007

Expenditure

Displays	1118.05
Events/Activities	1585.48
Previews	128.94
Publicity/Newsletter	319.75
Stationery	685.35
Equipment	394.98
Computer	1617.54
Postage	68.06
Subscriptions	40.00
Handling Table	10.08
Education	67.74
Travel Expenses	2.60
Cash Ex Bank	150.00
General Overheads	189.88
Publications	50.95
Photocopying (Copier Repair)	106.92
Sale of Pictures	300.00
Building	1104.00
Donations	8.57
Storage at Poole Court	452.00
Refund of S.G.C. Grant	1000.00
Cheque Stopped	12.00
Permanent Exhibition	1103.33
Totalling error on Expense Form	0.09

Total Expenditure **10516.31**

Income

Grants: Yate Town Council	3452.00
South Gloucestershire Council	2366.00
Donations: Hanson	500.00
Masonic Charities	500.00
Quartet Community Fund	500.00
Friends Subscriptions	408.00
Donations – Public Lectures	414.90
Quiz Net Income	135.49
Book Sales : Commission	19.37
Misc . Sales/Scanning	26.90
Jackie Ashman Book	42.85
Events Income (Workshop)	55.50
Events Income (Matthew Trip)	247.00
Friends Christmas Fair/Raffle	37.30
Cash Ex Bank	150.00
Sale of Pictures (Exhibition)	375.00

Total Income **9230.31**

Hence Expenditure over Income **1286.00**

Yate & District Heritage Centre Trust

Summary Sheet 1/4/2006 – 31/3/07

Summary

Nat.West Account at 31/3/2006	4274.62
Cash in hand at 31/3/2006	41.67
	<hr/>
	4316.29
Cheques not presented	170.22
	<hr/>
Total at 31/3/2006	4146.07
Less expenditure 1/4/2006 – 31/3/07	10516.31
Plus Income 1/4/2006 – 31/3/2006	9230.31
Hence Balance at 31/3/07	2860.07
Comprising: -	
Nat West Bank Account at 31/3/07	4561.53
Cash in hand at 31/3/2007	7.18
	<hr/>
	4568.71
Less Cheques not presented: -	
0175	167.79
0176	19.97
0177	165.00
0178	1334.99
0179	20.89
	<hr/>
	32860.07
	<hr/>

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR RUTH DAVIS 2007 - 2008

(SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR YATE CENTRAL)

I continue to deal with casework, take an active interest in Yate Common, as well as being an LEA governor for Kings Court Primary School.

I am no longer a member of the cabinet as, following last May's elections, the Conservatives formed a minority administration. If the Liberal Democrats and Labour members all vote together at Full Council they can out-vote the Conservatives, as on the budget, but on the day-to-day running of the council the Conservatives have control.

I regularly attend the Frome Vale Area Forum as a local member and am leader of the Liberal Democrat group so represent the authority on sub-regional and regional bodies and also attend the Local Strategic Partnership, where South Gloucestershire Council works closely with other agencies such as the Primary Care Trust, North Bristol Health Trust, the police and the voluntary sector.

Locally I belong to the Town Centre Strategy group where all organisations with an interest in the centre meet. We are awaiting final plans for the town centre developments. Tesco want to replace their store and the replacement health centre, including the new children's centre and enhanced outpatient facilities, are progressing. The library is being extended and the Leisure Centre being revamped inside, including the wet changing rooms, which is welcome news. We are also still trying to build a Youth Café on the centre for young people

King Edmund Community School is investigating becoming an Academy and we are waiting to see how that develops. If that goes ahead it will mean the school will be completely rebuilt.

There are two housing development sites in the ward that are likely to be progressed shortly, the Sea Stores site and Cooper's in Westerleigh Road.

We are hoping a part of the Sea Stores site will be used for community facilities of some sort.

We are also awaiting the final recommendations from government on housing figures to 2026. At present it is assumed the Yate/Sodbury area will provide an additional 5000 homes. This is totally unacceptable and we are doing all we can to reduce this to a manageable number to meet local needs, especially with regard to affordable homes.

Councillor Ruth Davis
South Gloucestershire Councillor for Yate Central
April 2008

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR SUE WALKER 2007 - 2008

(SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR YATE CENTRAL)

At South Gloucestershire Council I am still Chair of the International Committee and this year we have tried to showcase and encourage the various international links and initiatives. We have established a useful link with the UK Brussels office who are keen to respond to any enquires and help with advise on possible funding. We are currently working together to plan a regional event on the subject of migrant workers, which should take place in June.

In addition to serving on various complaints panels I also serve on the Licensing, Regulatory and General Purposes Committee, which is still busy with taxis and Hackney Carriage licensing and licenses for the sale of alcohol.

Issues relating to the Leisure Centres continue to feature highly in my casework and I welcome the plans for the long overdue improvements at Yate. I also represent the Council on Yate Outdoor Sports Complex Management Committee. The District Council have flagged up that it is their intention whether or not this could be Leisure Trust, however it is not so simple as Yate Town Council and Brimsham Green School are the major land owners and any major changing arrangements would require their consent.

I continue my involvement with U3A (University of the 3rd Age) which now has almost over 400 members, 30 different activity groups. Theatre, wine tasting, walking, history, cinema and art groups are the most popular but many new groups are springing up such as heritage and Spanish. Unfortunately the first Chairman Marc Caton died earlier this year. He was an excellent Chair using good humour, charm and diplomacy to encourage and nurture the new organisation through its formative stages. Pat Taylor also worked hard to start and establish the U3A and as she retired earlier this year we will miss her wise input. The U3A continues to grow from strength to strength with an excellent committee and group leaders.

My duties as a Councillor take up approximately 25 hours a week and my casework load remains high with street care matters such as parking near schools, litter, grass cutting which seem to be by far the most common complaints. The shortage of low cost housing and suitable accommodation for the elderly are also significant problems.

I have been working closely with the Youth Service for the past few months sourcing and developing partnerships for the Youth Café. The result has been rewarding and many partners are enthusiastic to support and join this venture particularly with day time uses, which will also benefit the young people of Yate. The future of Station Road Post Office remains a concern for my ward particularly as many of the residents in the immediate area are either elderly or on benefits and rely on this facility. Although the central post office is not far away it is difficult to reach by public transport and has excessively long queues.

Councillor Sue Walker
South Gloucestershire Councillor for Yate Central
April 2008

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR IAN BLAIR 2007 - 2008

(SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR YATE NORTH)

South Gloucestershire Committees:

Children & Young People Select Committee
Planning, Transport & Strategic Environment Select Committee
Frome Vale Area Forum
Admissions Forum
Development Control (East)

I have continued in my role as Chair of Children & Young People Select Committee. The Council Plan states ambition in championing the needs of children, tackling local and national challenges and set an ambitious, realistic and challenging strategy. The Select Committee's work centred on checking how the outcomes for children and young people have improved and how well the Council is working with its partners to ensure that improvements are taking place. We have done this by scrutinising carefully how the council hopes to support parents, ensure inclusion of vulnerable groups (e.g. Children in Care, children with learning difficulties), improve the quality of provision in Early Years (pre-school) and raise standards in our schools. This has involved the committee in questioning political leaders, officers of this and other authorities. We have also heard from Young People themselves. The UK Youth Parliament member for South Gloucestershire came to the Select Committee and members of the committee have gone out to see young people in schools and youth facilities.

As member of the Development Control Committee I have taken part in a number of planning decisions in our area. The committee strives to ensure that buildings are of good design and sit well within their localities.

Frome Vale Area Forum has met on a reduced number of occasions this year. The forum is quite well attended and members of the public were concerned that the number of meetings had been reduced. I and others have worked to ensure the continuance of the forum and return to the previous number of meetings.

Locally I have had involvement with the PCT to ensure that the upheaval of the development of the new health centre is minimised. I have also attended meetings of residents concerned with the potential loss of post office facilities in Station Road and concerned about the impact of the new housing development proposed for Yate.

During the year I have also been contacted personally by a number of residents with difficulties ranging from benefit payments to fly tipping.

A number of projects are ready to take off in Yate and this coming year looks to be one where significant decisions will be made. I and the other Yate councillors will be ensuring the best possible outcomes for Yate.

Councillor Ian Blair
South Gloucestershire Councillor for Yate North
April 2008

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR MIKE DREW 2007 - 2008

(SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR YATE NORTH)

It has been a year of change, as we have seen the new administration undoing things that we had long campaigned for. First to go was the park and ride at Nibley, which local residents so desperately need. How can the council possibly encourage people to use public transport if they don't have a bus right by them and don't have a park and ride nearby? The abandonment of this project is short sighted.

A big change in the current year, particularly for me, has been the working through of the transfer of the council housing stock to Merlin. I was appointed to Merlin Housing Society as one of the councillor representatives. Whilst I have always been against transfer of the housing stock, in the end the government's rules on spending meant that the only way to get the repairs and improvements the houses need was to transfer them: the government will allow Housing Societies to borrow money on improving housing but won't let the Council do this. The change has not been without problems, but I hope gradually they are being resolved. If people spot situations where Merlin is being less responsive than the old council, please let me know. I have been saddened to see how the proceeds of sale are being distributed by the new administration running the council. In Yate we deserve a fair share of the money coming back to fund local facilities.

This is a period of enormous change for Yate. Our town centre is to become a building site, with the new health facility, library, Tesco and Leisure Centre changes. New developments at the Sea Stores and in Chipping Sodbury are being proposed. And, most significantly, 5000 new houses are being planned for Yate. If that happens, it is going to require some pretty fundamental rethinking of our town's physical layout, services – and attitude.

During the past year I have been on two select committees, various working groups and chair the Area Forum. I am a regular member of the council's Employee Appeal Panel, dealing with staff grievances, dismissals etc. I represent the Authority on the South West Provincial Council, where I am a member of the Employers Management Committee and represent them on the Regional Management Board, a senior body co-ordinating local authority issues across the region. This may seem remote from the needs of Yate – but throughout my time as a councillor I have firmly believed that if we get employment and personnel practices right, we will be able to empower our staff to do a better job. I'd like to see council employees all focussed upon local residents and their needs – trusting residents to know what they need and keen to use all their resources to provide what communities want. Part of making that dream come to life is getting management and personnel practices right.

I am a member of the Fire Authority and would like to congratulate Yate Fire Station on its performance in the past year.

Finally, whilst I know others will also be paying tribute, I would like to place on record my thanks for all Sue Tubey has done for the community and council in her time as Clerk to Yate Town Council. We have worked together for 23 years, and I will miss her. She has been a great person to work with personally and professionally.

Councillor Mike Drew
South Gloucestershire Councillor for Yate North
April 2008

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR MIKE ROBBINS 2007 - 2008

(SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR YATE NORTH)

Central Government boundary changes and the refusal of the Labour members to vote on administration issues meant a change of leadership within South Gloucestershire Council. We now have a new Tory minority leadership which makes life difficult at times when trying to implement the projects we have on the Task Register and left wondering what happened to the promises other parties made during the election, what has happened to the keep Frenchay Hospital Campaign which Steve Webb continues to fight for, what has happened to the Taxi Token Campaign? (faded away as an uneconomic proposition). What happened to the M4 Link, what happened to the Stoke Gifford By-Pass? Gone but not forgotten.

Among our biggest concerns are the 5,000 houses we are to absorb over the next 20 years. All this and an ailing infrastructure, to cope with an increase in the size of the Town by as much as is north of Station Road in size again, which will be a large town but where is the land in the Yate area? The roads cannot cope now with the flow of traffic and improvements will not be made until after the houses are built and will only be made piece-meal at that time.

Southmead hospital cannot cope now. If you can get there, on time, it has no real plan for the future, certainly not over the 4 unitary authorities, with a planned population explosion of at least 7500 in Yate alone.

An improved drainage system would be required to cope with the water requirements of a town of Yate's future size, as water and drainage are serious considerations. The 1957 Severnside Survey said no houses should be built in Yate as Yate is on a flood plain and we all know what happens on flood plains, especially in the Severn Valley!

Improvements in the public transport system will be required to reduce the need for cars, along with an increase in the public amenity areas in Yate. Parks, gardens, play areas sporting facilities, theatres and cinemas will be needed to support a town of Yate's future size.

South Gloucestershire Council has also been called upon by Central Government to find 58 pitches for the travelling communities. Planning permission has been granted to the Community Health Care Clinic and work on the project has already begun. Building improvements to the Library have commenced. Both projects will be of great benefit to the town. It is hoped that the improvements to the Leisure Centre will bring us up to a standard enjoyed by Bradley Stoke and Longwell Green.

We continue to work for an improvement in the environment in which we live and hope for an improvement in the conditions in the world at large with a swift return by our troops to their homes and families.

Councillor Mike Robbins
South Gloucestershire Councillor for Yate North
April 2008

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR KAY CROWE 2007 - 2008

(SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR DODINGTON WARD)

I am a South Gloucestershire Councillor for Dodington ward, which includes part of Yate, the Abbotswood area. On South Gloucestershire Council I serve on the Licensing Regulatory and General Purposes committee, which deals with almost all types of licenses which now includes gambling. I am also on the Health Select Committee which includes working with the PCT on all their services and on the panel which appoints school governors throughout S Glos.

In my own ward I'm a member of the Abbotswood Action Group which is trying to improve the environment around the shops and flats. I'm a governor of the local Abbotswood Primary School.

In the Yate area, I'm the South Gloucestershire representative on the Yate Library Consultative Committee. The library has received a lottery grant and has started a programme of refurbishment to make it into a community space. I attend the meetings of the Yate Town Centre Strategy Group which is attempting to influence the development of the town centre. As a South Gloucestershire Councillor I attend the local (Frome Vale) Area Forums which take decisions on local transport schemes and allocate grants to local voluntary organisations, and at which local people can have their say.

I am also a Dodington Parish Councillor. We work closely with Yate Town Council and South Gloucestershire Council and the Joint Parishes Consultative Committee on local issues, e.g. the Sea Stores development, the proliferation of mobile phone masts etc.

As a wheelchair user myself I have a strong interest in enabling disabled people to take a full part in normal community activities. I am Chairman of the local Access-Ability Group and treasurer of the Shopmobility scheme – you may have seen our electric scooters and wheelchairs in use in the shopping centre.

Councillor Kay Crowe
South Gloucestershire Councillor for Dodington Ward
April 2008

ANNUAL REPORT BY COUNCILLOR ALAN LAWRENCE 2007 - 2008

SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCILLOR FOR DODINGTON WARD

Since the May 2008 elections I have had the pleasure to represent the Ward of Dodington, which encompasses a great deal of South Yate. On South Gloucestershire Council I sit on the Corporate Co-ordination and Audit Committees, Development Control East (Planning) Committee and am Chairman of the Licensing, Regulatory and General Purposes Committee. I also continue to be one of the Council's representatives on the Avon and Somerset Police Authority.

Concerns within the Dodington ward have focused on the Abbotswood shopping centre, Network Rail bank work, anti-social behaviour and planning concerns. In January I met, in London with the help of Steve Webb, Mr. Hamidi, the owner/agent of the Abbotswood shopping centre in an attempt to progress improvement. Progress is slow but the important contact has now been made. The Police declared a dispersal order for the area which has greatly improved the behaviour during the evening time and allowed retailers to undertake their businesses more peacefully. This comes to an end in May when we hope there will not be a return to the scenes of previous months.

A developing concern in the Dodington Ward is the growth of applications to change family living accommodation into several flats. Experience has shown that planning inspectors care little for the environment impact on an area when they overrule local planning decisions and allow such developments which then are likely to have a detrimental effect.

The roundabout at the end of Rodford Way has, for many months, been littered with parked cars for sale. Following initial work by the previous councillor for Dodington, Tony Davis, we have secured likely "no waiting" parking restrictions which are likely to be enforced in June/July.

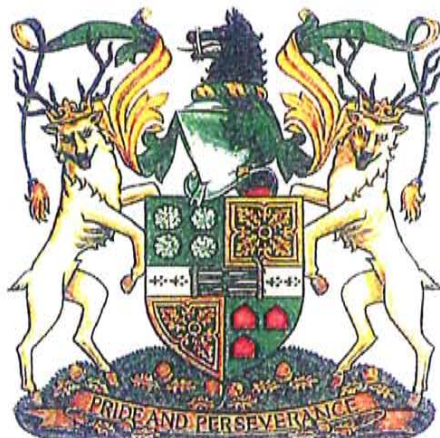
It was a delight to see in September, at the beginning of the new school year, the opening of a new Wellesley Primary School. As a Governor and a councillor who has worked for this new accommodation it was gratifying to see the young people fully enjoy the full opportunities of the new build.

As a watchful member of the Police Authority I Chair the Performance and Audit Committee and sit on the Appointments and the Professional Standard Committees. I also have frequent meetings with the South Gloucestershire Commander to discuss local issues. The Police Authority has recently signed a contract with IBM to enhance services and provide an opportunity for significant savings of expenditure over the next ten years.

I continue to enjoy serving the people of Dodington and Yate.

Councillor Alan Lawrence
South Gloucestershire Councillor for Dodington Ward
April 2008

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