MINUTES OF ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD ON TUESDAY 29 JUNE 2010 FROM 7.30PM – 9.00PM AT POOLE COURT, YATE.

PRESENT

Councillor Ian Blair – Chair

Councillors David Evan-Jones, Sue Evan-Jones, Margaret Marshall, Martin Monk (part-meeting), Cleo Trotter, Mike Robbins and Chris Willmore. Town Clerk, Estates Officer and Senior Administrative Officer.

1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received and accepted from Councillors Tony Davis and John Ford. Councillor Wully Perks was absent.

2 MEMBERS’ DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Declarations of Interest under the Local Government Act 1972, s94 and the Local Government Finance Act 1992, s106:

Ian Blair South Gloucestershire Council Development Control East and Licensing Committee, School Governor (Tyndale Primary School)
Margaret Marshall South Gloucestershire Council Employee
Martin Monk School Governor (Brimsham Green School and Tyndale Primary School)
Mike Robbins South Gloucestershire Council, Development Control East and Public Rights of Way Committee

3 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

3/1 Highways – South Gloucestershire Council Offices, Badminton Road – Reviewed Waiting Restrictions

Further to Minute No. 4/1 of the Environment and Planning Committee meetings held on 23 March and 18 May 2010, South Gloucestershire Council’s report to the Executive Member for Planning, Transportation & Strategic Environment on the Badminton Road waiting restrictions consultation was received and NOTED.

3/2 Highways – Longs Drive

Further to Minute no. 4/6 of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 18 May 2010, the following comments were received from South Gloucestershire Council in response to the Town Council’s concerns about Badminton Road office staff parking in Longs Drive:-

Your concerns have been noted. I would like to inform you that we shall monitor the existing on-street parking on Longs Drive for a period of 6 weeks. At the end of this period, we shall review the car parking situation and decide how to proceed with this matter. I shall write to you accordingly.
3/3  Highways – Rodford Way

The results of the second Rodford Way pedestrian survey carried out in April 2010 were received.

Although the results show that more people are using the subway than in 2009, an increasing amount of people are crossing the road at area 2 and measures need to be taken to make that particular stretch of road safer.

RESOLVED:-

- Comments be sought from Dodington Parish Council on the results of the second Rodford Way pedestrian survey.
- South Gloucestershire Council be asked to take measures to make Rodford Way safer at area 2, as people are using that particular stretch of road as their desire line to cross the road.

3/4  Transportation – Friends of Yate Station

(Councillor Martin Monk entered the meeting).

Correspondence from a Yate station user was received complaining about Network Rail and First Great Western vehicles parking and obstructing the disabled parking bays at Yate station.

RESOLVED  Correspondence be sent to Network Rail and First Great Western asking them to ensure that the disabled parking bays at Yate station are kept available for use by disabled drivers.

The minutes of the Friends of Yate Station meeting held on 7 June 2010 were received and NOTED.

In relation to the lack of a ticket machine at Yate station, it was commented that there were alternative methods of buying rail tickets, such as the ringo system, on-line ticketing or providing ticket machines on trains.

RESOLVED:-

- Correspondence be sent to Network Rail objecting most strongly that funding to provide additional rail carriages has been withdrawn and, as a result, the services at Yate will not be extended.
- Correspondence be sent to First Great Western advising of the following:-
  - there are several different ways of buying rail tickets and, therefore, the ticketing system at Yate station could be improved;
  - First Great Western has agreed to provide free car parking at Patchway station, therefore, consideration should to be given to providing free parking at Yate.
3/5 Eggshill Lane

It was reported that a cyclist had fallen off their bike recently after hitting a pothole at the junction of Eggshill Lane and Chatterton Road. Other potholes in the road have been repaired, but this particular one appears to have been overlooked.

RESOLVED South Gloucestershire Council be advised that the potholes on Eggshill Lane have been repaired, but the pothole marked for repair at the junction of Eggshill Lane and Chatterton Road appears to have been overlooked.

3/6 Church Road

It was commented that the road surface on Church Road is in a very poor state and needs repairing.

RESOLVED Photographs of the poor surface on Church Road be forwarded to South Gloucestershire Council with a request for the road to be repaired.

3/7 Station Road Resurfacing

It was reported that complaints have been received from members of the public about the poor finishing of the road surface following the resurfacing of Station Road.

RESOLVED South Gloucestershire Council be advised that the Town Council has received complaints from members of the public about the poor and uneven finishing of Station Road, which needs to be rectified.

4 SHOPPING CENTRES

It was NOTED that the next Town Centre Strategy Group meeting is taking place at 6.30pm on Wednesday 21 July 2010.

5 TOWN COUNCIL PLAY AREAS, PARKS, OPEN SPACES AND SPORTS FACILITIES

5/1 Estate Officer’s Report

The Estates Officer’s report was received and NOTED.

(a) The Common Football Pitches

It was NOTED that South Gloucestershire Council, as landowners, have given their permission for a grasscrete car park to be installed on The Common, subject to confirmation of whether planning consent is required.

RESOLVED:-

- Yate Town Council to ascertain whether planning consent is required to install grasscrete on The Common.
• Consultation with local residents to be undertaken once it is established whether planning consent is required.
• The provision of a grasscrete car park on The Common be progressed, subject to the results of the public consultation.

(b) Millside Play Zone

It was reported that correspondence has been received from a resident complaining about anti-social behaviour at Millside.

(c) Bus Shelters

It was reported that South Gloucestershire Council has agreed to install bus shelters at Wellington Road and Westerleigh Road, but they will not be illuminated.

(d) Peg Hill

It was reported that there has been fires set recently in the bowls at Peg Hill skate park and it was suggested that a noticeboard be installed advising skate park users that further damage to the bowls will result in less funding being available for repairs or upgrades to the skate park.

RESOLVED The Estates Officer to investigate a suitable type of noticeboard for erection at Peg Hill skate park and identify a suitable location.

(e) Stanshawes Court

Members were advised that there is a possibility that Stanshawes Court may be sold in the near future.

RESOLVED The Town Council to seek further information if Stanshawes Court comes onto the market.

5/2 YOSC – Transfer of the Management of YOSC to South Gloucestershire Council

No further information was reported.

5/3 St Mary’s Green

(a) Registration of St Mary’s Green

Members were advised that South Gloucestershire Council considered and approved the Town Council’s application to register the area outside the Heritage Centre as Village Green at their meeting on the 17 June 2010. However, no formal written confirmation has been received.
It was reported that correspondence was sent to St Mary’s Church and School recently, reminding them that the car park is in the ownership of the Town Council and permission needs to be sought if they wish to use it for future events.

(b) **Yate and District Twinning Association**

*(Councillors Ian Blair, Martin Monk, Mike Robbins and Cleo Trotter declared a prejudicial interest in this item and took no part in the discussion).*

Members were advised that Yate and District Twinning Association is seeking the Town Council’s permission to hold a fund raising ‘Strawberries and Petanque’ event on St Mary’s Green on 3 July 2010 from 5pm, which involves the erection of a marquee.

**RESOLVED:-**

- Permission be granted for Yate and District Twinning Association to hold a ‘Strawberries and Petanque’ event on St Mary’s Green on Saturday 3 July 2010 from 5pm, provided that the event finishes by 9pm and subject to the Town Council’s terms and conditions of hire and relevant fees.
- The demand for requests to hold events on St Mary’s Green to be monitored in light of its registration as village green.

6 **SOUTH GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNCIL OPEN SPACE/PLAY AREAS**

6/1 **The Common**

Further to Minute No. 6/2(b) of the Environment and Planning Committee meeting held on 18 May 2010, it was **NOTED** that South Gloucestershire Council has advised that Abbotswood Pre-School is re-thinking their plans for a car boot sale on The Common and is likely to request to hold it during 2011. South Gloucestershire Council has confirmed that the event, if it goes ahead, will be a one-off trial event.

7 **SUB-COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE TO THE ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE**

7/1 **Planning Sub-Committee**

(a) The minutes of the Planning Sub-Committee meeting held on 21 June 2010 were received and **NOTED**.

(b) It was **NOTED** that a meeting took place on 18 June 2010 (at Heron’s request) between a representative of Heron Homes and Councillors Ian Blair and Chris Willmore to explain the Town Council’s concerns about the Core Strategy and also concerns as adjoining landowners.

(c) The notes of a stakeholder event organised by Barratt Homes held on 24 June 2010 were received (Appendix 1). It was **NOTED** that a public exhibition is taking place from 10am to 4pm on Saturday 17 July 2010 in the Parish Hall.
RESOLVED  Barratt Homes be advised that, due to the very short notice and poor attendance, Yate Town Council does not consider the stakeholder event held on 24 June 2010 as a valid event for the purposes of South Gloucestershire Council’s protocol for pre-planning application consultation.

(d)  It was NOTED that the following Town Council comments were submitted in response to the West of England Partnership Joint Waste Core Strategy (Landfill Policy):

**Policy 8: Landfill, landraising, engineering or other operations – Principles**

**Objection:**

1. The policy is a permissive policy, and should be less permissive. It is worded so that permission WILL be granted provided conditions are met, and should be worded such that permission will not be granted unless conditions are met.
2. The list of conditions is too short; in particular it does not mention transportation or environmental impact. Additional factors should be added so that consent will only be granted if transportation issues can be resolved satisfactorily if it has an acceptable impact upon residential and open space amenity.
3. Para 4 within the provision only refers to European level designated sites with nature designations, and should say that no protected site, whether under international, European, national or local designation must be adversely affected (otherwise SSIs which are not also SACs/SPAs will not have any weight, and of course no geological SSSI would have any weight under this policy as currently written).

**Policy 9: Landfilling, landraising and engineering or other operations – Details:**

**Objection:**

The Policy as currently written makes no provision for recreational use. We would propose the addition ‘5. Make provision, where practical, for appropriate recreational and amenity use’.

And it should include:

‘6. Make provision via a Grampian condition or otherwise, for ensuring the environment surrounding the site is appropriately restored.’

(e)  It was NOTED that Taylor Wimpey has set up an Elswick Park website and is actively marketing the development.
7/2 Public Rights of Way, Commons and Greens Sub-Committee

It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Public Rights of Way, Commons and Greens Sub-Committee is taking place at 7.30pm on Wednesday 8 September 2010 at Poole Court.

8 JOINT COMMITTEES RESPONSIBLE TO ENVIRONMENT AND PLANNING COMMITTEE

8/1 Joint Parishes Cycleway Group

It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Joint Cycleway Group is taking place at 6.00pm on Monday 12 July 2010 at Poole Court.

8/2 Joint Parishes Traffic Management Group

It was NOTED that the next meeting of the Joint Parishes Traffic Management Group is taking place at 7.30pm on Monday 12 July 2010 at Poole Court.

8/3 Joint Parishes Garden Competition

The minutes of the Joint Parishes Garden Competition meeting held on 24 May 2010 were received. It was NOTED that the next meeting will take place at 7.00pm on Monday 19 July 2010 at Poole Court.

8/4 Friends of The Common

The minutes of the Friends of The Common meeting held on 15 June 2010 were received and NOTED.

8/5 Friends of Kingsgate Park

It was NOTED that the last Friends of Kingsgate Park meeting took place on 16 June 2010, but the minutes have not yet been received.

It was reported that many favourable comments have been received about the community music festival held on 26 and 27 June 2010 in Kingsgate Park and a couple of complaints about car parking and noise levels. It was NOTED that the complaints will be followed up by the Events Sub-Committee at a meeting to be held on 6 July 2010.

Thanks were extended to Town Council staff for all their hard work preparing for the music festival.

8/6 Friends of Brinsham Park and Lake

It was NOTED that the last Friends of Brinsham Park and Lake meeting took place on 24 June 2010, but the minutes have not yet been received.
**RESOLVED** That in view of the confidential nature of the business about to be transacted, it is advisable in the public interest that the public be temporarily excluded and they are instructed to withdraw.

A copy of correspondence sent from the Chair of the Friends of Brinsham Park and Lake to Swan Rescue South Wales was received.

**RESOLVED:**

- The meeting return to open session.
- Yate Town Council to discuss the contents of the correspondence from the Chair of the Friends of Brinsham Park and Lake with South Gloucestershire Council.

It was commented that the Friends of Brinsham Park and Lake were awarded £2,800 by the Frome Vale Area Forum for the provision of disabled fishing platforms, however, the platforms which have been installed are not accessible or suitable for use by wheelchair users.

It was further commented that there has been problems recently in the park with fires being set and fishing after dark.

**RESOLVED:**

- South Gloucestershire Council be asked to confirm whether further work is due to be undertaken on the disabled fishing platforms and what works are to be undertaken to the footpaths.
- Yate Town Council to investigate whether any byelaws exist in relation to fishing after dark.

**8/7 YOSC Consultative Committee**

It was **NOTED** that the next YOSC Consultative Committee meeting is taking place at 7.00pm on Wednesday 8 July 2010 at YOSC.

Members received correspondence from the YOSC Community Sports Manager, advising of the following:

> There has been a development relating to YOSC’s hardcourt; in short the test we have had carried out to assess the full scope of the works indicates that the courts are fully compliant with the All England Netball Association's (AENA's) requirements for slip resistance. I would therefore like to gather partners as soon as possible to go through the findings and discuss the available options.

**8/8 Chipping Sodbury and Tytherington Quarry Liaison Meetings**

The minutes of the Chipping Sodbury Quarry Liaison and the Tytherington Quarry Liaison meetings held on 3 June 2010 were received and **NOTED** (Appendices 2a and 2b).
RESOLVED Hanson be advised that, although Councillors Martin Monk and Mike Robbins have not received any complaints direct from members of the public, the Town Council office has received complaints.

8/9 Outstanding Reports

(a) Friends of Ridge Woods

The minutes of the Friends of Ridge Woods Annual General Meeting held on 29 April 2010 were received and NOTED (Appendix 3).

9 REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

No reports were received.

10 URGENT CONSULTATION DOCUMENTS

10/1 South Gloucestershire Council’s Consultation on the Future of Property – Rodford Primary School

South Gloucestershire Council’s consultation on the future of the Rodford Primary School site was received.

It was NOTED that a site visit with South Gloucestershire Council is taking place at 4.00pm on Wednesday 30 June 2010 in order to discuss the possibility of the Town Council taking over the site for use as junior football pitches when the school closes in July 2010.

RESOLVED South Gloucestershire Council be advised that:-

- The Town Council believes there is so much community demand in the area, that the Rodford School site should not be released for housing.
- The Town Council’s previous expressions of interest in the site for use as allotments, a Scout hut and football pitches be reiterated to South Gloucestershire Council.

10/2 South Gloucestershire Council’s Consultation – St Briavels Drive Bus Shelter

Correspondence was received from South Gloucestershire Council seeking comments on proposals to install a new 2 bay cantilever bus shelter on St Briavels Drive.

RESOLVED South Gloucestershire Council be advised that the Town Council supports proposals to install a new 2 bay cantilever bus shelter on St Briavels Drive, subject to consultation being undertaken with local residents.
11 AVON AND SOMERSET CONSTABULARY STRATEGIC POLICING PLAN 2010-2013

It was NOTED that Avon and Somerset Strategic Policing Plan 2010-2013 update 2010-2011 is available to view in the Town Council Office or via the following link: http://www.avonand somerset.police.uk/information/Documents/cache/PDF/Document4633_228022.pdf.

Signed .................................................................

Date .................................................................

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FC 27 July 2010