



YEOVIL WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR FINANCIAL YEAR 2014/2015



Yeovil Without Parish

CONTACT US

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Parish noticeboards are situated at Johnson Park, Yeovil Marsh Church Hall, Hundredstone and Wessex Road. (The noticeboard at Tesco Express, Cavalier Way is temporarily removed until possibly December 2015).

Number of Electors 6184 (SSDC figure 1st September 2014)

Number of Properties 3748 (SSDC tax base figure Dec 2014)

Approximate Population 8,600

FINANCIAL SUMMARY 2014/2015

Yeovil Without Parish Council - ESTIMATED RECEIPTS 2014/2015		Receipt and Payments Summary 2014 -2015			
		RECEIPTS		Last Year	This Year
				2013/2014	2014/2015
£ 27,095	GENERAL PRECEPT	£ 25,650	£ 27,095		
£ 25,456	BURIAL PRECEPT	£ 24,876	£ 25,456		
£ 3,990	SSDC GRANT	£ 3,060	£ 3,990		
£ 30,700	CREMATORIUM FUNDS	£ -	£ 30,700		
£ 9,350	CREMATORIUM RENT	£ 9,350	£ 9,350		
£ 674	ALLOTMENTS	£ 723	£ 767		
£ 1,000	INTEREST & DIVIDENDS	£ 1,952	£ 838		
£ 1,901	VAT REPAYMENT	£ 889	£ 1,901		
£ -	OTHER INCOME	£ 50	£ 2,277		
£ 100,166.45	Total Receipts	£ 66,550	£ 102,375		
BUDGET 2014 -2015		PAYMENTS		2013/2014	2014/2015
£ 17,000.00	ADMINISTRATION	CLERKS SALARY (NET)	£ 18,084.89	£ 17,618.46	
£ 5,500.00		PAYE	£ 6,514.56	£ 5,818.25	
£ 1,275.00		GRATUITY FUND	£ -	£ -	
£ 1,500.00		OFFICE EXPENSES (postage, mileage, stationery, use of office)	£ 1,915.42	£ 1,259.17	
£ 400.00		MEETING ROOM	£ 340.00	£ 340.00	
£ 2,000.00		INSURANCES	£ 1,579.72	£ 1,550.79	
£ 2,500.00		SUBSCRIPTIONS	£ 2,328.13	£ 2,345.12	
£ 500.00		OFFICE EQUIPMENT	£ 29.99	£ 49.99	
£ 500.00		TRAINING/CONFERENCES	£ 338.00	£ 77.00	
£ 60.00		BANK CHARGES	£ 60.00	£ 60.00	
£ 600.00		AUDIT CHARGES	£ 547.50	£ 586.75	
£ 2,000.00		ELECTIONS	£ -	£ -	
£ 2,000.00		VAT	£ 1,901.45	£ 3,006.52	
£ 500.00		WEBSITE DOMAIN		£ 235.00	
£ 14,000.00		PARISHES AND SOCIETIES	GRANTS	£ 14,465.00	£ 6,775.00
£ 18,000.00	WYNDHAM PARK		£ -	£ -	
£ 17,700.00	YEovil MARSH		£ 300.00	£ -	
£ 1,000.00	ST PATRICKS ROAD		£ -	£ -	
£ 2,000.00	NEWSLETTER/QUESTIONNAIRE		£ 571.20	£ -	
£ 1,000.00	WYNDHAM PARK PARTNERSHIP		£ -	£ 864.99	
£ 2,000.00	ENVIRONMENT - 5 year plan		£ -	£ -	
£ 250.00	NORTHERN PARISHES CAMPAIGN		£ 283.92	£ -	
£ 25,456.00	SERVICES	CEMETERY DEFICIT	£ 24,876.46	£ 25,455.76	
£ 3,500.00		ALLOTMENTS	£ 1,115.04	£ 2,160.08	
£ 1,000.00		RECREATION (Inspections)	£ 796.21	£ 854.91	
£ 40,000.00		RECREATION (Equipment)	£ -	£ 1,312.50	
£ 5,000.00		STREET FURNITURE AND MAINTENANCE	£ 3,648.83	£ 322.40	
£ 10,000.00		PARISH RANGER		£ 9,560.80	
£ 500.00		HIGHWAY SAFETY	£ 2,704.70	£ -	
£ 11,000.00		ADDITIONAL SERVICES	£ -	£ -	
£ 8,000.00	YOUTH SERVICES	£ -	£ 4,000.00		
£122,241.00	Total Expenses	£ 82,401.02	£ 84,253.49		

BALANCES

Balances	2013/2014	2014/2015
Surplus/Deficit	-£ 15,850.94	£ 18,121.30
b/fwd balance	£ 112,918.53	£ 97,067.59
c/fwd balance	£ 97,067.59	£ 115,188.89

Reconciliation with bank accounts	2013/2014	2014/2015
Nat West Bank PLC Current	£ 500.00	£ 500.00
Nat West Bank PLC Business Reserve	£ 19,051.56	£ 130,922.72
Nat West Bank Bonus Saver	£ 92,923.17	£ -
Petty Cash	£ 49.59	£ 82.89
Current Balance at Bank	£ 112,524.32	£ 131,505.61
Less Outstanding Cheques	£ 15,456.73	£ 16,316.72
Total balances at Bank	£ 97,067.59	£ 115,188.89
Outstanding Commitments		£ 14,375.00
Earmarked Funds	75,178	£ 63,275.00
Total General Funds	£ 21,889.59	£ 37,538.89

Outstanding Commitments

Bus Shelter Eliotts Drive	£ 3,500.00
Maintenance Johnson Park	£ 875.00
Grant (Jan 15) - Fiveways	£ 10,000.00
	£ 14,375.00

Earmarked Funds 2014-2015

5 year plan - landscape improvements	£ 6,000.00
Elections	£ 2,000.00
Gratuity	£ 1,275.00
Play Area replacement (JP)	£ 36,000.00
Wyndham Park Projects	£ 18,000.00
Total	£ 63,275.00

Earmarked Funds 2013/2014

Play area replacement (JP)	£ 35,000.00
Gratuity	£ 850.00
Wyndham Park (Key Site)	£ 16,000.00
Yeovil Marsh	£ 16,000.00
St Patricks Road	£ 1,000.00
Elections	£ 1,500.00
Youth Services	£ 1,000.00
Total	£ 71,350.00

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

2013/2014 end of year balance was £97,067.59 with earmarked reserves totalling £71,350 this left a remaining balance of £25,717.59.

2014/2015 Income - A total precept of £56,541 was agreed in January 2014, however £25,455.76 was the cemetery deficit, this left £31,085.24 available to support administration and services costs.

YWPC commitment to Youth services was not know at this time and in order to ensure adequate income it was agreed at the budget meeting held in November 2013 to drawn down the approximate net profit from the Crematorium Reserves which was £30,700.

2014/2015 End of Year Balance – The increase in YWPC income (£30,700) leaves the general reserve with a surplus balance of £18,121.30 which leaves an end of year balance of £115,188.89, however there is £14,375 of outstanding commitments and £63,275 of earmarked funds. Therefore leaves a remaining balance of £37,538.89.

Members have added additional responsibilities to Yeovil Without for 2015/2016 and future years, these are;-

Youth Services

2014/2015 £4,000	2015/2016 £7,000	2016/2017 £8,000	2017/2018 £10,000
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Parish Ranger

2014/2015 £10,000	2015/2016 £14,000
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Yeovil Town Centre Maintenance

2015/2016

£2,000

5 Year Parish Landscape Plan

5 year plan	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5
A37 Gateway	£ 2,947.00				
A37 Roadside Verge	£ 1,532.80	£ 1,567.60	£1,599.44	£ 1,631.20	£ 1,663.12
Cavalier Way - Green route	£ 1,684.50	£ 1,410.70	£1,519.58	£ 785.64	
Magna Close - Green route	£ 1,152.04	£ 2,410.70	£2,559.44		
Runnymede Road - Green route	£ 1,049.20	£ 1,934.50	£1,899.30		
Primrose Lane	£ 1,299.20	£ 2,395.20			
	£9,664.74	£ 9,718.70	£7,577.76	£2,416.84	£ 1,663.12

Precept – the band D cost for 2014/2015 was £20.86 – The two key sites (Wyndham Park and Brimsmore) will increase YWPC tax base for possibly the next ten years. Whilst this helps support increases in the precept members need to remember that this adds additional responsibilities that will need to be funded in the future from our income and not reserves.

To help support projects within the parish consideration needs to be given to the Crematorium Reserves held by SSDC. It would be useful for members to agree a minimum level that will always be retained to meet our 11% responsibility and look more closely as to what they wish the remaining funds should be used for, or not, but to have a financial policy detailing the minimum balances YWPC should retain in both the Crematorium Reserves and General Fund.

During 2014 NatWest restructured their bank accounts, which as a result on 1st October 2014 our Bonus Saver Account was transferred to a Business Reserve Account. The Business Reserve Account does not give a quarterly bonus and this change has impacted the amount of interest we have received – 2013/2014 - £1,952, 2014/2015 - £838 a difference of £1,114.04. Even less interest will be received in 2015/2016, other investment opportunities should be looked at.

In summary the decision by members to annually withdraw the net profit from the Crematorium reserves to help support YWPC ongoing commitments has been prudent and has supported additional services. Further consideration needs to be given about the services and responsibilities we want to support and how these will be funded, reserves can only be used once any on-going responsibility must come from a sustainable income.

2015/2016 – BUDGET AND PRECEPT

BUDGET/PRECEPT	BUDGET 2015/2016	FUNDING STREAM	PRECEPT 2015/2016	COMMENTS
CLERKS SALARY (NET)	£ 18,000	PRECEPT	£ 18,000	NJCLGS pay award inc.
PAYE	£ 5,600	PRECEPT	£ 5,650	Increase of pay and tax allowance
GRATUITY FUND	£ 1,515	PRECEPT		Amount in accordance with regulations
OFFICE EXPENSES	£ 1,300	PRECEPT	£ 1,300	Possible reduction, stamps and paper (electronic agenda's)
MEETING ROOM	£ 400	PRECEPT	£ 400	Meets annual cost + possible increase
INSURANCES	£ 2,000	PRECEPT	£ 2,000	Possible increase WP facilities
SUBSCRIPTIONS	£ 2,500	PRECEPT	£ 2,500	2% increase
OFFICE EQUIPMENT	£ 500	PRECEPT	£ 500	Printer replacement (purchased 2008)
TRAINING/ CONFERENCES	£ 750	PRECEPT	£ 750	Training of new councillors
BANK CHARGES	£ 60	PRECEPT	£ 60	Current cost £10 per month
WEBSITE DOMAIN	£ 1,000	PRECEPT	£ 290	Annual amount for website hosting and support (£250) - allocation of reserve funds to look at improving or changing
AUDIT CHARGES	£ 700	PRECEPT	£ 700	Estimate of costs
ELECTIONS	£ 2,000	EARMARKED RESERVES	£ -	Reserves to cover election and by-election costs
GRANTS	£ 10,000	RESERVES		Amount reduced - grants paid from reserves
WP - MUGA PROVISION	£ 100,000	S106		£80,000 S106 funding - £20,000 additional funds required
WP - MUGA MAINTENANCE	£ 2,850	CREM INCOME		Estimated annual cost
WP - MUGA REPLACEMENT	£ 7,350	CREM INCOME		Estimated annual earmark reserve, including S106 £5,000 maintenance payment
WP - LEAP - PROVISION	£ 58,750	S106		S106 funding - no cost to YWPC
WP - LEAP MAINTENANCE	£ 3,595	CREM INCOME		Estimated annual cost
WP - LEAP REPLACEMENT	£ 2,350	PRECEPT	£ 2,350	Estimated annual amount to be earmarked
WP - LINEAR PARK - MAINTENANCE	£ 8,400	S106		S106 funding (£84,000 over ten years) - Year 11 accrued sum and increase to precept will produce a sustainable income
WP - LEGAL AND ACCOUNTANCY	£ 4,000	RESERVES		One of payment to be reclaimed from SSDC
WP - BINS/GRIT BINS/NOTICEBOARDS	£ 5,000	RESERVES		Amount to be paid from reserve - money has been allocated to WP over the last 3 years
WP - BUS SHELTERS	£ 7,000	RESERVES		WP over the last 3 years
WP - FUTURE PROVISION	£ 7,000	CREM INCOME		Amount to come from annual income to be held in reserve for future funds that are required to ensure Wyndham Park
WYNDHAM PARK PARTNERSHIP	£ 1,000	CREM INCOME		Amount payable from income - reoccurring requirement
BRIMSMORE KEY SITE	£ -			
BRIMSMORE WARD (inc St Pat)	£ 4,000	CREM INCOME/Reserves		
COMBE WARD (inc Yeovil Marsh)	£ 4,000	CREM INCOME/Reserves		Landscape improvements - approx year 1 costs £10,000 - 5 Year plan agreed Mar 15
LYDE WARD	£ 4,000	CREM INCOME/Reserves		
NEWSLETTER	£ 1,000	RESERVES		reserves not used
CEMETERY DEFICIT (Joint Burial Committee- JBC)	£ 21,757	BURIAL PRECEPT	£ 21,757	Amount is decided by JBC
ALLOTMENTS	£ 2,000	CREM INCOME		Income from allotments does not cover costs
JOHNSON PARK - Replacement of equipment		CREM FUNDS HELD BY SSDC		£40,000 Crematorium Reserve Fund
JP -Safety Inspections and maintenance	£ 3,000	CREM INCOME		Allocation from income and not reserves - sustainable
STREET FURNITURE MAINTENANCE	£ 9,000	RESERVES		Previous underspend - allocate from income once spent
YEOVIL TOWN CENTRE MAINTENANCE	£ 2,000	CREM INCOME		Agreed funding Nov 2014 - ongoing commitment until review - allocation from income not reserves
PARISH RANGER	£ 14,000	CREM INCOME		Agreed funding March 2015
YOUTH SERVICES PROVISION	£ 7,855	PRECEPT/ INCOME	£ 6,960	Agreed funding December 2014 - will increase - £8,000 2016/2017 and £10,000 2017/2018 -
SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES	£ 1,000	RESERVES		Previous underspend
CONTINGENCY (£20,000 Crematorium Funds)		CREM FUNDS HELD BY SSDC		£30,000 e YWPC Crematorium Reserve Fund
	£ 327,232		£ 63,217	

Precept - Band D cost	2014/2015	2015/2016
General Precept	£ 31,085.00	£ 41,460.00
Burical Precept	£ 25,456.00	£ 21,757.00
Total	£ 56,541.00	£ 63,217.00
SSDC GRANT	£ 3,990.00	£ 3,220.00
	£ 52,551	£ 59,997
Tax Base	2519.14	2635.3
Band D Charge	£ 20.86	£ 22.77

ANNUAL RETURN

Yeovil Without Parish Council 2015 Annual Return for Year Ending 31 March 15

Box No.	Description	Year ending		Variance on last year	As %
		31 March 2014 £	31 March 2015 £		
1	Balances brought forward	£ 112,919	£ 97,068	-£ 15,851	-14.0%
2	Annual Precept	£ 50,526	£ 52,551	£ 2,025	4.0%
3	Total other receipts	£ 16,024	£ 49,824	£ 33,800	210.9%
4	Staff Costs	£ 24,773	£ 23,437	-£ 1,336	-5.4%
5	Loan interest/capital repayments	£ -	£ -	£ -	-
6	payments	£ 57,628	£ 60,817	£ 3,189	5.5%
7	Balance c/f	£ 97,068	£ 115,189	£ 18,121	18.7%
8	Total cash and short term investments	£ 97,068	£ 115,189	£ 18,121	18.7%
9	Total fixed assets and long term assets	£ 52,798	£ 53,080	£ 282	0.5%
10	Total borrowings	£ -	£ -	£ -	-

Explanatory Notes

3	£	30,700	Net surplus profit withdrawn from YWPC crematorium reserves held by SSDC. Reserve level now covers YWPC 11% share of responsibility, this allows YWPC to withdraw approx £30,000 annually from the Crematorium Reserve Fund held by SSDC. It is intended that these funds are used as a sustainable income for the Parish Ranger and Youth Services in the Yeovil Area
	£	865	Grants received towards Wyndham Park Summer Play activities
	£	1,000	VAT increase on last years figure - full year of the hire of the parish ranger, previous year (Nov - Mar)
	£	1,000	S106 funds - Planning application 12/02534/FUL - Bus stop contribution
	£	227.00	Funds received from 4 adjacent parish councils towards the northern parishes campaign costs. YWPC paid the full costs - costs then divided between the 5 parish councils (Mudford, Brympton, Chilthorne Domer, Tintinhull)
	£	33,792.00	Total

DISTRICT AND COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Jon Gleeson, Pauline Lock and Graham Oakes have also been the District Councillors for the Yeovil Without Wards of South Somerset District Council, for the past four years. The wards of Yeovil Without parish have been represented on Somerset County Council by Alan Dimmick (Yeovil Central – Combe Ward), Jane Lock (Yeovil West – Brimsmore Ward) and Tony Lock (Yeovil East – Lyde Ward), since the county council elections in May 2013.

At least one of the three County Councillors have been present at the parish council meetings on the following dates;- 29/04/14, 27/05/14, 24/06/14, 29/07/14, 30/09/14, 28/10/14, 20/11/14, 25/11/14, 16/12/14, 27/01/15, 24/2/15 and 31/03/15.

PARISH COUNCILLORS

The Parish council meetings have been generally well attended by councillors and members of the public alike. The attendance record of the parish councillors during the last financial year (1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015), has been as follows;-

Brimsmore Ward

Maurice Lamb (Chairman)	100% (12/12)
Alf Hill	83% (10/12)
Iris Coton	83% (10/12)
Graham Oakes	42% (5/12)
Dan Marks	33% (4/12)

Combe Ward

Roger Brown	42% 5/12
Stephen Hawker	100% 12/12
Mike Lock	67% 8/12
Sue Pitman	75% 9/12
John Snell	75% 9/12

Lyde Ward

Robin Wilding (Vice Chairman)	92% 11/12
Jon Gleeson	33% 4/12
Pat Hamaton	92% 11/12
Pauline Lock	50% 6/12
Stanley Jones	75% 9/12

None of the members of the parish council are paid any salary or allowance to attend meetings or to carry out their duties as Parish Councillors. However, Town Councillors, District Councillors and County Councillors do receive substantial allowances.

POLICE

A representative of Avon and Somerset Constabulary has attended several parish council meetings during the past year and advised upon crime statistics, problems and prevention.

ELECTIONS

Parish councillors are elected for a period of four years. The next parish council elections will be held on 7th May 2015 and all fifteen council seats will then be up for election – volunteers required!!

Following a boundary review of the county divisions undertaken by Somerset County Council in 2013, the number of parish councillors representing each of the three wards of Yeovil Without Parish are now as follows;-

Brimsmore Ward (including Brimsmore development and Yeovil Marsh) 6 seats

Combe Ward 2 seats

Lyde Ward (including Wyndham Park) 7 seats

The district council elections and, of course, the general election, will also be held on 7th May 2015.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS DURING PAST YEAR

Since the last Annual Meeting in May 2014 there have been eleven meetings of the parish council – held either at Bucklers Mead Academy, or Yeovil Marsh Church Hall. The meetings were generally held on the last Tuesday of every month. There was no meeting in August 2014, but there was an additional meeting in November 2014, specifically to discuss the plans, aspirations and budget for the forthcoming year 2015/16.

The annual parish meeting, at which all parishioners are entitled to attend, speak and vote was held on 27th May 2014. Parishioners and members of the public are also welcome to attend all council meetings and raise any issue.

FUTURE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING DATES AND VENUES

Meetings during the financial year 2015/2016 will generally be held at 7pm on the last Tuesday of the month, normally at Bucklers Mead Academy unless otherwise stated, as follows;-

DATE	TIME	VENUE
*Tuesday 19 th May 2015	7.00 p.m.	Bucklers Mead Academy
Tuesday 30 th June 2015	7.00 p.m.	Yeovil Marsh Church Hall
Tuesday 28 th July 2015	7.00 p.m.	Yeovil Marsh Church Hall
Tuesday 29 th September 2015	7.00 p.m.	Bucklers Mead Academy
Tuesday 27 th October 2015	7.00 p.m.	Bucklers Mead Academy
Tuesday 24 th November 2015	7.00 p.m.	Bucklers Mead Academy
Tuesday 15 th December 2015	7.00 p.m.	Bucklers Mead Academy
**Tuesday 26 th January 2016	7.00 p.m.	Bucklers Mead Academy
Tuesday 23 rd February 2016	7.00 p.m.	Bucklers Mead Academy
Tuesday 29 th March 2016	7.00 p.m.	Bucklers Mead Academy
Tuesday 26 th April 2016 - Following the Annual Parish Meeting which will commence at 7.00 p.m	On completion of the Annual Parish meeting.	Bucklers Mead Academy
*Tuesday 31 st May 2016	7.00 p.m.	Bucklers Mead Academy

* Annual Parish Council meeting – election of Chairman, Vice Chairman and representatives.

** Finalisation of precept NB. there is no meeting in August.

GRANTS

During the 2014/2015 financial year YWPC has agreed a total of £15,800 in the form of grants to various Charitable and other organisations which provide services for the residents of Yeovil Without Parish. These grants were agreed in July 2014 and January 2015 as follows:-

Organisation	Amount awarded
July 14	
St Margaret's Hospice	£1,500
January 15	
Friends of Oaklands	£500
Johnson Park Tennis Club	£1,500
Shopmobility	£800
Yeovil Division Girlguiding - Rangers	£500
Fiveway School Trust	£10,000
Citizens Advice Bureau	£1,000
Total	£15,800

CONTRIBUTIONS BY YWPC TO SERVICES IN YEOVIL DISTRICT

CHRISTMAS LIGHTS IN YEOVIL TOWN CENTRE

The Parish Council donated £300 toward the cost of the Christmas Lights in December 2013 and again a further £350 in November 2014.

YEOVIL CHRISTMAS LIGHTS COMPETITION

The Parish Council also donated £50 towards the prize money for the 2014 Christmas Lights Competition in Yeovil and surrounding parishes, organised by the Western Gazette and Yeovil Town Council. The overall winner was 52 Rowan Way and the best display in Yeovil Without Parish was adjudged to be Mr and Mrs Keynes of 14 Gainsborough Way.

MAINTENANCE OF YEOVIL TOWN CENTRE

Many parishioners from Yeovil Without do their shopping in Yeovil town centre, and the Parish Council have recognised this fact in 2014 by agreeing the donation of £2,000 towards the estimated 2015/2016 cost of cleaning and maintenance of street furniture in the town centre.

YEOVIL TOWN CENTRE PARTNERSHIP/TOWN TEAM

The Parish Council is a full member of this partnership/team and has contributed £1,000 membership subscription for the last 3 years.

YOUTH SERVICES

Following the decision of Somerset County Council in 2012 to withdraw from the provision of Youth Services throughout the country, a Youth Services Review Steering Group was established by Yeovil Town Council and neighbouring parish councils to review the requirement for Youth Services within the Yeovil area and how best to organise and finance these services. Initially pilot schemes were set up in Forest Hill, Westfield and Abbey Manor and the results of these were monitored over a period of almost two years – partially funded by SCC.

It has now been agreed that a three year contract should be awarded to “Somerset Rural Youth Project” to provide Youth Clubs and Services at the Old Barn Club in Forest Hill, at St Peters Hall in Coronation Avenue, at Abbey Manor Community Centre, and at Milford Community Hall, for the three year period commencing on 1st April 2015. The total cost of £23,853 per annum plus venue rental charges is to be met by grants of £50,000 from Yeovil Town Council, £25,000 from Brympton Parish Council and £25,000 from Yeovil Without Parish Council over the three year period.

FLOODING RELIEF WORK AT YEOVIL MARSH

During the past year, work has been undertaken by Somerset County Council Highways Dept to the west of the Church Hall in Yeovil Marsh, to alleviate the threat of flooding to properties along this stretch of the main street.

We understand that Highways has now proceeded with further drainage works to the east of the Church Hall.

The main flooding problem in Yeovil Without parish has in the past occurred along the main street of Yeovil Marsh and these drainage works will hopefully resolve that problem. Campaigning by the parish council to get these works executed has therefore been effective.

PRIMROSE LANE DEVELOPMENT

Each District Council in the country is required by the Government to prepare a Local Plan for approval by a Government – appointed Planning Inspector. Without such a Plan, District Councils would have difficulty in defending local communities from planning applications for indiscriminate housing developments throughout their districts.

The Planning Inspector appointed by the Government to review the South Somerset Local Plan 2006 – 2028 issued his Preliminary Findings in July 2013, following which South Somerset District Council appointed a Planning Consultant to re-assess the Local Plan. They recommended that 1565 new houses should be built in the Yeovil area (in addition to Wyndham Park, Brimsmore and Lufton), of which 800 would be built at East Coker and 765 at Primrose Lane, Up Mudford, immediately adjacent to the Wyndham Park Development.

On behalf of the Northern Parishes of Yeovil (Brympton, Chilthorne Domer, Mudford, Tintinhull and Yeovil Without) the Chairman of Yeovil Without Parish Council prepared and submitted in January 2014, a strong, comprehensive objection to the proposed Yeovil Urban Extension at Primrose Lane, but at the full meeting of South Somerset District Council on 13th March 2014, a majority of the District Councillors (including those representing the Northern Parishes) voted in favour of the Primrose Lane and East Coker developments, despite the overwhelming opposition of the residents and parish councillors of the Northern Parishes to the Primrose Lane development. The Chairman of Yeovil Without Parish Council also represented the Northern Parishes at the subsequent Planning Inquiry conducted by the Government Inspector in June 2014 into the Local Plan.

However, the Inspector subsequently ruled in favour of the revised Local Plan as proposed by South Somerset District Council, and the Local Plan has since been adopted by South Somerset District Council at its meeting on 5th March 2015.

Abbey Manor Developments has now submitted an application for outline planning permission for the Primrose Lane development, and Yeovil Without Parish Council is, despite the fact that the development is actually in the neighbouring parish of Mudford, now endeavouring to work with SSDC and the developer to ensure that the development is sustainable, and served by all the necessary facilities – not another Wyndham Park development!!

It is currently envisaged that this new development will ultimately incorporate not only 765 homes, but also an employment zone, a 14 classroom primary school, retail premises, an old persons care home, play spaces, sports fields etc., plus contributions towards the community facilities on the neighbouring Wyndham Park estate.

WYNDHAM PARK

Much of the attention and the efforts of the parish council during the past year have been exerted on the problems being faced by the residents of Wyndham Park.

The Parish Council was one of the founder members of the Wyndham Park Partnership together with YeovilNET (Yeovil Churches), Wyndham Park Community Association, Barratts (the developer), Knightstone and Magna Housing Associations, South Somerset District Council, Somerset County Council, MOD Yeovilton, the Armed Forces Covenant and the Police. Our Parish Clerk, Barbara Appleby, has also acted as the Clerk to the Partnership.

The issues and problems which have been addressed are as follows;-

Play spaces, Mulit Use Games Area and Landscape

It is now expected that the first play space, the MUGA and part of the Linear Park landscape area will, rather belatedly, now be handed over by the developer to SSDC/YWPC during 2015. The Parish Council has undertaken to take over the ownership and maintenance of these facilities – subject to financial advice and an acceptable legal agreement with SSDC.

School

Somerset County Council have announced that a 7 classroom primary academy will initially be constructed, not on the original site within Wyndham Park, but on the adjacent site within Primrose Lane development. The school is required to be ready for occupation in September 2016 and will ultimately be extended to a 14 classroom school to cater for children from both developments.

Community Facilities

The site which was originally intended to be the location of the school, will now be available for development of community facilities by the Parish Council, including community hall, pre-school, sports field, play spaces and associated car parking.

Bus Services

There are still no bus services serving the estate despite the fact that SCC have already received £375,000 from the developer under Section 106 Agreements for the provision of bus services and travel initiatives.

Dreamscheme

The “Dreamscheme” for young people has had difficulties in finding an acceptable venue for its meetings, and is currently meeting in Barratts’ site office. The provision of a temporary community facility will solve many problems.

Street Lighting

Problems have been experienced with street lighting at the main entrance road – mainly caused by the proximity to the bentonite barrier around the old landfill site. This problem is currently being resolved by the developer and SSE.

Adoption of Road Network

SCC have indicated that they are unable to adopt the road network until the street lighting of the main entrance road is operating safely. Non-adoption prevents provision of bus services, enforcement of road traffic regulations, and provision of local authority services.

Artificial Hockey Pitch

It is interesting to note that the only facility which has so far been provided in accordance with the Section 106 Agreements for the Wyndham Park development is the Artificial Hockey Pitch at Yeovil Recreation Ground, for which the grand sum of £450,000 was provided by the developer. It is not known how many residents of Wyndham Park play hockey, but it is certainly the case that those residents have received no thanks from SSDC or the hockey club for their contribution towards this facility.

Pedestrian Gate

The planning for the pedestrian gate (which was previously a bus gate) is now delayed, because it may be required as a bus gate!

Drug dealing

The police are experiencing difficulties with drug dealing on the estate.

Statistics

848 houses are due to be constructed at Wyndham Park. SSDC number of dwellings 2105/2016 figure for Yeovil Without shows an increase of 730 houses against the number of dwellings figure from 2011/2012.

65 houses have been purchased by MOD as married quarters for military personnel from Yeovilton.

Some residents have lived at Wyndham park for more than 4 years. The development is not expected to be completed until 2019 at the earliest. Facilities provided to date – some rubbish bins and benches!!

BRIMSMORE DEVELOPMENT

Construction work on the new Key Site development at Brimsmore, to the north of Thorne Lane, has proceeded throughout the past year, and it is understood that sales are going well. The developer in this case is Charles Bishop Ltd, of Yeovil, and the contractor for the first phase is Wyatt Homes. We have heard on the grapevine that contracts have now been signed with Wyatt Homes for the construction of all 848 houses/bungalows in this development. The improved quality, architecture, and landscaping of this development is appreciated by the Parish Council.

LONGCROFT RETIREMENT VILLAGE

A slightly smaller development, Longcroft Retirement Village has recently been granted outline planning approval by South Somerset District Council, despite the concerted opposition of the planning officers.

This development of 29 single storey dwellings for those over the age of 55 is to be constructed at Longcroft Farm, to the west of Stone Lane, and has been consistently supported by the parish council, as being a quality development, which meets an urgent need for this type of accommodation throughout the parish and the town.

It should be noted that the owner of Longcroft Farm, John Snell, is also a member of the parish council.

CREMATORIUM AND CEMETERY

Yeovil Without Parish Council has an 11% interest in the ownership of Yeovil Crematorium and a 10% interest in the Yeovil Cemetery in Preston Road. The Crematorium makes a substantial "profit" for the parish council whereas the cemetery runs at a considerable "loss"!!

ALLOTMENTS

The Parish Council has, for over 100 years, been the owner of a 5 acre field in Yeovil Marsh, on which are situated 27 allotment plots for renting by residents of the parish, and 4 acres of pastureland which is rented out to a neighbouring farmer.

Occasionally allotment plots become available and any parishioner who is interested should contact the Parish Clerk. The annual rent is only £13.50 per plot.

SPEED INDICATOR DEVICES

In an effort to reduce the speed of traffic on parish roads, it has been agreed by Brympton and Yeovil Without Parish Councils to jointly share a speed indicator device under the SCC transfer scheme. This would mean that the current 4 approved locations within Yeovil Without (Mudford Road, Combe Street Lane, Thorne Lane and Lyde Road), and possibly at other blackspots in the future (dependant on SCC approval) would benefit from having SID deployed three to four times per year instead of the current two times.

Analysis of the data would be completed by the two relevant Clerks and they are due to receive training from SCC on downloading the data on 27th May 2015.

The Parish Ranger will deploy the SID for both parish councils. The following criteria should be adhered to:-

- The Parish Councils must liaise with the County Council as they will need to obtain the consent of the County Council (as the appropriate Highway Authority) in order to place a SID on the highway;
- it must operate within the guidelines and policy applicable to SCC SIDs;
- it must demonstrate that the chosen locations have a speeding issue (speed readings will be taken and the 85thile speed must equal or exceed the posted speed limit + 10% +3mph);
- it must risk assess and agree locations in advance with SCC;
- SIDs will only be allowed to be installed at agreed and qualified locations and can only be installed for a maximum of two weeks at one installation, and do not then normally return to those locations for a period of six weeks.

STREET FURNITURE

The Parish Council is responsible for the provision of street furniture such as rubbish bins, dog bins, grit/salt bins, benches, bus shelters, noticeboards, etc.

During the past year new combined rubbish/dog bins have been supplied by Barratts, the developer of Wyndham Park. In the future, after the road network has been adopted by Somerset County Council, the parish council will be required to install grit/salt bins, benches, bus shelters and a noticeboard.

Elsewhere in the parish; a new bus shelter is to be provided in Elliotts Drive and the parish council has also agreed to contribute towards another bus shelter being proposed by Yeovil Town Council to be erected on the edge of the parish at Glenthorne Avenue; and additional grit bins have been installed in Rivers Road and Birchfield Road (there are now a total of 23 grit bins within the parish).

PARISH RANGER AND LANDSCAPE PLAN

During the past year, the parish has greatly benefitted from the employment of the services of a Parish Ranger (Darren) for on average, 1½ days per week. In the forthcoming year, this is to be extended to 2 days per week.

In addition, agreement has been reached with the Street Scenes Department of South Somerset District Council for a five year plan of landscaping improvements throughout the parish - especially within the Great Lyde estate area and along the A37 gateway into Yeovil.

PARISH PATH LIAISON OFFICERS

Our thanks go to Judy Tanner and Bernice Ancill who last year were appointed by the Parish Council as the Volunteer Parish Path Liaison Officers to co-ordinate between the parish council and Somerset County Council on matters relating to the state of public footpaths within the parish. Bernice has been unable to find the time of late to walk the footpaths and has stood down. Judy has confirmed that she is happy to continue in the role.

THANKS

Finally, my thanks to Robin Wilding for his support as Vice Chairman over the past 3 years, and to Barbara Appleby, our Parish Clerk, for her advice, her enthusiasm, and for the interest which she has shown in providing for the needs of the community, especially at Wyndham Park, where she has also acted as the clerk for the Wyndham Park Partnership.

Maurice Lamb – Chairman April 2015

REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES

NAME OF ORGANISATION - THE JOHN NOWES EXHIBITION FOUNDATION

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVE - IRIS COTTON

This is a small charity that has existed for many years. The aim is to help support young people aged 16 to 25 years with their education. They can live in Yeovil and a number of surrounding parishes including Yeovil Without. The charity makes awards to help with clothing, equipment and books to help at any place of learning or to assist entry into work. The household income should be £33,000 or below.

During the year, we have had three meetings. I became Chairperson at the Annual General Meeting in November. Quite a lot of work has been carried out to update the administration of the charity. During the year, we made five grants to eligible students.

We will be advertising in the Western Gazette in the early autumn for applications from students. All will be treated as sympathetically as we can.

Anyone who would like more details should contact me on 01935 479233. I will be very happy to give them more information. **Iris Cotton**

NAME OF ORGANISATION - YEovil SPORTS CLUB MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE AND JOHNSON PARK PLAY AREA

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVES - ALF HILL AND JOHN SNELL

Johnson Park is the home of Yeovil Archery Club, Yeovil Cricket Club, Yeovil Tennis Club, Yeovil Bridge Club and Pen Mill Football Club, the headquarters of Yeovil and Sherborne Angling Association, Yeovil Cycling Club, Yeovil and Sherborne Hockey Association and Mid-Wessex Cricket League, and is location of the parish council play area.

The major happening during the past year been the provision of a fourth tennis court for the Tennis Club and the necessary work to enable access for disabled persons and the playing of wheelchair tennis – all at a total cost of approximately £100,000.

NAME OF ORGANISATION - SOMERSET ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL COUNCILS SOUTH AREA COMMITTEE

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVES - MAURICE LAMB AND ROBIN WILDING

The Chairman and Vice Chairman have attended all but one of the SALC meetings during the year.

Justin Robinson has been appointed as the County Executive Officer and the offices of the Association have now moved from Taunton to Somerton. Doubts have been expressed as to the worth of the parish council continuing to be a member of SALC. YWPC membership will rise above any % increase from the association as the subscription charges are based on the number of electors with the parish and YWPC will continue to grow for sometime.

NAME OF ORGANISATION - YEovil CREMATORIUM AND CEMETERY COMMITTEE

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVES - MAURICE LAMB AND ALF HILL

The Yeovil Crematorium is partly owned by YWPC 11% (with SSDC 89%) and the Yeovil Cemetery is also partly owned by YWPC 10% (with Yeovil Town Council 90%). The crematorium and the cemetery are financially independent of each other. From the point of view of YWPC, the crematorium is relatively “profitable” whereas the cemetery is quite costly. Both continue to be well managed and maintained. YWPC’s share of the annual surpluses from the crematorium is currently invested in various Reserve Funds within the SSDC banking system. These Reserve Funds total £214,695 as at 31st March 2014 and projected to be 31st March 2015. , and are more than sufficient to pay for new cremators and other capital expenditure. On the other hand, the cemetery deficit for 2014/2015 amounts to £126,700 and YWPC share of this is £24,876.

During the past year, SSDC have instigated measures to transfer the management of the crematorium from the Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee to the officer of SSDC.

NAME OF ORGANISATION - WOBORNS ALMSHOUSE TRUSTEES

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVE - MAURICE LAMB

The Chairman of Yeovil Without Parish Council is an Ex-Officio Trustee of the Woborns Almshouse together with the Mayor of Yeovil and the vicars of St Johns Yeovil, and Holy Trinity, Yeovil. The Trustees meet four times every year- normally at the Town House, Yeovil.

There have been some vacancies during the year, with one tenant having left with some rent unpaid, and difficulty in finding a suitable replacement. Two of the almshouses have been redecorated during the year. The finances of the charity remain in good health, as the investments continue to perform well.

NAME OF ORGANISATION - WESTFIELD ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVE - MAURICE LAMB

The parish council has been represented on a fairly regular basis at the meetings of Westfield Community Association. This Association is extremely active in grass roots community activities, and has been heavily occupied in recent months in the establishment of the Westyouth Youth Group. A further weekly youth group has now been organised by the Yeovil Youth Services Review Steering Group at St Peters Church Hall in Coronation Avenue. This group will be run by the Somerset Rural Youth Projects, and is being heavily financed by the parish council.

NAME OF ORGANISATION - WYNDHAM PARK PARTNERSHIP

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVES - MAURICE LAMB, ROBIN WILDING, PAT HAMATON AND THE CLERK

Partnership meetings have been held on a regular two monthly basis, and have been well attended not only by the Parish Council, but also by Wyndham Park Community Association, SSDC (including the leader Councillor Ric Pallister), Knightstone Housing Association, and Magna Housing Association, the Police, the Armed Forces Convention, YeovilNet (the local Churches) and the developer, Barratts. Progress in resolving problems that are faced by the residents of Wyndham Park has been slow, but the problems have been well advertised, and it is expected that many of the problems will be resolved during the next year.

NAME OF ORGANISATION – YEOVIL TOWN TEAM

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVES - MIKE LOCK (STEVE HAWKER IN RESERVE)

NAME OF ORGANISATION – YEOVIL IN BLOOM

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVE - SUE PITMAN

NAME OF ORGANISATION – YOUTH SERVICES REVIEW STEERING GROUP

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVES - PAULINE LOCK AND MAURICE LAMB

Please refer to page 9 for report

NAME OF ORGANISATION – TREE WARDEN

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVE - SUE PITMAN

NAME OF ORGANISATION – PARISH ENVIRONMENT WARDEN

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVE - MIKE LOCK

NAME OF ORGANISATION – HIGHWAYS AND FOOTPATHS

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVES - MIKE LOCK AND ROGER BROWN

NAME OF ORGANISATION – THIS ABILITY

NAME OF YWPC REPRESENTATIVE - PAT HAMATON

Pat has represented YWPC at all of the “This Ability” meetings held.
