YEOVIL WITHOUT PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting

Date: Wednesday 16 September 2026 @ 6.30 pm
Venue: Yeovil Sports and Social Club, Johnson Park, Yeovil

Present

Councillors (9): Howard Ashton, Kevin Brown, Iris Coton, Jo Gill, David Knight, Rani Panesar, Evie Potts-Jones, Kate Stevenson and Rob Stickland (Chair).

In attendance: Barbara Appleby, Parish Clerk.

Public Participation

Public comment (15 minutes)

There were no public comments.

Reports from Representatives

Police/Police Community Support Officer (PCSO)

No report was received. The Chair referred to the increased police presence and the implementation of cameras at Birchfield Park following incidents involving e-scooters. Members were asked to forward any concerns to the Clerk.

Somerset Councillors

Cllrs Tony Lock and Andy Kendall provided an update on planning changes, Section 106 (S106) matters relating to Wyndham Park, and the Compton Road development in Dorset. The reports were noted.

Outside Bodies

No reports were received.

596/26 – Apologies for Absence

The Council received apologies for absence from (3) - Cllrs Colin Rose, John Orchard and Mike Lock, who were unable to attend due to personal commitments.

RESOLVED: To accept the apologies for absence.

The following councillors were not present (3) - Cllrs Vyvyenne Burt, John Snell and Mary Snell.

597/26 – Declarations of Interest

Cllr Kevin Brown declared a personal interest in matters relating to the allotments, as an allotment tenant.

598/26 – Minutes of the Previous Meeting

The minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 29 July 2026 were considered.

RESOLVED: To approve the minutes as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

599/26 – Chair's Report

The Chair reported that he would attend the SALC Annual General Meeting on 8 October 2026. He had also attended the Westfield Association meeting in his capacity as honorary trustee.

The report was noted.

600/26 – Parish Clerk's Report

Members noted the Clerk's verbal report.

601/26 – Planning

601/26.1 – Planning Applications Received for Consideration

There were no planning applications for consideration.

601/26.2 – Planning Applications Received for Noting Only

Members noted the following application:

Application number: 25/02769/REM
Location: Land at OS 3400, Mudford Road, Yeovil, Somerset
Ward: Adjacent parish – Mudford

Proposal: Reserved Matters application for the appearance, landscaping, layout and scale of Phase 1, comprising 109 residential dwellings, associated infrastructure and green space, excluding the main site access. The application relates to outline planning permission 22/00695/OUT (appeal reference APP/E3335/W/23/3328322), for the erection of up to 252 dwellings, public open space including a community orchard and village green, woodland planting, ecological buffers, sustainable drainage systems, a biodiverse wetland habitat and associated ancillary works.

601/26.3 – Planning Applications Received After Publication of the Agenda - NONE

601/26.4 – Somerset Council Planning Decisions

Members noted the planning decisions published between 23 July and 10 September 2026.

602/26 – Ongoing Matters, Reviews and Governance

602/26.1 – NJC Pay Award 2026/27

Members noted the announcement and publication of the National Joint Council (NJC) pay award of 3.3% for 2026/27, effective from 1 April 2026.

Members further noted that:

1. The Clerk's salary, which is subject to the NJC model contract terms, had been updated accordingly.
2. The revised salary and backdated pay due from 1 April 2026 had been calculated and included in the September 2026 payment schedule for approval and payment.

602/26.2 – ICB Joint Working Group Update: Closure of the Hyper Acute Stroke Unit at Yeovil District Hospital

Members noted the correspondence sent and received since the previous meeting.

Cllr Iris Coton proposed the following motion, which was seconded.

RESOLVED unanimously: That Yeovil Without Parish Council calls upon the Board of NHS Somerset to commission an independent review of the governance and implementation of the decision concerning the Yeovil Hyper Acute Stroke Unit (HASU).

The review should include:

1. The evidence upon which improved outcomes for stroke patients from the former Yeovil catchment area are based.
2. A detailed post-implementation monitoring framework capable of identifying outcomes specifically for that population.
3. Substantive answers to the outstanding questions raised by elected representatives on 20 July 2026.

602/26.3 – Environment and Allotments Committee

Members considered the proposed Terms of Reference for the Environment and Allotments Committee and the associated amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation.

RESOLVED: That Full Council adopt the Terms of Reference for the Environment and Allotments Committee and approve the associated amendments to the Council's Scheme of Delegation, with effect from 16 September 2026.

603/26 – Finance

603/26.1 – Payments and Receipts

Members noted the receipts and payments made under delegated authority during August and September 2026.

						Payments greater than
YWPC PAYMENTS APPROVAL LIST			**12-Aug-26**			**> £500**
EXPENDITURE		**6,195.72**				
	Payment date	**Details**	**above £5,000 ***	**Net - £**	**Vat - £**	**Gross - £**
Auto	31-Jul	Unity Service Charge				8.20
BACS	**12-Aug**	**Somerset Council PR**		**2,362.08**	**472.42**	**2,834.50**
				617.05		**617.05**
DD	23-Aug	Lloyds - Corporate Card		3.00		3.00
SO	25-Aug	Democratic Services		2,200.00		2,200.00
DD	25-Aug	NEST		532.97		532.97
				5,715.10	472.42	6,195.72

INCOME	**£0.00**

					Payments greater than
YWPC PAYMENTS APPROVAL LIST		**16-Sep-26**			**> £500**
EXPENDITURE		**8,944.12**			
Auto	31-Aug	Unity Service Charge			9.10
BACS	17-Sep	Somerset Council PR	1,653.46	330.69	**1,984.15**
BACS	17-Sep	G W Shelter Solutions	1,407.60	281.52	**1,689.12**
DD	Sep-26	Lloyds - Corporate Card	3.00		3.00
BACS	17-Sep	PKF Littlejohn LLP	1,365.00	273.00	**1,638.00**
BACS	17-Sep	Staff Emoluments	763.71		763.71
SO	25-Sep	Democratic Services	2,200.00		2,200.00
DD	25-Sep	NEST	657.04		657.04
			8,049.81	885.21	8,944.12

INCOME	**£67,500.00**

Date	Description	Amount
08/09/2026	remaining precept (6 month)	£ 67,500.00

There were no payments exceeding the Scheme of Delegation threshold of £5,000 requiring approval by Full Council.

603/26.2 – Yeovil Marsh Allotments

603/26.2(i) – Yeovil Marsh Allotment Track: Autumn 2026 Hedge Cutting

Members considered arrangements for the autumn 2026 hedge cutting. No estimate had been received.

The Chair informed members that he had recently received telephone calls and emails from the Mike Lock, which varied in content and included suggestions that the Chair should resign.

Cllr Iris Coton proposed a formal vote of confidence in the Chair.

RESOLVED unanimously: That the Parish Council formally expresses its confidence in the Chair. All members present voted in favour of the resolution.

603/26.2(ii) – Yeovil Marsh Allotment Track: Future Maintenance and Access Arrangements

Members considered future arrangements for the maintenance of the track and hedge and for maintaining access to the allotments.

No proposal had been received from the track owners. Members considered a proposal prepared by the Clerk.

AGREED: The Clerk's proposal would be referred to the Environment and Allotments Committee for consideration and subsequently brought back to Full Council.

603/26.3 – Johnson Park Safety Surface

Members considered the recommendation to appoint Redlynch to replace the safety surface at Johnson Park at a cost of £14,345.00.

Members were also asked to note that, due to the urgent nature of the repairs, the order had been authorised before the September meeting following approval by the Financial Scrutiny Members.

RESOLVED: To approve the appointment of Redlynch to replace the safety surface at a cost of £14,345.00 and to note the prior authorisation of the order.

603/26.4 – Insurance Renewal

Members considered the renewal of the Zurich Municipal insurance policy for the period 1 October 2026 to 30 September 2027, at a premium of £2,849.09.

RESOLVED: To approve the renewal of the Zurich Municipal insurance policy at the quoted premium of £2,849.09.

603/26.5 – Hearing Loop Installation: Yeovil Sports Club Function Room

Members considered the findings of the recent site visit and the options for installing a hearing assistance system in the Yeovil Sports Club function room.

It was proposed that consideration of the most appropriate system be deferred pending a practical demonstration of the available equipment.

RESOLVED: (1) To note the findings of the recent site visit. **(2)** To defer any decision on the purchase or installation of a hearing assistance system until a demonstration had taken place and the available options had been considered.

Members were advised to arrive at 6.15 pm before the next meeting to allow time to familiarise themselves with the equipment setup.

603/26.6 – Remembrance Wreath

Members considered the purchase of a Remembrance wreath and a donation to the Royal British Legion.

It was noted that the wreath had cost approximately £25 in the previous year, when a donation of £75 had also been made to the Royal British Legion.

RESOLVED: (1) To purchase a Remembrance wreath at an estimated cost of £27._**(2)** To make a donation of £100 to the Royal British Legion. **(3)** That both the cost of the wreath and the £100 donation be met from the Chairman's Fund.

The resolution was carried, with one councillor abstaining from the vote.

603/26.7 – Conclusion of Audit

Members noted that the conclusion of the external audit had been published on 11 September 2026.

The external auditor reported that no matters had come to their attention giving cause for concern that the relevant legislation and regulatory requirements had not been met.

604/26 – Correspondence

604/26.1 – Double Yellow Lines

604/26.1(i) – Lower Fairmead Road/Runnymede Road Junctions

Members considered the proposal to introduce double yellow lines at the Lower Fairmead Road/Runnymede Road junctions.

The consultation had received responses from 50% of residents, all of whom were in favour of the proposal. Several residents had reported near misses caused by parked vehicles.

RESOLVED: To support the implementation of double yellow lines at the junctions, in accordance with the consultation document.

604/26.1(ii) – High Lea/Glenthorne Avenue (Eastern Junction)

Members considered the results of resident canvassing undertaken by Somerset Councillor David Woan following concerns about visibility and parking at the eastern junction of High Lea and Glenthorne Avenue.

RESOLVED: To support the proposed measures, subject to confirmation of resident support by Somerset Councillor David Woan.

604/26.2 – Further Correspondence

No further correspondence requiring consideration was received after publication of the agenda.

605/26 – Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Parish Council would be held on **Wednesday 21 October 2026 at 6.30 pm**.

606/26 – Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: To exclude the press and public from the following items of business in accordance with Section 1(2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, on the grounds that publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential legal and contractual nature of the business to be transacted.

607/26 – Future Management of Yeovil Cemetery and Crematorium

Members noted the confidential report received from the Chief Executive/Town Clerk of Yeovil Town Council concerning the future management of Yeovil Cemetery and Crematorium and matters relevant to Yeovil Without Parish Council, including its ownership interest in the facilities.

The confidential report had been circulated to councillors with the meeting agenda.

608/26 – Land for Future Burial Provision: Update

Members noted that the bid for land at Tintinhull had been unsuccessful.

Members also noted correspondence from the Yeovil Crematorium and Cemetery Committee seeking comments from Mudford parish councils regarding future burial provision.

The Council's response confirmed that the proposed cemetery extension and the request received were under consideration. The Council was awaiting the results of its community survey, expected at the end of September 2026, before determining the next steps.

The Council would provide a further update once the survey results had been considered.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at **7.54 pm**.

Signed: ..... **Date:** .....

Chair of Yeovil Without Parish Council