Minutes for the Environment and Allotment Committee Meeting of Yeovil Without Parish Council held at Wyndham Park Community Hub on 7 October 2026 at 6.30pm.

Present – Howard Ashton, Kevin Brown, Michaela Brown, Iris Coton (arrived 6.38pm), **Nigel Dury, Phil Hobbs, Colin Rose and Paula Scriven.**

In attendance - Barbara Appleby (Clerk)

Members of the Public – None

EAC 01 /26 Election of Chair

Colin Rose was unanimously elected chair.

EAC 02/26 Apologies

Dannial Brown, John Orchard, Jessica York, Kate Stevenson and Courtney Stewart

EAC 03/26 Declaration of Interest

The following members declared personal interests as allotment tenants:

Michaela Brown, Nigel Dury, Phil Hobbs, and Paula Scriven.

Kevin Brown allotment tenant and member of YWPC – Personal

EAC 04/26 Minutes of previous meetings

The minutes of the Allotment committee meeting held on 15 July 25 and the minutes of the Environment committee held on 29 November 23 were **APPROVED** as a true record.

EAC 05/26 Terms of Reference and Scheme of Delegation

The committee **NOTED** the adopted Environment and Allotment Committee Terms of Reference and YWPC Scheme of Delegation.

EAC 06/26 Operation of the Combined Committee

The Committee **NOTED** the explanation from YWPC clerk to how the committee will consider the two areas of responsibility in a practical manner an example agenda was shown which divided the areas of responsibility and listed the voting rights as the start of each section – example layout to be circulated for reference.

EAC 07/26 YMAS Meetings

The Committee NOTED the YMAS meetings that had been held since the Allotment Committee meeting held on 15 July 25.

EAC 08/26 Allotment Site

The Committee Noted the following matters that were explained by YWPC Clerk

Finance – Potentially the committee budget would be two budget lines one for projects and improvements and the other for maintenance, this would be confirmed when YWPC agrees 27/28 budget in January 27.

Inspections – Inspections would commences in the near future following receipt of 26/27 rents to ensure which plots were rented and which ones were vacant

Cameras – Access to cameras would be explored further to ensure more than one person has access to footage, confirmation is required to how many of the cameras are installed.

Maintenance/Repairs – The gate post supporting the entrance gate required replacing. It was RESOLVED to replace the post, options and costs to be forwarded to the Clerk for approval.

Spot Lights – It was AGREED that there was no requirement to site spot lights on the site.

EAC 09/26 Environment Matters

The Committee NOTED the concern raised about the land off the A37 that is adjacent to Coppitts Hill dwellings and that night time activities had been head and potentially dumping waste. Somerset Councillor Evie Potts-Jones is aware and continues to stay abreast of incidents. If dumping is taking place it has the potential to contaminate the water stream and it was AGREED to look into water testing. A new role has been created at Somerset Council Environmental Crime Enforcement Officer the matter would be brought to their attention. Brimsmore Development – Tree hanging down likely danger the matter would be reported

EAC 10/26 Projects and Improvements

A plan of proposed works in the wildlife area had been circulated to Committee members for consideration.

It was AGREED that the construction of bug hotels using wooden pallets could proceed, as the materials were already available on site and there would be no associated cost.

Phil Hobbs was asked to provide a more detailed project plan, including proposed phasing and costs, to enable the Committee to consider the proposals further.

A further project was agreed in principle. However, approval to proceed with any works beyond the wooden pallet bug hotels was NOT given, and no

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commitment was made to any additional works or expenditure without further consideration.

EAC 11/26 Allotment Track Proposal

The Committee considered the allotment track proposal and **AGREED IN PRINCIPLE** to recommend that Full Council consider the proposal and determine whether to proceed.

EAC 12/26 YWPC - National Allotment Society Membership (NAS)

The Committee NOTED that YWPC will be discussing the renewal of the parish council membership of NAS

EAC 13/26 Any other matters for discussion that do not require a decision.

YMAS highlighted events and hedgehog and bird boxes that had been made/purchased made from funds raised - **NOTED**

Meeting Closed 8.08 pm

Chair …… Date ……

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