



Reports from outside bodies

April 2017

Swan Lake Visit

Swan Lake SANG, Sandhurst Road, Darby Green on 9 March 2017

YTC represented by Alison Blanchard and Cllrs John Keane, Chris Barnes and Tony Spencer

These photos were taken the week before the meeting when there had been a lot of rain and the main path had held up well. When we visited in attendance with two members of the Blackwater Valley Conservation Trust, the weather was much improved, but there were some areas when the level of the surface was so bad that the amount of hardcore used was still soft and unstable. This will be addressed in the near future. Some of the complaints from local users was that the path was much narrower than before. This was mostly due to the wear and tear on the border of the path, where the “path” appeared to be twice as wide as the original 2 metres due to erosion.

Another issue was that about 20% of the car park was covered in the sand-coloured type 1 hardcore, making it look quite different to the grey granite that makes up the rest of the car park. Attempts to clean it up hold so far failed due to the modular construction of the surface



Yateley Village Hall Committee

Yateley Village Hall Management Committee Meeting on 10 March 2017

YTC represented by Cllr Tony Spencer (Cllr Chris Barnes sent his apologies)

The chairman Tony Spencer expressed thanks for committee members and the Men's Shed for volunteering to redecorate the lounge bar. The new carpet colour, slate grey, was selected and Border Carpets would be fitting it in about two weeks. The potholes in the carpark would be addressed as soon as we had a period of dry weather. OK given to place 2 water butts in the back garden.

Communication from Andy Whittaker offering to host the next committee meeting at his house. Jean will write to him to confirm and advise convenient date.

Bookings are on the increase, although there were a couple of recent cases where completed online forms were "lost" the system. This would be investigated. Bookings for Christenings was raised. Similar to weddings, the guests and organisers want to enter and use the hall immediately after the ceremony, which means that the setting up and dressing the hall for the celebration has to take place some hours before the hall will be used. It was therefore agreed that while the setting up time was chargeable, the time between setting up the hall and the actual start of the event would not be charged.

There is a Facebook account in the Village Hall's name that was set up some years ago by a third party and not currently being updated and we will try and obtain a code from Facebook to take control of it. Currently Tuesday and Wednesday are without regular hirers, so it was agreed to stress these vacancies when advertising on Facebook Community on Mondays.

The Accounts were presented, with a balance exceeding £24,000.

Date of next meeting 28 April 2017

Hampshire Association of Local Councils

Held in The Holiday Inn, Eastleigh on 11 March 2017

YTC represented by Cllrs John Keane and Tony Spencer

The Housing White Paper was discussed, including neighbourhood plans needing strengthening and that developers were seen as controlling local planning authorities. Members were concerned that the system of buy to let was seeing buyers getting ripped off. Another member thought that off-site building systems were a quicker, more efficient and less wasteful method of providing for the shortfall of homes, and because for so long the supply of building materials had ground to a standstill, currently builders were having to order bricks a year before they were needed.

HALC considered celebrating the 70th anniversary of the organisation in June or September.

The report from the Parish Council Commission carried out last year on Devolution would be out in April.

It was noted that some local ALCs were struggling, a handful virtually moribund, so there may be a need to amalgamate some into viable organisations. There are still problems with the SAAA re local council audits.

Next meeting 17 June at Eastleigh, 10-12.30pm

YelaBus

Held at The Gallery, The Tythings on 14 March 2017

Jane Biscombe, Cllrs Gill Hennell and Tony Spencer representing YTC.

New Trustee Richard Whitbread elected. Jane lead a presentation/exercise which examined YelaBus activities over the next 5 years.

Marketing the name of YelaBus rather than YELAbus, to widen our appeal as our traditional customer base is shrinking, in part because more retired people are maintaining their own motor vehicles for longer, so we need to make potential users more aware of us through website, social media etc. It was thought that volunteer drivers may not be as willing to convey people who might use YelaBus because while they may be more able, they merely lack transport, other than the current less able groups. Continued CTA membership will be considered individually by members for next meeting.

Police Liaison Committee

Held at Yateley Town Council Offices on 22 March 2017

Attended by

PCSO Benjamin Ingleson

Cllr Margaret Cook

Cllr Adrian Collett

Cllr Gill Hennell

Alison Blanchard

Cllr Tony Spencer

Ben was informed of a 10 year old child hanging around the Tythings during the day.

Youths congregating on Beaulieu Gardens green. Adrian says April to October usually.

Bell Lane shops kids congregate Ben spoke to them and again not heard any more problems since.

Concern raised about checking weight limit of trucks on roads, particularly Hawley Road, A30 to Hawley Church and Darby Green from A327. Road management is organised from Winchester and they will be made aware.

Racist stickers still going up in Blackwater and Hawley, these are mass produced by National groups.

Pavements blocked with parked cars. Police have issues with bad parking at schools and across drives. Parking at Cranford Park school may be exacerbated once current waste ground is built on. Parking at One Stop and KFC is also of concern.

Complaints from neighbours re Darby Green centre kicking balls against shutters until 2 am.

Travellers at Potley Hill Primary School, the Deputy Head handed them notice at 11pm to leave by 6am with police support and they left immediately.

Current personnel: 4 Town, 3 Rural PCSOs, 4 PCs and 1 Sergeant

Hart Citizens Advice Meeting

Held at Yateley CAB Office, on 22 March 2017

Cllr Spencer representing YTC as an observer, with no voting rights.

The new Chief Officer Sally Plank, who started just 5 days previously was introduced. She will report on a review of operations in May.

Treasurer reported that there will be a 2% shortfall in the general fund but this was smaller than expected.

Macmillan funding and operation was discussed as well as homelessness in Hart.

Brendancare meeting

Held at Yateley Red Cross Offices on 23 March 2017

Attended by Jane Biscombe and Cllr Tony Spencer

Members of the F&P Committee were concerned about the application for funding for the Thursday Club.

As well as a reasonably priced meal served from the kitchen, the attendees also play games and have activities which add to the social wellbeing of those that meet up. Currently there are 12 members which attend each week, although illness can affect numbers week by week. The money donated to a particular group session is ring fenced for that session and would not be absorbed into the main organisation. Our grant would not cover the whole cost, as the balance is raised by Brendancare through sponsors and organised events. There are no plans to close, they would like to make the service better known as they could cater for up to 20, using YelaBus for transport.

Jane and I were satisfied that the grant was of benefit to the people in our community who attended and approved the grant as delegated by the committee.

Yateley Society Open Meeting re Civic Day

Held at Yateley Red Cross Centre on 23 March 2017

Although this is not an outside body on which YTC are represented, I attended as a member of the Yateley Society as relevant to the talks currently being held in regard to the upcoming Civic Day event.

The 3 June Picnic on the Green was the perfect venue to launch the Civic Day competitions and provide an exhibition by the Society in The Tythings. One theme discussed was "Weddings in Yateley" as this year we celebrate the Queen's platinum jubilee, the wedding of the Duke of Edinburgh and Princess Elizabeth, as they were then, 70 years ago in 1947. Another theme considered was that on 5 May 1979 St Peter's Church was burned down 38 years ago. It is also the 50th anniversary of amenities Act 1967 which introduced conservation areas.

On Civic Day 17 June, we are still hoping to obtain guided tours of Yateley Hall, a Grade II* Norman Shaw building. Outbound will be approached to pay for a marquee, and ask St Swithins for car parking space. Yateley Lions to be contacted to see if they will help with parking.

Four Guided walks are being organised in the weeks around Civic Day, with 15 June for Castle Bottom nightjar walk 8pm. A proposal to use Yelabus to ferry up to 20 people. The Church End walk will incorporate Cafe 46; Darby Green walk will use the Centre for refreshments. All walks will be free but accept donations

The idea of Civic Day is bringing together local groups U3A, WI, Yateley Morris, Townswomens Guild, schools to take part.

Yateley Society Civic Day meeting

Held at The Tythings on 30 March 2017

Attending: Jane Biscombe and Cllr Tony Spencer representing Yateley Town Council, Cllrs John Keane and Gerry Crisp tendered their apologies

Competition judges, we have two volunteers and the heads of Yateley School Photography and English departments would be asked to judge or send representatives to judge the entries.

Advertising and promotion of the competitions would be launched on 14 April, following the closing of the current YTC competition for local photos for the Town Guide. A simple press release on headed notepaper incorporating the logos of the three concerns will initiate the launch, with posters on noticeboards and sent to interested parties.

Yateley Hall is still under negotiation. As an alternative, Yateley Village Hall is presently free of bookings and could be made available for an alternative, with content still to be discussed. Yateley Morris, Flute Cocktail and Grandpa Spells would be contacted to see if they could perform on the day at Yateley Hall