

Yateley Town Council

Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting on Thursday, 14th March 2019, 7.30pm held at The Tythings, Reading Road, Yateley, GU46 7RP

Present

Town Councillors: 8

Members of the Public: 22

Town Clerk

Assistant Town Clerk

1. Welcome

The Town Mayor, Cllr Tony Spencer, opened the meeting and welcomed all present.

2. Clerk to the Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk, Rochelle Halliday, act as Clerk to the meeting.

3. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Bailey, Cockarill, Easterbrook and Hammersley.

4. Minutes of the Last Meeting

It was **RESOLVED** that the minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 8th March 2018, having previously been circulated, be confirmed as an accurate record and be signed.

5. Annual Report

Cllr Tony Spencer provided a summary of the Council's activities over the past year, a copy of which will be published on the Council's website.

6. Town Council Elections 2019

The Town Council elections will take place on 2nd May 2019. Members of the public were informed that nomination papers are to be submitted to Hart District Council between 26th March and 3rd April.

7. Accounts

The annual audited accounts for 2017/18 were presented.

A member of the public asked for more details regarding the SANG reserve fund. Cllr Spencer clarified that the SANG funds have been accumulate from developer contributions. The funds are currently held in investments. £30,000 has recently been spent from this SANG fund to improve the path around Swan Lake. Cllr Barnes added that the Council also receives additional income from operating a fishing licence at Swan Lake.

8. Open Public Questions

Members of the public were invited to ask questions. The following questions and comments were recorded:

- *Many of the public transport services end in Yateley. Could the Town Council install a footpath between Eversley and Yateley to enable a safer access route?* Cllr Spencer replied that this project would most likely need to be instigated by Eversley Parish Council. The Yateley Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group are looking at public transport options to connect Yateley to surrounding destinations.
- *The Swan Lake car park is being used by many who park there and go off-site; can anything be done to prevent this and also to stop vehicles parking by the nearby bridge?* Cllr Spencer acknowledged the parking problems in these areas. There haven't been any specific

problems reported to the Council but the matter can be discussed with HCC should it become a more prevalent issue.

- *Parking around the Church End Green area continues to be a major problem. Please could the Council confirm what steps are being taken to address the parking issues, provide more parking and to improve road safety around Church End Green?* Councillors confirmed that the Council are in discussion with HDC parking enforcement and HCC Highways regarding this ongoing matter. Land for expanding the parking provision in this area is limited. Other options, such as grasscrete, time restricted parking and requesting more frequent parking enforcement can be explored but the issues are complex, without an obvious, easy solution.
- *There is inadequate parking at the Yateley Medical Centre and people park by OneStop all day. The main issue is the volume of cars parking in the area.*
- *Parking around the pub and Church at Church End Green is a major issue and has been identified to the Council over the past two years. Collective thinking is needed to change behaviours to help tackle the problem, such as encouraging car sharing, driveway hiring schemes and enabling good walking routes. Parking enforcement appears to be scarce.* Cllr Dickens confirmed that HDC is looking at options to improve parking enforcement across the district. Cllr Collett confirmed that highway enforcement will be taken back by HCC at some point in the near future, which may have further implications for the way enforcement is managed.
- *There was a suggestion to improve public transport and walking routes around the town.*
- *What further housing developments are planned for the town?* Cllr Collett confirmed that no new developments are planned, other than those that have already been granted planning consent.

Councillors acknowledged the strength of concern regarding the various parking issues raised and thanked members of the public for their comments.

9. YDF Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Neighbourhood Plan Steering group completed a comprehensive update on their progress since last year's Annual Town Meeting.

Richard Quarterman presented a general update on progress to date. Paul Simpson presented on the research the transport group has completed. Alison Hewitt and Gill Gray presented their research relating to open spaces. The presentations can be found at www.yateley-tc.gov.uk/Neighbourhood_Planning.aspx

The Assistant Town Clerk left the meeting at 9.00pm.

The Steering Group plans further public promotion at May Fayre. A suggestion was made to include information in the next Town Council Newsletter. Blackwater & Hawley Town Council is also completing research for their Neighbourhood Plan and could be a valuable source of information. The local ramblers could be asked to gather information about open spaces.

Richard Quarterman asked members of the public to contact the Steering Group if they would like to volunteer their help or if they had any suggestions for the Neighbourhood Plan.

The Council thanked the Steering Group for their inspiring presentation and for their efforts to date.

The meeting ended at 9:35pm.

Chair