

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are hereby summoned to a virtual meeting of Yarm Town Council to be held via Zoom on-line.

Date: Tuesday 9th February 2021 Time: 7PM

The venue is thus wherever councillors/public feel comfortable joining from, that is without background noise & sale of alcohol. Members of the public are invited to attend the meeting.

To join the meeting, please use Zoom with

ID: 531 963 1657 ; PASSWORD: 065167

for 'YTC Ordinary Meeting & Weigh & Tolls'

Juliet Johnson, Proper Officer to YTC



Yarm Town Council
Town Hall
High Street
Yarm
TS15 9AH

In accordance with the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014, photographing, recording, broadcasting or transmitting the proceedings of a meeting by any means is permitted; the Chair will notify those present of this at the start of the meeting and ask whether they agree to be filmed, recorded or photographed

Weigh and Tolls Committee

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Cllr Alan Gallafant (Chair)

Cllr Peter Monck

Cllr John Coulson (Vice Chair)

Cllr Patrick Morton

Cllr Philip Addison (joined 7.08pm)

Cllr Marjorie Simpson

Cllr Chris Johnson

Cllr Pam Smailes

Cllr Alan Moffitt

Juliet Johnson (Town Clerk / Proper Officer)

1. Apologies for absence

1.1 N/A

2. Code of Conduct | Declaration of Interest | Dispensation:

a) To record declarations of interest from members of any item to be discussed

With the exception of any item identified above as containing exempt or confidential information under the Local Government Act 1972 – section 100A(4), members of the public (other than those prohibited from doing so) are entitled to attend this meeting and/or have access to the agenda

- b) To consider, vote upon and record any requests for dispensation

2.1 No declarations of interest or requests for dispensation were received.

2.2 **Cllr Monck** asked **Cllr Smailes** why she didn't have her camera on as this was an online Zoom meeting (in the interests of transparency) and that this had been a repeat occurrence and that he thought someone was with her. **Cllr Smailes** stated that, as she had explained previously, she did not have her camera on because it/the screen was broken. **The Chair** moved the meeting on.

3. **Confirmation of Minutes:**

- a) The minutes of the previous Weigh and Tolls Committee (12th January 2021) were approved.

4. **Matters arising from the minutes of the previous meeting**

4.1 **Town Hall Lightning Conductor**

Cllr Monck reminded the meeting that the survey of the Town Hall Clock (and resulting work) had revealed that the lightning conductor had become detached from the weather vane. The surveyors had recommended that this should be repaired prior to the Summer. At the last meeting it was noted that the potential timeline for the potential Town Hall Heritage Centre project should be checked prior to going ahead with this work. It was now apparent that the lightning conductor repair would need to go ahead as any refurbishment work would be too late to incorporate this.

AGREED: **Cllr Moffitt** proposed that the work should go ahead (**Cllr Morton** seconded the proposal); all councillors agreed.

ACTION: **The Clerk** to progress.

5. **Finance:**

- a) Payment of the accounts (Weigh and Tolls) was agreed - **Cllr Addison**

ITEM	CREDITOR	METHOD	AMOUNT
Broadband / Wifi	Virgin Media	DD	£38.40 (February)

6. **Update on the Town Hall & Heritage Centre Project - Cllr Gallafant / Cllr Monck**

(including update on expenditure to date
- requested by **Cllr Smailes**)

6.1 Cllr Monck briefed the meeting following the last update meeting called by Stockton Borough Council (SBC).

An asbestos survey had been completed and the report circulated to the project group / sub-committee. SBC is taking the proposal for this project to Cabinet this week and a statement will be published making people aware.

Cllr Monck reported that the estimated project cost is substantially more than originally thought (now full realisation costing of the specification has been reviewed, including a significantly large contingency). Further funding would be sought e.g. National Lottery Heritage Fund (i.e. in addition to potential SBC input and the agreed YTC funds). YTC funds would be paid over a phased timetable if the project progresses.

Cllr Smailes had requested a breakdown of expenditure to date which the Clerk had circulated (**ACTION** for the **Clerk**: several Councillors had been unable to open this share document - to be rectified).

AGREED: **Cllr Monck** proposed (& **Cllr Moffitt** seconded) that the YTC contribution should increase to **£100k**.
All Councillors voted in favour.

7. Update: Events - COVID Guidance & SBC Briefing

7.1 Decision regarding Yarm Gala

Cllr Monck reported that following communications with the Lead Officer for Events at SBC, SBC would not be supporting any events until after July 2021 (and then the situation would be reviewed in light of government guidance re COVID). **Cllr Monck** suggested that the earliest the Gala could be held would be September. A minimum 3 month lead-in would be required for planning, there might also be a plethora of events in September (if that was the earliest date possible nationally) and that this would present other challenges (e.g. key support services overloaded). **Cllr Monck proposed** that YTC agree to cancel the Gala now. **Seconded - Cllr Simpson.**

AGREED: In light of SBC's briefing & pandemic uncertainty, YTC agreed to cancel the 2021 Gala now (scheduled for 04.07. 21).

7.2 Carols on the Cobbles

Cllr Morton wanted to confirm that, even though last year's Carols on the Cobbles (2020) had been cancelled in the context of the pandemic, YTC was now taking on the organisation of this event as had been discussed in the previous year (2019). **Cllr Johnson** asked why the event would be with the Council. **Cllr Morton** confirmed that the reasoning had been because the event had grown significantly and therefore now needed more formal, professional event infrastructure and planning.

AGREED: Councillors agreed that Carols on the Cobbles was now formally part of YTC's events calendar (obviously subject to SBC / government guidance regarding the pandemic).

8. To receive items for information and consideration for the next agenda

9. To confirm the date and time of the next Weigh and Tolls Committee meeting:

7pm, Tuesday 9th March 2021

SIGNED:(CHAIR)

DATE:

SIGNED:(CLERK)

DATE:

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