



Yarm Town Council
Town Hall
High Street
Yarm
TS15 9AH

YARM TOWN COUNCIL

ANNUAL ASSEMBLY

(Annual Town Meeting)

7PM, Tuesday 24th May 2022

The Fellowship Hall, West Street, Yarm TS15 9BT

MINUTES

PRESENT:

Cllr John Coulson (Chair)

Cllr Chris Neil

Cllr Alan Moffitt (Vice Chair)

Cllr Philip Addison

Cllr Peter Monck

Cllr Patrick Morton

Rate Payers Rep. Karen Shields

Clerk / Proper Officer - Juliet Johnson

2 members of the public were present.

1.0 Welcome by the Chair of Yarm Town Council

1.1 The Chairman welcomed all present to the 2022 Annual Assembly for Yarm Parish.

2.0 Apologies for Absence

2.1 Apologies were received from Cllr Pam Smailes.

3.0 To approve the minutes of the last Annual Assembly & any matters arising.

3.1 The minutes of the last Annual Assembly (2019, due to COVID) were noted and approved.

PROPOSED: Cllr Addison

SECONDED: Cllr Moffitt

AGREED: ALL

4.0 Reports:

4.1 To receive the Chair's Annual Report (including Weigh & Tolls Committee Report)

[Clerk's Note for Context: Cllr Coulson became YTC Chair at the Annual Meeting, held 2 weeks previous to this meeting, on 10th May 2022; this followed the sad demise of our previous Chairman, Cllr Alan Gallafant, who passed away on 11th April 2022]

The Chair, Cllr Coulson, presented the following report:

THE CHAIR'S ANNUAL REPORT

“ The last year of Yarm Town Council has been unique, meetings held by Zoom, due to Covid. The redevelopment of The Town Hall is now a reality, Councillor Monck having played a pivotal part together with SBC. Chairpersons will give you their updates on their respective Committees.

Most of this speech is dedicated to Alan Gallafant, in my opinion, the best Yarm Town Council Chairman for many, many years, who worked together with local businesses and Barclays Bank on a unique project on the Brickyard Allotments. Juliet, our Clerk, has always said I can tell who is coming up the Town Hall stairs. A 'Sit and Chat' seat in the High Street outside the Town hall was his brainchild. He was a man who touched the lives of many and always left an impression. He was a Gentleman and to me a Gentle Man, with wisdom. He proved one theory wrong....in me he proved you can teach an old dog new tricks. His illness came as a great shock to us all and was swift in his declining health - he bore it with great courage and dignity, which culminated with his demise in April. I spoke with Alan only days before he sadly passed. We talked about Yarm, its future and my role. I promised Alan I would continue his legacy. He and I strove for a united Council - we both agreed there was no 'I' in the Team. I must mention our Clerk Juliet who has worked above and beyond her contracted hours, and brought to YTC professionalism and expertise. There are things I will not bring into the public domain with regards to issues behind the scenes that Alan and I wished to address, sadly not to be. But I make this promise, YTC must eradicate these negative issues and I will make that my mission. I will not allow these issues to continue, there is no place for them within my Council tenure as Chair. Let us look forwards to the future, and work together for the residents and businesses of Yarm.

Thank You. “

4.2 To receive brief update reports from committees & working groups -

a) Finance & Governance

Cllr Addison presented the Finance Report:

REPORT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY DURING 2021/2022 AND THE FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31.3.22

“ At the start of the year the approved budget was £157,400 and after income of £134,100 the shortfall was funded by a contribution from reserves of £23,300.

In 2021/2022 the following financial reports and activities were considered by the Town Council and **Finance and Governance Committee**. At every meeting the **payments list** was proposed and approved, and at most meetings a **statement of income and expenditure** was presented. At the June meeting the **Annual Return for 2020/2021** was approved for submission (including the **Internal Auditor Report for 2020/2021**).

In September finances were reported under the **new budgetary control cost centres** (aligning with committees and key areas of YTC provision). In addition, the approved and certified accounts (Annual Return for 2020/2021) from the **External Auditor** were received and noted by the Council.

In November a discussion paper on how to consider **grants and donations** was presented.

In December no meeting was held because of Covid 19 concerns.

In January the proposed **budget for 2022/2023** was presented for consideration and after an amendment to the level of the precept it was approved. At the remaining meetings in the year the operation of the **Public Sector Deposit Fund** was noted, a discussion took place on financial processes and information and it was agreed to update the **Financial Regulations**.

The **Reserves** of the Council as of 31 st March 2022 is as follows: -

- General Reserves £ 110,240
- Headstone Check Fund £ 1,000
- Allotment Development Fund £ 5,766
- Wall Renovation Fund £ 6,000
- Town Hall Refurbishment Fund £ 95,016
- By Election Expense Fund £ 5,225

The main challenges facing the Council's finances and level of precept in the next few years are:

- The level of contribution from the Council to **the new bowling club at Morley Carr**
- The level of expenditure to run **the Heritage Centre** following the **Town Hall refurbishments**
- The contribution needed to fund the **May 2023 elections** for the Town Council (@£16k)
- How much to raise the **precept** to fund the shortfall in the Council's budget
- The **rise in the cost of living** of up to 10% as forecast by the Bank of England. “

In addition, **Cllr Addison** briefed the meeting that donations had been made to fund The Big Paddle (£2k; River Festival, Jubilee weekend) and £500 to Challoner House for their community Jubilee celebrations. The underspend for the Council was approximately £18k despite an increased spend on Christmas events, as we emerged from COVID and benefitted from Welcome Back funding. The sum of £20k is still in the revenue budget towards running the Town Hall Heritage Centre ('22/'23).

4.2

b) Cemetery & Chapel

- **Cllr Moffitt**

Cllr Moffitt presented the report on Yarm Cemetery & Chapel -

CEMETERY COMMITTEE REPORT 2021 - 2022

“ It has been my privilege to chair the cemetery committee for the last two years. This committee’s remit is to be custodians of the cemetery, chapel and church yard; to look after the maintenance, security and improvements of these assets.

The **church yard** was closed to any new burials in 1884; although cremated remains can still be interred there subject to the church’s permission; and therefore, simply requires our stewardship of maintenance and **repairs of the walls, paths, gravestones and foliage**. We have had to repair the front wall (which is a listed structure) during this period and are currently organising the repair of a large tombstone.

All **gravestones** are surveyed for health and safety every 3 years and if any fail then they are either laid flat or have their foundations repaired.

During the last two years apart from the **grass, hedges and tree cutting** and maintenance; we have had **the chapel** repainted outside and redecorated inside; plus, we have had the floors refurbished. We now have **monthly “pray for” sheets** displayed in the chapel porch detailing all those souls interred in the cemetery in that particular month since it opened in 1884 to last year; these sheets are only being updated annually. Two new donated benches have been installed either side of the chapel for quiet contemplation of this peaceful pleasant area.

We have also produced a database of all those souls interred in the **cemetery** which is accessible to all through our website for people who want to trace their loved ones and find their last resting place; again, this is only updated once a year. There are currently **approximately 3000 graves** in the cemetery and with an average of **14 interments per year** we are confident that the cemetery will be able to accommodate our requirements for many years to come. Looking forward we hope eventually to have a burial plot board displayed in the cemetery to help people to find their loved one’s graves.

Thank You. “

The Clerk noted the DCMS work to look at increasing minimum grave sizes and that the latest position on this should be reviewed.

4.2

c) Allotments - **Cllr Coulson**

Cllr Coulson presented the Allotments Report -

ALLOTMENTS REPORT 2020 - 2022

“ Yarm Town Council owns two sets of allotments - Brickyard (behind the Doctors Surgery on Worsall Road) and Worsall Rd.

There are currently 99 allotments and approximately 14 people on the waiting list.

Over the last 2+ years, with incredible commitment and practical work contributed by the late **Cllr Alan Gallafant**, a number of achievements have been recognised and commented on by individual allotment holders, Yarm Community Allotment Association (YCAA) and others.

These include:

- most importantly, establishment of a positive, harmonious and co-operative culture across Yarm allotments - there is now a real sense of a happy community (notwithstanding the occasional issue that needs sorting - this is the nature of allotments and provision of this service !);
- a community orchard of approximately 50 trees and wildflowers (sponsored by Barclays Bank - Yarm Branch) has been successfully planted with significant contribution of work from YCAA (note: part of this land is Cemetery land and can be called upon for use - recognised within the orchard project development);
- YCAA and YTC are working more closely and better together;
- a new toilet and new portacabin (replacing the old allotment hut) have been installed (with YCAA leading on the running of this and encouraging further use - this is ongoing);
- ensuring allotments are not left vacant and that occupancy is promoted as soon as possible;
- ensuring maintenance of 'in-between' pathways and areas as well as ensuring perimeter fencing is maintained (an ongoing challenge);
- water butts are now compulsory for all and bee keeping guidelines have been added to the Rules and Regulations;
- YCAA and YTC together keep an eye on whether allotments are maintained and cultivated (weekly) and where necessary this is addressed through the issuing of an appropriate management letter with the aim of 'addressing issues before they become problems'.
- subdivision of larger allotment plots to address increase in demand and a lengthening waiting list (during the height of COVID and continuing now); this also helps create 'starter plots' and helps address the problem of new people taking on too much (especially those new to allotments), leaving / neglecting their plots and the hassle of tenancy turnover and cost / effort of correcting 'neglect'.

Continuing work and challenges include:

- managing the waiting list, keen demand and internal plot transfers
- general maintenance of the sites, including
- a water pressure issue at Worsall Rd. that occasionally can lead to dips in supply (water company has visited - recurrence to be discussed and addressed at next allotment committee)
- addressing anti-social behaviour and vandalism (more frequent on one site than another) and taking whatever steps are possible e.g. individuals and YTC reporting all incidents
- keeping up with appropriate pest control
- lack of electricity at the Worsall allotments (generator needed)
- future resources.

I, John Coulson, in my role as Chairman and Chair of Allotments have made a personal commitment to continue the allotments legacy of Cllr Alan Gallafant.

In addition, members of the allotment community have suggested commemorating Cllr Gallafant with naming the orchard - **Alan's Orchard**, amongst other ideas .“

4.2

d) Leisure & Culture

- Town Clerk / Proper Officer

Town Clerk Juliet Johnson presented the report on Leisure & Culture -

LEISURE & CULTURE 2020 - 2022

i) Services Delivered Following COVID in 2020 and for part of 2021, delivery of most of our ceremonies and events took place in Autumn 2021. 2020 Yarm Gala could not be held due to lockdown and restrictions in the months leading up to the event that would have led to expenditure by small businesses and charities, without any guarantee that the Gala would not have to be postponed. This led to YTC formally deciding to not hold the Gala '21. Lack of expenditure on this meant that YTC invested more in events later in the year, enjoying positive working partnerships with Yarm Business Forum and Visit Yarm.

EXPENDITURE: £0 (YTC; saving £8,500)

ii) October 2021 - The Riding of Yarm Fair A Fair Blessing was given by Rvrd. Darren Moore, St Mary Magdalene Parish Church; the historic proclamations (referencing back to the 13th Century Charter) read by Chairman and Ceremonial Mayor, Cllr. Alan Gallafant, on foot at three locations in the High Street, accompanied by the ceremonial horn blower, the Town Clerk bearing the traditional pikestaff, Yarm Town Councillors, Ward Councillors and colleagues from Stockton Borough Council; the guest list for the reception focused on extending invitations to members of the Yarm community who had acted to benefit the town over the past years and members of the Showmen's Guild, which has seen generations of members bring the historic fair to Yarm over many years with significant change.

EXPENDITURE: £919 (YTC; saving £281)

iii) November 2021 - Remembrance Sunday Due to COVID, the 2020 ceremony could not be held as a full public event. Instead, working with the Royal British Legion, the Office of the Lord Lieutenant and Yarm School we produced a short film so that people could join safely during lockdown via the internet at 11am on Remembrance Sunday (the film is still available to view on the YTC website).

In 2021 we were able to organise a full Remembrance Sunday event with many people attending. We changed how the ceremony ran so that The Names of the Fallen were read out as 24 wreaths were laid by organisations attending (list refers). The timing worked well with a young woman from Yarm School playing the required bugle solos which finished as 11am struck & 2 minutes silence began. Brief road closures caused one or two issues that may prove unavoidable but we will look at in '22 plans. There was a suggestion to employ an independent Parade Marshall in '22 to support those participating in the parade (in 2021 this was Yarm School Combined Cadets, Yarm/ Kirklevington Army Cadets and the Girl Guides).

EXPENDITURE: £2,449 (YTC; increase on budget of £749)

iv) Christmas Lights Switch On & Carols on the Cobbles (combined - see note at 1.5) Chairman & Mayor Cllr Gallafant invited **Stuart Carter** to be the guest to switch on the Christmas Tree Lights for Yarm. This proved a very popular decision with many residents taking to social media to say so. We added some street theatre into the mix of carols with the Aycliffe & Brancepeth Brass Band, local singing group the Seasonal Singers and the usual provision of children's fair rides and entertainment / hosting from Tom Rolfe's Panto. At the point the lights were switched on we were aware of 1,200 people in attendance despite the wet weather. Despite traditionally ending with the lights switch-on, it has been suggested that the event is 'the wrong way round' i.e. a greater proportion of the entertainment might come after.

EXPENDITURE: £3,260 (YTC; increase on budget of £860)

v) Christmas Eve on the High St. YTC had agreed in '20-'21 that they would take on the Carols on the Cobbles from Yarm Business Forum (YBF) as the event had grown (attendance doubling each year to 2019) and now needed professional management. YTC decided to combine Carols on the Cobbles with the Christmas Lights Switch on (1.4 above) so as not to twice take out a significant number of parking spaces in order to create the safe event space that ISAG require (i.e. reducing parking spaces available and so potentially defeating one of the objectives of events being held to boost spend on the High Street). As Carols on the Cobbles had happened on Christmas Eve it was recognised that there might be expectation for something to happen then. Street Theatre (pavement based) was decided upon (which meant taking out no parking spaces at all) and this proved extremely popular with residents and businesses alike

with extensive commentary on social media groups. 3 lots of local musicians raised money for charity and there were a total of 18 performances covering 8 different shows from 5 international companies (several based in Yorkshire). Businesses saw an upturn in business during the day - a key aim of the grant funds used.

EXPENDITURE: £53 (YTC); £8,481.40 (Welcome Back Fund - WBF)

(N.B. this WBF figure also covered some technical infrastructure for Christmas Events ; YTC retains professional Events Management for ISAG requirements - not programming - at the cost of £11,000 in '20-21, saving £1,500 re. Gala Cancellation).

vi) Play Equipment: Willey Flatts & Snaiths Field Both areas are subject to fortnightly inspections which SBC are contracted to deliver on our behalf. Repairs are prioritised according to risk and actioned accordingly with SBC. There is also an annual ROSPA safety report. COVID issues /staffing has meant a backlog of the more minor repairs which are now getting attention. Willey Flatts play area has been targeted with ASB (inc. arson) and the Council is liaising with SBC as to how good play maintenance may be continued and the issue addressed (an important part of this is encouraging reporting of every incident for mapping to inform type of action/ resource). Instances of damage at Snaiths Field are largely misuse of swings (e.g. as 'dog wrestle chews' - a borough-wide problem !) which frequently require costly replacement. This is costly. Five a side football pitch and posts have also been made available in 20-21. With thanks to SBC, Ward budget funding has been identified to install a new spinner with disabled access in 2022.

EXPENDITURE: £3,549 (YTC)

vii) Morley Carr Bowling Facility A bowling club & green (artificial surface) has been gifted to us from Taylor Wimpey developers (with thanks to SBC Ward Councillor Sherris for championing this). A package of financial and other support has also been made available for when the facility is able to open later this year. There has been a delay in completion currently. Over 50 people have signed up / registered interest in being involved with establishing this community run facility and the bowling club.

4.2

e) Yarm Town Hall Heritage Centre Project

- Cllr Monck

Cllr Monck, the lead councillor for the development of the Yarm Town Hall Heritage Centre, presented a report on the project to date.

REPORT ON YARM TOWN HALL HERITAGE CENTRE PROJECT

“ This development has been pursued over a number of years, and a breakthrough came when I presented a comprehensive report to SBC officers in October 2019, which was well received.

As a direct result a dialogue was started with Cllr Bob Cook, leader of the council, and progress was made with SBC pledging £300.000 plus Yarm Town Council pledged £100.000.

This left a shortfall of approx £200.000, thanks to the Government Levelling up Fund we now have all the finances to go forward.

SBC has provided an excellent project team, headed up by Claire Frawley.

The SBC architects (local company Howarth Litchfield) have produced a significantly altered plan from our original proposals. And we now have planning permission to go ahead.

The Project Team is drawing up the tender documents and will have contractors signed up in June ready to start work on the building which is due to begin during July, with a predicted end date being November /December of the building works.

Two things to note, the Town Hall Clock will be put to sleep whilst the work is ongoing, and the Weather Vane will be repaired and will work for the first time in years.

Once the building work is complete, then we can start to develop our vision for the Heritage Centre further, fully engaging with people in and around Yarm.

Matthew Rosier, a world renowned AV artist, will be contracted to deliver the AV works using a local company who will play a large part in the engagement work.

As part of engagement work, Yarm Town Council will be asking residents to bring in any historical information they may have including artefacts, photos or simply memories and stories

The Heritage Centre will be staffed primarily with volunteers, who will receive training, and to help younger people who may like to go onto become archivists, work in museums, visitor centres or the leisure industry; anyone who has an interest in Yarm's history, is welcome to apply by contacting Juliet Johnson, The Town Clerk.

Yarm has a wealth of history, the river as a port, floods, the railway, Yarm Fair, WW1 & 2, farming, historic local industries and not forgetting The Lord of the Manor and the benefactors of Yarm.

And of course the Yarm Helmet, which has now been confirmed as a 10th Century Viking Helmet, one of only 2 in the country.

I see this project as an opportunity to tell the story of Yarm and to attract visitors to our town.

It is also an opportunity for schools to be involved and use it as a resource centre to enhance the pupils' knowledge of Yarm, and the surrounding area.

I have to thank **Cllr Bob Cook**, and **Cllr Nigel Cooke** for believing in this project and agreeing to help Yarm Town Council achieve its goal.

So watch this space as this project develops. “

Cllr Coulson, Chair, gave a vote of thanks to Cllr Monck and congratulated him for his work on the Town Hall Heritage Centre.

4.2

f) **Cllr Monck** presented an additional report as regards his role as lead Cllr for Planning

(CLERK'S CONTEXT NOTE: YTC does not have duties or powers relating to planning decisions but is asked to comment by the principal authority, Stockton Borough Council)

“ Yarm Town Council is a consultee for any planning applications.

During the last year, I have highlighted several planning applications, to which the Town Council have objected, some successfully, others not, For example:

- Development on land behind Yarm School Playing Fields in Thirsk Road, this was refused by SBC, but unfortunately was approved on appeal;

- Fourteen Drops on the High Street - to utilise the rear courtyard area; this has been refused by SBC and we wait to see if it goes to appeal;
- Land at the Yarm Riding School is currently ongoing; whilst SBC have refused this application, the developers are planning an appeal; in support of the residents, Yarm Town Council will be making a further submission when the appeal is called and would urge residents to do the same;
- Retirement Village on Leven Bank, there has been an application to build houses on part of the site, which is contrary to the planning permission already in place for the retirement village; Yarm Town Council have objected to this development as it is in contravention of the original planning permission, which, among others states that only bungalows to be built; we continue to quote aspects of the SBC Local Plan (adopted by SBC in late 2019) as one of the arguments for objecting to this development.

It is important that Yarm Town Council supports the residents when a planning matter comes up, and to object, or support each one as they come in. “

5.0 Themed Discussion Groups & Feedback - ALL (Public & Councillors)

(opportunity for residents to discuss with Councillors issues relating to Yarm and the services YTC provides)

The meeting, Councillors & Public, then had a general discussion regarding 3 key headings that relate to YTC service provision:

- **Cemeteries & Chapel**
- **Planning, Environment & Allotments**
- **Leisure, Culture & The Town Hall Heritage Centre**

5.1 Cemeteries & Chapel

5.1.1 A member of the public (henceforth **mp1**) referenced the wealth of heritage that is indicated contained within the enclosed cemetery which could be referenced on information boards around the town and river (e.g. interesting stories about people that are in the cemetery; potential for educational work with children). These heritage stories are part of our town assets.

5.1.2 Cllr Moffitt referenced, in addition, that boards had been suggested for the river walkways mainly regarding nature. **Mp1** referenced that boards could be included that celebrated the heritage of the river as an important historic aspect of how the town developed. **Mp1 and Cllr Monck** referenced an old copy of ‘historic yarm routes/walks’ (Cllr Monck may have a copy) and this could be updated and expanded.

5.1.3 Cllr Coulson and the **Clerk** referenced the historic importance of the river throughout the centuries. Cllr Coulson referenced that Yarm had been the 2nd largest ship building port on the northeast coast at one time.

5.1.4 The RPR, Karen Shields, suggested that such signboards could include digital information and QR codes for accessing a wider amount than would go onto a board.

(The discussion then moved to ‘Usage of The River & Walkways’)

5.1.5 Cllr Moffitt referenced the need for moorings between the wharf and the bridge and the options for business from the river as an opportunity.

5.1.6 Mp1 referenced the concern and need to address the stability of the edge of the river.

5.1.7 Cllr Moffitt referenced his dialogue with the Environment Agency (EA) regarding this very issue. There is the possibility of resources to replace the rotting gambon cages (**cage structures containing boulders**) that were put in sometime ago to secure the river bank in places. Any new versions would contain much larger stones. Whilst the EA are primarily focused on direct flood prevention, Cllr Moffitt had made the point that this is a preventative step in flood defence - EA may therefore help resource this. Cllr Moffitt referenced that it was hard to stop 'wash' i.e. enforcing how speed boats travel - so the solution is to reinforce the banks. It is hoped that there would be River and Canals Trust support for this work too.

5.1.8 A member of the public (henceforth **mp2**) suggested flood defences might be brought right up to the river's edge. **Cllr Moffitt** commented that he understood (from EA) that this ground would not be stable enough.

5.1.9 Cllr Monck stated that, as he understood it, in '93 when the first flood defence was built, this 1st wall cracked in '95 due to the speed and volume of water. An enquiry was then held (TDC - Teesside Development Corporation and the EA). Many residents felt that the barrage was to blame. It is understood that the money for this first defence wall was then refunded and defences redesigned - sheet piles now go down to a depth of 5metres as part of the system. Cllr Monck confirmed that EA are primarily concerned with immediate flood defence issues and congratulated **Cllr Moffitt** on engaging them with the wider preventative issues.

(The discussion returned to 'Cemeteries and Chapel')

5.1.10 mp1 referenced that a resident had made mention of how useful a grave maintenance service would be for loved ones not in Yarm who wished family graves to be tended, suggesting that YTC might keep such contacts on record for people who requested/required this service.

5.1.11 A reference was made to the enclosed church yard, cremated remains and the inclusion of sunken stones. **Cllr Monck** said he would look into this.

5.2 Planning, Environment & Allotments

5.2.1 Mp1 commented on the hugely positive changes in culture and practical developments at Yarm Allotments (as reported in the Allotments Report and as mentioned to her by members of the public/allotment holders).

5.2.2 The orchard was noted as a significant and positive development. **Mp1** reminded the meeting of the community orchard / 'fruit for free' project at Snaith's Field and referenced an idea that it would be nice to have a 'Yarm Press'. **The Clerk** referenced a conversation with members of Yarm Community Allotment Association (YCAA) as regards one person's idea/contacts for the future to achieve 'Brickyard Allotment Ice Cream' from the fruit trees. It was suggested that could be a shared conversation about ideas as regards the Snaith's Field orchard and the community orchard at the allotments.

5.3 Leisure, Culture & The Town Hall Heritage Centre

5.3.1 Mp2 asked / suggested that there might be a donation box in the new Town Hall Heritage Centre and asked whether there might be hoardings / a billboard to show what was going on inside the development whilst the project was underway. **Cllr Monck** confirmed that this is intended and what contractors normally do now. **Mp2** referenced

whether there would be a continuous fund raising campaign that aimed for the project being 'self-funded'. **Cllr Moffitt** referenced towns (e.g. Stratford-on-Avon) where £1 maps were offered - this could be an idea for a Yarm Heritage trail.

6.0 General questions & views from the public on matters of interest.

Tree Planting

6.1 Mp1 asked whether there were further plans or possibilities of additional tree planting in Yarm (and referenced **Cllr Sherris** and the planting of tree whips). **Cllr Moffitt** commented that Yarm had expressed interest in being part of the next round of funding for tree planting and that he would like to see more High St trees, especially blossom. **Mp1** referenced an ambition to work towards a Yarm forest. **Cllr Neil** referenced that we needed to be aware of spacing for any High St. tree planting given the requirement of the Yarm Fair Charter.

6.2 Cllr Monck reminded the meeting of the existence of **The Rookery** and that perhaps we needed to look at making more of this. **Mp1** explained to the meeting the location of The Rookery and that in the past an information board had been installed there along with walkways (some of which had now collapsed). This is an area that could be enhanced.

Yarm Bowling Club

6.3 Mp2 asked about Yarm Bowling Club as there appeared to be flooding/drainage issues where it had been constructed and asked whether this was the reason for delay in completion. **Cllr Coulson** said he would find out.

7.0 To note attendance of Councillors to monthly meetings.

7.1 The Clerk agreed to update the attendance record and share / publish accordingly.

8.0 Agreement for the Clerk to post the above reports in the Library and on the YTC Website.

8.1 The meeting agreed that the above reports should be posted in the Library and on YTC's website.

PROPOSED: Cllr Moffitt SECONDED: Cllr Addison AGREED.

9.0 Thanks and Close of Meeting.

9.1 The Chair gave thanks to all present for their attendance, attention and valued contribution to discussions and debate.