

NOTICE OF MEETING

You are hereby summoned to a meeting of
the Weigh & Tolls Committee to be held at

Challoner House,

Challoner Road, Yarm TS15 9EL.

Date: Tuesday 9th January 2024

Time: 7pm

Members of the public are invited to
attend the meeting

SIGNED: 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 (09.01.24)

PRESENT:

CLlr Peter Monck (Chair), Cllr Pam Smailes (Vice Chair), Cllr Philip Addison, Cllr Steve Atkinson, Cllr Marje Blair, Cllr Joyce Hardy, Cllr Brian Newcombe, Cllr Barbara Wegg, Cllr Robert Wegg, Rate Payers' Representative - Karen Shields, Town Clerk / Proper Officer.

1.0 Notice of Meeting - public notice of the meeting was given in accordance with sched. 12, para.10 (2) of LGA 1972.

2.0 To appoint a Chairman in the absence of the Chair and/or Vice Chair - N/A.

3.0 Apologies for Absence - apologies were received from YTC/Ward **Cllr John Coulson** and **Ward Cllr Andrew Sherris**.

4.0 Code of Conduct | Declarations of Interest | Dispensation:

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

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

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

5.0 Confirmation of Minutes:

a) To confirm the minutes of the previous meeting of the Weigh and Tolls Committee (12th December 2023)

The following amends were requested: re para. 1, **Cllr Addison** had proposed a vote of thanks for the knitters and Cllr Smailes; at para.3 Cllr Addison had stated he was hard of hearing not that he could not hear; **Cllr Monck** requested an amendment for Item 7. Town Hall Heritage Centre: *'The Chair reported on his recent visit to No.10 Downing Street for a civic reception hosted by Michal Gove MP, as Levelling Up champion for Yarm, about 50 people were in attendance'*. Subject to these amends, the minutes were agreed - **AGREED**.

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

6. Events Update -

6.1 'Christmas on the High Street' - thanks were given to Cllrs Blair, Hardy and Newcombe (& Lisa Jackson) for contributing to the event. 16 professional performances of 7 different acts from 4 different companies had been given. The agency had supplied and recommended companies that were as local as possible (given the lateness of the booking). Yarm based musicians and buskers had taken part as usual and raised lots of funds for charity (several were unable to attend at the last minute, illness and work requirements etc.). Only 1 act had needed accommodation by a Yarm business due to distance of travel (as per system re professional street theatre bookings; might have been avoided if decision to book earlier). Business Forum paying £2,000 towards the event. Had been delivered on the 23rd December rather than 24th (given this was a Sunday) in consultation with the Business Forum; excellent atmosphere but not the same as Christmas Eve; thanks to Methodist Church who have offered a great operational base for events. Lots of very positive feedback from the public (including emails) and responses to extensive facebook advertising.

6.2 Practical & Technical Evaluation Meeting with Partners and Event Manager - The Clerk will arrange this for all operational partners across all events as previously; not a committee meeting but Councillors welcome to attend.

6.3 2024 Events Programme - general discussion re. itinerary and dates &

6.4 Christmas Events 2024 - Cllr Blair raised the need for Councillors to make decisions sooner regarding this so that planning can occur well in advance (Clerk confirmed forward planning had happened in previous years).

6.5 Quality & Nature of Christmas Light Installations - High Street & Bridge - Cllr Blair proposed enhancement of Yarm's Christmas Lights, in particular a seasonal greeting on the Town Hall. The meeting expressed general dissatisfaction with the High St lights despite the fact it had been reported that £8,000 had been invested in them by Stockton Borough Council (SBC) last year. Ward Councillor Sherris is looking into potential for joint arrangement with Eaglescliffe re lights on Yarm Bridge. Cllr Blair proposed establishing a Christmas 'Memory Tree' near the Town Hall entrance, now the refurbishment had been completed.

ACTION: Enhanced Christmas lights for Town Hall, Yarm Bridge (with SBC/Eaglescliffe) to be explored along with the idea of a Christmas Memory Tree at the entrance to the Town Hall.

7. Finance - To authorise payment of the accounts (Weigh and Tolls) - Cllr Addison asked the meeting to note standing orders in relation to Weigh & Tolls and these were agreed.

8. Town Hall Heritage Centre Project

8.1 General Update - Cllr Monck reconfirmed the building handover and a few snagging issues that were being addressed re. wiring and locks and operation of systems. Briefings have been given re. heating and alarms etc. and maintenance of the building.

8.2 Engagement Update, Fit-Out of Ground Floor Main Exhibition Space, Upper Floor Development, NLHF Bid & Launch - The Development Manager gave an update as follows: moving back in was now complete; significant amount of disposal had taken place (95%) re old equipment and other items and record management re archiving and disposal was still taking place; a YTHHC website needs to be put in place and a volunteer had offered to do this for less than market rate (subject to specification) - this is urgent given pending opening; launch for Thursday 18th January - all invitations issued to all YTC usual partners and all the residents, community groups and delivery partners involved in the project (the renovation and the internal fit-out/exhibitions); nearly 150 invitations had been issued - the invite is not a 'plus one' for anyone; risk assessments and method statements are being put in place re launch and heritage centre (NB the police have been extremely helpful but had not given a risk assessment as regards the display of arms but had simply confirmed that they were happy that the display was safe and appropriate re. avoiding crime; various other practical arrangements continue

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

along with extensive work with the Friends group and volunteers (*further work on the bid - under new headings - to follow along with completion of operational business plan*).

9. To receive items for information and consideration for the next agenda - none received.

10. To confirm the date/time of the next Weigh and Tolls Committee meeting: 7pm, 13th February 2024

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.

The Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960 Sec 1 (2) - A body may, by resolution, exclude the public from a meeting (whether during the whole or part of the proceedings) whenever publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted or for other special reasons stated in the resolution and arising from the nature of that business or of the proceedings; and where such a resolution is passed, this Act shall not require the meeting to be open to the public during proceedings to which the resolution applies.

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