



Approved Minutes from the meetings of
Yarm Town Council
Pre 31st March 2002

Minutes of a Meeting of YARM Town council held on Tuesday 10th April 2001

PRESENT: Cllr Porter in the Chair

Councillors Addison, Turton, Stephenson, Monck, Dale and Simpson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Marsden and Henderson

142 MINUTES

- 142.1 The Minutes were agreed with the following amendments:-
- 142.2 Item 138.4 "Hanging Lamp" to be changed to "Hanging Sign".
- 142.3 Item 139.1 To be amended to read "Swings on the Meadowings. It was agreed that these should be replaced but that this should be reconsidered at the end of the year. The play equipment to be checked. Cllr Monck also advised that the seats in Yarm needed to be checked to see which require painting. Roger Bell to be approached for an estimate."

143 MATTERS ARISING

- 143.1 Item 131.2. Still no response. Cllr Simpson will follow up.
- 143.2 Item 131.4. The Parking Discs have now been delivered.
- 143.3 Item 131.12 The Minutes have now arrived. Cllr Dale felt that the item relating to the "sprawl patrol" in Durham was worth noting.
- 143.4 Item 133.4. The Clerk gave a brief précis of her discussions with Bryan Harris of SBC and that she had subsequently written to Andy Edwards, the Director of Environmental and Technical Services to establish what checks had taken place regarding the quality of the work and to ensure consultation had taken place between the Highways and Planning Departments. She was awaiting a response.
- 143.5 Item 134.2. The Clerk confirmed that the meeting with James Sheerin and Rodney Walker had been arranged for 11 April and that she would be attending. Cllr Monck enquired of Cllr Turton why he had felt it necessary to e-mail his questions regarding the recent legal advice directly to the solicitor, rather than via the Clerk which had been the arrangement. Cllr Monck felt that this suggested a lack of confidence in the Clerk which he felt was unfounded. A vote of confidence in the Clerk was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Simpson and was passed unanimously. Cllr Turton explained that his actions had been taken due to the lack of time involved and because he could not be sure that his e-mail to the Clerk had been received. He wanted to ensure that his questions were received by Mr Sheerin so that he could consider them. He had not intended his action to be construed as criticism of the Clerk and resented the insinuation. Cllr Turton asked Cllr Monck to withdraw his remarks which Cllr Monck refused to do.
- 143.6 Item 135.5 Cllr Porter confirmed that the new list of Allotment Tenants has been passed to Mr Cook of the Allotment Society. Once it has been renumbered it will be returned to the Clerk.
- 143.7 Item 135.7. The Clerk confirmed that she had written to all Allotment Tenants as requested. Cllr Porter advised that the new tenant on Mr Bradley's old plot had found a sign in the hut noting that dogs should be kept on a lead.
- 143.8 Item 138.1. The Clerk confirmed she had spoken to SBC who had advised that no measures were to be taken as they had not received guidelines from MAFF.
- 143.9 Item 140.2 Further complaints have been received re the hedge between Allerton Baulk and Green Lane. Cllr Simpson will pursue with SBC.

144 ACCOUNTS

144.1 The following item was added for approval:-

EYC Landscaping Hedge cutting under Open Spaces Contract £278.49

144.2 It was agreed that payment of item (b) regarding the Road Signs should be deferred until further advice received.

144.3 The Accounts as listed were approved for payment.

144.4 Cllr Porter advised that the item for Picture Framing related to the painting donated to the town by its Twinning partner in Vernouillet. It was agreed that the Library be approached regarding display of the painting and that this should be brought to the notice of the Press.

145 CORRESPONDENCE

145.1 The correspondence as listed was noted.

146 POLICY AND RESOURCES

146.1 Letter from Fellowship Hall. Cllrs Porter and Monck declared an indirect pecuniary interest and left the room. In the absence of Cllr Marsden the Vice-Chairman, it was proposed by Cllr Simpson and seconded by Cllr Turton that Cllr Addison should take the Chair. Agreed unanimously. In view of the refusal by the Fellowship Hall Trust to provide quarterly accounts, Cllrs Turton and Stephenson had drafted a proposal suggesting the Council write to the Charity Commissioners and the District Auditor advising them that the setting up of the Trust had breached legal guidelines. A heated discussion took place during which Cllr Turton advised that he felt Yarm Town Council deserved a better response from the Trust as did the people of Yarm. Cllr Addison queried whether any member of the Council had ever been approached by a member of the public regarding either the setting up of or running of the Fellowship Hall Trust. The Clerk felt it would be advisable to take legal advice on the proposal before it was put to members and it was agreed that legal opinion be sought from Hodgson Maggiore. The item to be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting on 24 April.

146.2 Town Guides. The Clerk explained that the publisher of the guides had been taken over and that she had written to the new company for a quotation. It was agreed that the Clerk should also contact Conyers School and Stockton Training and Planning regarding quotations.

146.3 Code of Conduct. As neither the Chairman nor the Clerk has seen the draft document it was agreed to defer discussion. The Clerk to establish whether Cllr Henderson still has The document.

146.4 Invitation from Egglecliffe Parish Council.. It was agreed that Cllr Dale and the Clerk would attend on the Council's behalf.

146.5 NALC Training Day. Cllrs Addison, Turton and Stephenson to attend, together with the Clerk. Cllr Dale will confirm shortly whether he is able to attend.

146.6 Request for funding from the Youth Section of the Twinning Association. It was noted that the Council had made donations in the past. The Clerk to write and enquire what the Costs will be and what amount would be considered acceptable.

146.7 Yarm Rugby Club. Cllr Porter advised that she had been approached by a member of the Rugby Club asking if the Council would consider proving gifts for exchange on its Easter

Tour to Worcester. It was agreed that two MilleniYarm plates be provided and that the Chairman would organise this.

147 ALLOTMENTS

147.1 Allotment Hut. In the absence of Cllr Henderson, the Clerk advised that the following Quotations had been received:-

Tender (A) Eternit Profile concrete sheets	£3731.90
Galvanised Sheets	£3901.90
Tender (B) Eternit Profile concrete sheets	£4868.91
Galvanised Sheets	£5236.00
Tender (C) Eternit Profile concrete sheets	£6510.00
Galvanised Sheets – quotation not provided.	

It was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Simpson that Tender A for the Galvanised sheets be accepted. Agreed unanimously. The Clerk to write in confirmation and to enquire when the work will start.

147.2 Pigeon Hut. Cllr Dale confirmed he would inspect the hut now it is in place. Cllr Porter advised that several members of the Pigeon club had expressed their satisfaction with the new hut.

147.2 Disabled Garden. Following a query by Cllr Monck, Cllr Addison confirmed that a total of £11,500 had been allocated for the years 2000/2001 and 2001/2002. Cllr Monck proposed, seconded by Cllr Simpson, the money be re-designated to the Disabled Garden. This proposal was withdrawn when Cllr Dale advised that several favourable responses had been received to the Grant Applications. It was agreed that Cllr Henderson be asked to draw up the tender documents.

148 CEMETERY

148.1 The Clerk advised that Cllr Henderson had confirmed that there was nothing to report.

148.2 Cllr Porter advised that it had been brought to her attention that the waste bin in the cemetery was damaged and required replacement.

149 ENVIRONMENT

149.1 Just Bin It campaign. Cllr Dale confirmed that he had listed target areas for action, including the Cattle Arch area, Conyers School grounds and along Worsall Road and Snaith's Field. He will formulate a plan for the next meeting.

149.2 Litter in the beck and the state of the footpath. Cllr Simpson will speak to SBC.

149.3 Tree Planting brochure. Cllr Dale confirmed that the literature he had received would not be relevant for Yarm.

149.4 Flood Defence Scheme. The Clerk advised that the works would start on May 8th but that the compound, which is to be situated on Bridge St, would be established in the week commencing 30th April. A fax copy of the schedule of works has been received, copies of which will be circulated to members and the Library. A colour copy to be placed on the Council Noticeboard. Cllr Monck expressed some unease regarding the size of the compound and apparent lack of storage space for the plant equipment. He was also

concerned re the consequent increase in traffic on Bridge Street. The Clerk advised that this had been discussed with Dave Parkinson of Nuttalls who had advised that most of the plant was quite small and could be left on site.

150 PLANNING

As Borough councillor, Cllr Simpson took no part in the discussion.

- 150.1 Bentley House. Amended plans now received, which, while an improvement, still constitute an unacceptable development. SBC to be advised accordingly and a site visit requested.
- 150.2 Rudds Bank. Objection to be lodged on the grounds that this would constitute an over development of the site and cause an obstruction of the riverbank. Some concerns expressed regarding the stability of the land in question.
- 150.3 16 Harker Close. Noted
- 150.4 3 Valley Drive. Noted
- 150.5 17 Spell Close. Noted.
- 150.6 Blue Bell Public Entertainment Licence application. Noted that this had been granted for 6 months.
- 150.7 Mobile phone mast at the Shell Garage. Refused
- 150.8 2 High Church Wynd. Approved with conditions.
- 150.9 44 High St. Cllr Monck queried whether there had been any developments.
- 150.10 Old Police Station. Enquiries still ongoing.
- 150.11 Public Inquiry at Yarm School. Cllr Turton requested clarification of the Council's response to the application. The Clerk confirmed that the Council had objected to the original plans but had supported the revised plans. The Planning Inspectorate had been advised accordingly. Cllr Turton advised that he had agreed to represent the views of some of the Goose Pasture residents which did not accord with the Council's views. It was stressed that if he addressed the Inquiry he should make it clear that he was not representing the Council. The Clerk confirmed that she would be attending and it was agreed that she and Cllrs Porter and Simpson should organise a rota system so that someone from the Council was in attendance for the whole of the proceedings.

Standing Orders were waived at this stage.

151 RECREATION

- 151.1 Britain in Bloom contract. Cllr Monck confirmed that Yarm Hardware had confirmed that they would carry out the contract for the same price as last year. Cllr Addison proposed, seconded by Cllr Monck, that Standing Order 44.1 be waived and that the contract be awarded to Yarm Hardware. for a second year. Passed unanimously. Yarm Hardware have suggested that the Council write to all business in the town asking them to sponsor a hanging basket which Yarm Hardware would plant, hang and maintain at no cost to the Council. The Clerk to investigate the cost of the baskets with Yarm Hardware before checking the response from businesses.
- 151.2 Millenium Seat. Cllr Monck confirmed that a response was still awaited from the ecclesiastical authorities regarding the Planning Application. Yarm Hardware have suggested that the seat be moved to stop it getting damaged. It was agreed that it be moved to the Chapel
- 151.3 Cleaning of Tiles. Clerk to remind Yarm DIY.

152 **HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION**

152.1 Nothing to report.

153 **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

153.1 Review of Standing Orders. It was agreed this be added to the Agenda for 24 April.

153.2 Subscription to Clerks and Council's Direct. Following a proposal by Cllr Monck, seconded by Cllr Turton, it was agreed to renew the subscription at an annual cost of £60.

153.3 Audit Meeting. It was agreed that the Clerk would redraft the responses to the Auditor's recommendations following her meeting with the Audit Manager and James Sheerin and that these would be put before the Council prior to their submission to the District Auditor for his approval. The revised date for the special meeting to be 11 May, subject to a satisfactory response from the Auditor. The Clerk to clarify with the Auditor whether a further notice required in the Press. It was agreed that if this was the case, the Clerk should proceed with the placing of the advertisement

153.4 Appeals Committee.

153.5 Allotment Tenant. Cllrs Porter and Monck declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room. In the absence of Cllr Marsden, the Vice-Chairman, it was proposed by Cllr Simpson and seconded by Cllr Turton that Cllr Addison take the Chair. Agreed unanimously. It was agreed that the Clerk make enquiries of CLCA and SLCC regarding the procedure and make up of Appeals Committees and that this should be brought back to the meeting on 24 April. After some discussion it was agreed that no further action be taken at this time.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.30pm

Signed this 10th day of April 2001

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Chairman.

Minutes of a meeting of YARM Town Council held on Tuesday 24 April 2001

PRESENT: Cllr Porter in the Chair

Councillors Addison, Turton, Stephenson, Marsden, Monck, Dale, Simpson and Henderson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE – None

154 MINUTES

- 154.1 The Minutes were agreed with the following amendments:-
- 154.2 Item 153.4. The section from “Cllrs Porter and Monck declared a non-pecuniary interest “ to “Agreed unanimously.” to be deleted.
- 154.3 Item 153.5. The following to be inserted after “Allotment Tenant”. Cllrs Porter and Monck declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room. In the absence of Cllr Marsden, the Vice-Chairman, it was proposed by Cllr Simpson and seconded by Cllr Turton that Cllr Addison take the Chair. Agreed unanimously.”

155 MATTERS ARISING

- 155.1 Item 143.6. The Clerk confirmed that she would let Cllr Porter have the amended and re-numbered Allotment List by the end of the week. Cllr Porter confirmed she will pass a copy to the Allotment Society.
- 155.2 Item 143.7. Cllr Porter asked Cllr Henderson to get some more signs.
- 155.3 Item 143.9. Cllr Simpson confirmed she had taken the matter up with SBC and would keep a “watching brief”.
- 155.4 Item 144.4. The Library has agreed to display the painting. Cllr Marsden to provide an explanatory notice. Following a discussion with the Librarian, Cllr Porter to contact the Press to arrange for a photograph to be taken of Cllr Porter with the painting but that this should not include the Librarian.
- 155.5 Item 146.2. The Clerk advised that the company who had taken over the publishers of the Town Guide were not prepared to print a rerun due to the small number involved. The Clerk confirmed she had contacted Conyers School and was awaiting a response and that she had a meeting on 27 April with the Design and Print Section of SBC Training Dept. She would report back at the next meeting on 8 May.
- 155.6 Item 146.7. Cllr Porter confirmed that the gifts had been accepted with pleasure.
- 155.7 Item 147.1. The Clerk confirmed she had not been advised of a starting date for the work on the Allotment Hut but that she would check with the Contractor.
- 155.8 Item 147.2. Cllr Dale had now inspected the new Pigeon Hut. His initial reaction was that it could have been better situated and he also expressed some concern regarding the lack of ventilation in the unit and the degree of security. The Clerk to write to Mr Close advising him of the Council’s concerns . In view of the Health and Safety implications, the Clerk was authorised to take any necessary action.
- 155.9 Item 151.2 Cllr Porter confirmed that the Millennium seat was now in the Cemetery Chapel. Cllr Monck confirmed that the Parish Church had now submitted the Planning Application to the Ecclesiastical Authorities and that they would advise the outcome in due course.
- 155.10 Item 151.3 The Clerk advised that conflicting information had come from Yarm DIY but that she would write to them again requesting clarification. A general discussion then followed regarding the possible re-siting of the piece of play equipment to prevent

the situation arising again in the future. It was decided to defer this decision until a response received from Yarm DIY.

156 ACCOUNTS

156.1 The following figures to be inserted onto the Accounts for payment:-

Mrs S Smith	Clerk's Salary for April	£548.09
CLCA	Training Event on 21 April	£ 25.00

156.2 A further bill has been received from Northumbrian Water re the Cemetery. This was accompanied by a letter advising that the water consumption had almost quadrupled and that this may be due to a leak. The Clerk to ask Northumbria Water to investigate. Cllr Henderson to turn off the water. The amount listed for payment to be amended to £218.99.

156.3 Item (b) – 3rd instalment for road closure for Yarm Fair. The Clerk outlined her discussions with James Sheerin and the District Auditor. It was proposed by Cllr Stephenson and seconded by Cllr Turton that payment be made.. Agreed unanimously.

156.4 Agreed unanimously that all payments be made under Section (C)

157 CORRESPONDENCE

157.1 Correspondence as listed was noted.

158 POLICY AND RESOURCES

158.1 It was agreed that the first three items on the Agenda should be dealt with as confidential matters at the end of the meeting.

158.2 Fellowship Hall. Cllr Porter and Monck declared an indirect pecuniary interest and left the room. Cllr Turton advised that he had consulted the Charity Commissioners anonymously for their view and requested clarification on a point contained within the legal opinion. The Clerk confirmed that the Council did not have powers to establish the Trust but that the individuals concerned did and that once the Trust had been established, the Council was acting within its' powers in granting a lease. A general discussion then followed during which it was agreed that an item be placed on the Agenda for 8 May to reconsider the Council's representation on the Trust. Cllr Marsden confirmed that she would like to see the Trust financially independent. Cllrs Turton and Stephenson withdrew their proposal tabled on 10 April 2001.

158.3 Code of Conduct. As the Clerk did not receive the document until the meeting and the Chairman had still to see it, it was agreed that the discussion should be deferred until 8 May.

158.4 CLCA Conference. Cllr Marsden tabled a short report on the conference which had been attended by the Clerk and Cllrs Marsden, Stephenson, Addison and Turton. The general feeling was that the lecture and subsequent discussion on Best Value had been of great value but that the presentation by the representative of the Countryside Agency had been less successful. The Clerk to write to CLCA to thank them for putting on the event and to suggest that a further event be organised with a representative of the DTI attending. Cllr Marsden suggested a consultation with Guisborough Town Council could prove useful.

158.5 Appeals procedure. The Clerk confirmed that the only information provided by NALC had been a copy of the Code of Practice and that so far she had not received any

information from SLCC. The Clerk to make further investigations and report back on 8 May.

158.6 Standing Orders. Cllr Monck proposed an amendment to SO 44.1 to increase the amount to £1,000. Following a suggestion by Cllr Turton, it was agreed to increase the amount for budgeted items to £1,000 and non- budget items to £500. Cllr Marsden suggested an amendment to SO 28 to increase the amount to £150. This was unanimously agreed. It was agreed that any amendments to Standing Orders relating to the Weigh & Tolls Committee should be dealt with at the end of the meeting but it was generally felt that the current Standing Orders required more revision. The Clerk to see if she could obtain a copy of model Standing Orders. It was agreed to defer further discussion until the first meeting in June where the setting up of a sub-committee to progress the matter would be discussed.

158.7 Clerk's Contract. To be discussed at the next Meeting.

Following an invitation from the Chairman to voice any comments, a member of the public advised that he felt that the Council were losing sight of the overview of the town and were getting bogged down in bureaucracy. Cllr Addison agreed to a certain extent and felt that that the Council did not have a view of the town of Yarm itself. The Chairman sympathised with the gentleman's view but explained that it was the Council's responsibility to manage its assets as well as dealing with matters of policy.

159 ALLOTMENTS

159.1 Disabled Garden. Cllr Dale gave a brief report on his meeting with Mr Fishpool. which he felt had been helpful. The Council had been congratulated on the standard of their bid which Mr Fishpool felt had a good chance of being successful, subject to the production of further information. The Grant award Committee meets on 2 May and the Council will be advised of the outcome by the end of next week. The likely award, if granted, would be £1,000. Cllr Dale confirmed he had provided the Clerk with information on two other possible sources of funding so that she can issue the application letters. Following a query from Cllr Henderson, Cllr Dale confirmed that making a preliminary start on the work would not adversely affect the grant. Cllr Henderson will contact the lowest tenderer to see if the cost would still be the same and possible timescale for the work. Cllr Turton agreed to provide a further poster for display around the town to advertise the plot. Cllr Porter advised that the Darlington & Stockton Times had previously expressed an interest in the issue but it was agreed that an approach should not be made until a decision had been made on the Grant.

160 CEMETERY

160.1 Nothing to report.

161 ENVIRONMENT

161.1 Just bin It Campaign. Cllr Dale advised that SBC have already cleaned up some of the areas selected for action. He will formulate a plan and involve local schools.

161.2 Flood Defence Scheme. Cllr Dale confirmed that detailed plans had now been received from Nuttalls and that these would be made available to any Member

requesting them. It was agreed that photocopies of selected plans should be placed in the Library for public display.

- 161.3 Litter on the Meadowings. Cllr Simpson explained that a charge of no more than £100 would be made by SBC to clear up the litter on the land leased by the Council. The beck would be cleared free of charge. After a discussion, it was agreed that this would be an area designated for the Just Bin It Campaign.

Standing Orders were waived at this point

162 PLANNING

As Ward Councillor, Cllr Simpson took no part in the discussion.

- 162.1 102 High St – Change of Use. The Council is opposed in principle, as they do not want to lose residential properties. The Clerk to advise SBC of this and to request that any advertising should go through the Planning Department.
- 162.2 Red House – Change of Use. No comment.
- 162.3 18 Spell Close. Pitched roof – No Comment.
- 162.4 6 Bankside – single storey extension. No comment
- 162.5 9 Griffiths Close – extension. No comment.
- 162.6 Stricklands. Alterations have gone through under Building Regs.
- 162.7 Cobbles on the High St. Cllr Marsden advised that Andy Edwards, Director of Environmental and Technical Services at SBC has intervened to ensure the work is of a high standard. The lack of consultation will be rectified and he will be liaising with Highways and Contract Services to ensure matters are put right.

163 RECREATION

- 163.1 Painting of Seats. Quotation of £13 per seat accepted. For an estimated 33 seats, the total cost would be £429. The Clerk to write to confirm.

164 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- 164.1 Pedestrian Crossings. Cllr Simpson confirmed she had been approached by several disabled people asking if the cobbled area either side of the crossings could be changed to tarmac for ease of movement. SBC Officers are agreeable but need Council permission. Cllr Turton advised that he would prefer the sets as previously agreed and felt that these would be just as suitable as tarmac. Cllr Simpson will liaise with Bryan Harris and report back.
- 164.2 Bollards around the weighbridge. Cllr Porter confirmed that these had now been ordered by SBC and that they will be painted the same colour as existing bollards.
- 164.3 Yarm School. Following a complaint from a member of the public during the Parish Assembly, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the school to advise them that the behaviour of pupils waiting on the Spital for the evening busses was giving cause for concern. The member of the public felt that the behaviour was aggressive and obstructive and showed a lack of consideration. It had also been asked whether the school would consider putting a white line on the inside of the gates on the school entrance on the Spital to ensure cars stopped before crossing over the pavement.

165 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The members of the public were asked to leave at this point.

- 165.1. It was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Addison that the Council approve the responses as noted on the attached Appendix 1 to the recommendations contained in the District Auditor’s Report following the 1999/2000 Audit. This was agreed unanimously.
- 165.2. It was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Addison that the Weigh and Tolls Committee be incorporated within the Town Council. This was agreed unanimously.
- 165.3. It was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Addison that the accounts relating to the Weigh and Tolls Committee are so recorded within the Council accounts to ensure that the funds are administered in accordance with the Deed of Gift of January 1925. This was agreed unanimously.
- 165.4. It was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Addison that Standing Order No 26 (b) be changed to “Weigh and Tolls Committee, members for the time being with the addition of a ratepayer’s representative.” Existing Item 26 (b) to be changed to (c) and (c) to (d). Agreed unanimously.
- 165.5. It was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Addison that the Schedule attached to Standing Orders be amended to include:-

Weigh & Tolls Committee

To administer the Town Hall, Yarm Fair, the rights to charge standage and the right to grant use of the High Street, in accordance with the deed of indenture of 1925. The Weigh and Tolls Committee to have plenary powers and to operate within a Council approved budget.

- 165.6 Allotment Tenant. Cllrs Monck and Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room. As Vice-Chairman, Cllr Marsden took the Chair. Cllr Dale advised that he had had a further visit from the tenant and the Clerk confirmed a letter had been received requesting a further response. After some discussion it was agreed by a majority of the members that the Tenant should be invited to attend an ad-hoc Committee consisting of Cllrs Marsden, Stephenson and Simpson to provide his account of the incident on 14 February 2001. The date agreed for this meeting to be Wednesday 2nd May at 7.00pm. The Clerk to invite the Tenant to attend.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.30pm.

Signed this 24th day of April 2001

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Chairman

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF YARM TOWN COUNCIL HELD ON
TUESDAY 8TH MAY 2001**

PRESENT: Cllr Porter in the Chair

Councillors Henderson, Dale, Turton, Stephenson, Addison, Marsden and Monck

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Simpson (holiday)

ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

The following nominations were received for the post of Chairman:-

Cllr Monck – Proposed by Cllr Addison and seconded by Cllr Porter

Cllr Marsden – Proposed by Cllr Stephenson and seconded by Cllr Turton.

A secret ballot then followed during which Cllr Marsden was elected Chairman for the coming year.

Before handing over, Cllr Porter congratulated Cllr Marsden. Cllr Porter then gave a brief speech outlining her feelings of disappointment that her term of office had been a very unhappy period during which time the Council had not been united.

It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Addison be Vice Chairman for the year: Proposed by Cllr Marsden; seconded by Cllr Turton

ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Composition of Committees. Cllr Marsden suggested that sub-committees of 3 people should be set up for each Committee to meet as and when necessary. These would then report back to the main Meeting. A general discussion followed where it was agreed that this would be better discussed during the review of Standing Orders and Best Value.

Allotment	Cllr Porter was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Addison and duly elected.
Cemetery	Cllr Henderson was nominated by Cllr Porter and seconded by Cllr Addison and was duly elected.
Environment	Cllr Dale was proposed by Cllr Addison and seconded by Cllr Marsden and was duly elected.
Planning	Cllr Marsden was proposed by Cllr Addison and seconded by Cllr Monck and was duly elected.
Recreation	Cllr Monck was proposed by Cllr Addison and seconded by Cllr Porter and was duly elected.
Highways	Cllr Stephenson was proposed by Cllr Addison and seconded by Cllr Turton and was duly elected.
Policy & Resources	It was agreed that Cllr Marsden, as Chairman, should be elected.

All members are members of the above Committees.

Weights & Tolls It was agreed that Cllr Marsden, as Council Chairman, should be elected.

ELECTION OF SUB-COMMITTEES

Allotment Liaison Finance	Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Chairman of the Allotment Committee Cllr Simpson was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Porter and was duly elected. Cllr Turton was proposed by Cllr Marsden and seconded by Cllr Stephenson and was duly elected.. Cllr Addison advised that it would not be prudent for him to sit on the Committee whilst he was acting as Responsible Financial Officer. A place was left vacant until such time that he could serve. It was unanimously agreed that Cllr Addison should continue as Responsible Financial Officer for the time being.
Britain in Bloom Contracts	Cllr Porter Cllr Henderson

NOMINATIONS OF REPRESENTATIVES

It was agreed that the following members serve on the bodies indicated:-

Flounders Charity Flounders Educational Trust	Cllr Porter Cllrs Marsden and Addison (ex-officio) Meeting to be held on Monday 5 th November 2001 at Conyers School
Yarm Playing Field Trust Kirklevington Grange Liaison Fellowship Hall Trust	Chairman and Vice-Chairman (ex-officio) Cllr Dale To be deferred until discussion in the main meeting

RATEPAYERS REPRESENTATIVE

It was agreed to re-appoint Mr Bell

CYCLE OF MEETINGS

It was agreed that the cycle of meetings remain unchanged until a review of Standing Orders had taken place.

Dated this 22nd day of May 2001

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Chairman

Draft minutes of YARM Town Council held on Tuesday 8 May 2001

PRESENT: Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Councillors Porter, Monck, Dale, Henderson, Stephenson, Turton and Addison

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Simpson

1 MINUTES

- 1.1 The Minutes were agreed with the following amendment:-
- 1.2 Item following 158.7. “mange” to be changed to “manage”

2 MATTERS ARISING

- 2.1 Item 155.1 – revised Allotment List. Cllr Porter confirmed she had received the list from the Clerk and that this had been re-numbered and returned.
- 2.2 Item 155.7. Work to Allotment Hut. Possible starting date of 22 May has been intimated. Clerk to confirm to Cllr Porter so that the Allotment Society can be informed in advance.
- 2.3 Item 155.8. Pigeon Hut. Nothing further to report.
- 2.4 Item 155.10. Cleaning of tiles. Yarm DIY have advised Cllr Monck that they feel specialist cleaning is required. Cllr Monck to obtain details of specialist cleaning firms.
- 2.5 Item 159.1. Disabled Garden. The Clerk confirmed that she had now received the posters.
- 2.6 Item 161.2. Flood Defence Scheme. Cllr Porter advised that she had taken part in a live radio broadcast. The meeting was advised that SBC have refused permission for the site compound to be situated on Bridge St and that an alternative site on the other side of the river is now being investigated.
- 2.7 Item 163.1. Painting of seats. This will be carried out when weather is suitable.
- 2.8 Item 164.3. Yarm School. The School’s letter of response was read out by the Clerk. Cllr Turton noted his concerns re parking and congestion on the Spital when school finishes for the day. A paper to be prepared by Cllr Stephenson for discussion at the next meeting.
- 2.9 Item 165.6. Allotment Tenant. It was confirmed that the meeting had not taken place.

3 ACCOUNTS

- 3.1 The following figures to be inserted onto the Accounts for payment:-

Merritt & Co	Legal Advice	£810.75
Mrs S Smith	Toner Cartridge	£ 54.04

- 3.2 Agreed unanimously that all Accounts be paid.
- 3.3 Cllr Addison advised that he had written to SBC regarding bills for the inspection and monitoring of play equipment and the erection and dismantling of the road closure signs. These will enable him to close off the Accounts for 2000/2001.
- 3.4 Cllr Addison tabled revised Accounts for 1999/2000 which incorporated the amendments following the Auditor’s Report.

- 3.5 Legal Costs. Following a suggestion by Cllr Monck, it was agreed that the Council revert to using the free legal advice provided by NALC for any future queries. The Council could still, however, approach Hodgson Maggiore if they felt it was necessary.

4 CORRESPONDENCE

- 4.1 The correspondence as listed was noted. A more detailed discussion took place on the following items:-
- 4.2 Litter on the Meadowings. Noted that SBC will clear the area as a goodwill gesture.
- 4.3 Invitation to Mayor's Parade. Cllr Addison to attend in the Chairman's absence.
- 4.4 Twinning Association Youth Camp. Cllr Marsden declared a non-pecuniary interest. It was felt that the per person cost for airfare of £248 was rather expensive. Cllr Turton will investigate the availability of low cost airfares on the internet.
- 4.5 Cadet Force. Local Cadet Force would like to provide a Cadet for civic functions but on an unofficial basis. The Clerk to provide the relevant dates.

5 POLICY & RESOURCES

- 5.1 Meeting on 11th May. It was agreed that Cllr Addison, as Vice-Chairman would take the Chair in the Chairman's absence. It was further agreed that a time be set aside during the meeting to answer questions from the general public. The clerk to provide copies of the Council's official responses and name badges for Councillors.
- 5.2 Weigh and Tolls Committee. It was agreed that this should be dealt with at the first meeting of the month and that it should be positioned after Policy & Resources. Meetings to start at 7.30pm. The Clerk was authorised to deal with any bookings for the Town Hall and High Street without reference to the Council, subject to any queries being referred to the Chairman. The Council to be advised of the bookings in the normal way at the next meeting of the Weigh & Tolls Committee.
- 5.3 Code of Conduct. It was felt that the draft Code of Conduct simplified matters and that it would tie in with Standing Order revisions. The Clerk to check with NALC to obtain their views on any implications.
- 5.4 Appeals Committee. The Clerk advised that there were no further results and that she would continue with her investigations.
- 5.5 Nominations for SBC Standards Committees. It was proposed by Cllr Monck and seconded by Cllr Addison that Cllr Porter be nominated for the main Standards Committee. A vote was then taken as follows:-
For: Cllrs Addison, Monck, Dale, Stephenson, Marsden, Henderson
Against: Cllr Turton
Cllr Porter to be nominated.
It was proposed by Cllr Henderson and seconded by Cllr Turton that Cllr Dale be Nominated for the Sub-Committee. Agreed unanimously.
- 5.6 Fellowship Hall Trust. Cllrs Monck and Porter declared an indirect pecuniary interest and left the room. Following a discussion and in order to demonstrate the Council's willingness to have "clear blue water" between itself and the Trust, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Trust to advise that "Yarm Town Council recognise that it cannot, nor would wish to nominate, Trustees from the Council to sit on the Fellowship Hall Trust. However, it does recognise that the Trust can appoint whomsoever it wishes. Any Council Member would, however, act as a private individual." This resolution to rescind any previous Council Minute on the subject. Proposed by Cllr Turton and seconded by Cllr Dale and carried unanimously. A copy of this letter to be sent to the

Charities Commissioner and the two Councillors i.e Cllr Monck and Cllr Porter who currently act as trustees.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

6 ALLOTMENTS

- 6.1 Disabled Garden Grants. Cllr Dale advised that a response was still awaited. An application form had been received from the Hanson Environment Fund which he will complete after liaising with Cllrs Henderson and Addison. Maurice Cook to be approached to act as Project Manager because of his engineering background. If he was not prepared to do it, Cllr Henderson would oblige.
- 6.2 Infestation. Cllr Porter advised that the situation had been assessed but that a further response was now awaited from SBC. The Clerk to chase up.
- 6.3 Return of Deposit. It was agreed that the Council would refund the deposit of £11 to Mrs Whigham following her relinquishment of her allotment.
- 6.4 Return of key. Mr Carling to be asked to return his key for the Brickyard Allotments.
- 6.5 Disabled Garden tenders. Cllr Henderson to chase.
- 6.6 Brickyard Keys. The Clerk to obtain a further supply.

7 CEMETERY

- 7.1 Water leak. Cllr Henderson confirmed that one of the two allotment taps on the same supply had been leaking and that this had caused the increase in the water bill. This has now been repaired. Hopefully this will now resolve the situation although it may be that there is a further leak underground.

8 ENVIRONMENT

- 8.1 Britain in Bloom. The Clerk advised that written confirmation had been received from Yarm Prep School re the maintenance of the flowerbed on the corner of the Spital.
- 8.2 Just Bin It Campaign. Cllr Dale advised that the slot in April had been missed. It was agreed that it be left in abeyance for two to three weeks and then deal with as necessary.
- 8.3 Street Cleaner. Cllr Turton had been approached by the cleaner regarding the issue of an automatic cleaning machine. The clerk to write to SBC with this request, stressing the conscientious nature of his work.
- 8.4 OFWAT Area Meeting on 15 May. It was agreed that Cllr Dale would attend on the Council's behalf.
- 8.5 Flood Defence Scheme. Cllr Monck had considered the plans in detail and felt there were points which required clarification from Nuttalls:-
 - 1) There had been an agreement with Environment Agency and Babtie that the walls would be sealed out of sequence.
 - 2) The Council had been advised that sheet piles would be used where necessary where water had come in under the walls. This is not shown on the plans for the affected areas in West End Gardens, the Parish Church and beyond.
 - 3) Why was more piling required on the promenade when there is piling there already.
 - 4) What work is being carried out between the two bridges on the Eaglescliffe side and why?

It was noted that Mr Newton had reassured Cllr Porter that there would be no further removal of shrubbery.

9 PLANNING

9.1 102 High St. Acknowledgement received from SBC.

9.2 Blue Sheet – all domestic.

10 RECREATION

10.1 Play Equipment. Cllr Monck to investigate ways of cleaning the tiles at the horse and its possible re-location.

10.2 Playground. Cllr Dale provided a rough sketch of a playground design he had seen on a recent visit to Buxton. This took the form of a combination football pitch/basketball court. He will progress enquiries with Cllr Monck.

10.3 Conyers School. Cllr Marsden advised that she had attended a preliminary meeting at the school involving local residents regarding a possible bid for an all-weather sports pitch. This would be used by the school and the general public and would be floodlight and not just be open during school hours. She will keep the Council advised of developments.

11 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

11.1 Road Works. Cllr Stephenson will draw down information re road works near Yarm from the SBC website and provide the Clerk with a copy for the next meeting. The Clerk to ask SBC for their views on the impact of the work on the bus stop at Butts Lane on traffic flow, especially in view of the work on the Flood Defence Scheme and the new Estate.

11.2 Liaison with Eaglescliffe and Kirklevington. The Clerk to contact both Councils with a view to arranging a meeting at the end of June to discuss traffic problems in the area.

12 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

12.1 Twinning Association. It was agreed that the Twinning Association could borrow the PA system. Pam Jones to arrange to collect from the Fellowship Hall.

12.2 Town Hall Guides. The Clerk still awaiting quotes. She will remind.

12.3 Eaglescliffe Parish Assembly. Cllr Dale advised that he and the Clerk had attended and gave a brief resume of the meeting:-

Precept reduced by £6,000

Election costs spread over 4 years

Frustration with planning committee at SBC

Complaints re Britain in Bloom judging

Prizes and Certificates awarded to winners of allotment competition

12.4 Allotment Matter. The clerk confirmed that a further letter had been received which had been forwarded to the solicitor for his advice.

12.5 Cllr Marsden advised that she would be away from 9th May until 20th June and tendered her apologies for the meetings of 22nd May and 12th June.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.15pm

Signed this 22nd Day of May 2001

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Chairman

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held on Tuesday 22nd May 2001

PRESENT: Cllr Addison, as Vice-Chairman, in the Chair in Cllr Marsden's absence

Cllrs Simpson, Porter, Monck, Turton, Stephenson and Dale

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE received from Cllrs Henderson and Marsden

13 MINUTES

- 13.1 The Minutes of the AGM were approved with the following amendments:-
- 13.2 The paragraph commencing "Cllr Marsden suggested to...and Best Value " be inserted immediately after Election of Committee Chairmen.
- 13.3 "All members are members of the above committees" to be moved immediately after Policy and Resources.
- 13.4 Cycle of Meetings. "such review had taken place" to be replaced by "a review of Standing Orders had taken place"
- 13.5 Following a proposal by Cllr Monck, seconded by Cllr Simpson, it was agreed that the votes recorded during the Election of the Chairmen of the Allotment and Highways Committees should be deleted and that all other appointments should have the proposer and seconder recorded. Cllr Turton requested and received a clarification of the relevant Standing Order.
- 13.6 The above provision also to apply in respect of the appointment of the Finance Sub-Committee.
- 13.7 It was also noted that there is no record of who proposed Cllr Stephenson as Cllr Marsden's deputy in respect of Planning Matters.
- 13.8 Following a proposal by Cllr Simpson, seconded by Cllr Monck, it was agreed that the votes cast during the secret ballot for Chairman should not be recorded.
- 13.9 In view of the scale of the amendments to the Minutes of the Annual General Meeting, it was agreed that they should be retyped reflecting the above amendments before being signed by the Vice-Chairman.
- 13.10 Minutes of the Council meeting agreed with the following amendments:-
- 13.11 Item 3.5 Legal Costs. To be deleted and replaced by "Following a proposal by Cllr Monck, seconded by Cllr Addison, it was agreed that the Council revert to using the free legal advice provided by NALC for any future queries. The Council could, however, approach Hodgson Magiore if they felt it was necessary on an on-going matter."
- 13.12 Item 12.4 Allotment Matter. The following to be inserted before "The clerk confirmed etc" – "Cllr Marsden advised Cllrs Porter and Monck that they did not have to leave the room. Cllr Porter took no part in the discussion which followed.

14 MATTERS ARISING

- 14.1 Cllr Monck felt that Cllr Turton should not have been elected to the Finance Committee as he had previously been censured by the Council whilst he had previously served on this Committee for being in contravention of the Code of Conduct. Following this vote of censure Cllr Turton had been removed from the Committee. Cllr Turton took objection to this as he felt he was being prejudged. It was confirmed that the Vote of Censure could not be progressed as the Standards Committee was still in the process of being set up. Cllr Dale felt the original decision should either be set aside or dealt with properly and that if the latter step was to be followed some sort of mechanism was required. Following a proposal

- by Cllr Porter, seconded by Cllr Dale, it was agreed that the appointment stand for the time being but that the item be put on the Agenda for discussion at the next meeting.
- 14.2 Cllr Monck advised that he was tendering his resignation as Chairman of the Recreation Committee. Election of a new Chairman to be carried out under Policy & Resources.
- 14.3 Following a query by Cllr Porter requesting clarification regarding statements to the Press, it was confirmed that, under Standing Orders, the Clerk could give a factual account of proceedings to the Press, if contacted. It was stressed, however, that any statements to the Press were to be made by Cllr Addison.
- 14.4 Cobbles. Cllr Simpson advised that a meeting would be taking place on the High St at 10am on Wednesday 23rd May to discuss the work currently taking place on the cobbles. Both she and Bryan Harris from SBC would be attending and Council Members are invited to attend.
- 14.5 Vote of thanks to the retiring Chairman. Cllr Simpson expressed her disappointment that a wholehearted vote of thanks had not been tendered to the retiring Chairman, Cllr Porter, in respect of her efforts on the Council's behalf over the past two years. It was proposed by Cllr Simpson and seconded by Cllr Monck that the Council expresses their belated thanks to Cllr Porter. Cllr Turton asked that the vote be recorded. The results were as follows:-

For: Cllrs Addison, Monck, Simpson, Dale

Against : Cllr Turton

Abstained: Cllrs Stephenson and Porter.

The proposal was duly carried.

- 14.6 The role of Cllr Stephenson as deputy to Cllr Marsden in Planning Matters. It was confirmed that this contingency is not covered in Standing Orders. Following a proposal by Cllr Addison, seconded by Cllr Monck, it was agreed that, if so deemed, any Councillor, acting with the Council's agreement, can act as a deputy in the absence of a Committee Chairman. Following a further proposal by Cllr Addison which was seconded by Cllr Dale, it was agreed that Cllr Stephenson could deputise for Cllr Marsden on Planning matters in her absence.
- 14.7 Item 2.2. Work on Allotment Hut. Cllr Porter advised that the work would be starting on 29th May and that the Allotment Society had been advised.
- 14.8 Item 2.4. Cleaning of tiles. Cllr Dale volunteered to deal with the problem.
- 14.9 Item 2.5. Disabled Garden. The clerk confirmed that Cllr Henderson was investigating the re-pricing of the contract.
- 14.10 Item 2.7. Painting of seats. This had now been completed.
- 14.11 Item 5.1. Press Notice following Audit Meeting on 11th May. The Clerk confirmed that this had been published in the D & S Times on 18th May.
- 14.12 Item 5.2. Weigh & Tolls Committee. Cllr Simpson disagreed with the decision made on 8th May as the Weigh & Tolls Committee has plenary powers. She felt that the Weigh & Tolls Committee should have a separate meeting and that its' decisions should be brought to the main Council meeting. Following a discussion and in line with Standing Order No 18, it was agreed that a special resolution on the matter be placed before the Council by three Councillors at the next meeting.
- 14.13 Item 5.6. Fellowship Hall Trust Cllrs Monck and Porter declared an indirect pecuniary interest. Cllr Monck felt there had been no need for the Charities Commission to be sent a copy of the letter to the Trust. Cllr Simpson expressed her surprise at the step taken by the Council in not requiring Council representation on the Trust. Cllr Turton felt this point was academic as the Council had been previously advised that it would only receive information which was available to the general public anyway.

- 14.14 Item 6.2. Infestation. Cllr Porter advised that the treatment had been carried out but that SBC were not happy with the condition of the tenant's hut. Following discussions between the Clerk and Cllr Porter, Chairman of the Allotment Committee, it had been agreed that SBC should write to the tenant in question. It now appeared that the tenant was building a new hut. Cllr Turton advised that a further incident had been reported to him. This should be brought under control by the measures already implemented.
- 14.15 Item 6.6 Brickyard keys. Cllr Porter that the Clerk had, after some difficulty, obtained a further supply of keys which now cost £7.63 each.
- 14.16 Item 8.1. Flowerbed on the corner of the Spital. The Clerk will check with the school as to when the maintenance is to start.
- 14.17 Item 12.3 Eaglescliffe Parish Assembly. Cllr Porter was pleased that another Council had encountered similar difficulties with Britain in Bloom.

15 ACCOUNTS

15.1 Payment of the Accounts as listed was agreed with the following additional items:-

Allianz Cornhill	Insurance Renewal	£2015.35
Roger Bell	Painting of 31 Seats and Repair of two seats	£ 420.00

16 CORRESPONDENCE

- 16.1 Cllr Monck had not been happy that his e-mail to the Clerk had been circulated to the Members but had discussed this with the Clerk and had accepted her explanation. It was agreed that any e-mails from Council Members to the Clerk on Council matters should be circulated to all members. Cllr Monck also advised that he was no longer prepared to deal with the correspondence in the Clerk's absence. The Meeting was advised that it was only whilst the Council had been without a Clerk that he had dealt with the correspondence and that previously the Chairman had dealt with the post while the Clerk was away. The Clerk asked for clarification as to who would be responsible during her summer holidays as the Chairman is away at the same time. It was agreed that the Vice –Chairman, Cllr Addison would do it.
- 16.2 The remaining correspondence was noted as listed.

17 POLICY AND RESOURCES

- 17.1 Charities Fair. Following discussions between Members, it had been agreed that the Lions be asked to withdraw their invitation to Dari Taylor to open the Fair. It had further been agreed that the Council would act if the Lions did not withdraw the invitation. Cllr Monck, supported by Cllr Porter, felt that the Vice Chairman, in the Chairman's absence, should open the Fair. As a compromise, however, it was agreed that Phil Mills, the Lions President should do the honours. As a matter of information, Cllr Stephenson advised that he had spoken to Dari Taylor who had intimated she was prepared to withdraw. It was agreed that the Lions could borrow the PA system. It was agreed that the Council would consider the amount of a grant to the Lions once the final figures had been received.
- 17.2 Paint Damage. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Council should recompense Mr Allison for the paint damage to his trousers, even though it was not felt to be the Council's responsibility

- 17.3 Insurance Requirements. The Clerk stressed the importance of obtaining confirmation of Public Liability Insurance from Council contractors. She has suggested to Cllr Henderson that the Tender request document be amended accordingly.
- 17.4 Heritage Lottery Funding Meeting on 31st May. Cllr Simpson confirmed she would be attending. Cllrs Porter and Turton to attend.
- 17.5 Town Guides. The quotation from SBC was discussed and it was noted that the cost per copy would be in the region of £1.50. Cllr Turton had carried out an informal survey of other town guides which on the whole were more expensive and of a higher quality. It was queried whether, in view of the costs and the variety of guides available, the Council should produce a guide. The Clerk to obtain informal quotes as a basis for further discussion.
- 17.6 Chernobyl Visit. Cllr Monck advised that he had spoken to David Vonberg of the Methodist Church who had confirmed that the Civic Society would be meting the visiting children at Preston Park and then bringing them back to Yarm by the Teesside Princess. The Clerk to obtain the date from Rev Vonberg so that the arrangements can be made for the teaparty. It should be stressed that the Council's involvement relates to the teaparty only.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

- 17.7 Letter of Complaint by the Yarm Chamber of Commerce re the use of the High St by publicity caravans. The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to David Lynch of SBC who had confirmed that he routinely gives permission and that in future he would provide copy correspondence. The Clerk to write to the Chamber to advise that this matter is out of the Council's control as it comes within SBC's jurisdiction as the Highways authority. The clerk to suggest that the Chamber write to Stockton on the matter if they wish to take it further.
- 17.8 Official Installation of Flagpole. Following a suggestion by Cllr Dale, it was agreed that this should take place during Wings Week and that the Clerk should write to the Army Cadet Force accordingly. The Vice-Chairman to officiate if the Chairman is not available.
- 17.9 Recreation Committee Chairman. Following a proposal by Cllr Stephenson, seconded by Cllr Dale, it was agreed that Cllr Turton be elected as Chairman. Cllr Turton advised that he was prepared to stand but required clarification regarding his suitability in view of earlier comments.
- 17.10 Register of Declarations of Interest. It was agreed that, as per Standing Order No 33, the Council should hold a Register of Members Interests.
- 17.11 Attendance List. It was agreed that this should be published. Following a query by Cllr Turton, Cllr Monck confirmed that this was not noted in Standing Orders but was a matter of Custom and Practise.
- 17.12 Clerk's Contract. The Clerk confirmed that this was now with the Vice-Chairman for checking and would be circulated to all Members, together with the Terms and Conditions, for discussion at the next Meeting.

18 ALLOTMENTS

- 18.1 Disabled Garden. Cllr Dale confirmed that a Grant of £1,000, with conditions, had been awarded but that the conditions were not onerous. It was agreed that the Conditions be circulated to all Members for formal agreement at the next meeting.
- 18.2 Allotment Walk. The details of the Walk were agreed as 6.30pm on Tuesday 29th May 2001. All Members invited to attend.

18.3 Yarm in Bloom. The Clerk noted an encouraging response to the initiative and that she would advise Yarm Hardware of the details accordingly.

19 CEMETERY

19.1 Crack in Chapel Wall. Cllr Monck advised that a serious crack in the Chapel Wall had been reported to him. Cllr Porter confirmed that Cllr Henderson was aware of this and was monitoring the situation.

20 ENVIRONMENT

20.1 OFWAT Meeting. Cllr Dale tabled a report on the recent meeting at Bowes Museum and queried whether the Council still wished him to attend. This was left to his discretion but Cllr Porter reminded the Meeting that Cllr Dale should not be out of pocket and could claim a mileage allowance if he so desired. Leaflets on the topics covered were available.

21 PLANNING

As Ward Councillor, Cllr Simpson took no part in the discussions.

21.1 51 Goose Pasture. No Comments

21.2 5 Fishponds. No objections

21.3 Land adjacent to 17 Thirsk Rd. Site visit to be requested due to proximity to neighbouring properties.

21.4 31 Bentley Wynd. Council supports the application.

21.5 27 Davenport Rd. No Comments

21.6 59 Debruse Ave. No Comments

21.7 20 Leven Rd. Plans to be requested.

21.8 102 High St. Change of use agreed.

21.9 Cross house. Appeal dismissed by Planning Inspectorate.

21.10 Yarm School. Appeal A dismissed. Appeal B approved with conditions.

22 RECREATION

22.1 Cllr Turton requested clarification of both his and Cllr Stephenson's position regarding the Standards Committee as nothing had progressed since the original action had been taken. Following a suggestion by Cllr Dale, it was agreed that Cllr Turton should deal with day-to-day matters until the position was clarified.

22.2 Hogweed on access path side of the Community Centre. Cllr Dale will deal with.

23 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

23.1 Yarm School. Cllr Stephenson tabled a report for discussion and suggested that there should be a consultation exercise. Cllr Simpson felt that the situation was much improved but Cllr Dale advised he had received independent complaints. It was proposed by Cllr Stephenson and Seconded by Cllr Turton that a consultation exercise should take place. Cllr Monck advised he would support such a motion if it were extended to include other areas of concern. A vote was

24 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

24.01 Allotment Matter. Cllrs Monck and Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room. The draft letter to be issued to the tenant in question had already been circulated to members and was discussed at some length. Some amendments were suggested. The Clerk to discuss these amendments with James Sheerin before issuing the letter.

24.02 Apologies for absence. Cllr Turton tendered his apologies for the next meeting on 10th June due to holidays.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 10.45pm

Signed this 10th day of June 2001

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Chairman

Minutes of Yarm Town Council held on Tuesday 12th June 2001

PRESENT: Cllr Addison, as Vice-Chairman, in the Chair in Cllr Marsden's absence

Cllrs Simpson, Monck, Porter, Stephenson, Dale and Henderson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Marsden and Turton

25 MINUTES

- 25.1 The Minutes of the AGM were agreed with the following amendment:-
- 25.2 The section relating to the election of Committee Chairman in respect of the Weigh & Tolls Committee :- "It was agreed..."etc to be deleted and replaced by "Members for the time being with the addition of one ratepayers' representative."
- 25.3 The Minutes of the Council Meeting were agreed without amendment.

26 MATTERS ARISING

- 26.1 Item 14.1 Standards Committee. Cllr Simpson advised that this had now been set up.
- 26.2 Item 14.4. Cobbles. Cllr Simpson confirmed that she had attended a meeting with Byran Harris and Brian Buckley of SBC on the High St to discuss the current situation. Cllr Dale advised that he had received some complaints regarding the length of time being taken. Cllr Henderson expressed his dissatisfaction with the type of stones being used and will contact either Bryan Harris or Brian Buckley to discuss. Both Cllr Henderson and Cllr Dale deplored the lack of prior consultation. Cllr Porter queried whether any response had been received to her query regarding the circles of containing trees. The Clerk to check.
- 26.3 Item 14.8. Cleaning of tiles. Cllr Dale confirmed he had obtained the correct cleaning materials and will carry out the work.
- 26.4 Item 14.10 Seats. Cllr Monck advised that the ecclesiastical authorities had turned down the application to situate the Millennium Seat in the churchyard due to a misunderstanding. The Church Warden will follow up with the relevant authorities and explain the situation. Cllr Porter advised that the seat near the Medical Centre had been vandalised. The Clerk to ask Yarm DIY to repair as necessary.
- 26.5 Item 14.13. Fellowship Hall Trust. Cllr Simpson advised the Council that the information alluded to by Cllr Turton was only available on payment.
- 26.6 Item 14.14 Infestation. Cllr Porter confirmed that a further visit was required from SBC.
- 26.7 Item 14.16. Flowerbed on the Spital. The Clerk to remind Mr Abrahams again.
- 26.8 Item 17.1. Charities Fair. The Clerk to query when the banners are coming down.
- 26.9 Item 17.6. Chernobyl visit. Cllr Monck confirmed this was taking place on Wednesday 11th July. The Clerk to clarify the timings with the Rev Vonberg of the Methodist Church and Harold Fleming of the Civic Society and then organise the tea party at the Fellowship Hall.
- 26.10 Item 19.1. Crack in Cemetery Chapel. Cllr Henderson confirmed that it had been there for some time with some slight deterioration and that he was monitoring the situation.

27 ACCOUNTS

27.1 The Accounts as noted were agreed for payment with the following additions:-

EYC	2 cuts open spaces contract	£636.54
Yarm DIY	Britain in Bloom (initial planting)	£600.00
Yarm DIY	Washers and keys for the Spital	£ 14.95
CLCA	Model Standing Orders	£ 5.83
K M Gardening	Digging hole for casket	£ 25.00

- 27.2 Lost Cheque. Cllr Addison advised that he had been notified that the cheque sent to KM Gardening in May had not been received. After checking with the bank that the cheque had not been cashed, a further cheque had been issued. The Clerk to obtain a claim form from the Post Office.
- 27.3 Accounts for 2000/2001 were presented to the Council. Cllr Addison was praised for his efforts in producing these Accounts. Cllr Addison confirmed that these Accounts, plus supporting documentation, had been deposited with the Auditor as had the amended Accounts for 1999/2000.

28 CORRESPONDENCE

- 28.1 The letter from the District Auditor was noted.
- 28.2 The Clerk read out the letter received from the former Clerk advising he was still receiving telephone calls on Council business. Cllr Henderson advised that he had obtained replacement strips showing the correct telephone number and that these would be placed on the noticeboards at the Allotments and the Cemetery.
- 28.3 Cllr Henderson expressed his disappointment that a cheque had still not been received from Manor House Memorials despite several telephone calls from the Clerk. The Clerk to write to remind.
- 28.4 The remaining items of correspondence were noted.

29 POLICY AND RESOURCES

- 29.1 Charities Fair. The Clerk to offer either Tuesday 3rd July or Tuesday 17th July , both at 7.00pm to the Lions for the de-briefing meeting. Whichever date was not suitable to be offered to Edmund Nuttall for the Flood Alleviation Scheme update meeting. This meeting to start at 6.30pm.
- 29.2 Standing Vote of Censure. To be deferred until the next meeting.
- 29.3 Special Resolution. Cllr Addison did not feel that this should be heard as the wording of the Special Resolution had only been provided at the Meeting and had not been available for distribution with the Minutes. After some discussion it was agreed that this matter should be deferred until the next meeting. Cllrs Simpson, Porter and Monck asked that their objections to this deferment be noted. We also propose that reports from the Weigh & Tolls Committee of Yarm Town Council be presented at the second Council Meeting of the month as an Agenda item. The Clerk expressed her concern that , by allowing the proposals relating to the Weigh & Tolls to be tabled, the Council was in fact dealing with the items raised under the Special Resolution.
- 29.4 Standing Orders. Meeting to be held at 7.00pm on Tuesday 24th July. The Clerk to circulate copies of the Model Standing Orders obtained from NALC.

- 29.5 Profile of Councillors. Cllr Dale gave a brief outline of his feelings that the Council seemed to be portrayed in a negative light and suggested that there were several ways in which this could be rectified. After some discussion it was agreed that this would be deferred until after the summer break and that it could possibly be something which could be dealt with under Best Value. Cllr Dale will produce a report for presentation after the summer break.
- 29.6 Town Guides. Alternative quotes still awaited. The Clerk will put an item on the Agenda once she has something to report.
- 29.7 Register of Interests. The Clerk advised information was still awaited from NALC. She will contact Mr Bond at SBC to find out which format they use. Discussion to be deferred to the next Meeting.
- 29.8 Clerk's Contract. The Clerk was asked to remain. The Clerk's Contract was approved. The Chairman to sign it on her return from France.. Cllr Monck suggested a review be carried out of the Clerk's hours. The Clerk to keep a diary to this effect.
- 29.9 Twinning Youth Camp Grant Request.. Cllr Henderson declared a non-pecuniary interest Following a proposal by Cllr Addison,seconded by Cllr Dale it was agreed that a grant of £250 should be made.
- 29.10 Attendance Record. It was agreed that this should be displayed in the Library and on the Town Hall Notice Board.
- 29.11 Twinning Anglers Grant Request. Following a proposal by Cllr Monck, seconded by Cllr Henderson it was agreed that a grant of £250 be made. The Clerk to advise the Yarm Twinning Angling Association that the anglers were free to use the river and to confirm that the Council has no control over the river.
- 29.12 The Council noted its concern that vagrants had started to be seen in the town
- 29.13 Representation on the CPRE. To be deferred until the next Meeting.
- 29.14 Following a proposal by Cllr Monck, seconded by Cllr Simpson, it was agreed that meetings of the Weigh & Tolls Committee should be held outside the normal Council meeting in accordance with Minute 165.4 and 165.5 of 24 April 2001

30 WEIGH & TOLLS

- 30.1 Following the ruling that the Special Resolution could not be heard, Cllr Monck asked that his objections be noted that the Committee Meeting should not be held as this would be illegal following the Council's previous decisions on the matter. Following a proposal from Cllr Monck, seconded by Cllr Simpson, it was agreed that the Meeting would not take place until the situation could be clarified.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

- 30.2 Following some discussion it was agreed that some of the matters arising under Weighs & Tolls would have to be dealt with at this meeting due to time constraints.
- 30.3 Yarm Fair. The Clerk confirmed that she had received a quotation from Nixons for the portable toilets of £685, plus VAT. It was agreed that this quotation be accepted in view of the specialist nature of the service provided and as Nixons are existing suppliers. (Standing Order 44(3)) Cllr Stephenson advised that he had been approached by several residents who had concerns regarding the possible risk of Foot and Mouth from the travellers' horses. The Clerk to check with MAFF and SBC.
- 30.4 Lottery Funding. The Clerk read out the letter from Bryan Harris of SBC reporting on the recent meeting with the Lottery Heritage Fund representative. It was noted that any request for funding should be submitted six months prior to the next Fund Meeting, in this

case the end of November, and that if the Council wished SBC to proceed a letter was required immediately to this effect. It was agreed that the Clerk would write to Bryan Harris to request that SBC formally submit an application on the Council's behalf.

31 ALLOTMENTS

- 31.1 Disabled Garden. It was agreed that the Grant from the Environmental Landfill Fund of £1,000 should be accepted. The Clerk to sign the acceptance letter on the Council's behalf and submit to the Tees Valley Wildlife Trust. It was noted that the Grant was payable on completion of the work. Cllr Henderson advised that volunteer work on the project carried out by Councillors would have a positive impact. Cllr Monck advised that he had been approached by disabled gardener with a request for an update on the current position. Cllr Henderson will contact the gentleman in question. Cllr Henderson advised that he was still awaiting a further response from the firm providing the lowest tender last year.
- 31.2 Allotment Hut. Cllr Henderson has checked the current status and confirmed that the work was not ready to be signed off. The Clerk to check with the contractor re the apparent lack of power in the hut.
- 31.3 Allotment Walk. Cllr Porter advised that this had taken place on Tuesday 29th May and that Cllrs Monck, Simpson, Addison and Dale had attended together with the Clerk. As a result, warning letters had been written to several tenants.
- 31.4 Replacement Hut. It was decided that no further action should be taken.
- 31.5 Pigeon Hut. It was noted that a letter of thanks had been received.
- 31.6 Huts left on Allotment gardens by previous tenants. The letter from the Allotment Society on this matter was discussed at some length. It was agreed that the Clerk should establish what the situation is on Allotments owned by Egglecliffe and Preston Parishes and also check with NALC. Following a suggestion by Cllr Stephenson, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the Allotment Society to request a list of Allotments where asbestos was in use.

32 CEMETERY

- 32.1 Manor House Memorials. The Clerk to write re the outstanding cheque. Cllr Henderson to contact them to discuss the use of inappropriate materials.

33 ENVIRONMENT

- 33.1 Flood Alleviation Update Meeting. Nuttalls to be offered whichever date is not convenient for the Lions .i.e 3rd or 17th July .
- 33.2 Hogweed. Cllr Dale will provide a status report at the next meeting. It was noted that the hogweed on Snaith's Field has been treated.

34 PLANNING

- 34.1 20 Leven Road. Noted
- 34.2 38 High St. Encouraging legitimate use of the residence.
- 34.3 31 Scugdale. Noted
- 34.4 17 Thirsk Rd. Site visit already requested.
- 34.5 51 Goose Pasture. Noted
- 34.6 3 Troutsdale Close. Noted
- 34.7 45 Glaisdale. Noted

- 34.8 Conyers School. Noted
- 34.9 Golf Driving Range. Approved with conditions.
- 34.10 Red House. Noted

35 RECREATION

- 35.1 Preliminary Review of Recreation Facilities. Cllr Monck noted that the following activities did take place in Yarm:-
 Basketball, badminton and netball at Conyers School
 Badminton Club at Yarm School
 Carpet Bowls at the Community Centre and Kirklevington Grange
 Tennis Courts on Leven Rd
 In addition he pointed out that the contact point for the Fellowship Hall was Paul Joiner and for Yarm Youth & Community Centre was Liz Marsden. There is no civic trust in Yarm and that the Fellowship Hall Trust is in the process of changing the details on its' noticeboard.
 Cllr Stephenson advised that the report was very much a working document, not a final result. Cllr Porter pointed out that the fence alluded to was Railtrack's property and that the Council had written to them several times regarding the dangerous state. Cllr Dale observed that the report was obviously a consultation document. Cllr Stephenson advised that the item would be tabled in future once Cllr Turton's investigations were complete.
- 35.2 Swings on the Meadowings. The Clerk explained that these had been partially dismantled and that a collar piece was missing. The swings had been removed to Preston Park for safekeeping by SBC and a quotation was awaited from SBC for a replacement collar.

36 HIGHWAYS AND RECREATION

- 36.1 Water on the Spital. Cllr Porter advised that SBC had been trying to rectify the problem but in the process had broken a manhole. Until advised by Cllr Porter, SBC had been unaware that the water drained into the pond at Fishponds. SBC investigating.

37 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 37.1 Weigh & Tolls Meeting. It was agreed that the next meeting should take place at 7.00pm on Tuesday 11th September 2001 before the Town Council Meeting.

There being no further business the Meeting closed at 10.45pm.

Signed this 26th day of June 2001

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Chairman

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held on Tuesday 26th June 2001

PRESENT: Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Councillors Monck, Simpson, Porter, Addison, Henderson, Dale, Turton & Stephenson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None

Before starting the meeting, Cllr Marsden expressed her thanks to Cllr Addison for dealing with matters in her absence and in particular for chairing the Council Meetings.

The new representative from the Darlington & Stockton Times, Mr Rob McDonald was introduced to the members.

38 MINUTES

- 38.1 The Minutes of the Meeting on 12th June were agreed with the following amendments:
- 38.2 Item 28.3. "Mount Leven" to be amended to "Manor House".
- 38.3 Item 29.3. "Following a proposal from Cllr Monck " to "Minute 165.5 of 24 April 2001" to be deleted and inserted as a new Item at 29.14. "Following a further proposal" to "Standing Order 18" to be deleted and replaced by "We also propose that the Weigh & Tolls Committee of Yarm Town council be presented at the second Council Meeting of the month as an Agenda item."
- 38.4 Item 29.10. Attendance Record. Following a query from Cllr Monck, the Clerk confirmed that this was on display in the Library and on the Town Hall Notice Board. The Clerk also confirmed that the Record was included as an appendix of the Minutes of 12th June 2001. The Minute was then agreed as it stood.

39 MATTERS ARISING

- 39.1 Item 26.3. Tiles. Cllr Dale confirmed that they had been cleaned.
- 39.2 Item 26.9 Chernobyl Children. Cllt Porter confirmed she was waiting for confirmation from Boyes re the "goodies bags" for the children.
- 39.3 Item 29.1 Charities Fair de-briefing. The Clerk confirmed this would take place on Tuesday 17th July at 7.00pm.
- 39.4 Item 29.4. Standing Orders. The Clerk confirmed that the copies of the Model Standing Orders would be distributed before the meeting on 24th July.
- 39.5 Item 29.12. Vagrants. Cllr Simpson advised that a property in the area was being watched.
- 39.6 Item 31.3 Allotment Walk. The Clerk confirmed that Notice to Quit letters would shortly be issued to some of those tenants who had received warning letters.
- 39.7 Item 33.1. Flood Alleviation Meeting. The Clerk confirmed that this would take place on 3rd July at 6.30pm.

40 ACCOUNTS

40.1 The Accounts as listed were agreed for payment, together with the following additional items:-

Post Office Counters	Stamps	£ 50.00
CLCA	Subscription 2001/2002	£350.64
Northern Electric	Electricity for Allot Hut	£ 14.29
*Frontline Flagpoles	Flagpole	£810.75

*Cllr Addison advised members that this was a replacement cheque as the original had been lost in the post and had subsequently been stopped at no cost to the Council.

41 CORRESPONDENCE

41.1 Correspondence as listed was noted. The Clerk brought the following additional items to Members' attention:

41.2 Yarm Fair. A letter of acceptance had been received from Dari Taylor MP to attend the Riding of the Fair.

41.3 Public Toilets. A letter of complaint had been received from a member of the public regarding the state of the toilets. This had been forwarded to Bob Clough of SBC for his response. The Clerk had also responded to the complainant.

42 POLICY AND RESOURCES

42.1 Charities Fair. De-briefing meeting confirmed at 7.00pm on Tuesday 17th July.

42.2 Composition of Finance Sub-Committee. It was agreed to await the response from NALC.

42.3 Special Resolution. Following a query from Cllr Turton, it was confirmed that the motions alluded to under Minutes 165.4 and 165.5 had both been agreed. The Special Resolution, submitted by Cllrs Monck, Porter and Simpson, was passed as follows:-

a) "We, the undersigned, by special resolution under Standing Order 18, call upon Yarm Town Council to reverse the decision taken on 8th May 2001, Minute 5.2, which placed the Weigh & Tolls Committee within the Town Council Agenda.

b) "We propose that the Weigh & Tolls Committee of Yarm Town Council be held as a separate Committee outside the normal Council Meeting in accordance with minute 165.4 and 165.5 of 24th April 2001.

c) "We also propose that reports from the Weigh & Tolls Committee be presented at the second Council meeting of the month as an Agenda item.

Following a query from Cllr Turton it was confirmed that meetings of the Weigh & Tolls Committee would be open to members of the public and representatives of the Press. It was also agreed that meetings of the Weigh & Tolls Committee would start at 7.00pm. Cllr Addison confirmed he was still awaiting a response from the Inland Revenue regarding his request for clarification of the situation on Corporation Tax.

42.4 Register of Special Interests. Model received from SBC to be amended and distributed to members

42.5 CPRE. Cllr Dale advised that he would not be able to attend the next few meetings but was happy to remain as the point of contact. He also advised that CPRE had offered to

send a representative to a Council Meeting. After some discussion it was agreed that it was important that the Council maintain informal links with the CPRE on a communications basis and that any proposal to extend the Yarm Conservation Area should be discussed. The Clerk to write to the CPRE and invite them to send a representative to a Council meeting in the autumn.

- 42.6 Housing Strategy Draft Paper. The Clerk gave a brief précis of the paper. It was agreed that the Clerk should request that SBC ensure work is carried out on old peoples bungalows in Yarm to bring them up to standard, particularly those with condensation.
- 42.7 CLCA Meeting. It was confirmed that no one had been able to attend.
- 42.8 Banners on the Town Hall. The Clerk advised that a verbal request had been received from Levendale School to put a banner on the Town Hall to advertise the School Fete on 30th June. Following a discussion it was agreed that current usage of the Town Hall should not be extended. As it stands this relates to Council events such as the Charities Fair, currently organised by the Lions on the Council's behalf, and events undertaken by SBC e.g. Canoeing Marathon World Championships. The Clerk to advise the school accordingly.
- 42.9 Weigh & Tolls Meeting. It was confirmed that the next meeting would be held on Tuesday 11 September 2001 at 7.00pm.

43 ALLOTMENTS

- 43.1 Disabled Garden. The Clerk confirmed that the acceptance form had been returned to the Wildlife Fund and that no further responses had been received in relation to the remaining grant applications. Cllr Henderson recapped on the tenders received last year i.e. Tender A £7,900 – Flagpaving: £6,900 – Bitumen: Tender B £7,000 – Flagpaving: £6,000 – Bitumen: Tender C £4,900 – Flagpaving; Bitumen not priced and advised that the revised price from Tenderer C was £6,200 for flagpaving and £5,599 for bitumen. It was agreed that the revised price from Tenderer C for flagpaving be accepted as this contractor had been the lowest last year and was still the cheapest this year. Cllr Henderson confirmed that this price included the work for cutting through to the Medical Centre. The Clerk to write to the Medical Centre accordingly. Cllr Henderson felt that volunteer work carried out by Councillors would stand grant applications in better stead and suggested that this be carried out one weekend. Cllr Marsden suggested that the Allotment Society be asked to act in partnership with the Council to clear the site. Kirklevington Grange also to be contacted. Cllr Turton to investigate the cost and usage of a flamethrower before a firm date agreed. Cllr Porter reminded the meeting that the Darlington & Stockton Times had requested a photo of the garden before the work commenced and it was agreed that this should include Cllrs Porter and Marsden, plus Mr Gary Quirk
- 43.2 Allotment Hut. Cllr Porter advised that the power was not working and it was agreed that the Clerk should arrange for an electrician to inspect to establish whether the Contractor's men had caused the damage. If it were found that this was the case, the contractor would have to stand the loss. The contractor to return the keys loaned to him once the work has been signed off. Cllr Henderson to inspect the work on Saturday morning.
- 43.3 Allotment Matter. It was agreed that this should be dealt with as a confidential matter at the end of the meeting.
- 43.4 Allotment Buildings. It was agreed that structures left on the Allotments by previous tenants should be their responsibility and preferably they should arrange for the sale of the building to the new tenant. It was suggested that an amendment to the Allotment Rules to this effect should be discussed with the Allotment Society.

- 43.5 Weeds. Cllr Porter advised that the road at the side of the Allotments is covered in weeds. EYC to be asked for a price to treat the area with weed killer.
- 43.6 Yarm in bloom Trophy. Cllr Porter advised that she had invited Mrs Hubener to judge this year's competition and that the trophy would be awarded to the best floral display in the town centre. Judging would exclude the florists' shops. The Darlington and Stockton Times to be advised once the judging had taken place. It was confirmed that a glass tankard had been given to last year's winner.
- 43.7 Yarm Prep School. EYC to be asked to cut the bushes and trees on Grammar School Lane in late August.

44 **CEMETERY**

- 44.1 Vandalism of sign. Cllr Henderson advised that the sign had been broken and was not repairable. It was agreed that a new sign be purchased and that it should be of wood rather than plastic.
- 44.2 Cemetery Extension. It was noted that this required cutting.
- 44.3 Cemetery Chapel. Cllr Simpson queried whether it would be possible to rehouse the Road Signs and fencing currently stored in the Chapel but it was felt that there was no other space available. Further discussion to take place at the next Meeting. Cllr Monck confirmed that it was the centenary of the building in 2002 and it was suggested that it could be used for an ecumenical service, possibly in connection with the Queen's Golden Jubilee.
- 44.4 Gravel on the Road. Following a query from Cllr Porter, Cllr Henderson advised that this happened after a heavy rainfall and was due to the steep slope.

45 **ENVIRONMENT**

- 45.1 Hogweed. Cllr Dale confirmed he had surveyed areas in question and that the only area of concern is at the side of the railway.
- 45.2 Flood Alleviation Scheme Meeting. Cllrs Monck, Stephenson and Simpson apologised in advance for their absence.

46 **PLANNING**

Cllr Simpson as Ward Councillor took no part in the discussions.

Cllr Marsden thanked Cllr Stephenson for acting as her deputy in her absence.

- 46.1 Felling of trees at Yarm School. It was confirmed that this was within the Tree Management Scheme.
- 46.2 Garages at the development at the Old Station, Aislaby. It was noted that the Council had previously objected to the building of the flats on the grounds of increased traffic flow and that the same objection should apply to this further application.
- 46.3 661 Yarm Rd – non-illuminated sign. No comment.
- 46.4 3 & 4 Hauxwell's Yard. The Council is pleased to note the reversion to two dwellings.
- 46.5 Yarm School- earth moving. No objection.
- 46.6 The remaining items were of a domestic nature.

47 RECREATION

- 47.1 Millennium Seat. Cllr Monck confirmed that a letter of explanation has now been sent to the ecclesiastical authorities.
- 47.2 Vandalism on Snaith's Field. Cllr Porter reported that a swing seat had been damaged, some wood had been removed from the rocking horse and the seat was damaged. Yarm Hardware to be asked to deal with the rocking horse. Cllr Dale advised that he had found dry rot in the rocking horse. This to be reported to SBC. Yarm Fabrications to be asked to contact Cllr Dale regarding the seat. Following a report by Cllr Monck that there had also been incidents of vandalism on Worsall Road, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the police to ask them to increase patrols in the area.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

48 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- 48.1 Damage to a bollard. Cllr Dale advised that the bollard at the junction of Worsall Rd and The Spital had been damaged and that this had been reported to SBC.

49 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 49.1 Tubs at Derek Campbell's. Following a query by Cllr Henderson, Cllr Monck confirmed that a member of the Civic Society had painted the tubs.
- 49.2 Allotment Matter. Cllrs Porter and Monck left the room and took no part in the discussions. It was agreed that the ad-hoc committee would be given delegated powers to deal with the matter. It was further agreed that the draft letter be issued as it stood but with the addition of a request to the tenant in question that he provide alternative dates which were convenient to himself for any meeting with the ad-hoc committee. Agreement on this point to be obtained from James Sheering before the letter is issued.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.45pm.

Signed this 10th day of July 2001

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Chairman

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held on Tuesday 10th July 2001

PRESENT: Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Councillors Monck, Simpson, Henderson, Turton, Stephenson, Addison and Porter

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Dale

Before starting the meeting, Cllr Porter advised the members that Dave Wood, the Chairman of the Allotment Society had died suddenly at the weekend. A minutes silence was observed in Mr Wood's memory.

50 MINUTES

- 50.1 Item 39.4. Standing Orders. Cllr Addison will circulate a revised Best Value Paper with the copy Model Standing Orders
- 50.2 Item 41.3. Public Toilets. A query had been raised by a member of the public as to why these are locked at night. Cllr Simpson to investigate.
- 50.3 Item 42.9. Weigh & Tolls Meeting. The Clerk to ensure that the Public Notice advises that the Meeting of the Weigh & Tolls Committee is open to the public.
- 50.4 Item 47.1. Millennium Seat. Cllr Monck provided the Clerk with a copy of the letter issued by the Church Warden to the ecclesiastical authorities

51 ACCOUNTS

- 51.1 The Accounts as listed were agreed for payment, together with the following additional item:-

Yarm DIY	Balance of Yarm in Bloom contract	£600.00
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- 51.2 It was agreed that any bills received during the summer break could be paid without prior consent of the Council. Cllr Addison to provide a list of payment for the first meeting in September.
- 51.3 Cllr Addison tabled the first quarter Budgetary Control Statement for 2001/2002. The first quarterly Control Statement for the Weigh & Tolls committee will be tabled in the autumn.
- 51.4 The Clerk confirmed that the Fellowship Hall Trust had paid their proportion of the annual Insurance premium.
- 51.5 It was confirmed that Cllr Porter had the Council's authority to obtain a new paying in book.
- 51.6 Audit Queries for 2000/2001. Cllr Addison confirmed that he and the Clerk had a meeting with a member of the District Audit team on Friday 13th July to discuss the points raised. He confirmed some amendments to the accounts would be required but that these would be of a minor nature. Following a query from Cllr Turton, Cllr Addison confirmed that the accounts would not be public until they had been signed off.

52 POLICY & RESOURCES

- 52.1 Finance Sub-Committee. Agreed final decision to be deferred until September, pending further advice from NALC. A heated discussion then ensued regarding the subject during which Cllr Marsden, as Chairman, adjourned the meeting.

- 52.2 Queen's Golden Jubilee. Cllr Marsden suggested a Town meeting should be held to discuss what, if any, events should take place. This would involve youth groups, businesses and schools. It was agreed that the possibility of amalgamating any events within the Charities Fair for 2002 should be discussed at the forthcoming meeting with the Lions.
- 52.3 Chernobyl Tea party. Budget of £102 agreed for the refreshments. It was agreed that civic gifts of a Town Guide and a MilleniYarm plate be given to the adults accompanying the children. Boyes to be sent an official letter of thanks for donating the childrens' presents. It was agreed that the Councillors attending would present the gifts to the adults.
- 52.4 Revised payscale for the Clerk.. Cllr Addison confirmed that the Clerk would receive an incremental increase in her July salary, inline with NALC payscales. He also confirmed an increase in the national payscales with effect from April 2001. Cllr Simpson expressed her concern at the amount expended on mileage. It was agreed that this should be looked at during the Best Value Review.
- 52.5 Criminal Injuries Borad. It was agreed that a copy of the relevant Minute should be supplied. Cllr Monck confirmed he had given his file on the matter to the Clerk.
- 52.6 Pictures. Cllr Porter displayed some samples. The matter to be postponed until September to enable the queries regarding trading and the VAT position to be discussed with the Auditor.

53 ALLOTMENTS

- 53.1 Disabled Garden. The Clerk confirmed that no further responses had been received regarding the remaining grant applications. Cllr Henderson volunteered to scythe the area as he would be away when the flame gun would be used. The area to be scythe, flamed, cleared and weed killer to be used.
- 53.2 Allotment Hut. Cllr Henderson tabled a letter for issue to the contractor in respect of the outstanding items. The Clerk to amend the letter to advise that, following the loss of the keys to the hut by the contractor, the purchase and fitting of a new lock and keys would be at the contractors expense.
- 53.3 Drainage. Cllr Porter expressed her concern regarding the possible removal of the drain crossing her property. Cllr Henderson will investigate.
- 53.4 Allotment Fires. A complaint had been made to SBC by a member of the public regarding a large fire on an allotment. A Notice to Quit letter had already been sent to the tenant in question. It was agreed that the remaing discussion be held in camera at the end of the meeting.
- 53.5 Meeting with the Allotment Society. The Ailotment society to be invited to attend at 7.00pm on Tuesday 17th September.
- 53.6 Infestation. The Clerk to find out when SBC re-attending.
- 53.7 SBC to be asked to check the Allotment Hut for asbestos.
- 53.8 Vacant Plots. Cllr Porter advised that there are two at the moment.

54 CEMETERY

- 54.1 Cemetery Chapel. Cllr Monck suggested that an ecumenical service be held in 2002 to coincide with the Queen's Golden Jubilee and the centenary of the chapel. To be discussed at the meeting on 17th July.
- 54.2 Cemetery Extension. Cllr Henderson will investigate to see if it has been cut.

55 ENVIRONMENT

- 55.1 Flood Alleviation Scheme. Nuttalls to be advised of the need for handrails on the raised footpath at Safeways. The date of the next meeting with Nuttalls noted as 6.30pm on Tuesday 2nd October. Notices to be sent to the three Churches in the town.
- 55.2 Dog Fouling Initiative. It was noted that a new dog bin had not been placed on Snaith’s Field by SBC as this was Yarm Town council property.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

- 55.3 Tees Navigation Strategy. Cllr Simpson confirmed she would be attending the meeting on 24th July. The Clerk confirmed she would attend on 25th July.

56 PLANNING

Cllr Simpson, as Ward Councillor, took no part in the discussions.

- 56.1 Bentley House. Planning permission refused.
- 56.2 66 High St – Extn of show room space at rear. No comment.
- 56.3 The remaining items were of a domestic nature.

57 RECREATION

- 57.1 Rocking Horse on Snaith’s Field. The situation to be monitored.

58 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- 58.1 Green Lane closed for maintenance – 15th July.
- 58.2 Leven Bridge closed for maintenance – 6 –10pm 22 July; 10 am to 8 pm 23rd July.

59 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 59.1 Fires on Allotments. Tenants to be advised that only allotment garden waste should be burned.
- 59.2 Allotment matter. Cllrs Monck and Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room. A further letter had been received from the tenant which was to be referred for legal opinion before responding.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm.

Signed this 11th day of September 2001

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Chairman

**Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 11th
September 2001.**

PRESENT: Cllr Addison, as Vice- Chairman, in the Chair in Cllr Marsden's absence

Councillors Simpson, Porter, Turton, Stephenson, Monck and Henderson.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Marsden. Cllr Dale had a previous commitment but would attend during the course of the meeting.

60 MINUTES

60.1 The Minutes of the previous Meeting on 10th July 2001 were agreed without amendment.

Before moving on to the business of the meeting, Cllr Monck expressed his concerns regarding the comments regarding the previous Chairman which had been printed in the recent Labour Party leaflet. He felt the comments were unwarranted and he supported Cllr Porter for her enthusiasm, commitment and work for the town of Yarm. This view was endorsed by the majority of Councillors present. Cllr Simpson felt that the leaflet had been counter-productive and erroneous in its content

61 MATTERS ARISING

- 61.1 Item 50.3 Weigh & Tolls Minutes. Following a query from Cllr Turton, the Clerk confirmed that these would be published once they had been formally agreed.
- 61.2 Item 50.4 Millennium Seat. The donors have queried with the Archdeacon why it has taken so long for the matter to be considered. The ecclesiastical authorities have confirmed that a decision will be made this month.
- 61.3 Item 51.6 Audit Queries. Cllr Addison confirmed that the Accounts had now been amended and would be sent to the District Auditor for approval once they had been signed by himself, as Responsible Financial Officer and Cllr Porter, as Chairman during the years in question i.e 1999/2000 and 2000/2001.
- 61.4 Item 52.3. Visit of Chernobyl children. Cllr Monck felt the tea party provided by the Council had been a heart-warming and very worthwhile event. It was confirmed that 6 plates and town guides had been presented to the adults accompanying the party as civic gifts.
- 61.5 Item 52.6 Pictures. Cllr Porter had discussed the situation with the party involved and it had been agreed that Yarm town Council should not be involved. Cllr Addison confirmed that he had discussed the VAT position with the Auditor who had advised that the council should not be involved in framing or production. The position regarding disposal or use of the remaining calendars to be added to the Agenda for the meeting on 25th September.
- 61.6 Item 53.6. Infestation. Cllr Porter advised that a further visit had been required due to a further infestation.
- 61.7 Item 53.7. Asbestos check. The Clerk to confirm the situation with SBC.
- 61.8 Item 54.1 Cemetery Chapel. Cllr Monck advised the meeting that the new rector for the Parish Church takes up his post on 23rd November. It was agreed that any discussion on a possible ecumenical service be delayed until after this date and that an item should be put on the Agenda for the first meeting in January 2002.

61.9 Item 57.1 Rocking Horse. It was confirmed that the horse had been repaired and repainted.

62 ACCOUNTS

62.1 The Accounts as listed were approved for payment with the addition of the following item:-

C K Metcalfe	Strimming of Allotment Plot	£30	
	Interment of Ashes	£25	Total £55

63 CORRESPONDENCE

- 63.1 Death of John Jewitt. The letter advising the Council of Mr Jewitt's death had been circulated to members and it was agreed that a letter of condolence and thanks be sent to CLCA, outlining his work and expressing the Council's appreciation for his help and advice in the past. It was also decided that a donation towards a tree would not be made.
- 63.2 Clerk's Training Day. It was agreed that the Council would pay the fee for this event of £45.
- 63.3 Information re Family Tree. Cllr Henderson volunteered to provide the information requested.
- 63.4 Correspondence to GONE. It was agreed that all members should be provided with a copy of the Clerk's recent correspondence to GONE.
- 63.5 Numbering of the post. It was agreed that all post would be numbered for ease of reference.
- 63.6 Parish Council Liaison Meeting. The Clerk circulated copies of the minutes of the previous meeting and details of the forthcoming meeting. It was agreed that topics for discussion would be agreed at the next meeting.

Cllr Dale joined the meeting at this point.

64 POLICY & RESOURCES

- 64.1 Boundary Review. Cllr Addison tabled a brief paper on the meeting he had attended on 16th August. He confirmed that there would be further consultation in writing.
- 64.2 Golden Jubilee. It was agreed that this discussion should be deferred until the first meeting in October.
- 64.3 Charities Fair 2002. Members were advised that this could not be amalgamated with any celebrations for the Golden Jubilee, and that the date for 2002 of June 9th had been confirmed with the Lions at the meeting in July. The letter from the Lions was discussed in some detail and it was felt that clarification was required on several points. The Clerk to confirm to insurers in writing regarding the holding of the Fair and to clarify the situation and limits regarding Public Liability cover. It was agreed that the selection of the person invited to open the Fair should be done in consultation and by mutual agreement. The Clerk to ask SBC to ensure the toilets are open for the event and to query the cost.
- 64.4 Standards Committee. Cllr Simpson confirmed she had attended seminars on the subject and that cases would be dealt with in London. The mechanism should be used as a last resort and Councillors will be required to agree to the revised National Code of Local Government Conduct. In the circumstances therefore it was agreed that the sanction against Cllrs Stephenson and Turton could not stand. Following a discussion on Cllr Turton's position regarding the Finance Committee, it was proposed by Cllr Addison and

seconded by Cllr Stephenson that Cllr Turton should be confirmed as a member of the Finance Committee. Cllr Monck objected on the grounds that Cllr Turton had previously given financial information to the Press before it had been discussed and agreed by the Council. Cllr Turton advised the meeting that neither he nor Cllr Stephenson had ever been given an opportunity to defend themselves. The motion was lost on a majority decision

- 64.5 Best Value It was agreed that the date for the next meeting would be discussed at the first meeting in October.

65 ALLOTMENTS

- 65.1 Disabled Garden. Cllr Henderson confirmed that work should have started today. He also confirmed that, following a meeting with Mr Carthy and the Clerk, some amendments had been made to the plans. In order to enable Mr Carthy to pay for supplies on delivery, and in particular in respect of £3,000 worth of paving stones arriving shortly, it was agreed that Cllr Addison would hold a cheque signed by two Councillors pending confirmation by Cllr Henderson that the stones had arrived. Once he received this, Cllr Addison would complete the cheque and sent it to Mr Carthy. The Clerk confirmed that no further responses had been received to the remaining grant applications.
- 65.2 Allotment Hut. Cllr Henderson advised that he was not happy with the standard of work and that the rain water gutters required attention as they are not level. He will write to the contractor.
- 65.3 Fires on allotments. Cllr Porter advised that, following complaints from members of the public, the Clerk had contacted Dodds Timber who had spoken to the men concerned and that the fires had now stopped. The commercial waste left on the allotment in question was still there and another tenant had offered to burn it. The Clerk to contact Dodds again to ask them to arrange for the men responsible to remove it.
- 65.4 Appointment of new Allotment Chairman. Members were advised that the new Allotment Society Chairman was the tenant who is currently in dispute with the Council. It was agreed that the Clerk should refer this matter to James Sheerin for his legal opinion on whether any conflict of interest was involved. It was further agreed that the meeting should be postponed pending this advice. In the circumstances, Cllr Porter tendered her resignation as Chairman of the Allotment Committee as she felt it would not be possible to establish a working relationship with the new Chairman of the Allotment Society. Cllr Addison accepted her resignation with some sadness and expressed the Council's thanks for her years of work. Cllr Monck endorsed this view and admired her fortitude during what had been a very trying time. He suggested it would be difficult to find a new Chairman with the same commitment. The item to be discussed at the next meeting.

66 CEMETERY

- 67.1 Cllr Henderson advised that there was nothing to discuss at this time.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

67 ENVIRONMENT

- 67.1 Flood Alleviation Scheme. Revised time and date for next meeting 6.30pm on

Tuesday 25th September. It was agreed that the provision of alternative carparking was not the Council's responsibility.

- 67.2 Dog Fouling. Cllr Dale will put up the laminated posters, particularly on the path at the Medical Centre.
- 67.3 Public Toilets. Cllr Turton had received complaints over the recent Bank Holiday regarding the closure of the Toilets. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to SBC to ask them to consider opening the toilets on weekends and Bank Holidays during day light hours.

68 PLANNING

Cllr Simpson, as Ward Councillor took no part in the discussion.

- 68.1 All weather surface at Conyers School. The Council agreed that the additional facilities afforded the town would be of benefit but felt that objections should be raised on the following grounds:-
 - a) Floodlights too high
 - b) No screening
 - c) Too close to residential properties.It was pointed out to Cllr Stephenson, who had acted as Cllr Marsden's deputy in her absence, that the matter should have been brought before the Council before this meeting as the 14 day period had expired. Cllr Stephenson advised that he thought the matter had been discussed previously.
- 68.2 6 Bridge St. Domestic matter. No objections.
- 68.3 Bentley House. Plans submitted by new owner. Council to object in relation to the demolition of an historic wall; poor site access; demolition of a garage and that the work to be undertaken internally would be unsympathetic.
- 68.4 The remaining items were of a domestic nature.

It was agreed that the unheard items under Highways and Transportation and Recreation would be heard at the next meeting, as there was nothing of an urgent nature. These Committees to be heard immediately after Policy and Resources.

The Meeting closed at 9.55pm

Signed this 25th day of September 2001

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Chairman

**Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town council held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 25th
September 2001**

PRESENT: CLLR Addison , as Vice-Chairman, in the Chair in Cllr Marsden's absence.

Councillors Simpson, Stephenson, Dale, Monck, Porter and Henderson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Marsden and Turton.

69 MINUTES

- 69.1 The Minutes of the previous Meeting on 11th September were agreed without amendment.
- 69.2 Agreement of Minutes of Weighs & Tolls Committee. Cllr Monck pointed out that these could not be formally agreed at this meeting as the Ratepayers Representative, Mr Bell had not been invited to attend. It was agreed that the agreement of the Minutes should revert to the previous cycle i.e at the next meeting of the Weigh & Tolls Committee and that a Special Resolution would be required to implement this change. Cllr Monck to provide the Special Resolution. In the circumstances, it was agreed that it should be noted that the Weigh & Tolls Minutes had been presented and would be formally agreed on Tuesday 9th October.

70 MATTERS ARISING

- 70.1 Labour Party Leaflet. Cllr Porter advised that she had taken legal advice on the matter and asked Cllr Stephenson to retract comments made concerning herself both in this year's and last years leaflet. She also asked for a public apology. Cllr Stephenson felt that this was not a Council matter and therefore declined to comment. Cllr Simpson supported Cllr Porter in her request.
- 70.2 item 61.3. Audit Queries. Cllr Addison confirmed that the amended Accounts for 1999/2000 and 2000/2001 had now been signed and sent to the District Auditor.
- 70.3** Item 61.7. Asbestos check. The Clerk confirmed that a meeting had been arranged with Mr Asardi of SBC on Friday 28th at 10.30pm. All Council members invited to attend.
- 70.4 Item 61.8 Cemetery Chapel. Cllr Monck advised that an invitation would be issued to the council to attend the investiture of the new Rector of the Parish Church.
- 70.5 Item 65.1. Disabled Garden. Cllr Henderson confirmed that the work was proceeding well
- 70.6 Item 65.2. Allotment Hut. Cllr Henderson confirmed that a letter had been sent to the contractor regarding the items still to be completed.
- 70.7 Item 68.1. Planning Application – Conyers School. Cllr Monck advised that Cllr Stephenson was Chairman of Governors at Layfield School which had supported the application and in view of this Cllr Stephenson should have declared an interest. Cllr Stephenson advised he had not been aware of the letter of support at the time he put the matter before the Council and therefore had no reason to declare an interest. He would check the school records and advise at the next meeting. Cllr Porter felt that the system for the reporting of Planning matters during the summer break should change and that the Clerk should have the authority to call an extraordinary meeting if she felt it was necessary. There was general agreement on this point. Cllr Stephenson repeated the point he had made at the previous meeting on 11th September that he had thought the Planning matter under discussion had already been brought before the Council by Cllr Marsden. The Clerk confirmed that this was not the case.

ACCOUNTS

71.1 The Accounts as listed were agreed for payment with the addition of the following amount:-

Northumbrian Water	Rates for the 2 nd Half of the year	£78.62
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.Cllr Addison confirmed that the amount of £2,500 related to the purchase of paving slabs for the Disabled Garden and that this had been dealt with under the mechanism agreed under Minute 65.1

72 CORRESPONDENCE

72.1 Correspondence as listed was noted. The following items were discussed in more detail:-

72.2 Chapel Wynd. The Clerk confirmed this had been a query from solicitors acting for the purchasers of Lilac Cottage requesting information regarding Rights of Way. The Clerk confirmed that this had been passed to Richard Rust, Rights of Way Officer of SBC to respond.

72.3 Yarm Angling Twinning Association. Cllr Henderosn advised that he had been approached by the Secretary regarding the invitation to the Chairman to attend the official function with the French anglers on Saturday. The Clerk advised that she did not remember such an invitation being received but would check.

73 POLICY AND RESOURCES

73.1.1 Liaison Forum. The following items to be put forward for discussion:-

- a) To query the current status of the parking review and when it will be finished
- b) to query when work will be starting on the next set of cobbles and whether they will be of a similar appearance
- c) to query whether SBC have any plans to celebrate the Queen's Golden Jubilee and whether these would involve Yarm
- d) to query what plans, if any, there are for the roundabout at the junction of the Spital and Worsall Road
- e) to query whether SBC would consider extending their planting to include Yarm as they do in Billingham and Thornaby.
- f) If the proposed re-development of the Town Hall were to proceed, would SBC consider putting in a computer link?
- g) In view of the recent events in America, does SBC have a view over the Unnecessary overflying of Yarm.

Cllr Addison advised that he hoped to attend the meeting on 10th October.

73.2 Finance Committee. Cllr Addison declared a direct pecuniary interest and left the room. It was confirmed that the Special Resolution was required to carry out the decision taken at the last meeting to reverse a previous decision that Cllr Turton should be appointed to the Finance Committee. The resolution was duly passed.

73.3 Composition of the Finance Committee. It was agreed that Cllr Monck be appointed and that a space be left for Cllr Addison to take up one he was no longer acting as Responsible Financial Officer. The Clerk advised that Cllr Addison's intention was to gradually pass Financial matters to her once the previous years Accounts had been signed off. The Clerk advised, however, that she felt a review would need to be carried out of her hours to accommodate this.

Cllr Addison rejoined the meeting at this point.

- 73.4 Calendars. It was agreed that local schools, youth organisations and the Library be approached to see if they would want them.
- 73.5 Gutters on the Town Hall. The Clerk advised that these were badly overgrown and required cleaning out. Yarm DIY had advised that the work could not be carried from a ladder and that the cost of hiring a platform would be £270 + VAT. Their labour figure would be in the region of £50 - £60. It had been suggested that this work could be incorporated in the hanging of the Christmas lights around the Town Hall. Cllr Porter to contact the Fire Brigade to see if they would be prepared to do this as in previous years.
- 73.6 Donation cheque to Cadet Force. Cllr Addison gave a brief report on the proceedings. Mrs Dale had taken some photographs which would be developed shortly.
- 73.7 Street Collection Licences. The Clerk reported that she had been advised of several unauthorised collections in the Town recently by the Salvation Army and Save the Childrens Fund. She had already established that the SCF collection was bogus and it was agreed that she should write to both organisations to confirm what the requirements were. Cllr Henderson suggested a list of authorised collections should be published on the Council notice board on a monthly basis.

74 RECREATION

- 74.1 The repairs to the seat to be cancelled as a new seat has been installed by SBC.
- 74.2 Waste bins. It was reported that the bottom had been cut out of the bin on Snaith's Field and that the bins on the riverside had not been emptied. Cllr Simpson will remind SBC.

75 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- 75.1 Cllr Monck reported a hole in West St and on several in the lay-by outside of the Fellowship Hall. The Clerk to advise SBC.
- 75.2 Blackfriars Parking. The letter of complaint regarding parents of Yarm Prep School was discussed at some length and Cllr Simpson confirmed that she had involved the Police who had issued Parking tickets where necessary.. She confirmed she had written to the Head and that the school had written to parents. Cllr Simpson will monitor the situation and was thanked for her efforts. Cllr Stephenson pointed out that the letter contained a complaint that a previous letter and petition had not been acknowledged. This oversight had arisen when the previous Clerk's wife had been very ill. The Clerk to write and apologise.
- 75.3 Community Engineer Initiative. The Clerk to establish whether any cost involved and if not, to invite Mr Morris to either the second meeting in October or November.
- 75.4 Parking on pavements in Willey Flats.. Cllr Dale confirmed he had received a complaint on the matter which he had referred to the Police.

76 ALLOTMENTS

- 76 Election of Allotment Committee Chairman. Cllr Simpson was elected as the new Chairman. She agreed to act in this capacity until Cllr Porter felt able to take back the position.
- 76.1 Rent for second Allotment gardens. It was agreed that this should be at the same rate as the first garden.
- 76.2 Dispute with Allotment Tenant. To be discussed in camera at the end of the meeting.
- 76.3 Non allotment waste left on the Allotments. The Clerk confirmed she had spoken to one of the tenants who had been implicated but he had denied all knowledge. The Clerk to contact Kirklevington Grange to see if they would like the timber for their bonfire. If not she will contact SBC re cost of removal.

- 76.4 Meeting with Allotment Society. The Clerk advised that there would not be a conflict of interest in holding discussions with the new Chairman of the Allotment Society as his current dispute with the Council was a private matter. A revised date of 7pm on Tuesday 30th October was agreed. The Clerk to write to the Chairman of the Allotment Society in the Secretary's absence. The suggested Agenda provided by the Allotment Society to be circulated to members prior to the next meeting.
- 76.5 Drain in pond. Cllr Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussion. It was agreed that a discussion was required on the possible diversion of the drain. Cllr Monck would provide a paper for discussion at the next meeting.

77 CEMETERY

- 77.1 Cllr Henderson advised there was nothing to discuss at this time.

78 ENVIRONMENT

- 78.1 Flood Alleviation Scheme meeting. This was confirmed as 6.30pm on 9th October. The Clerk to confirm to Nuttalls.
- 78.2 Meeting at Elementis. Cllrs Dale and Addison advised they had attended a meeting and tour under the auspices of the Wildlife Fund.

79 PLANNING

- 79.1 Cllr Simpson, as Ward Councillor, took no part in the discussions.
- 79.2 Air Conditioning units – Halifax Building Soc. The Clerk to ask for the plans.
- 79.3 All other items were of a domestic nature.

80 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 80.1 Cllrs Porter and Monck declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room. It was agreed that the Clerk should contact UNITE to see if they would be prepared to act as the neutral observer and what the cost would be.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Signed this 9th day of October 2001

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Chairman

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 9th October 2001

PRESENT:Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Cllrs Henderson, Dale, Turton, Stephenson, Porter, Simpson, Addison and Monck

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None

Before starting the meeting, Cllr Marsden expressed her thanks to Cllr Addison for deputising for her whilst she had been away during the summer.

81 MINUTES

- 81.1 The Minutes of the meeting on 25th September were agreed with the following amendments:
- 81.2 Item 72.3. The spelling of Henderson was corrected.
- 81.3 Item 74.2. Waste bins. “the bottom had been cut out of the bin” amended to “the bottom had been removed from”.

82 MATTERS ARISING

- 82.1 Item 70.1. Labour party Leaflet. Following a query from Cllr Porter, Cllr Marsden confirmed that she had, as Chairman, sent a letter to the Editors of the leaflet and was awaiting a response. Cllr Turton felt that the leaflet was a matter of free speech.
- 82.2 Item 70.2 Audit Queries. Cllr Addison confirmed that there were still a couple of points outstanding and that the Accounts required further revisions. Cllr Turton queried when the Accounts would be made public and advised his information from the District Auditor was that they should be available now. Cllr Marsden queried why Cllr Turton had felt the need to contact the Auditor himself and stressed that all future queries must go through the Clerk. The Clerk to clarify the situation with the District Auditor, particularly in respect of the mechanism involved.
- 82.3 Item 70.7. Planning application – Conyers School. Cllr Stephenson advised that a letter of support for the Planning Application had not been sent by Layfield School but that the school had, as had all primary schools in Yarm sent a letter of support regarding the funding application. This had nothing to do with the School Governors. It was agreed that the arrangements for dealing with Planning matters during the summer break should be discussed during the Best Value meeting.
- 82.4 Item 72.3. Yarm Angling Twinning Association. The Chairman confirmed she had attended the function.
- 82.5 Item 73.1. Parish Council Liaison Forum. The Clerk confirmed that the Agenda had been passed to Cllr Addison.
- 82.6 Item 73.6. Donation cheque to Cadet Force. Cllr Dale confirmed the photographs had been developed and that he would let the clerk have them.
- 82.7 Item 73.7. Street Collection Licences. It was agreed that, following Cllr Henderson’s suggestion, a list should be published monthly on the Town Hall noticeboard.
- 82.8 Item 76. Allotment Committee Chairman. Following a query from Cllr Turton, Cllr Simpson confirmed it was not her intention to give the impression that the Chairmanship would revert to Cllr Porter when she felt she was in a position to resume. Any future change in the Allotment Chairman would be decided by the Council.

82.9 Item 76.3. Non Allotment waste. The Clerk confirmed that Kirklevington Grange does not hold a bonfire and that SBC had confirmed that there are no official bonfires licensed in the Borough this year. The Clerk to check with Yarm Prep School to see if they are having a bonfire.

83 ACCOUNTS

83.1 The Accounts as listed were agreed for payment with the following additional item:-

Mr Carthy	Further interim payment for the Disabled Garden	£1,000
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83.2 Proposed Budgets for 2002/2003. It was agreed that Chairman of the various Committees would provide written plans for 2002/2003, plus costings for the meeting on 13th November. Cllr Turton queried the overspend on the Recreation budget for last year. Cllr Addison explained that this was due to an underestimation of the number of cuts required under the open spaces contract. Cllr Addison confirmed that the Council owes approx £4,000 to the Weigh & Tolls Committee relating to Fair expenses and that a breakdown of this would be provided in due course.

84 CORRESPONDENCE

84.1 The correspondence as listed was noted.

85 POLICY AND RESOURCES

85.1 Queen's Jubilee. Item to be added to the Agenda for 23rd October. Councillors who are School Governors to establish whether their school has any plans and, if so, whether these could be incorporated within the Council's plans. Cllrs Addison and Dale to provide a paper for discussion.

85.2 Local Authority Allowances. Following a proposal by Cllr Addison, it was agreed that there should not be allowances as a matter of course, only the Chairman's Honorarium, plus expenses for out-of-pocket expenses. The Clerk to advise NALC accordingly.

85.3 Risk Assessment Seminar. It was agreed that the Clerk should attend.

85.4 Special Resolution. It was noted that an incorrect Minute Number had been included in the Resolution. Following amendment, the Resolution to be resubmitted and included on the Agenda for 23rd October.

86 ALLOTMENTS

86.1 Disabled Garden. The correspondence received from the Medical Centre regarding access via the car park was discussed at some length and the concerns regarding health and safety issues were noted. It was agreed that the Council had two options- either it could pay for the Medical Centre to obtain a legal opinion on their health and safety and legal liability concerns, as requested, or it could arrange for alternative access to the garden through the existing gateway. After some discussion it was agreed that the Council would investigate the installation of a more "user friendly" lock on the gate and abandon access through the car park. The Clerk to advise the Medical Centre that the Council is investigating other points of access and to correct the point made in the Medical Centre's correspondence that the land in question belongs to the Medical Centre when in fact it is Council land which is

leased to the Medical Centre. The Clerk also to investigate suitable locks. This item to be added to the Agenda for the meeting with Allotment Society on 30th October.

86.2 Allotment Society meeting. The following items to be added to the Agenda:-

- 1) Possible manning of the gate to the Brickyard Allotments
- 2) Change of lock on the gate to the Brickyard Allotments
- 3) Change in Rent collection procedure
- 4) The Allotment Association to take more responsibility for the running of the Allotments

86.3 Allotment Hut. The Clerk confirmed that a response had not been received to the recent letter. Cllr Henderson will ring the contractor.

86.4 Asbestos Cement. The Clerk confirmed that Mr Asardi from SBC had attended the Allotments and had checked the hut in question. He had advised that asbestos cement had been used on the roof but that the risk from this was minimal unless there were internal deposits. He had provided various leaflets which had been circulated to members. Cllr Turton advised that, in his opinion, the information provided was out of date. Cllrs Dale and Stephenson concurred with this view. It was agreed that Cllrs Turton and Simpson would investigate the internal state of the hut and report back. It was further agreed that the Clerk create a record of Council buildings known to contain asbestos.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

86.5 Drainage of pond. Cllr Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussion. Cllr Mock gave a brief resume of his paper and suggested that the Council take steps now to resolve the situation. Cllr Addison agreed that the matter needed addressing. Cllr Dale was of the view that the matter was not of a pressing nature but suggested a budget be applied for any work to remove the drain and the matter discussed at a later date. Cllr Henderson felt that the problem may not arise. Following a suggestion by Cllr Turton, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to NALC for a legal opinion to ensure that the Council could not be accused of improper conduct in respect of a possible advantage to Cllr Porter in relation to land owned by her which has outline planning permission. It was pointed out the drain had been installed during the 1960's, prior to Mrs Porter becoming a Councillor. Costings to be obtained once the legal opinion received.

87 CEMETERY

87.1 Nothing to report

88 ENVIRONMENT

88.1 Green Belt meeting at Thornaby Town Hall on Friday 19th October. It was agreed that Cllr Dale would attend on the Council's behalf and that a written report would be presented at the Council meeting on 13 November.

88.2 Cobbles. Cllr Marsden advised that she had received a complaint. It was noted that the matter is to be discussed at the Parish Council Liaison Forum on 10th October.

89 PLANNING

- 89.1 Cllr Simpson, as Ward Councillor took no part in the discussions.
- 89.2 All weather playing area – Conyers School. Cllr Marsden’s report was presented. Both Cllr Marsden and Cllr Simpson to attend the site meeting at 3.15pm on 11th October.
- 89.3 Air conditioning units – Halifax . SBC to be advised of the Council’s concerns regarding the impact of the increased noise levels on surrounding properties.
- 89.4 New Cross Keys – 2 storey extension. No comments.
- 89.5 Other matters were of a domestic nature.

90 RECREATION

- 90.1 Snaith’s Field & Willey Flats. Cllr Turton commented on the different levels of tidyness between the two areas. SBC to be asked to look at the damaged bin on Willey Flats. An amount to be put into the Budget for 2002/2003 for additional and replacement bins.
- 90.2 Flytipping on railway embankment. The Clerk to advise Railtrack and request removal of rubbish.

91 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- 91.1 Goosepasture. Cllr Simpson confirmed that the extension in waiting limits had been passed.
- 91.2 Tubs on the Spital. It was noted that the tubs had been overturned .

92 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 92.1 Dispute with an Allotment Tenant. It was agreed that the discussion should be deferred to the next meeting to give members time to read the most recent correspondence.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.10pm.

Signed, this 23rd day of October 2001

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Chairman

Draft Minutes of a Meeting of Yarm Town Council held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 23rd October 2001

PRESENT: Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Cllrs Dale, Addison, Stephenson, Monck and Simpson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Porter, Turton and Henderson

93 MINUTES

- 93.1 The Minutes of the meeting on 9th October were agreed with the following amendments:-
- 93.2 Item 82.2. The following to be added: "Cllr Addison expressed his view that the Accounts should be re-advertised and placed on public view once the Auditor had certified them."
- 93.3 Item 86.5. The spelling of Monck was corrected.
- 93.4 Item 90.1. "An amount to be put into the Budget for 2002/2003" to be amended to "An amount to be proposed to be put into the Budget for 2002/2003".

Before proceeding to matters Arising it was agreed that the Environment Committee Report would be dealt with as the first committee Report after Policy and Resources due to the number of items involved.

94 MATTERS ARISING

- 94.1 Item 82.6. Cadet Force Donation cheque ceremony. Cllr Dale provided photographs which were passed to Sheila Weber of the Darlington & Stockton times for publication. She will contact the Clerk if she needs any further information.
- 94.2 Item 83.2. Proposed budget items for 2002/2003. Members were reminded that these were to be forwarded to the Clerk in good time before the next meeting.
- 94.3 Item 86.4. Asbestos Cement. Cllr Simpson confirmed she had met Cllr Turton to inspect the inside of the hut in question but had been unable to gain access. The Clerk to contact tenant with a view to obtaining a key. It was suggested that the inside of the shed be treated with a suitable sealant if flaking is found.
- 94.4 Item 86.5. Drainage of pond. The Clerk confirmed she was awaiting a response from NALC. It was confirmed that costings would be obtained once legal opinion received.
- 94.5 Item 88.1. Green Belt meeting. Cllr Dale advised he had been unable to attend due to work commitments.

95 ACCOUNTS

95.1 The Accounts as listed were agreed for payment with the following additions:-

Cllr G Porter	Flowers for the riding of the Fair Buffet 2001	£22.65
	Ditto 1999 & 2000	£40.00
Mr Carthy	Further interim payment for Disabled Garden	£1,000

95.2 It was noted that the item relating to "Post Office Counters" should be amended to "Post Office "

96

CORRESPONDENCE

- 96.1 The correspondence as listed was noted and the following items were discussed in more detail:-
- 96.2 Letter from Mr S Tranter, in response to the Chairman's letter regarding the recent Labour Party leaflet. The content was noted.
- 96.3 Northumbrian Water, requesting access to woodland in Goose Pasture and temporary removal of a gate. It was agreed that the Council had no objection in principle to the work but would prefer that a representative of the Wildlife Trust, who manage the area, oversee the work. Northumbrian Water has advised that they would reimburse a reasonable fee. The Clerk to contact Rob Scaife at Eggescliffe School to obtain contact details.

97

POLICY AND RESOURCES

- 97.1 Parish Council Liaison Forum. The papers presented by Cllrs Marsden and Addison were noted. Cllr Simpson to query the situation regarding the traffic survey as she had understood it was in progress. Cllr Simpson also to query the position regarding the flying of private planes over Yarm.
- 97.2 Standards & Probity. The Council agreed in principle with the proposal from SBC that a regular dialogue be established in the form of a quarterly meeting with the Clerk. The suggestion was to review after a year to see what had been accomplished. The meeting would also provide an element of training for the Clerk. The Clerk to advise SBC of this and to query who would bear the cost of extra hours involved.
- 97.3 Special Resolution. Following a proposal by Cllr Stephenson, it was agreed that the last paragraph should be amended as follows:
- 97.4 "We propose the Minutes of the Weigh & Tolls Committee be approved at the following meeting of the Weigh & Tolls Committee **and accepted at the following full Council Meeting** and are then made available to the public, along with the other Town Council Minutes." The Resolution was then agreed as amended.
- 97.5 Minutes of the Best Value Meetings. The Minutes of the meeting on 24th July 2001 were agreed without amendment. The Minutes of the meeting on 15th October 2001 amended as follows:-
Item 3.3 to include "to avoid a majority of Councillors being on a sub-committee."
- 97.6 Recommendations of the Best Value meeting on 15th October were discussed as follows:-
- 97.7 Item 3.5. Meeting cycle – agreed
- 97.8 Item 3.6 Composition of sub-committees – agreed
- 97.9 Item 3.7 Meeting composition – agreed
- 97.10 Item 3.8 Weigh & Tolls Minutes – agreed
- 97.11 Item 3.9 July, August and December meetings – agreed
- 97.12 Item 3.10 Cancellation of a meeting in Clerk's absence – decision deferred until legal situation clarified.
- 97.13 Committee Chairman's Report form. It was agreed this should be adopted and that it could be hand-written, if preferred.

- 97.14 Minute Indexing system. It was agreed this should be adopted with a slight amendment that the sub-committees be identified by their first letter i.e. "a" for Allotments; "e" for Environment etc.
- 97.15 Community Links Working Party. It was agreed that this should be set up for an initial trial period of one year to establish how much interest there would be by the general public and organisations in Yarm. Cllr Addison pointed out that consultation was part of the Best Value process. The initial composition of the group to be the Chairman plus Cllrs Addison, Monck and Turton plus anyone else who was interested. The date for the first meeting was set for Thursday 15th November and it was agreed that the Clerk would not be required.
- 97.16 Review of Clerk's Hours. The Clerk advised that she was regularly doing more than the 17.5 hours per week stipulated in her contract and that this would increase when she took over responsibility for financial matters. She also advised that, due to a lack of time, she had not been able to undertake more proactive projects such as a review of insurance requirements. Following a discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk's hours should be increased to 21 hours per week as a temporary measure with effect from the first of November 2001 until the end of the financial year on 31 March 2002 when the situation would be reviewed.. It was hoped that the change in the Council meeting system which would take effect on the first of January 2002 would result in a decreased workload for the Clerk. Cllr Monck advised that in previous years Councillors had done some of the Clerk's work themselves. Cllr Simpson was of the opinion that the problems the Council had encountered over the last couple of years had contributed to the increased workload for the Clerk.
- 97.17 Best Value Meeting. This was set for 7.30pm on Monday 19th November in the Town Hall.
- 97.18 Fair De-briefing. It was agreed that this should be held in the Town Hall at 7.00pm on Monday 4th December. Representatives from Cleveland Police, The Showmens Guild, Traffic Management North East, Stockton –on-Tees Borough Council and Egglecliffe Parish Council to be invited to attend.
- 97.19 Queen's Golden Jubilee. Cllr Dale gave a brief outline of the items contained in his working paper, with the addition of the following items:-
 Red, white and blue laser show
 Coronation Film show
 A regatta
 Cllr Dale pointed out that projects could be put on either individually or in tandem with other suggestions and that cost and organisation would have to be borne in mind. It was agreed that an informal discussion should take place after the Best Value meeting and that the Council should consider issuing a civic invitation to Schwallbach and Vernouillet if the festivities were to proceed.
- 97.20 Electoral Review. It was pointed out that the Council had suggested in the past that the number of Councillors should be increased from nine to eleven. It was agreed that the matter should be considered further at a future meeting as the deadline for response was 7th January 2002.
- 97.21 Deed of Gift. Cllr Monck was concerned that the Council had not progressed in its wish to safeguard the items contained in the Deed of Gift of 1925. It was agreed that he would produce a paper for discussion at the next meeting.
- 97.22 Gift from the Showmens Guild. A letter of thanks to be sent.

98 ENVIRONMENT

- 98.1 Flood Alleviation Scheme. The papers and plans submitted by Edmund Nuttall were discussed at some length, particularly in relation to the number of trees scheduled for removal. It was noted that the area in question was overgrown and in need of work and that the erection of a fence was on Health & Safety grounds. Nuttall to be asked the reason for the footpath and also whether they would consider erecting a fence on the lower footpath on the section between Safeway and the bridge. It was agreed that a site visit, preferably on a weekend, would be beneficial and that the Clerk should request this.
- 98.2 National Tree Week. Cllr Dale pointed out that this was taking place between 21 November and 2nd December. He will approach Elementis to see if they have any young trees available after their recent tree thinning exercise and will report back at the next meeting.
- 98.3 Damage to trees. It was noted that at least one tree on the Meadowings had been snapped.
- 98.4 Greenfingers Challenge. Cllr Dale explained that this was targeted at Young people and that this would be the type of project to be considered by the Community Links Working Party. He also noted that Tidy-up Britain were no longer involved in the Britain in Bloom campaign.
- 98.5 Air Quality Reports. It was noted that these showed that air quality in Yarm was good. Cllr Dale confirmed copies had also been sent to the library.
- 98.6 Footpath on river walk. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to SBC to see if it would be possible to have observation sites incorporated within the wall. Copies to go to Edmund Nuttall and the Environment Agency.

99 ALLOTMENTS

- 99.1 Allotment Hut. Cllr Marsden advised that she had spoken to Cllr Henderson who had confirmed he had contacted the contractor but without response. It was agreed that if a response was not received within the next 14 days, the Council would try to find a contractor to finish the work and that the payment withheld should not be paid and used to pay for the outstanding remedial work.
- 99.2 Disabled Garden. It was confirmed that this should be finished next week and that Mr Carthy would then provide his final invoice for payment.
- 99.3 Meeting with Allotment Society. The Clerk advised the Allotment Society had confirmed they would attend the meeting. Cllr Marsden tendered her apologies for her absence.

100 CEMETERY

- 100.1 Repairs to Chapel roof. Remaining part of chapel roof to be re-roofed.
- 100.2 Leaves. Leaves to be cleared.
- 100.3 Costings. Cllr Henderson to obtain costs for both of the above items.

101 PLANNING

- 100.4 Cllr Simpson as Ward Councillor to took no part in the discussions.
- 100.5 Willow cottage, Aislaby Rd – No comments

- 100.6 37-39 High St. Advise SBC that the Council are pleased to see more living accommodation on the High St
- 100.7 George & Dragon Public House. SBC to be asked to take cognisance of any archaeological finds.
- 100.8 10 Bentley Wynd. Site visit to be requested.
- 100.9 Conyers School – Revised plans for all weather pitch. Strongly object as per previous grounds.

102 RECREATION

- 102.1 Snaith’s Field. Cllr Dale reported that the tiles around the “wobbly” horse were covered in grasscuttings and that he would clean them. Need for grasscuttings to be removed to be incorporated in tender wording.

103 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- 103.1 Bus Shelters on the Meadowings. SBC to be applauded but also to be requested to provide a further shelter on Davenport Rd near Carew Close because of the number of elderly residents.

104 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 104.1 Flounders Trust Meeting. The Chairman advised that the recent meeting had been postponed and that a revised date would be advised in due course.
- 104.2 Christmas Cards. The Clerk advised that she felt the Council should consider sending Christmas Cards to suppliers and contacts. She will investigate the costs and advise at the next meeting.
- 104.3 Golden Jubilee . Cllr Dale advised that a window display competition should be added to the suggested projects.
- 104.4 Christmas Window Display competition. Cllr Porter to be asked to organise.
- 104.5 Dispute with Allotment Tenant. Cllr Monck declared a non-pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussions. The correspondence from UNITE advising they could not act as an impartial observer was discussed at some length. It was decided that the Clerk should approach the Clerk to the Justices to see if this function could be carried out by a J.P. If not, the tenant to be asked to provide someone himself.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed this 13th day of November 2001

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Chairman

**Draft Minutes of a Meeting of Yarm Town Council held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 13th
November 2001**

PRESENT: Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Cllrs Addison, Porter, Simpson, Turton, Monck, Dale and Henderson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: None

105 MINUTES

- 105.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting on 23rd October were agreed with the following amendment:-
- 105.2 Item 97.18 Fair De-briefing. Monday 4th December to be amended to Tuesday 4th December.
- 105.3 Item 95.2. "Post Office" to be amended to "Post Office Ltd"

106 MATTERS ARISING

- 106.1 Item 93.2. Revised Accounts. Following a query from Cllr Turton, the Clerk advised she had spoken to the District Audit office who had agreed with Cllr Addison's view that the revised Accounts for 1999/200 & 2001/02 should be made available to the public once they had been certified by the Auditor. Mandy Stephenson of the Audit Office to be asked to confirm the situation in writing.
- 106.2 Item 94.4 Drainage of pond. The Clerk confirmed she was still awaiting a response from NALC and that she would remind.
- 106.3 Item 96.3. Repairs to outfall. The Clerk confirmed that Jeremy Garside of the Wildlife Trust had been appointed as Agent on the Council's behalf.
- 106.4 Item 97.2 Standards & Probity The response from SBC that additional funding was not available to cover any extra hours involved was noted.
- 106.5 Item 97.12 Cancellation of a Meeting. The Clerk advised that in her opinion there was no need to obtain legal opinion on this point as this was to be a contingency measure only. It was agreed this point would be discussed at the Best Value meeting on 19th November.
- 106.6 Item 97.14 Minute Indexing System. Cllr Turton was thanked on the Council's behalf for providing the proforma which had subsequently been amended slightly.
- 106.7 Item 97.17 Best Value Meeting. Cllr Porter tendered her apologies in advance.
- 106.8 Item 104.4 Christmas Window Display Competition. Cllr Porter confirmed that all was organised. It was agreed that the winner of the competition should be given a Milleniyarm plate as a civic gift in addition to the trophy. It was agreed that this should also apply to the winner in 2000.

107 ACCOUNTS

- 107.1 The Accounts as listed were agreed for payment with the following additions:-

Yarm Fellowship Trust	Use by Library for educational purposes	£ 40.00
M Carthy	Balance of payment for Disabled Garden	£3,000.03
	(£7,500.03 minus £4,500 already paid)	

108 CORRESPONDENCE

- 108.1 The correspondence as listed was noted and the following items were discussed in more detail:-
- 108.2 Tees Valley Structure Plan. This was to left in the Town Hall for any councillor who wished read it. Any response to be discussed at the next meeting.
- 108.3 NHPL Management re Yarm Blues Festival. This to be discussed by the Community Liaison Working Party.

109 POLICY & RESOURCES

- 110.1 Attendance at Best Value Review. The Clerk and Cllr Turton to attend.
- 110.2 Tees valley Structure Plan. Discussed under correspondence.
- 110.3 Risk assessment. The Clerk gave a brief report on the course she had recently attended and advised that she had already taken steps to set up a Risk Assessment programme on the basis of information received. Following a discussion on the subject it was agreed that those Councillors with experience in the subject i.e Cllrs Dale, Henderson and Stephenson would assist the Clerk in setting up appropriate systems. The Clerk stressed that the relevant legislation had been in place since 1993 and that the Council would be in breach if it did not take all reasonable steps to comply. Cllr Stephenson suggested that the Clerk contact the Cleveland Emergency Planning Group for their help. It was also agreed that the Clerk would contact the HSE for any relevant literature and SBC for assistance in particular areas, such as the Cemetery and Allotments.
- 110.4 Christmas Cards. It was agreed that the Community Liaison Working Party would produce a card design for the next meeting
- 110.5 Parking Discs. The Clerk to provide Cllr Porter with more posters.
- 110.6 Finance Sub-Committee. Cllr Turton asked that it be noted that neither he nor Cllr Stephenson had attended or taken part in the decisions of this committee whilst they had been members.

111 ALLOTMENTS

Cllr Turton declared a pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussions.

- 111.1 Disabled Garden Cllr Henderson confirmed that the work was now finished but that fencing was required at the back of the site due to the slope. Other fencing may also be required. A discussion followed regarding access to the site by the disabled and it was agreed that the suggestion of a separate entrance was not feasible. Altering the existing gate and/or the lock were discussed at some length and it was agreed that Albert Cannings be asked to give his opinion. The Clerk confirmed she would check the procedure required to obtain payment of the grant from the Wildlife Trust.
- 111.2 Allotment Hut. Cllr Henderson had not been able to elicit a response from the contractor. It was agreed that an alternative contractor be found for the small jobs remaining. It was agreed that the cost of any work done be charged to the money held back from the original contractor.
- 111.3 Meeting with the Allotment Society. The points raised were discussed as follows:-

- 111.4 Balance left of £1195, minus any amount for outstanding work, to be used for general improvements to the Allotments.
- 111.5 Polytunnel. Cllr Henderson advised that this had been shown on the original plan as a possibility only. but that it would be available for general use if proceeded upon.
- 111.6 Fire extinguisher. The Clerk to check with existing provider.
- 111.7 Speed restriction signs. Agreed to pay up to £5. The Clerk to check the cost.
- 111.8 Water on roadway near plot 15. Maurice Cook to ask Rob Newman to check.
- 111.9 Access for the disabled. Cllrs Henderson, Simpson and Mr Albert Cannings to investigate. Cllr Simpson to co-ordinate.
- 111.10 Weedkiller. It was agreed Cllr Monck could proceed with the purchase up to £40.
- 111.11 Rent Night. Agreed that format should remain the same but that more Councillors should attend. Assistance to be given to the Clerk so that the money could be banked the same evening. Agreed that a bank night safe wallet could be obtained from the Bank at a cost of £20 + VAT. The Rent Night letters to be amended to indicate that payment by cheque, either by post or in the Town Hall Post Box would be preferred.
- 111.12 Second allotment. Agreed that rent should be as for first allotment, regardless of the size.
- 111.13 Cut of hedge on Worsall Rd. Allotment Society to be advised that this had previously been cut from the inside and to ask them to arrange for access.
- 111.14 Poster. Agreed subject to slight typographical amendments.
- 111.15 Allotment Rules. It was agreed that there was ambiguity relating to huts left on gardens by previous tenants. The ideal time to clarify this point would be Rent Night. Cllr Simpson to review the existing rules and revise where necessary.
- 111.16 Asbestos. It was confirmed that the ceiling of the hut in question was boarded with plywood.
- 111.17 Gate on Grammar School Lane. Cllr Dale advised that this was off its hinges. He would repair if possible or if not, would advise the Clerk accordingly.

112 CEMETERY

- 112.1 Flat roof on Chapel. Cllr Henderson to organising the clearing of the leaves.
- 112.2 Headstones. As part of the Risk assessment programme, the Clerk and Cllr Henderson had inspected the headstones in the Cemetery and had laid down those that were unstable and noted those which required remedial work. A contractor was attending on Sunday regarding the work. A church warden to be invited to attend the inspection of the stones in the closed churchyard.

113 ENVIRONMENT

- 113.1 Tree Planting week. Cllr Dale advised that they were not thinning at Elementis at the moment but suggested that saplings from the Council land in Ggoosepastures could be used on the Meadowings or the High St. Jeremy Garside to be asked to identify suitable specimens and suggest timing of any

planting, Cllr Stephenson confirmed that another oak tree on the Meadowings has been destroyed

113.2 Flood Alleviation Scheme. The Correspondence was noted. A site visit to be suggested between Christmas and New Year.

114 RECREATION

114.1 Play Equipment. Cllr Turton's report was tabled and it was agreed that SBC inspect urgent items. SBC also to be requested to remove horse manure from the footpath.

114.2 Fence near railway. The Clerk to write to Railtrack again regarding the state of disrepair.

115 PLANNING

115.1 Nothing to report

116 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

116.1 Bus shelters on the Meadowings. Cllr Stephenson confirmed that work had started.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

117 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

117.1 Cllr Simpson advised that Dave Walker an ex -policeman on the Youth Offending Team would like to met the Council. It was agreed he should be invited to attend at 7.pm before the next meeting on Tuesday 27th November.

117.2 Mr Les Cope. Cllr Porter advised that Mr Cope was due to retire from the Fire Brigade after twenty five yeas service. The Clerk to write on the Council's behalf to wish him well.

117.3 Clapham's Clocks. Cllr Henderson produced some photographs and a brochure provided by Mr Graham Tebbs regarding a ciosk museum in new Zealand which had been founded by a member of the Clapham family of Yarm The Clerk to contact the Darlington & Stockton Times to see if they would be interested in the story.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed this 27th day of November 2001-

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Chairman

**Draft Minutes of a Meeting of Yarm Town Council held at 7.30pm in the Town Hall on Tuesday
27th November 2001**

PRESENT Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Cllrs Turton, Stephenson, Simpson, Monck, Porter and Addison

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Henderson and Cllr Dale who would be arriving late due to another commitment.

118 MINUTES

- 118.1 The minutes of the previous meeting on 13th November were agreed with the following amendments:-
- 118.2 Item 106.1. Revised Accounts. "1999/200 & 2001/2002" to be amended to 1999/2000 & 2000/2001".
- 118.3 Item 110.3. Risk Assessment. "regarding public events" to be inserted after "Cleveland Emergency Planning group".
- 118.4 Item 111. Allotments. "Cllr Turton declared etc to be amended to "Cllr Turton declared a pecuniary interest in respect of item 111.12 and took no part in the discussions on this item. He did, however, take part in discussions on other items.
- 118.5 Item 117.2. Mr Les Cope. The spelling of years to be corrected.

119 MATTERS ARISING

- 119.1 Item 110.5. Parking Discs. The Clerk to provide Cllr Porter with revised posters reflecting the additional outlets.
- 119.2 Item 111.10. Weedkiller. Cllr Monck advised that he had negotiated a discounted price of £30.92.

120 ACCOUNTS

The Accounts as listed were agreed for payment with the following additions:-

Sam Turner Ltd	Weedkiller for allotments	£ 30.92
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Weigh & Tolls Accounts

Stockton Borough Council	Manning of road closure barriers during Yarm Fair 2001	£646.25
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121 CORRESPONDENCE

- 121.1 The correspondence as listed was noted and the following items were discussed in more detail:-
- 121.2 Civic Society. It was noted that the list of dates submitted for use of the Town Hall for 2002 was incorrect and that revised dates would follow.
- 121.3 Street Licence for Newton Aycliffe Royal British Legion Pipe Band. The Clerk advised that this had not been received until Monday 26th November when the band had been due to play on the High St on Saturday 24th November. The Band Secretary intends making a formal complaint to SBC about the delay in issue which had resulted in the event having to be cancelled. YTC will be advised of the outcome.

122 POLICY AND RESOURCES

- 122.1 Tees Valley Structure Plan. It was noted that Yarm had been re-categorised as a district centre but still keeping the peculiarities of a town.
- 122.2 District Audit correspondence. Cllr Turton advised he had requested clarification on the Accounts for 2000/2001 and not 1999/2000 as shown in the correspondence. Following a query from Cllr Turton, both Cllr Addison and the Clerk confirmed that the Accounts for 2000/2001 had been made available for inspection by the general public in the statutory manner. Cllr Turton advised that the Accounts had not been presented to the Council until 12th July 2001 and, therefore, had been available to the public before the Council itself had seen them. Cllr Addison confirmed that this could well have been the case due to pressure of work.
- 122.3 National Training Strategy for Parish & Town Councils. The Clerk to advise that the Council are interested in principle. Either Cllr Turton or Cllr Stephenson to provide a précis of the paper for either the December meeting or the second meeting in January.
- 122.4 Distribution of Toys donated by the Showmen's Guild. It was agreed that the recipients would be left to the Chairman's discretion.
- 122.5 Parks & Countryside Best Value Workshop. Cllr Turton and the Clerk gave a brief report and both were agreed that it had been a useful meeting with Borough Officers. Cllr Turton advised that SBC were keen to put forward schemes for funding and that he had a meeting arranged with Borough officials. Any input from other Councillors would be gratefully received. Two schemes had been discussed; one involving culverting and landscaping the Meadowings and the other involved improving the approaches to Yarm, particularly in relation to trees on the Spital. The Clerk advised that she had discussed Risk Assessment programmes for the Cemetery and Churchyard, plus the allotments, with the relevant officers and that she would be obtaining more information in the near future. It was agreed that RoSPA would inspect the play equipment on the Meadowings and Snaith's Field at a cost of £30 + VAT per site. Cllr Turton and possibly the Clerk to attend.
- 122.6 Community Working Party. Notes of the meeting on 15th November 2001 were circulated by Cllr Marsden. Following a discussion on the following topics, it was agreed that the paper should be adopted as a working document and that a further meeting should be arranged for December:-
- 122.7 Lighting of the Christmas Tree. The Clerk confirmed that a brass ensemble from the Salvation Army would accompany the carols. It was agreed that the collection would be in aid of the Salvation Army Christmas Appeal. It was agreed that light refreshments would be provided for all attending the service and that the Guides be asked to provide catering for 50. A budget of approx. £70 to be set aside. The function to be held in the Fellowship hall and the Trust to be asked to waive the fee for this civic event. Cllr Porter declared a pecuniary interest during the discussion regarding the possible waiving of the fee and took no part in the discussion. The Clerk to provide notices for Safeway, The Library, the Noticeboard etc. The Darlington & Stockton Times agreed to publicise the event.
- 122.8 Queen's Jubilee. Cllr Monck advised he had already discussed the idea of a non-denominational service of thanksgiving with the new Rector. Other events such as a tournament and barbecue organised by Yarm Sports Trust, a roadshow, and a commemorative spoon and plate for the first baby born were also discussed. The Clerk advised that a further response had been received from NHP Event Management regarding the proposed Blues Festival but that the detailed Business Plan and Budget had not been provided as requested. She confirmed she had requested these items

- again. It was agreed that arrangements should be made for a meeting with Community groups.
- 122.9 Civic Leaflet. Cllr Dale suggested that two a year should be published initially and that the first issue should contain photos of council members and the Clerk and should indicate their areas of responsibility. Copies to be distributed by Councillors. He volunteered to provide a mock-up for the Council's consideration. It was agreed that the first issue should include a question as to what facilities the public would like to see in Yarm and whether they would be prepared for an increase in rates to pay for this. It was agreed that there should be editorial control to ensure the leaflet did not contain political items
- 122.10 Christmas Card. The sample as provided by Cllr Dale, with a few minor amendments, was approved. A budget of up to £20 was agreed, plus postage as necessary. Cllr Dale was thanked for his efforts and confirmed he would provide a supply for the next meeting.
- 122.11 Badges. Cllr Dale felt it was important that Council members should be easily identifiable to members of the public at public functions and to that end would provide name badges for members.
- 122.12 Agenda for Fair De-Brief. Amended slightly to include an item relating to duplication of duties re the road closure by SBC and TMNE. The Clerk to issue to all parties attending. It was agreed that this was not the occasion to involve members of the public
- 122.13 Standing Orders Revue. It was agreed that the Chairman and the Clerk should provide amended Standing Orders in relation to the revised meeting structure for the next meeting. An item to be added to the main Agenda for the main Council meeting in January regarding a date for the next meeting.
- 122.14 Cleaner. The Chairman advised that a new cleaner had been employed. It was agreed that the Clerk could buy a kettle to provide hot water and that the cleaner's costs for providing cleaning equipment would be defrayed by the Council.
- 122.15 Budget for 2002/2003. Cllr Addison advised that he had finished the draft budget and that this would be presented to the Finance Sub-Committee at its meeting on Monday 3rd December.

123 ALLOTMENTS

- 123.1 Allotment Hut. Cllr Simpson advised that Cllr Henderson was dealing with this.
- 123.2 Revised access to Brickyard Allotments. Cllr Simpson had held discussions with a fabrication firm who had intimated a figure of between £300 and £350 to provide two gates to replace the one in situ. They had suggested two gates lower than the one existing gate, with the same lock but situated on the outside not the inside. Cllr Simpson will obtain two further quotations.
- 123.3 Disabled Garden. The Clerk confirmed she had required a copy of the final invoice from Mr Carthy to claim the grant from the Wildlife Trust. Cllr Addison will provide. Cllr Simpson felt that some form of railings were required at the side of the plot near the Medical Centre car park to stop wheel chairs from tipping. She will ask for a quote when inquiring re gate. It was agreed that leaflets should be distributed to residents of Rigby House in an effort to obtain a tenant for the remaining garden. It was confirmed that Gary Quirk was taking the rear plot. When writing to confirm the Clerk to advise that he did not have exclusive use of the table in the garden.
- 123.4 Allotment Rules. It was agreed that these required amendment and that a legal disclaimer should be included
- 123.5 Gate in boundary fence. Cllr Porter advised that this had originally been provided for a tenant with health problems but that this was not now the case and was now being used

- 123.6 Drainage under Cllr Porter's land. The Clerk to write to David Bond at SBC for legal advice.

124 CEMETERY

- 124.1 Leaves on the chapel roof. The Clerk advised that Keith Metcalfe had been asked to remove them and that he had also been asked to provide a quotation to carry out the remedial work to the headstones.
- 124.2 Closed Churchyard. The Clerk advised that she had carried out an inspection of the headstones with the churchwardens. Moles had been found which could possibly make the ground unstable. She will investigate ways of dealing with this problem. A list had been made of gravestones requiring work and Keith Metcalfe to be asked to attend a meeting with the Clerk and Cllr Henderson to discuss the matter further.

125 ENVIRONMENT

- 125.1 Report. Cllr Dale gave a précis of his report. He agreed to provide a thumbnail description of each organisation having input. Cllr Simson advised that any replacement bins should be obtained from SBC as these were funded from the rates. Cllr Dale felt it was important that the Council develop a view or strategy on environmental issues.
- 125.2 Air Pollution Reports. The Clerk confirmed further reports would be available next week.
- 125.3 Planting of trees. The Clerk confirmed she had spoken to Jeremy Garside of the Wildlife Trust, who had advised that the Council should not consider uprooting sapling trees, as this would cause them to die. He suggested the use of nursery stock. Cllr Monck advised that the Civic Society had intimated it would be interested in maintaining trees on the High Street. The Clerk to convey the council's thanks and pass on Cllr Dales contact details.

126 PLANNING

- 126.1 Cllr Simpson as Ward Councillor took no part in the discussions.
- 126.2 Bentley House. The revised plans were discussed at some length. SBC to be advised that if the wall were found to be unsafe, it should be rebuilt in matching materials. The Council felt that car parking was still a problem and would prefer the present two-entry system. This situation would be eased if the development were to two houses rather than three. The loss of the rear parking situation was appreciated, as was the refurbishment of the garage. The internal development would appear to be more in sympathy with original house and the retention of the existing Georgian staircase was particularly pleasing.
- 126.3 Conyers School. The revised plans included the planting of trees for screening purposes. SBC to be advised that the planting of trees would not make a material difference to the objections previously advised.
- 126.4 36 St Nicholas Gardens. No comments.

127 RECREATION

- 127.1 Meadowings/Willey Flats. Cllr Turton gave a brief outline of his discussions with SBC and that the design would include improvements by culverting the stream and that it may also be possible in the future to include a skateboard park due to the natural contours of the land. It had also been suggested that a lit and covered congregation area could be constructed for young people. Cllr Simpson felt that there would be opposition from local residents. Cllr Dale agreed to provide a sketch for a combined basketball/football pitch for consideration. Cllr Dale also felt that the Council needed a cohesive policy regarding amenities for the young people of the area.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

- 127.2 Yarm Walks leaflet. Cllr Turton advised that SBC were keen to have an official Yarm Walks leaflet to link in river walks and other walks on the Yarm boundary. He was advised that such a leaflet already existed which he could obtain from the bookshop for discussion with SBC.
- 127.3 Approaches to Yarm. Cllr Turton advised he had passed this to Cllr Stephenson, as his area of responsibility was Highways & Transportation. Cllr Dale pointed out that footpaths were shown on the Structure Plan. He also pointed out that the removal of pylons in 2005 would result in a green belt area
- 127.4 Path down Leven Valley. Cllr Simpson requested that this be diverted from Spell Close.

128 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- 128.1 Works on the Spital. Borough councillors had been advised that this related works to the gas main. Yarm Town Council, however, had not been advised of the nature of the work. Cllr Porter advised that a section of the footpath on the opposite side of the road had been dug up forcing people to walk in the road.

129 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 129.1 Budget items for 2002/2003. Cllr Addison advised that these would be in the form of Budget bids due to competition for funds.
- 129.2 New Christmas Light. The Clerk advised that this had been erected on the lamppost on the roundabout at the bottom of the Spital. SBC to be complimented on providing the light but asked if they would erect similar lights on lampposts on the High Street if YTC provided them.
- 129.3 Scholars Court. A resident had complained about the state of the small garden area. It was suggested this could be used as work for young offenders under Reparation Orders.
- 129.4 Emergency mooring facility for Flood Alleviation Scheme equipment. The Council had no objections.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.50pm.

Signed, this 11th day of December 2001

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Chairman

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held at 7.30pm in the town Hall on Tuesday 11th December 2001

PRESENT Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Cllrs Turton, Monck, Addison, Simpson, Porter, Henderson, Dale and Stephenson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE - none

130 MINUTES

- 130.1 The minutes of the previous meeting on 27th November 2001 were agreed with the following amendments:-
- 130.2 Item 122.7 Lighting of the Christmas Tree. "Cllr Porter declared a pecuniary interest" to be amended to "Cllrs Porter and Monck declared a pecuniary interest"
- 130.3 Item 122.9 Civic Leaflet. "by the Clerk" to be inserted after "editorial control".

131 MATTERS ARISING

- 131.1 Item 119.1. Parking Discs. The Clerk advised that 10,000 discs had been ordered. Following a discussion, it was agreed that all outlets should take a stock of 200 and that payment should be made to the Council once all discs had been sold. prior to taking delivery of further stock. It was further agreed that the cost of a parking disc should increase to 40p with effect from the first of April 2002. Cllr Porter voted against the increase and asked that this be noted.
- 131.2 Item 122.2. Accounts. A discussion took place regarding the need to ensure that the annual accounts are put before the Council prior to being sent to the District Auditor. Cllr Turton proposed that there should be a 14 day period. Cllr Addison apologised for the late production of the 2000/2001 accounts which had been due to work commitments but pointed out that there was a proposal in his paper on revisions to Standing Orders that the annual Accounts should be submitted at the second meeting in May. It was agreed that this would be discussed at the next standing Orders Meeting.
- 131.3 Item 122.3. National Training Strategy. It was agreed that the Council would accept the Training initiatives proposed by NALC and the Countyside Agency for all Councillors and the Clerk.
- 131.4 Item 122.8 Queen's Jubilee. Cllr Porter felt that the gift of a commemorative spoon to the first baby born would not be meaningful as it would be copying the gift made for the Millennium celebrations. She felt a gift to couples celebrating their Golden Wedding would have more relevance.
- 131.5 Item 128.1 Wprks on the Spital. Cllr Porter advised she had spoken to SBC regarding the hole in the pavement and that the boarding had been moved so that the pavement could be used by pedestrians.

132 ACCOUNTS

- 132.1 The Accounts as presented were agreed for payment with the following additions:-

D A Dale	Gravedigging	£190.00
B Burnell	Treatment of Moles	£ 20.00
SBC	Treatment of rats @ Allotments	£173.31
Post Office Ltd	Stamps	£ 50.00

- 132.2 Budgetary Control Statements and Budgets for 2002/2003. Cllr Addison started by giving a brief precis of the financial papers in relation to the Weigh & Tolls Committee and pointed out that some items were for expenses which would not arise in the future eg the new flagpole, the large audit bill for 1999/2000. Cllr Turton felt that any increase should be an inflationary one and that one way to achieve this would be to reduce the entertainment costs at the Riding of the Fair.. Cllr Addison pointed out an account had not been received from Arriva regarding busses during the Fair in 2001 and that the figures improved once the provisional amount for this item was deleted, together with the cost for the road signs. The discussion then moved on to costings for individual Committees. Cllr Turton, supported by Cllr Stephenson, felt that the Cemetery should be passed to SBC on economics grounds and pointed out that only Yarm and Preston Councils still ran and maintained their own cemeteries. Cllr Henderson pointed out that Allotments, Recreation and the Cemetery were all services provided by the Council and should not be expected to make a profit. He was supported in this view by the majority of the Council. Cllr Turton suggested that youngsters under Reparation Orders could be used to strip the grass from trees on the Meadowings. The Clerk to advise Dave Walker of Cllr Turtons contact details.Cllr Turton advised he was happy to accept the ROSPA report on the play equipment and agreed that £400 could be taken out of the Budget for 2002/2003 .for seat painting. It was agreed that costs for fencing and the hut replacement should be removed from the Allotments budget. The amount set aside for the Queen's Golden Jubilee celebrations should be reduced to £500. Cllr Addison to provide revised Budgets for the Council meeting at the end of January and reminded members that the precept will be agreed at that meeting.
- 132.3 1999/2000 & 2000/2001 revised Accounts. Copies of the papers to be submitted to the Auditor were handed to all members. Cllr Addison confirmed that the amendments were as a result of his meetings and discussions with the Auditor. Cllr Marsden, as Chairman, thanked Cllr Addison on the Counc's behalf for his efforts

133 POLICY & RESOURCES

- 133.1 Council Christmas Card. The revised design was approved and Cllr Dale was thanked for his efforts. It was agreed that only the Chairman would sign the card. A letter of thanks to be sent to Mr David Hornsby, who had helped design and print the card, together with a cheque for £20 for a new print cartridge.
- 133.2 Partnership Strategy. The contents of the document were noted.
- 133.3 Revised Standing Orders. The suggested revisions drafted by the Chairman and the Clerk were agreed. These to be impl;emented to enable the new meeting system to function. The next meeting to discuss further revisions to Standing Orders to take place on Tuesday 5th February at 7.pm. It was agreed that the meeting should finsih by 8.30pm.
- 133.4 Local Boundaries Commission. It was agreed that it should be proposed that the member ship of the Council be increased to eleven.

134 ALLOTMENTS

- 134.1 Allotment Hut. It was agreed that there was no need to carry out the minor renovations remaining and that the contractor should not be paid the balance of his invoice as he had not completed the work as per the specification.
- 134.2 Grant for the Disabled Garden. The Clerk confirmed that the paperwork had been sent to the Wildlife Trust.

- 134.3 Rents. Cllr Turton declared a pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussion. After some discussion it was agreed that the rent should be increased to £12 (£6 for pensioners) and that this would be implemented when the Rents are collected in January 2002. The Allotment Society to be advised of the increases before the Rent letters are issued. Cllr Porter voted against the motion and asked that her opposition to the increase be noted. Cllr Simpson to investigate the feasibility of amending the timing of the rent year.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

- 134.4 Incident in Meynell's Walk. The police had advised that an elderly resident had been robbed and queried whether it would be possible to arrange for the gate at that end of the allotments could be locked when the allotments are not in use. An urgent meeting to be arranged with the Allotment Society to discuss this matter further.
- 134.5 Livestock in the allotments. It had been reported that rubbish was being dumped against boundary fences, causing problems, as was the keeping of chickens close to boundary fences. Cllr Simpson to draft some revised rules to try to remedy the problem.

135 CEMETERY

- 135.1 Headstones in the closed churchyard. The Clerk confirmed that an inspection had been carried out with the contractor and that the quote was awaited.
- 135.2 Moles in the closed churchyard. The Clerk confirmed that Mr Burnell had carried out the treatment. Cllr Marsden advised that the churchwardens were delighted the problem had been dealt with so promptly.
- 135.3 Millennium Seat. Cllr Monck confirmed this had now been installed. Cllr Marsden thanked him for his efforts.

136 ENVIRONMENT

- 136.1 Report. In view of the time involved, it was agreed that this should be discussed in detail at the Committee meeting on 8th January.
- 136.2 Air Pollution Unit. It was agreed that this should be painted matt dark green.

137 PLANNING

- 137.1 Cllr Simpson, as Ward Councillor took no part in the discussions.
- 137.2 Montessori School, High St. SBC to be asked whether Engineers Dept are concerned regarding the impact of increased numbers at the school would have on traffic and parking.
- 137.3 102 High St. Engineers Dept at SBC to be asked for their view. On the impact on traffic.
- 137.4 Silver St. Advise SBC that it had been previously agreed that UPVC window frames would not be allowed in the conservation area.

138 RECREATION

- 138.1 Trees on Meadowings. It was agreed that the work could be carried out by the Youth Offenders Team. The Clerk to advise Dave Walker of Cllr Turton's contact details to progress the matter.
- 138.2 Walks. The public to be asked not to walk on footpaths on private land.

139 HIGHWAYS AND RECREATION

- 139.1 Disabled Parking Bays. SBC to be asked to provide two additional disabled bays near the re-sited Post Office.
- 139.2 Reduced Bus Service. Cllr Stephenson had been advised that Arriva intend cutting services on the 8b evening route. He will investigate further.

140 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 140.1 Committee Meetings. It was agreed that the order would rotate and that Environment would be the first Committee to be heard for the meeitn on 8th January. It was further agreed that the Chair of the individual Committees should chair their section of the Meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 10.05pm

Signed, this 8th day of January 2002

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Chairman.

**Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held at 7.30pm in the Town Hall on Tuesday
22nd January 2002**

PRESENT:Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Cllrs Monck, Porter, Simpson, Henderson, Addison, Turton and Dale

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllr Stephenson

146 MINUTES

- 146.1 The minutes of the previous meeting held on 8th January 2002 were agreed without amendment
- 146.2 The minutes of the meeting of the Weigh & Tolls Committee held on 11th December 2001 were agreed.

147 MATTERS ARISING

- 147.1 Item 142.3. Works on the Spital. It was noted that the reinstatement work had now been completed.
- 147.2 Item 144.2. High Street Meeting. The Clerk advised that she had received approx 15 acceptances.

148 ACCOUNTS

- 148.1 The Accounts as presented were agreed for payment with the following additions:-

Mr A Wilson	Repairs to burst pipe on allotments	£10.00
Mr P Joiner	Reimbursement of out of pocket expenses	
	Incurred collecting mis-directed mail	£ 7.06
- 148.2 The Clerk to send a letter of apology to Mr Joiner and to establish who had sent the item in question and to request reimbursement.
- 148.3 Revised Accounts for 1999/2000 and 2000/2001 were agreed.
- 148.4 Budgets for 2002/2003. The Clerk advised that she had been informed that Insurance premiums would be rising by at least 10% and that there would now be additional charges in respect of extensions to Public Liability cover for special events such as the Charities Fair and Yarm Fair. Figures of £100 + IPT had been intimated for the Charities Fair and £150 +IPT for Yarm Fair. It was therefore agreed to increase the Insurance budget by £400. It was noted that the contingency fund for the Weigh & Tolls Committee of £900 could be used for the purchase of a new noticeboard. Cllr Addison reminded the Council that 2002/2003 would be the last year during which payment would be made on the road signs for the Fair. The budget for the Weigh & Tolls Committee was agreed at £1,650. This amount to be requested as a grant from the Town Council by the Weigh & Tolls Committee. Cllr Turton was of the view that expenditure on the Town Hall should be included within Administration costs and proposed that all Administration costs on the Council's budget should be integrated rather than split between the Town Council and the Weigh & Tolls Committee. As there was not a seconder on this motion, it failed by default. It was agreed that an amount of £600 be included in respect of the production and delivery of information leaflets and £500 for the revaluation costs for Council buildings and a further £500 for Risk Assessments of Council activities. It was also agreed that the figure of £500 in respect of future work to the Cemetery enclosure should be deleted in the interests of economy. Following a discussion, it was agreed by a majority decision that the precept should be increased accordingly, rather than any amounts being built into the

contingency fund. . Following a proposal by Cllr Marsden, the precept figure was therefore agreed at £44,000. Cllr Addison as Responsible Financial Officer did not vote on this issue. Cllr Turton asked that it be minuted that he had agreed with the figure for the precept but did not agree with the way the Accounts are recorded

149 CORRESPONDENCE

149.1 The correspondence as listed was noted.

A.1.pr POLICY & RESOURCES

- (1) Charities Fair. Cllr Marsden tabled a report of the meeting with the Lions which had been held on 15th January and gave a brief precis. (Appendix PR No1). Both parties had agreed that it had been a fruitful meeting, particularly in the terms of organisation. The Clerk outlined the situation regarding Insurance, highlighting the fact that the Council's Public Liability Insurance cover could only be extended to include this event if the Council had overall control, even though the Lions were organising it. There would be an additional charge of between £50 & £100 +IPT for this extension in cover. The Clerk also advised that an additional premium of £150 + IPT would apply for the extension relating to Yarm Fair. The representatives of the Lions had agreed on behalf of their members that the Council should have control. The Clerk advised that any extension in cover could not apply to stallholders and it had been agreed with the Lions that an explanatory letter, (previously circulated to members) should be issued by the Council with the initial letter from the Lions to the stallholders. The wording for the letter was agreed as submitted. It was further agreed that the increased insurance costs should be included in any grant to the Lions. Cllr Marsden advised that a further two meetings had been arranged for 7pm on 18th March and 30th April to progress matters. The Lions had confirmed that the Fair would take place on one day only, Sunday 9th June between 12 and 4pm. The Clerk confirmed that she had spoken to SBC regarding opening the toilets for the day but had been reminded that the lease was not being renewed.
- (2) Banner on the Town Hall. It was agreed that the Lions could display a banner on the Town hall advertising the event for two weeks prior to June 9th.
- (3) Lions Representative. John Francis, the Lions representative, was introduced to members and advised of the Council's decision. He would now report back to his members at their meeting that evening.
- (4) Risk Assessments. The Clerk outlined the details contained in the Risk Assessments on Council play equipment which had been undertaken by ROSPA and highlighted the areas of concern. The Clerk advised that the rocking horse on Snaith's Field had received a high-risk score which required immediate action. The options available were either to have a restrictor fitted at a cost of approx £700 or to have the horse removed which SBC had agreed to do free of charge. After some discussion it was agreed on a majority decision that the horse should be removed but that this decision should be deferred pending further enquiries by Cllr Turton. Cllrs Turton and Dale voted against the motion and asked that their objections should be noted. Cllr Turton confirmed he would report back to the Council at its next meeting on 12th February. The Clerk confirmed that she had asked Tony Raine at SBC to investigate inconsistencies on the report and to forward the leaflets mentioned it, particularly EN 1176. The Clerk also advised that SBC would provide photocopies of all previous reports, plus information on inspection schedules. There then followed a discussion on the Meadowings site which had received a high overall score due to the proximity of the road. Cllr Porter observed that this was ironic as the equipment had previously been sited further away from the road but had been moved following representations from parents who had complained that they were unable to see their children.

- (5) Newsletter. Cllr Dale had provided a sample for comment. After some discussion it was agreed that the leaflet should be A4, two sided and that the format etc should be passed to the Community Links Working Party for further discussions. This should then be referred back to the Council. Cllr Addison suggested that the back page of the first edition should explain the Council's areas of responsibility. Delivery method to be decided once numbers agreed.
- (6) Golden Jubilee. It was agreed that control of the proposed sporting tournaments should be passed to Yarm Sports Trust but that trophies could be purchased if required from the agreed budget of £500. Further meeting of the working party arranged for 7pm on Wednesday 6th February. The Sports trust to be invited to attend at 8pm
- (7) Twinning Celebrations in Vernouillet. Cllr Marsden advised that the Council had been invited to attend the celebrations on the first of June and that she would be going. The Clerk reminded members that this was the date of the Queen's Golden Jubilee weekend. The Clerk to respond on Cllr Marsden's behalf. It was noted that a request had been received regarding a grant for the Youth Camp in July but it was agreed to defer discussion pending the receipt of further information.
- (8) Public Conveniences. In view of the fact that a decision had still not been received from the Heritage Lottery Fund, the Council discussed whether it should review its previous decision not to renew the lease on the toilets in the ground floor of the Town Hall. After some discussion it was agreed that the lease should not be renewed as it was felt that the Town Hall should be opened up again and that SBC had had plenty of time to make alternative arrangements. The Clerk to advise SBC accordingly.
- (9) Declaration of Office. It was agreed that this was adopted.
- (10) Local Government White Paper. The contents were noted. Requirements for Best Value status to be discussed at the next meeting of the Policy & Resources Committee.
- (11) Code of Conduct. It was noted that this should be adopted by May 2002 and that the Council would await a draft copy from SBC before making any further decision.
- (12) NALC. Cllr Addison advised he would attend the AGM and would be prepared to be nominated for one of the posts.

A.1.p. PLANNING

- 1) Cllr Simpson, as Ward Councillor, took no part in the discussions.
- 2) Change of Use of 143, High Street to hot food takeaway.
Cllr Henderson declared a non-pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussion. It was agreed that the Council would object on the following grounds:-
 - 1) Lack of parking provision as there are double yellow lines on both sides of the road
 - 2) Dangerous position on the bend.
 - 3) Increased pressure on parking facilities on the High Street
 - 4) Additional pressure on parking on Bridge St
 - 5) Increased litter
 - 6) Inappropriate development of what is a predominantly residential area.

150 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 150.1 Clerk's holiday. Cllr Addison confirmed he would collect the post and Cllr Marsden confirmed she would distribute the minutes.

There being no further business , the meeting closed at 9.30 pm

Dated this 12th day of February 2002

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Chairman

**Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held at 7.30pm in the Town Hall on Tuesday
12th February 2002**

PRESENT: Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Cllrs Monck;Simpson.Porter, Addison, Dale and Stephenson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Henderson and Turton

151 MINUTES

- 151.1 The minutes of the meeting held on 22nd January 2002 were agreed without amendment.
- 151.2 The minutes of the Weigh & Tolls meeting held on 8thJanuary 2002 were agreed.

152 MATTERS ARISING

- 152.1 Item B.1.a.(4) Drainage under the Hermitage. Cllr Porter advised that the drainage system had been installed by Peter Musk and not Cliff Addison Drainage.
- 152.2 Item B.1.h (3) Salt bin at Cattle Arch. Cllr Addison advised he had received a response from SBC who had confirmed a salt bin would be sited there on a self-gritting basis.
- 152.3 Item 144.1 Good Neighbours meeting. Cllr Marsden advised that she and Cllr Dale had attended. The Clerk is to be provided with a poster giving contact details for the facilities offered under the scheme and that this would be displayed on the noticeboard.
- 152.4 Item 148.2. Reimbursement of expenses to P Joiner. The Clerk advised that a cheque for £7.06 had been received from Middlesbrough Council in reimbursement.

153 ACCOUNTS

- 153.1 The Accounts as presented were agreed for payment.
- 153.2 Final revised Accounts for 1999/2000. Copies reflecting the final revisions required by the District Auditor had previously been circulated to members. Copies signed by Cllrs Addison and Porter will be forwarded to the Clerk for onward transmission to the District Auditor. Cllr Addison asked that the Auditor be thanked for her help and assistance in resolving this matter. Cllr Marsden thanked Cllr Addison for his efforts on the Council's behalf. The Clerk advised that Cllr Turton had raised a query by e-mail as to why there was a separate account for one of the Council's Committees i.e the Weigh & Tolls Committee and regarding the transfer of money to this account. Cllr Addison advised that there had always been a separate bank account for this particular committee and that when this committee had been absorbed within the Council he had assumed that members would want the accounts to remain separate. Cllr Addison advised that the figure referred to by Cllr Turton was not a transfer as such but reflected the balance at the end of the year. Following a query from Cllr Monck, Cllr Addison confirmed that the District Auditor had not queried this aspect of the accounts. Following a proposal by Cllr Marsden, seconded by Cllr Simpson, the accounts were formally agreed.
- 153.3 Weigh & Tolls Grant request. Following a proposal by Cllr Monck, seconded by Cllr Simpson, the request from the Weigh & Tolls Committee for £1,650 was agreed.
- 153.4 Donation request from Yarm Twinning Association towards the Youth Camp. Cllr Marsden declared a pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussions. Cllr Addison, as Vice-Chairman took the Chair,. Cllr Addison advised that a grant of £250 had been made last year and proposed that the same amount be donated this year but that the donation should not be made until the meeting on 12th April 2002 which would

fall within the next financial year. The motion was seconded by Cllr Simpson and formally agreed.

Cllr Marsden took over the Chair at this point.

154 CORRESPONDENCE

- 154.1 The correspondence as listed was noted. The following items were discussed in more detail:-
- 154.2 Letter from David Bond re Standards and Probity. It was agreed that Mr Bond should be invited to attend at 6.45pm on 26th February, prior to the Council meeting.
- 154.3 Work on the cobbles. Cllr Simpson advised that she had received an e-mail from Brian Buckley at SBC advising that work would be starting on a further area of the cobbles in February but that he had given no indication as to which area.
- 154.4 Complaint. Cllr Simpson had received an e-mail from a member of the public regarding the financial management of the Council. Following a general discussion on the matter it was agreed that a copy of the e-mail should be circulated to all members for discussion at the next meeting.
- 154.5 Dispute with allotment tenant. It was agreed that this would be discussed as a confidential matter at the end of the meeting.

B.2.p PLANNING

- (1) Cllr Simpson, as Ward Councillor, took no part in the discussions.
- (2) 143 High St – Revised plans. The Council to object on the following grounds:-
 - 1) No parking provided
 - 2) Parking on the roadside prohibited at that point
 - 3) Too near the corner before the bridge
 - 4) Alternative parking in residential area i.e. Bridge St would infringe on privacy/peace of residents
 - 5) External ducting to rear would be over a shared yard and the Council would oppose this type of intrusion
- (3) 16 High St – replacement front door. The council approves as the new door would provide better security and improve the appearance.
- (4) Shell Garage – automated ATM. The Council has no grounds to object.
- (5) 85 High St. Cllr Marsden has requested information on the colour of the sign.
- (6) 702-704 Yarm Rd. Change of use from retail to hot food takeaway. Although outside of the Council's area, the Council would object because of the detrimental impact on traffic, parking and litter. The Clerk to advise Egglecliffe PC of its views as a matter of courtesy.

B.2.r RECREATION

- (1) Recreation Report. In Cllr Turton's absence, the Clerk gave a brief resume of the report. Regarding the outstanding items on the recent Risk Assessments, the Clerk advised that the swings on the Meadowings had been given a high risk warning even though the swings had been removed because it was felt they could be used as a climbing frame. SBC had been unable to find a suitable replacement "T" piece which would enable the swings to be replaced and this reduce the risk. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach Yarm Fabrications and ask them to contact Cllr Turton to see if they could make a replacement. The Clerk confirmed she had reminded SBC that the safety leaflets had not be forwarded. The clerk advised that the rocking horse had not

been removed yet as the JCB used by SBC was off the road but that the removal should take place shortly. Cllr Turton's comments regarding the moles on the Meadowings was noted and it was agreed that the Clerk should take steps regarding treatment of the area.

- (2) Combined play area. Cllr Dale reminded members of the combined basketball/football play area at Ayresome Gardens in Middlesbrough and suggested member take a look if passing. It was agreed that Cllr Dale would speak to Cllr Turton regarding costings for such an area in Yarm.
- (3) Yarm Recreation Trust. The request from the Trust that the Council support their request to SBC for the provision of more sporting facilities behind the clubhouse was discussed. Whilst there was general agreement with the idea it was agreed that more consultation was required to establish exactly what sort of facility was in mind. It was felt that a bowling green, for example, would be a suitable facility but that a rugby pitch would not. The Clerk to write to the Trust and request further consultation.

B.2.h HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORTATION

- (1) Marking of parking bays. It was agreed that the white lines marking the parking bays on the High Street required re-painting. The Clerk to write to Brian Buckley at SBC to request the work be carried out urgently.
- (2) Yellow lines at bus stop. It was noted that these were being ignored by motorists unless coned by the Police. The Clerk to contact Barry Buckley to suggest the implementation of a hatched area to try to stop the illegal parking.
- (3) Extra disabled bays. The Clerk advised that a response had still not been received despite several reminders. Cllr Simpson will try to progress the request as will the Clerk.
- (4) Yarm Bridge. Cllr Dale was concerned that the parapet stones might be unsafe as daylight could be seen between them. Cllr Simpson advised that an inspection had taken place at the end of 2001 and the bridge had been declared safe. The Clerk to contact Brian Harris and the Engineers Dept at SBC.

B.2.c CEMETERY

- (1) In the absence of Cllr Henderson, the Clerk advised there was nothing to report at this time other than there had been a further two burials.
- (2) Grass cutting tender. It was noted that a letter had been received from the existing contractor, Keith Metcalfe to provide the service again for 2002/2003 at the same price. It was agreed that the Council's relationship with local contractors should be discussed at the next meeting on 26th February 2002.

B.2.e ENVIRONMENT

- (1) Replacement Trees. Cllr Dale advised that the Tees Forest had been in touch to advise that the Rotary Club had free trees available for planting. It was agreed that this should progress.
- (2) Air quality Report. The contents of the report were noted.
- (3) OFWAT Meeting. Cllr Dale advised he had not been able to attend the recent meeting due to work commitments. The contact list is almost ready and should be available shortly.
- (4) Flood Alleviation Scheme. The Clerk advised she had not had time to progress the outstanding items due to her holiday but would do so. Cllr Marsden pointed out that the next update meeting would be a site visit.

B.2.a ALLOTMENTS

- (1) Disabled Access. It was noted that this was still to be progressed.
- (2) Infestation. The Clerk confirmed she now had the necessary information and would progress the matter.
- (3) Gate on Worsall Road . Cllr Dale suggested the use of a swipe-card system. The Clerk to investigate costings.

155 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 155.1 Town Hall cleaner. The Clerk advised that Miss Cannell had resigned with effect from the end of February and that a replacement would be sought.
- 155.2 Dispute with allotment tenant. Cllr Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room. Cllr Monck declared a non-pecuniary interest and took no part in the discussions. The correspondence received from the tenant suggesting UNITE be used as mediators was discussed during which it was noted that the statements in the letter relating to Cllr Monck were incorrect. Cllr Marsden had suggested Reverend Gurd as the third party observer, not Cllr Monck and Cllr Monck is not a Churchwarden. The Clerk reminded members that she had previously discussed the situation with UNITE who had advised that they could not act as a neutral observer. In the circumstances, therefore, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the tenant to correct his statements relating to Cllr Monck and to advise him that the opportunity is still available for him to attend the ad-hoc committee with a third party observer of his choice. If Unite were to be involved the Council would not be responsible for any costs incurred.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Dated this 26th day of February 2002

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Chairman

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held in the Youth & Community Centre, Yarm at 7.30pm on Tuesday 12th March 2002.

PRESENT:Cllr Marsden in the Chair

Cllrs Stephenson, Turton, Henderson, Monck, Dale, Addison, Porter and Dale

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE:None

162 MINUTES

- 162.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting on 16th February 2002 were agreed with the following amendments:-
- 162.2 Item A.2.p.(3) "106 High St" amended to "101 High St".
- 162.3 Item 161.1 "Rosedale House" to be amended to "Highfield House".
- 162.4 Weigh & Tolls Committee. The Minutes of the meeting of the Weigh & Tolls Committee meeting on 12th February 2002 were approved.

163 MATTERS ARISING

- 163.1 Item 157.2 Removal of rocking horse. The Clerk confirmed she would check with SBC re the standard of reinstatement.
- 163.2 Item 159.2. New bulbs on the Town Hall. The Clerk advised she had spoken to Yarm DIY who had referred her to Mr Tebbs, the electrical contractor. She conformed she would speak to him as soon as possible.
- 163.3 Item A.2.pr(6) Golden Jubilee celebrations. The Clerk confirmed she had written to the Yarm Sports Trust regarding confirmation re insurance cover but to date had not had a response.
- 163.4 Item A.2.pr (7) Invitation to Schwallbach. Cllr Marsden confirmed she had sent an e-mail but had not had chance to locate a web-cam.

164 MODEL CODE OF CONDUCT

- 164.1 The Parish Council's Model Code of Conduct Order (2001) was formally adopted on a unanimous decision. It was also agreed that the pro-forma disclosure forms as supplied by SBC should be adopted.
- 164.2 Register of Interests. The Clerk advised members that completed Register of Interest forms were required by 9th April 2002 and that signed Declarations of Office forms were required by 12th May 2002. Failure to provide either of these forms would result in the member in question being removed from the Council.

165 ACCOUNTS

- 165.1 The Accounts as presented were agreed, with the following additions:-

Mr D Dale	Gravediggng – 8 th Feb	£190
Youth & Comm Centre	Rent for meetings on 25 &26 Feb	£ 30

Cllrs Marsden and Stephenson declared an interest in the item relating to the Youth & Comm Centre and took no part in the decision.

- 165.2 Revised Audit Procedures. Cllr Addison gave a brief précis of his paper but advised that he would still provide accounts for the Council to the same standard, regardless if whether the Council fell within the new "lighter touch" regime. Cllr Addison hoped

that the new fixed rate charging structure would be lower than previous charges and noted that an estimate would be provided if extra work required. Under the new system an independent internal auditor may be required and after some discussion it was agreed that John Wells, Accountant be approached to provide the function for an initial period of two years. Cllr Addison to provide a schedule to enable a costing to be provided.

165.3 Finance Committee. In view of the possible changes, it was agreed that the Finance Sub-Committee should meet shortly and set dates for future quarterly meetings.

165.4 Responsible Financial Officer. It was agreed that Cllr Addison should continue to act in this capacity but with the Clerk in training over the coming year.

166 CORRESPONDENCE

166.1 The correspondence as listed was noted. The following items were discussed in more detail.

166.2 Flood alleviation Scheme update. Clerk to advise Nuttalls that Canal St should be Central St

166.3 Leaflet from MHP Coatings re removal of chewing gum. Cllr Turton to progress.

166.4 Fax from Teesside Small Gauge Railway. The original was handed to Cllr Turton to deal with.

166.5 Letter from Aria re Safeway car park. Clerk to write and sympathise with their views but explain this area is out of Council control.

166.6 Letter from EYC. The Clerk to write and accept their offer to carry out the open spaces contract at the same price as last year.

166.7 Twinning Assoc. The later of thanks re donation towards the Youth Camp was noted.

B.3.p PLANNING

(1) Cllr Simpson as Ward Councillor took no part in the discussions. Following a query from Cllr Turton, Cllr Simpson explained that she could be called in as a substitute on the Planning Committee of SBC and if she had spoken at a Town Council meeting she could not speak at SBC or vote on a Planning matter.

(2) App 01/1496/P All weather pitch at Conyers – Approved with conditions.

(3) App 02/0417/P Single storey extension at Yarm School. No objection.

(4) App 02/0359/P Retrospective app re emergency door at Safeway. No objection.

(5) App 02/0310/P & 02/0314/P Fascia signs etc at Union Arms. No comments but members asked the Clerk to query the hanging banners with Bryan Harris at SBC.

(6) App 02/0315/P Extension at rear of 30 Blackfriars. No objection

(7) App 02/0395/P Extension to rear of 7 Kelstone Close. No objection.

(8) Old Post Office. Several members had contacted SBC re work being carried out internally without permission. This has now stopped.

(9) 2 High St. Cllr Marsden has asked SBC to ratify external lights.

(10) Response to Green Paper on reforms to planning system. The literature received from CPRE was discussed at some length and it was noted that the Council had not seen either the Green Paper or the CPRE's full response. From the information provided, however, it was noted that the proposed reforms would be taking away an aspect of local democracy by removing an element of consultation and that an alternative way should be found for local town and Parish councils to express their views. The Clerk to write to Stephen Byers at DLTR to this effect and send a copy of the letter to Dari Taylor MP and the CPRE.

B.3.r RECREATION

(1) Recreation Report. The Report as tabled at Appendix (1) was noted and the following points discussed in more detail.

- (2) Meeting Place for teenagers. Cllr Turton advised that he had had preliminary discussions with the police who had advised that Norton had obtained a grant to fund such a structure in their area. Cllr Turton had also discussed with the local police who had confirmed funding was available but had advised they would like the area to be under observation. He advised that a suitable site could be located on The Meadowings approx 70 to 80 yards away from the residential area but acknowledged that the Council would need to establish the local residents' response. Cllr Dale felt that there was a dearth of suitable places for youngsters in the town to meet. Cllrs Addison and Monck supported the idea in principle. It was agreed in principle that if a suitable piece of Council land could be found the matter could progress. Cllr Addison pointed out that the land was leased from SBC and therefore any discussions should involve them. It was agreed that a working party should be set up involving SBC, the police, representative from Conyers School (to act as advisers) and possibly residents. Cllr Turton to organise. Cllr Turton will also contact Conyers and prepare a draft letter for issue to residents.
- (3) Snaith's Field. Concern was expressed regarding the lack of response from Railtrack re the state of the fence near the playground and it was suggested that the Council consider erecting a fence on their own land to prevent children getting onto the line. In the circumstances, it was agreed that Cllr Turton should measure up the area in question and obtain three quotations for the next meeting. The Clerk would try to contact Railtrack by phone to see why there had been a hold up. It was also noted that the access gate is frequently left open.
- (4) Re-seeding. To be left in abeyance for the time being.
- (5) Ramblers Association. It was decided not to join.

B.3.h HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- (1) Line painting. Cllr Stephenson noted that a line painting lorry had been parked on the High St and hoped this meant the white lining would be started soon.
- (2) Gully outside The Hermitage. It was noted that this was still overflowing when wet.

B.3.e ENVIRONMENT

- (1) Management Plan for The Rookery. The Clerk explained that she had spoken to Jeremy Garside of the Wildlife Trust who would have the area assessed and advise accordingly.
- (2) Fallen tree in The Rookery. The Clerk explained that she had obtained a quote from SBC regarding the cutting up and removal of the tree at a price of ££84.06 (incl VAT) if the tree were over 10m or ££36.78 (incl VAT) if it were under 10m. It was decided that the Wildlife Trust should be asked for their opinion.
- (3) Contact List. Cllr Dale provided the completed list.
- (4) Tree Planting on The Meadowings. The Clerk advised this had not happened as previously arranged and she was now awaiting a revised date.
- (5) Removal of Chewing Gum. Cllr Dale had received a leaflet from a commercial operation but would contact SBC before proceeding further.
- (6) Energy Preservation. Leaflets received re the fitting of condensation boilers.
- (7) Illegal Poisoning. An information pack had been received from DEFRA regarding the illegal poisoning of wildlife. One poster to be delivered to the Allotments and one to go in the Library.
- (8) Air Monitoring. It was noted that the report for February had not been received yet.
- (9) Play equipment on The Meadowings. Cllr Dale had spoken to the Teesside Small Gauge Railway Society who had offered to make a replacement piece on a quid pro quo basis. He will discuss with Cllr Turton.

B.3.a ALLOTMENTS

- (1) Dispute with an Allotment Tenant to be discussed as a confidential item at the end of the meeting.
- (2) Disabled access to Brickyard Allotments. Cllr Simpson queried whether the removal of the cover on the lock would not solve the problem. Cllr Porter noted that the lock had originally been provided and paid for by the Allotment Society. The Clerk to ask the Allotment Society for their views.
- (3) Drainage under the garden at The Hermitage. This matter to be progressed at the next meeting.
- (4) Disabled Garden. The Clerk to ask Yarm DIY to quote for fence a bottom of disabled garden.
- (5) Hut on Mr Riley's plot. Cllr Simspon had rung Mr Riley in response to his letter regarding the asbestos used in the roof of his hut. Cllr Simpson had explained that the hut had been inspected externally by an officer of SBC who had advised that there would only be a problem if the ceiling started flaking internally. Cllr Samson was of the view that as Mr Riley had inherited the hut he could not be expected to pay for its' removal should this be necessary.
- (6) Fire Extinguishers. The Clerk advised that the extinguishers in the Town Hall and Allotment hut were being serviced on 15th March and the new one would be installed in the portacabin at the same time.

B.3.c CEMETERY

- (1) Cllr Henderson advised that a further interment of ashes was taking place on Monday 18th March.

167 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 167.1 Newsletter. Cllr Dale advised that this was nearly finished but that one more profile required. It was agreed that Cllr Porter should be the subject as the longest serving Council member and that either she would write it or provide Cllr Dale with the information. It was agreed that further discussion was required regarding the name.
- 167.2 Dispute with an Allotment Tenant. Cllr Porter declared an interest and left the room. Cllr Monck declared a non-pecuniary interest. The Clerk advised that a response had not been received to her letter of February 2002 . After some discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should write to the tenant asking for a response within 14 days and advising that if a response was not received within this timescale the Council would consider the matter closed. The text of the letter to be agreed with Cllr Marsden.
- 167.3 Community Links Working Party. Cllr Marsden advised that information and prices for bunting for the Golden Jubilee had been received .

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.35pm

Signed, this 26th day of March 2002

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Chairman

Draft Minutes of a meeting of Yarm Town Council held in the Youth & Community Centre, Yarm at 7.30pm on Tuesday 26th March 2002.

PRESENT: Cllr Addison , as Vice-Chairman, in the Chair in Cllr Marsden’s absence

Cllrs, Simpson, Turton, Stephenson, Dale and Addison.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Cllrs Henderson ,Marsden and Monck.

Before the meeting commenced, Cllr Addison apologised on behalf of the Council to the members of the public for the late start of the meeting which had been outside of the Council’s control.

168 MINUTES

168.1 The Minutes of the previous meeting on 12th March were agreed with the following amendment:-

168.2 Item 162.1. “16 February 2002” to be corrected to “26th February 2002”.

169 MATTERS ARISING

169.1 Item 163.2. Lights on Town Hall. The Clerk confirmed she had spoken to Mr Tebbs who had advised the work would be carried out shortly and should cost no more than £100.

169.2 Item 165.3. Finance Committee. Cllr Addison advised this would take place on 10th or 11th April.

169.3 Item 166.4. Replacement piece for play equipment. Cllr Dale advised that after further discussions with Teesside Small Gauge Railway Soc, he did not feel they would be able to do the necessary work. Yarm Fabrications to be approached.

169.4 Item A.3.r(3). Snaith’s Field. The Clerk advised that Railtrack’s contractors had repaired the damaged section of fence only to find that it had been vandalised the day after. The contractors would now recommend that galvanised steel palisade fencing be erected along the stretch in question as a more secure type of fencing. In the circumstances, it was agreed that the Council should take no further action as Railtrack had the matter in hand. The situation regarding quotations to be resolved at the next meeting on 9th April by which time all quotations should have been received.

169.5 Item B.3.a(5). Hut on Allotment B26. The tenant had requested that a letter be issued absolving him from responsibility. It was agreed that the clerk would draft a letter for approval by Cllr Simpson. Following a query by Cllr Turton, Cllr Addison confirmed that there was a contingency in the 2002/2003 budget should the need arise for removal.

169.6 Item B.3.a.(6). Fire extinguishers. The Clerk confirmed that the extinguisher in the Allotment Hut had been serviced and that an additional extinguisher had been installed in the portacabin on the allotments.

169.7 Item 167.1 Newsletter. Cllr Porter queried why Cllr Dale had obtained information from Cllr Marsden regarding Cllr Porter’s profile in the Newsletter rather than from herself. Cllr Dale advised the information had been suggested by Cllr Marsden as points of interest. Cllr Porter agreed to provide a profile for the next meeting.

170 ACCOUNTS

170.1 The Accounts as listed were agreed for payment with the following additions:-

Yarm Youth & Comm Centre	Hire of Hall 12 March 2002	£22.50
UK Fire International	Service of existing fire extinguishers	
	Installation of adtnl extinguisher	£34.47

- 170.2 New Audit regime. Cllr Addison advised that the Clerk had approached NALC for clarification of several points and that further information would follow.

171 CORRESPONDENCE

- 171.1 The correspondence as listed was noted. The following items were discussed in more detail:-
- 171.2 Brochure on Christmas Lights. The subject to be discussed on 9th April.
- 171.3 Fouling of footpath between Layfield Community Centre and The Layfield Arms. The Clerk confirmed SBC had been advised.

A.3.pr POLICY AND RESOURCES

- (1) The Rookery. Cllr Addison thanked the occupants of Hawthorne Grove for attending and asked Cllr Simpson to outline the situation. Cllr Simpson advised that the problem lay with a circular path through The Rookery which had been assumed by some members of the public to be a public footpath leading along the riverside to Valley Drive but which in fact led onto private land at the rear of properties in Hawthorne Grove. This situation had been made worse when, following work on the culvert, Northumbrian Water had reinstated the access across the culvert. Cllr Turton advised that an old Ordinance Survey map showed a path through this area to Valley Drive which had been widely used. Cllr Simpson was of the view that there may have been a track there used by animals but there had never been a path, a view which had been confirmed by Richard Rust, the rights of way officer at SBC. Cllr Dale felt that clarification was required as to where exactly the circular path went through The Rookery. The discussion was thrown open to the public this point. Mr Derwin made the point that the path had been used extensively by criminals to access his property and he had suffered criminal damage, arson and theft as a result of this. In order to protect his property he would like to erect a chain link fence and felt Yarm Town Council should take similar steps on their land. He had secured the service of a security firm, specialising in arable and woodland areas to this effect and circulated copy correspondence to members for their information. Following a query from Cllr Addison, the occupants all confirmed that their title deeds show ownership right down to the riverside. Cllr Porter noted that she had been advised that there had previously been a fence between land owned by Yarm Town Council and private land. Cllr Dale noted that access to this area would increase as the river was opened up but that steps should be taken to improve security due to the residents concerns. Cllr Turton queried whether an improvement in the circular path would attract people away and also whether putting the kissing gate back would act as a deterrent. After some discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should check with Northumbrian Water how often access is required and to ask them to remove the bridge over the culvert. The matter to be progressed at the meeting on 9 April.
- (2) Town Guides. Cllr Porter advised that there were only approx 100 left and that the outlets were keen to continue selling them as it was felt they were a good price. The Clerk advised that further copies could not be produced, as the printer who had held the proofs was no longer in business, which meant starting from scratch. The Clerk advised that she did not have the capacity to re-type the copy but that Cllr Marsden had suggested that the typing be carried out by those members who had a computer and that she would probably be able to provide new photographs using her digital camera. Cllr Simpson offered to make a start with the typing and will report back in a month. Cllr Porter understood that Malcolm Noble had the original photographs and agreed to try to contact him
- (3) Meeting area on The Meadowings. Cllr Turton advised that he had had a meeting at Conyers involving the School Council and teacher liaison. The general view was that:-

- 1) the equipment would not last very long
- 2) consultation with residents would be a good idea
- 3) funding could be a problem as the equipment would be in the region of £7,000.
There was a possibility that grants could be available.
- 4) it was felt that a playable football pitch or netball shooting area would be better value for money.

Cllr Turton confirmed that SBC were in the process of providing landscaping plans for the area. It was agreed that the matter should be referred to the Recreation Committee meeting on 9th April by which time the formal report should have been received from the School Council.

- (4) Drainage under the garden at the Hermitage. As Cllr Henderson was absent it was agreed to refer this matter to the next meeting on 9th April.
- (5) Clerk's pay and conditions. Following a query from Cllr Addison the Clerk confirmed she was happy to stay for the discussion and advised the matter had been placed on the Agenda following a letter to the Chairman from SLCC advising of the need for an annual review. The Chairman had suggested November would be a good time for such a review. Cllr Addison reminded members that the Clerk's pay was in accordance with the payscales laid down by NALC. It was agreed that the appointment of the Clerk as a trustee of The Fellowship Hall Trust should be removed from the job description as it no longer applied. It was further agreed that the Clerk's hours should remain at 21 until the end of September 2002, at which time a further review would take place. It was agreed that the Clerk should undertake training in Accounts under Cllr Addison's supervision but the Clerk pointed out that any addition to her existing duties would result in an increase in her hours which she did not want. Cllr Turton asked that it be noted that he felt the Council should change the its way of doing things to fit the hours available to the Clerk or to consider the alternatives if this were not possible.
- (6) Annual Parish Meeting. It was agreed this would be held at 7pm on Tuesday 23rd April in a venue accessible to the disabled. The Clerk would approach the Fellowship Hall in the first instance and advise members accordingly.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

- (7) Golden Jubilee. The Clerk advised she had not received a response from the Yarm Sports Trust and would remind if a response was not received shortly. It was agreed that arrangements for the Jubilee would be discussed at the next meeting.
- (8) Yarm in Bloom. In view of time constraints it was agreed this should be deferred to the next meeting.

A.3.p PLANNING

- (1) Cllr Simpson, as Ward Councillor, took no part in the discussions.
- (2) CPRE Planning Meeting. Cllr Dale gave a brief verbal report and advised the meeting had been well attended by a good range of interested parties. The paper on the proposed River Tees heritage Park produced by the CPRE to be discussed at the next meeting on 9th April.
- (3) The following planning applications and decisions were noted:-
- (4) 101 High St – amended plans. Object and reiterate objections previously raised.
- (5) Rosegate, The Spital – erection of detached residence +double garage. Request site visit and note problems previously encountered in this area re slippage. Note concerns re road safety.
- (6) Yarm School – removal of trees. Safety issue and SBC arborist has been involved.
- (7) 143 High St – change of use to fast food takeaway – application refused.
- (8) 102 High St –rear of Cartmel Electric – application refused.
- (9) McQuay's – approved with conditions.

- (10) Ex - Autoparts building on Yarm Rd – application refused
- (11) ATM at Shell Station – application refused.
- (12) Lighting at ATM at Shell Station – application approved.

172 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 172.1 Flood Alleviation Scheme. Further correspondence received with associated plans. Residents affected already notified.
- 172.2 Newsletter. Cllr Dale will have final copy for 9th April

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.55pm

Signed this 9th day of April 2002

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Chairman

Minutes of a meeting of YARM Town Council held in the Town Hall on Tuesday 27th March 2001

PRESENT: Cllr Porter in the Chair

Councillors Addison, Turton, Stephenson, Monck, Dale, Marsden and Henderson

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE: Cllr Simpson (Borough Council business)

130 MINUTES

130.1 The Minutes were agreed with the following amendments:-

130.2 Item 124.1. To be amended to “comparing the rates used by Yarm, Stockton Redcar and Preston”.

130.3 Item 129.1 To be amended to “ Cllr Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the room. Cllr Marsden, as Vice Chairman, took the Chair. The Clerk gave a report to the Council about the telephone conversations with the tenant in question. It was agreed that a copy of the Minutes of the Meeting on 27 February 2001 be sent to the tenant as requested. It was then up to him to respond if he felt it necessary.”

131 MATTERS ARISING

131.1 Item 118.5. The Clerk advised that due to her holidays she had not had time to remind SLCC but that she would now do so.

131.2 Item 118.8. Following a query from Cllr Monck, it was agreed that the current situation would be checked with Cllr Simpson on her return from Borough Council business.

131.3 Item 119.2 Cllr Porter confirmed that the box would be delivered over the next few days. Cllr Porter also explained that the increased price of the box was because the cheaper one had gone when the Pigeon Club had tried to order it. They had, therefore, no choice but to order a slightly more expensive one at a cost of £500 + VAT. Following a query from Cllr Turton as to whether the box should be examined to ensure it was suitable for its' purpose, it was agreed that Cllr Dale would inspect it.

131.4 Item 121.3 Cllr Porter confirmed that 10,000 discs had been ordered and should be delivered by 31 March 2001.

131.5 Item 121.4. The Clerk confirmed she had not had chance to obtain prices for the Town Guides but would do so for the next meeting.

131.6 Item 121.5. Cllr Porter advised that no progress had been made so far.

131.7 Item 122.2 Cllr Porter advised that only 2 vacant plots were left.

131.8 Item 122.3 Cllr Porter advised that she had spoken to EYC who have now cleared and burned the hedging in question.

131.9 Item 123.4 Cllr Dale confirmed that the relevant photographs have now been sent.

131.10 Item 123.5. It was agreed that the tubs at the Fellowship Hall require maintaining rather than planting. As per the previous Minutes, the Clerk to check the situation with Yarm Prep School and Yarm DIY.

131.11 Item 124.1. It was agreed that the rate for a headstone of reduced size be increased to £30. Cllrs Dale and Monck asked that their objections be noted.

131.12 Item 125.1. Cllr Dale advised that the Minutes of the Meeting on 13 March had not yet been provided.

131.13 Item 126.7. Cllr Marsden confirmed that nothing further had been received from SBC and that she would contact them again. Item 126.8. Cllr Simpson will provide current situation on her return.

131.14 Item 128.1. It was noted that the water was still running.

132 ACCOUNTS

132.1 The following items were added for approval:-

Northern Electric	Allotment Hut – last quarter	£ 17.93
Newsquest (NE) Ltd	Advertisement re Audit Meeting	£159.73 (incl VAT)

132.2 The Accounts as listed were approved for payment with the exception of the latest instalment to SBC regarding the Road Signs. A decision on this payment to be discussed under Policy and Resources.

133 CORRESPONDENCE

133.1 The Correspondence as listed was noted. The following items were discussed in more detail:-

133.2 Cllr Marsden advised that she had not been able to attend the site visit regarding the extension in licence for the Blue Bell.

133.3 The request from the North of England Cadet Force to be discussed under Policy and Resources.

133.4 Reconstruction of Cobbles on the High Street. The Clerk advised that she had already written to SBC regarding the lack of notice and asking them to send any future correspondence to the Town Hall. After some discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should contact Bryan Harris of SBC to see what involvement there had been from English Heritage regarding Quality Control. It was strongly felt that the council should be at the forefront of any consultations and that a full schedule of the works should have been provided.

133.5 Letter from an Allotment Tenant to be discussed under the appropriate Agenda Item.

134 POLICY AND RESOURCES

134.1 Town Guides. The Clerk will obtain the relevant prices for the next meeting.

134.2 Audit. The Clerk gave a brief report on her discussions with James Sheerin of Hodgson Maggiore and drew Members' attention to the correspondence which had been circulated. In the circumstances it was agreed that Mr Sheerin be invited to a special meeting on either Monday 2 April or Tuesday 3 April, whichever was convenient for him, to discuss the matters raised. The Clerk to confirm the date to Members as soon as possible. In view of this it was agreed that payment of the latest instalment for the Road Signs should be deferred until these discussions had taken place. It was also agreed that, if at all possible, the Clerk should attend the meeting arranged by Mr Sheerin with the Auditor.

134.3 Cadet Force Donation. It was agreed that a donation of £100 be made and that, with the agreement of the Cadet Force, the Press be invited to attend the handing over of the donation. This to coincide with the installation of the new flagpole. The Clerk to write to the Cadet Force to confirm. Following a suggestion by Cllr Stephenson, it was agreed that a Cadet be selected annually to accompany the Chairman to civic events and to be known as the Mayor's or Chairman's Cadet.

134.4 Proposed Blues Festival. Following the meeting with NHP Event management before the

Meeting, a further discussion followed regarding the feasibility of holding such an event. Some unease was expressed that Neil Hodgson of NHP had advised that they did not provide a Contract and that they had not previously organised a music festival. It was decided, however, that the Clerk should write to advise that the Council wished to explore the possibility of holding an event to coincide with the Queen's Golden Jubilee. NHP to be requested to discuss the Festival with the Police and then to provide an outline Business Plan with a Budget. It was to be stressed to them that the event should incur no cost on the Council. The Clerk to investigate whether the Council has the requisite Powers and Duties.

135 ALLOTMENTS

- 135.1 Allotment Hut. Cllr Henderson confirmed this had gone out to tender to 5 contractors and That tenders should be ready for the next Meeting.
- 135.2 Pigeon Hut. Now organised.
- 135.3 Disabled Garden. Cllr Dale advised that a response had not been received as yet re the Grant application. The Clerk confirmed that the donation letters had been issued to the relevant organisations.
- 135.4 Allotment Sheds. Applications for Allotment sheds were approved in respect of Mr Meakin and Mrs Sayer.
- 135.5 List of Tenants. The Clerk to provide Cllr Porter with an upto date list of tenants so that the Allotment Society can renumber the Brickyard Allotments. The Clerk to write to all tenants once this has been completed to advise them of the new numbers.
- 135.6 Letter from an Allotment Tenant. It was agreed this should be dealt with as a confidential matter at the end of the Meeting.
- 135.7 Referring to Minute 16.1 the Clerk to write to all Allotment Tenants advising them that dogs were only allowed in the Allotments on a lead and that tenants should ensure that the gate is securely locked.

136 CEMETERY

- 136.1 Nothing to report.

137 ENVIRONMENT

- 137.1 Tees Corridor. Cllr Dale gave a brief précis of the Paper. It was agreed that the Clerk should write to the CPRE to advise them that the topic had been raised and discussed and that the Council supported their broad view. Cllr Turton felt that the general public should be informed and that the Council should contact local schools to ask them for their comments. Cllr Porter will advise the Press that the topic has been discussed and that copies of the Paper will be available in the Library. Cllr Dale to provide the copies to the Library. Cllr Stephenson felt it was important that the Tees Structure Plan be investigated to see what, if any, recommendations were made.
- 137.2 "Bin It" Campaign. Brochures have now been received. Cllr Dale granted Executive Powers to implement a Plan which he will bring to the next Meeting.

138 PLANNING

- 138.1 Foot and Mouth. SBC to be advised that deer have been seen in Goose Pasture Woods.
- 138.2** Bank House. Approved with conditions.
- 138.3** 51 Goose Pasture. Approved with conditions.

- 138.4** The House. Hanging Sign withdrawn.
Additional access door withdrawn.
Extension in licensing hours. SBC to be reminded that originally The House had not wanted to be open after 7pm.

Standing Orders were waived at this point.

- 138.5 The Hermitage. SBC confirmed that there was not a TPO on the tree in question.
138.6 Cross Keys, Leven Bank. Public Inquiry to take place at some time in the future.
138.7 Cross House. Gone to appeal. The planning Inspectorate to be advised of the Council's Objections in that this would be an inappropriate development.
138.8 Yarm School. Venue for Public Inquiry on 18 April changed to The Theatre at Yarm School due to the amount of interest. Cllr Marsden advised that she could not attend as she is out of the country. Cllr Stephenson, as Cllr Marsden's deputy, will check to see if he can attend. If not, Cllr Turton will be briefed at the Meeting on 10 April regarding the Council's stance.
138.9 Conyer's School. No objections
138.10 3 Lane Ends. Out of Parish
138.11 43 West St. Cllr Monck will check the position of the house.

139 RECREATION

- 139.1 Swings on the Meadowings. It was agreed that these should be replaced but that this should be reconsidered at the end of the year. The play equipment to be checked. Cllr Monck also advised that the seats in Yarm be checked to see which require painting. Roger Bell to be approached for an estimate.
139.2 Grass Cutting Contract. Cllr Henderson has been advised by the current contractor that he would carry out the work this year with only a 4% increase. This would still make him the most competitive by a long way as, last year, the closest alternative was more expensive by £7,000. It was proposed by Cllr Porter and seconded by Cllr Monck that Standing Order 44(1) be waived to enable the existing contractor to continue. Passed unanimously.

140 HIGHWAYS AND TRANSPORTATION

- 140.1 Resurfacing on Bridge St and Yarm Bridge. Cllr Henderson advised that resurfacing work had taken place overnight on the previous Saturday without any prior notice, causing inconvenience and disruption to the residents concerned, himself included. To date no response received from SBC as to why prior notice could not have been given. The Clerk to write to Mr Lynch at SBC with a complaint and requesting information.
140.2 Hedges. Highways Department of SBC to be advised that the footpaths on Allerton Balk from Everingham Road to Green Lane and at the junction of Worsall Road and Allerton Balk require reclaiming.

141 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- 141.1 Request from an Allotment Holder. Cllr Porter declared a non-pecuniary interest and left the Room. Cllr Marsden, as Vice – Chairman, took the Chair. Cllr Dale gave a report on his recent meeting with the tenant in question. Cllr Turton also advised that he has also had a long discussion with the tenant as had Cllr Henderson. After a highly constructive discussion it was agreed that this matter be discussed with James Sheerin at next week's meeting but that in the meantime the Clerk should write to the tenant advising him that the Council was seeking to resolve the matter.

There being no further business, the Meeting closed at 10.20pm.

Signed this 27th day of March 2001

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Chairman