

Yeovil Sports Grounds Partnership Newsletter



May 2008 —circulation to residents living near Yeovil Recreation Centre,
and Yeovil Sports User Forum members

Annual Yeovil Sports Grounds User Forum and Flagship Playspace Consultation Evening

Wednesday 18th June 2008
6.30—8.00 pm

Main Hall, Milford Junior School, Glenthorne Avenue

This is an opportunity for you to speak to Officers from the District Council about the management of the facilities at Yeovil Recreation Centre, but the focus of the evening will centre on the plans for the new Flagship Playspace.

If you would like a copy of last years minutes, an agenda or to confirm your attendance, please contact Rachel Holmes on 01935 462617 or email:

rachel.holmes@southsomerset.gov.uk

Yeovil Vision Flagship Playspace

Reconnect with the outdoors!



www.yeovilvision.co.uk

Following a successful bid to the Big Lottery Fund's, Children's Play Programme and having secured Yeovil Vision Funding, South Somerset District Council can now progress the Flagship Playspace at Yeovil Recreation Centre.

This exciting project aims to deliver a free, open access, destination venue for play that will be available to residents and visitors of South Somerset. The design will aim to provide an environment in which children can play freely, test their boundaries and have fun.

Children and adults will be invited to reconnect with the outdoors through the use of natural materials such as sand, water and plants. Opportunities for play that inspire the imagination will be included while engaging with the exciting world of nature. The existing play area will be replaced and the area for the new playspace enlarged. The new Flagship Playspace will enhance the existing landscape and will not result in loss of open space or any trees.

South Somerset District Council has appointed the award winning landscape design company Parklife Ltd to assist with the consultation process and develop an innovative design for the site. Parklife were selected for their proven track record of delivering innovative play environments across the country with local authorities.

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Sport Zone Survey Works at Yeovil Recreation Centre

Over the next 2-3 months surveys will be carried out at and around the recreation centre to help us find out all the information we need to determine whether it could accommodate a sports zone in some shape or form.

W.S Atkins design and engineering consultants will be out and about onsite, **looking into the traffic levels, noise levels, the landscape and ground conditions, air quality, habitat and environmental aspects** - and the full reports are expected to be finalised and available in the autumn. The results will be available at www.southsomerset.gov.uk/yeovilsportszone .

From time to time you may see consultants taking traffic measurements, noise measurements, and taking some samples of the soil, but these should not affect any sports matches, events, rights of way or general use of the ground.

The research is being carried out before any further steps or decisions about a Sports Zone are made. Importantly, the surveys could show that the site is unsuitable, or that there may need to be changes made to the design of the facility - the research will enable the Council to get the full picture.

Holiday Activity Programme

We will have junior coaching sessions, for various sports during the school holidays, these will include Golf, Athletics, Archery and Trampolining. For more details, please contact Sport, Arts and Leisure on 01935 462283 or look at the website at www.southsomerset.gov.uk/getactive

Play for Free on the Tennis Courts

The tennis courts at Yeovil Recreation Centre are now open access during the summer months—April to October.

Last year we had a large amount of vandalism with the fences having been climbed over and cut through.

The income generated from their hire compared to cost of repair became uneconomical .

There is no need to book, just go and play.

Junior Athletics

South Somerset District Council in conjunction with Yeovil Olympiads Athletics Club are running coaching sessions for children aged 8—15 years through the summer.

Junior Athletics

Every Monday evening for 8—11 years, excluding Bank Holidays. 5.30—6.30 pm.

A fun introduction to the sport, with opportunities to learn about the different events within athletics. £10.00 membership and £2.00 per session.

Star:track Athletics Camp for 8—15 years.

Wednesday 30th, Thursday 31st July and Friday 1st August from 9.30—3.00 pm.

Three action packed days will give young people of all abilities the opportunity to have a go at different track & field events, games and competitions. All participants receive a Star:track Goodie bag, certificate and proficiency Award, the cost is £41.00 per person.

For more information and booking forms please see the website www.southsomerset.gov.uk/startrack or call 01935 462283.

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To ensure our customer's views are sought and taken into account when developing the design for the Flagship Playspace, the District Council is carrying out a number of consultations during May and June 2008. You can find out more about the project at www.southsomerset.gov.uk/flagship and at the same time please fill in our on-line survey. Alternatively pick up a paper copy of the survey at any of our council offices.



Councillor Sylvia Seal, Portfolio Holder for Leisure, Culture and Wellbeing said, "This is a truly innovative project that forms part of Yeovil Vision's Top 6 priorities. We are at the forefront of developing a new style of play opportunities that aim to achieve a balance of the best fixed play equipment with the use of the natural environment."

This project is separate to, and will not be affected by the Sports Zone project. The Flagship Playspace project emerged as part of the development of South Somerset District Council's Play Policy and Strategy, which were formally adopted in March 2007. Funding has already been secured and the project will go ahead irrespective of whether or not the Sports Zone project proceeds.

The Yeovil Recreation Centre User Forum meeting will give members of the public the opportunity to hear more about the project and ask questions. The meeting will be held in the Main Hall at Milford Junior School on Wednesday 18th June 2008 starting at 6.30 pm.



Robert Parr, Senior Play & Youth Facilities Officer said, "The Flagship Playspace is one of the most exciting projects emerging from the Play Strategy. It will provide South Somerset with a destination play venue that children will benefit from and enjoy for generations to come."

LOTTERY FUNDED

GENERAL BOOKING ENQUIRIES

For all football, rugby, rounders pitch or Athletics Arena enquiries, please call:

01935 462616

E:mail:

leisurebookings@southsomerset.gov.uk

Pitch and Putt Discount Tickets
From £20
10 games for the price of 8.
Sold at the Golf Hut

Pitch & Putt Golf and Mini Golf

Open everyday from now until **Sunday 28th September, Summer opening**

Saturday 24th May—
Sunday 31st August

11.00 am—7.00 pm—everyday

during the October Half Term and weekends in October

Open from 12 noon—6.00 pm Weekdays
11.00 am—6.00 pm—Weekends

Charges

Pitch & Putt	Mini Golf
Adult—£3.50	Adult—£2.00
Junior - £2.50	Junior - £1.00

40% Passport to Leisure and
20% Over 60's Discounts available

www.southsomerset.gov.uk/yrcgolf

South Somerset District Council Contacts

Please call our Customer First Team on :

01935 462462

www.southsomerset.gov.uk

For general enquiries ask for:

Rachel Holmes, Facilities Management Officer

Email: rachel.holmes@southsomerset.gov.uk

For grounds maintenance enquiries ask for:

Debbie Moseley, Open Spaces Officer

Email: debbie.moseley@southsomerset.gov.uk

Playing Pitch Drainage Works

The eagle eyed amongst you will have no doubt noticed that during April this year we undertook further works to the playing pitch area at the northern end of Yeovil Recreation Centre.

Phase 2 of the original drainage scheme for this area was completed 2005. However, while the underground pipe drainage that we installed worked well, the sand slit channels put in to assist with drainage sank on two occasions even after being topped up with a sand/soil mix. The result was an uneven playing surface unsuitable for competitive football causing both site users and managers much frustration!

Consequently we invited the Sports Turf Research Institute back last autumn to advise how we could improve the surface. Their soil agronomist advised

us that the area should be sprayed, verti-drained (decompacted) followed by a further top-up of the sand slits and light top-dressing of the pitch area. In addition we were advised to over-sow the area with grass seed to produce a better grass mix.

There is a marked improvement in the surface and we hope to see the area being suitable for football next season. However, It is possible that the area may need to be top-dressed again in the autumn.

In the mean time we would like to sincerely thank all those of you who refrained from accessing the fenced off area following the pitch works and for giving the scheme the best chance of being successful.

Barrier at Chilton Grove Car Park?

The Council has been asked by some of the residents in Chilton Grove to investigate the cost of putting in a car park barrier to restrict over night access to the Chilton Grove car park. Some residents feel that this would reduce night-time anti-social behaviour in the car park, which they report increases during the summer months.

The down side of a barrier could result in legitimate late night/early morning users being forced to park on-road instead and there would be some daytime noise from the exist control system which could be in the form of a ramp or 'alligator teeth'. There would also be ongoing management costs associated with such a move.

Early estimates for the installation of the barrier are in the region of £7K, this is based on a half barrier and 'alligator teeth' on the exit. In addition the management cost would be in the region of £1500 per annum.

No money has been secured or decision taken yet on whether a barrier should go in, however, we would welcome your feedback on the matter. You can express your views by e-mailing the Council at leisure@southsomerset.gov.uk. Alternatively you can post your comments to the: Senior Leisure Facilities Officer, South Somerset District Council, The Council Offices, Brympton Way, Yeovil, Somerset, BA20 2HT.

Yeovil Athletics Arena to get a new Athletics Coach

As a result of recent discussions between South Somerset District Council, Somerset Activity and Sports Partnership (SASP), England Athletics and Yeovil Olympiads Athletics Club (YOAC), the go ahead has been given to appoint a new part time athletics coach to be based at the Athletics Arena starting this summer.

This is the first time that a professional coach will be based at the Arena and all parties hope that the appointment will make a real

difference to athletics in the area and develop greater use of the Athletics Arena.

The new coach will be primarily responsible for four key areas of work: to identify talent and improve the performance of local athletes, to mentor and support other aspiring athletics coaches and leaders, to improve links between YOAC and local schools, and to increase participation in athletics.

Those interested in the new coaching appointment, should contact Jane Knowles at SASP on 01823 410213. The application process will close at the end of May 08.

Forthcoming Athletics and Sports Events for 2008

May	Event	Start Time	End Time
7th	BSC SW College Tournament	12.30 pm	5.30 pm
10th	County Track and Field Championship	10.00 am	7.00 pm
14th	North Dorset Area Trials	4.00 pm	6.30 pm
18th	Team Dorset—League Meeting	11.00 am	5.30 pm
21st	Yeovil Area Schools Championship	1.00 pm	6.00 pm
25th	SW League Athletics Meeting—Division 2	11.30 am	5.30 pm
June			
1st	Young Athletes League	9.00 am	5.00 pm
6th	Independent Schools Association—Athletics Trials	11.00 am	3.30 pm
12th	Yeovil Area Schools Meeting	1.00 pm	5.00 pm
16th	Sherborne Area Athletics	4.15 pm	6.00 pm
17th	Bucklers Mead—Area Athletics “friendly” Championships	9.00 pm	5.00 pm
18th	Sedgemoor School Sports Alliance	11.00 am	5.00 pm
19th	Gillingham Area Athletics	1.00 pm	5.00 pm
20th	Gillingham Area Athletics—Reserve Date	1.00 pm	5.00 pm
24th	North Dorset Area Athletics	4.15 pm	5.30 pm
26th	Yeovil Area Primary Schools Meeting—Reserve Date	1.00 pm	5.00 pm
28th	SSAA Regional Combined Events Championship	11.30 am	5.30 pm
29th	SSAA Regional Combined Events Championship	11.30 am	5.30 pm
July			
1st	Park School—Senior Sports Day	11.00 am	4.00 pm
2nd	Park School—Junior Sports Day	1.00 pm	4.00 pm
3rd	Bucklers Mead School—Sports Day	8.30 am	3.30 pm
4th	Park School—Senior Sports Day—Reserve Day	11.00 am	4.00 pm
7th	SSAA Middle Schools Competition	1.00 pm	5.00 pm
8th	Grass Royal Junior School Sports Day	10.00 am	3.00 pm
10th	Grass Royal Junior School Sports Day—Reserve Date	10.00 am	3.00 pm
11th	St Gildas School—Sport Day	8.30 am	12.00 noon
11th	Lufton College	1.00 pm	4.00 pm
14th	Bucklers Mead School Sports Day—Reserve Date	8.30 pm	3.30 pm
18th	Westfield School Sports Day	9.00 am	4.00 pm
20th	Team Dorset—League Meeting—Provisional Date	11.00 am	5.30 pm
21st	Westfield School Sports Day—Reserve Date	9.00 am	4.00 pm
August			
2nd	Southern Men’s League	10.30 am	5.30 pm
17th	Yeovil Olympiads AC—Dennett Cup	12.00 noon	5.30 pm
30th	Southern Women League	11.00 am	5.30 pm
September			
7th	SW League Athletics Meeting—Division 2	11.30 am	5.30 pm

Correct at the time of printing on 1st May 2008—Extra Dates may be added

Sports, Arts and Leisure

The Sport, Arts and Leisure Service at South Somerset District Council is committed to offering a wide range of leisure opportunities.

The main facilities we operate are listed below but for a full list of what the Service does visit our web pages at www.southsomerset.gov.uk/leisure



Goldenstones

Goldenstones Pools & Leisure Centre is the District's premier leisure facility. It includes a 25m swimming pool, separate teaching pool, refurbished & expanded Springs gym, sauna, steam room, spectator area & work out studio. **Tel: 01935 845888.**
Or visit www.goldenstones-leisure.co.uk



Octagon Theatre

The **Octagon Theatre** offers a wide variety of performances, both amateur and professional, throughout the year. In addition to the theatre there is an Art Gallery and Café Bar. **Tel: 01935 422884.**
Or visit www.octagon-theatre.co.uk



Community Resource Service

The **Community Resource Service** provides everything you need to be creative. With an Art Shop and a well stocked Scrapstore there are thousands of exciting items. We also hire equipment and run the Community Activity Bus. **Tel: 01935 462535.**
Or visit www.southsomerset.gov.uk/crs