

Area South Chapter 2020-2021

Area + Team

	Project description	Lead Officer	Lead Service	End of year review
Economy	Continue to support key businesses including work with the Chamber of Commerce and other partners	Joe Walsh	Economy	Attendance at regular Yeovil Chamber Events. Positions on: Yeovil Chamber Executive Committee, Manufacturing Hub Steering Group and the Place Leadership Group. A plan is currently being developed to harness the good energy of all of these networks to drive economic growth and recovery. £5,000 provided to the Manufacturing Hub, to progress the number of businesses attending the sector based events. Food and Drink Directory has been produced and distributed, work is now underway to move this online and expand the amount of businesses involved. This has, unfortunately, been delayed slightly due to Covid 19 and resource pressures.
	Support others to deliver Town Centre Events	Joe Walsh	Economy	Impacted significantly by Covid 19. Events programme currently being developed by Love Yeovil to adhere to Government Guidance. Re-opening of the high street work conducted in line with Government Guidance - surrounding Covid 19. Signs distributed to all TCs who requested them. Work is underway to determine how SSDC allocate / spend the funding associated with the 'Welcome Back Fund'. A Town Centre workshop was held in partnership with Mendip District Council to start to evaluate what is required as part of a high streets / town centre recovery.
	Re-locate Yeovil Tourist Information Centre creating a new visitor hub for Yeovil and South Somerset	Katy Menday	Leisure & Recreation	Project delayed due to capacity and Covid. Will be reviewed in 2021.
	Promote the heritage collection and research resources at CHAC (Community Heritage Access Centre) through an improved online and digital presence.	Katy Menday	Leisure & Recreation	New web pages coming as part of the Visit South Somerset web site. Gives good opportunity to display the collection digitally and tell the stories of south Somerset. Page to be launched in May 2021. Will move to add heritage itineraries to pages later in year.
	Support the Friends Group and other community partners to deliver schemes to enhance the biodiversity at Yeovil Country Park	Rachael Whaites	Leisure & Recreation	Friends group has secured £7,000 grant to enhance tree planting at the bottom of Wyndham Hill. Volunteering on site postponed due to Covid 19 so many practical projects delayed.
	To deliver the extension to the Ninesprings building to maximise community potential from schools, groups, café visitors and include new heritage and visitor displays	Katy Menday	Leisure & Recreation	Project postponed due to capacity and Covid. Will review in 2021 with a view to rescheduling around revised service priorities.

Environment	Deliver sessions that celebrate the heritage and natural history of Yeovil and Ham Hill whilst also increasing and diversifying volunteering opportunities	Katy Menday	Leisure & Recreation	Face to face events and volunteering cancelled for almost all of the year due to Covid. Rangers received training in iMovie and for the second half of year moved activities online. Competitions and how to events were really well received and the Ham Hill dog show a great success. Rangers will continue to make use of online and digital tools even once face to face events return (as a blended offer) as the audience you can reach is often broader and further away. Activity packs were developed for sale from the Ninesprings Cafe to help home-schooling families continue to have high quality practical nature related activities.
	To develop Milford Valley into an ecological site	Steve Fox	Environment Services	Despite a failure to secure external tree planting funding we were able to undertake some native tree planting in various locations within the site. A range of improvement works have been programmed into to take place throughout the coming year along with the preparation of a site specific management plan; including a works action plan.
	Support community led initiatives that contribute towards combatting climate change.	Tim Cook	Locality	Forms and process updated. Promotion through press release and new SSDC Environment news letter. Survey sent and completed by Environment Champions on how we can best help parishes. 7 projects supported through the district with £29,434 being awarded in grants for projects estimated at £266,478.
Housing	Promote and support new Community Land Trusts and community led housing initiatives	David Clews	Strategy & Commissioning	Nothing to report on this item
	Support rural parishes in Area South with Housing Needs Surveys when requested	Anna-Maria Lenz / Marie Collins	Strategy & Commissioning/ Case Services	No survey requests received.
Communities	Work towards replacement of current wheeled play facilities in Yeovil	Rob Parr	Locality	Work delayed due to Covid 19 and redeployment assistance with vaccination centres. Meetings planned again in April to restart this project.
	Support the delivery of community facilities at Wyndham Park (subject to detailed land negotiation)	Rob Parr	Locality	Land transferred. New play equipment installed and in use.
	Deliver a diverse public events programme at Yeovil County Park	Rachael Whaites	Leisure & Recreation	In October 2020 during half term the Community Heritage Officer delivered two family woodland wellbeing sessions for single family groups or support bubbles. The rangers created two online video activities for people to do at home. The Covid 19 restrictions have prevented the rangers from delivering any face to face or online activities for the remainder of the year as the lack of volunteers on site has reduced their capacity coupled with extremely high numbers of visitors to manage
	Support Yeovil Town Council's organisation and delivery of VE day celebrations at Yeovil Recreation Centre	Ashley Smalley	Leisure & Recreation	Event cancelled due to Covid19

Healthy, Self-reliant Com	Finalise funding package for pavilion improvements at Yeovil Recreation Centre, construct a new community space and café to open in Summer 2021	Katy Menday	Leisure & Recreation	Funding package complete with final grant offer from Viridor Credits in January 2021. Construction started in March 2021 and due to complete in June 2021.
	Support a range of improvements to community facilities - Programme of live schemes set out in appendix A	Tim Cook	Locality	See Delivery Plan below
	Target support with partners to tackle health inequality	Dave Crisfield	Strategy & Commissioning	Much of this work has been delayed due to the Covid19 Pandemic. With the re-establishment of the Healthy and Self Reliant Communities COP issues relating to Health and Wellbeing will be picked up in the Action Plans being developed to deliver against Priorities 1 and 4 of the Council Plan
	Deliver the National Play Day	Steve Barnes	Locality	Even cancelled due to Covid -19. This year we are delivered 2000 free Activity boxes and an Activity booklet, district wide, to encourage fun and safe activities at home. Boxes were handed out at Yeovil Recreation Ground
	Organise, with partners, public engagement events at Yeovil Recreation Centre including celebrations of Euro 2020 and the Olympics 2020	Katy Menday	Leisure & Recreation	Events cancelled due to Covid. Partners engaged for potential events in 2021 and beyond.
	Develop innovative engagement programmes making use of the facilities at Yeovil Recreation and encouraging participation in hard to reach groups	Katy Menday	Leisure & Recreation	Events not possible due to Covid. However increase in outdoor activity noticeable at the site and new relationships built with local fitness providers. Partners engaged for potential events in 2021 and beyond.
	Delivery Plan			
S106 funded project support	Advice and support to group, facilitate project management and transfer of S106 funding at West Coker Pavilion	Rob Parr	Locality	Continuing to provide advice and support as requested. Project awaiting S106 funding from Bunford Heights development
	Advice and support to group, facilitate project management and transfer of S106 funding for East Coker Pavilion extension project	Rob Parr	Locality	No update to report. Awaiting further engagement.
Project support	Joanna France Pavilion at Athletics Arena (Lease and refurbishment works)	Katy Menday	Locality	Licence and lease due to complete in March 2021.
	Advice and support to group, facilitate project management for Higher Ream play area improvements	Rob Parr	Locality	Ongoing awaiting direction from Parish Council - No further update
	Adoption of land at Lufton Key Sites Play Area & Muga - Legal / Environmental Services to agree adoption with developer	Rob Parr	Locality	In contact with Persimmon Homes regarding conveyance of land. Currently major snagging issues holding up conveyance. No further update
	Advice and support for new village hall at Barwick and Stoford	Rob Parr	Locality	No update to report - awaiting further engagement