

## Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 7pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors: A Black, J Barron, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, N Cottle, J Cousins, M Free, I Forster, S Henderson, J Keery, W Knight, D Michell, S Thurgood, I Tucker, H Sharp

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor S Shepherd

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk  
PCSO S Bishop  
Gary Knight – Macebearer  
Terry Dowden – Macebearer

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### **86. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor M Free – DPI – Planning application.

### **87. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE**

Councillor J Barron, newly elected to the Town Council, read his Declaration of Acceptance of Office and Code of Conduct, which had been signed before the meeting in the presence of the Town Clerk.

### **88. POLICE REPORT**

PCSO S Bishop asked for clarification regarding the taxi ranks and was referred to correspondence received from Somerset County Council. He reported that James Higgins would be starting shortly as the new PCSO.

### **89. MINUTES**

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2012 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a true record.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Burial Board on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012 were received and noted.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Town Hall Committee on 16<sup>th</sup> October 2012 were received and noted. Standing orders were suspended in order for the minutes to be approved as a decision regarding the payment of an invoice had been altered within 6 months.
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Staffing Committee held on 18<sup>th</sup> October 2012 were received and noted. The Town Clerk had corrected a missing s from Cousins on first page.
- e) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> October 2012 were received and noted.

### **90. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Councillor Coles and Henderson provided written reports.  
Councillor Brunsdon reported on sheep worrying on the Tor.

Councillor Michell asked for the safety mat at the play areas to be checked as they are dangerously slippery and whether money for the play areas could come from the Watts Corner development.

It was **RESOLVED** to form a working party to discuss play areas in Glastonbury. Councillors Barron, Brunsdon, Coles, Cottle, Free, Thurgood and Sharp volunteered.

Councillor Barron asked District Councillors to find out whether the buildings at Abbots Court were listed as they are in an awful state.

Councillor Knight pointed out the loss of parking when the Draper site development goes ahead. He reminded Councillors people will not be able to park at the Rural Life Museum when it closes for alterations so there is a problem brewing.

Councillor Brunsdon said that Ron Forrest, Chairman of Mendip District Council would be planting a walnut tree to celebrate the Queen's Diamond Jubilee on 27<sup>th</sup> November 2012, 10am at Cinnamon Lane Park. All were invited.

Councillor Brunsdon reported that the gully under the grid at the bottom of Wellhouse Lane is blocked which he has reported to Highways. He reported on his attendance as Mendip Heritage Champion at an event held by English Heritage in London.

Councillor Cottle reported on his attendance at the Local Choices event. The wall is now repaired at Old Wells Road . He attended an inspection of flood defences and drainage with the Drainage Board. He also said that in future he hoped that a car park with toilet facilities could be created on the outskirts of Glastonbury to service the Tor area.

## **91. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

The County Councillor provided a written report.

The Mayor said he thought it would be useful to invite Alex Sherman of the Avalon Marshes project to come to the next meeting which was **AGREED**.

Councillor Thurgood was interested in the project to provide parishes with their own speed reduction signs and asked for further information from the County Councillor.

Concern was voiced over the bus not now entering the hospital grounds due to difficulty in manoeuvring the bus due to parked cars.

It was **AGREED** to write a letter of complaint to First Bus and to write to the management of the hospital to ask them to ensure that the car parking is enforced in order for the bus to drop off/pick up on the premises.

Councillor Knight mentioned the importance of the Town Hall webcam which is currently out of order and hoped the County Council could negotiate with the original provider to continue the service.

## **92. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had represented the Town on 12 occasions since the last

meeting.

He reported that Beckery Island Regeneration Trust had been successful in obtaining a listed building grant from the Mendip District Council for oak doors.

He had been impressed with the Open Day at the Red Brick Buildings when 2500 people attended throughout the day. The outcome of his talks with Whitbread, owners of the Premier Inn and representatives from the Red Brick Buildings had resulted in them agreeing to tarmac the approach to the Red Brick Buildings as an act of goodwill.

The Mayor reminded Councillors that they are invited to the Town Hall on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2012 at 7pm to celebrate local Businesses which had received awards, when the local MP will be present to discuss corporation tax as opposed to capital allowances.

The Mayor had also attended the open day at Tor Sport and Leisure and been impressed said that he was aware there have been problems with dogs defecating on the sports ground. There is a footpath across the site which could be encouraging dog walkers and he wondered if there was scope to reroute the path around the site. He said that the 3 year lease could be extended to 30 years should Avalon Leisure satisfy local users. The matter was referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee for discussion. Councillor Sharp said that Mendip District Council own the land and should be dealing with the matter.

Councillors were encouraged to attend The Mayor's Ball on 22.12.2012 at the Town Hall.

### **93. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had attended a Local Choices event with the Deputy Mayor, Councillor Cottle and the Town Clerk. It was apparent from that meeting that parish councils would be expected to take on work currently carried out by the County Council. The Mayor said he intended to visit Somerset Highways, with the Chairman of Property and Assets Committee to explore the possibilities.

Councillor Keery thanked those who attended Northover Jubilee Park recently to help clear the site. More volunteers would be required on Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November at 9.30am to plant the trees from the Woodland Trust.

Councillor Cottle suggested a community clear up day to encourage more pride in the Town.

Councillor Thurgood had attended the Tor Sport and Leisure open day and had been impressed with how Avalon Leisure were progressing.

Councillor Cousins said that the Friends of Brides Mound would be holding a clean up the land day on their land next to the Mound on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2012 between 9.30am and 3.30pm.

Councillor Knight said that he had taken on the shop Christmas Tree scheme and would like to start a fund using unused monies from last year which was **AGREED**.

Councillor Coles said that he was showing a film on the History of Peat for the Conservation Society at the Bay Tree Café on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2012 at 7.30pm.

#### **94. PLANNING APPLICATION**

Councillor Free left the room for the following items:

The following application was considered:

Planning application no. 2012/2436 – Mendip District Council – Glastonbury Tor Leisure, Street Road – Removal of timber framed curtain walling and replacement with UPVC curtain walling on the north and east elevations – Full Planning Permission.

**RESOLVED** to recommend approval.

#### **95. PRE-SUBMISSION DRAFT OF THE GLASTONBURY SECTION OF THE MENDIP DISTRICT LOCAL PLAN 2006-2028**

Councillor Brunsdon was concerned that the statement about traffic management for Chilkwell Street was not strong enough. Discussion took place about the possibility of a Southern Relief Road.

Councillor Cousins said that traffic calming would be preferable to ruin the vista of Glastonbury with a relief road.

It was **RESOLVED** to refer the matter of responding to the consultation to the Planning Committee.

The whole Council showed concern regarding the possible number of lorry movements through Glastonbury to service the Hinkley Point C development. The Mayor said that questions on the matter at the Special Meeting to be held on 28<sup>th</sup> November 2012 at 6.30pm.

Councillor Sharp said as there was little chance of a bypass that there should be signs at Rush Hill for heavy traffic to be diverted to Wells Bypass, Coxley, Glastonbury and Street Bypasses. He suggested that this could be tried for a trial period in anticipation of the increased Hinkley traffic.

#### **96. MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

Following complaints from the public, it was **RESOLVED** to ask the Town Clerk to write to Mendip District Council to ask why there is such a delay processing planning applications. The Mayor said the delays are cutting off the development of the economy of the Town.

#### **97. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) Somerset County Council – Proposed traffic regulation order amendment – Taxi Bay – High Street, Glastonbury
- b) Avon and Somerset Constabulary – Police News 2012 Issue 2

#### **98. BUDGET UPDATE**

Councillors were provided with an up to date budget report.

#### **99. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

**RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments, now submitted, a copy of which is attached to the official minutes be approved and signed by two members as the Town Clerk's authority to make the payments.

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**Mayor, 11<sup>th</sup> December 2012**