

Meeting of the Council held on 12th January 2010 at Glastonbury Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: J Barron, T Billing, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, S Cox, M Free, L Hull, E James (Mayor), J Keery, P Preston, W Knight, H Sharp

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk

APOLOGIES: Apologies were accepted from Councillors: A Andrews and L Browne due to illness and I Tucker and J White due to holidays

133. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

134. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported his attendance at the Mid-Somerset Newspapers Carol Service at Wells Cathedral and the Forget-me-not Christmas Dinner at the Town Hall.

135. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER REPORT

PC Pople reported:-

- the next PACT meeting would be held on 10th February 2010 at the Town Hall at 7pm and encouraged Councillors to attend.
- on progress since the last PACT and LAT meetings and asked for help from Councillors at a youth event being held at Tor Leisure on 29th January 2010.
- that Magdalene Close hostel would be opening soon and his plans to visit the establishment with Councillor Sharp.
- On the Westminster Project and that although most of the establishments in Town have agreed not to stock Special Brew and similar beverages, Morrison's will not join the scheme unless Sainsburys and Tesco's do the same. The team have visited these supermarkets to ask them to come on board.

Councillor Knight reported that people drinking alcohol from cans seem to be congregating under the canopy of Tor Records. Councillor Preston reported that some of the street drinkers are still drinking Special Brew.

Councillors congratulated PC Pople on receiving the Central Somerset Gazette Man of the Year award.

136. LOADING BAYS FOR GLASTONBURY HIGH STREET

The Mayor agreed to bring this item forward to be discussed whilst the Police Constable was in attendance.

Councillor Cox had raised this issue following complaints from traders and noticing the difficulties faced by Police due to lack of loading bays. PC Pople was asked to explain the problems caused in the High Street due to lack of loading bays.

PC Pople confirmed that the lack of loading bays at the bottom of the High Street meant that when businesses take deliveries at the front of their premises, some of the vehicles end up parking on yellow lines and double parking. Vehicles parking illegally are a problem including lorries parking on the pavement, which also damages the kerbs and pavements and holds up the buses and other traffic.

Councillor Gloak said that if the Town Council so wished, that he would investigate the possibility of gaining a Traffic Regulation Order to allow the creation of loading bays.

Councillor James had heard that some Councils were using CCTV images to identify culprits.

Councillor Keery suggested that before discussing the matter with Highways, that the Chamber of Commerce should be approached for their views.

Councillor Barron suggested that a survey should be carried out on how many establishments could not accept deliveries at the rear of their premises.

After further discussion it was **RESOLVED** to write to the businesses, following consultation with the Chamber of Commerce, asking those that do have rear entrances to take deliveries there and not at the front, in an attempt to relieve traffic congestion in the High Street.

137. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8th December 2009, which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.
- b) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 22nd December 2009 were received and adopted.
- c) The minutes of the Town Hall Committee held on 22nd December 2009 were received and adopted.

138. 2010-2011 BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2010-2011

The Town Clerk had circulated a report with the agenda regarding the recommendations from the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which was considered by members.

RESOLVED to approve the 2010-2011 budget of £118,326 and to precept the District Council for £115,475 which equates to a sum of £36.20 per 'D' band property, a zero increase on last year's figure.

139. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

The County Councillor tabled his written report. He confirmed that he would be able to report on the County Budget for 2010-2011 at the next meeting.

Councillor Coles was concerned that St Dunstan's School remained closed due to access problems.

Councillor Preston reported that he had heard that St Dunstan's School would be opening the following day.

Councillor Brunson reported that he had asked the Conservation Department at County Hall to liaise with Highways regarding the uneven slabs in the High Street.

Councillor Keery suggested that when the paths are repaired, bollards could be installed to prevent lorries mounting the pavement.

Councillor Cox reported potholes along Old Wells Road. Councillor Gloak asked that people report potholes to him on tel. no. 831988 or email a.gloak@btinternet.com.

Councillor Billing reminded members that they can report highway problems online on the Somerset County Council website.

140. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

- a) Councillor Barron reported
- Stuart Brown had been appointed the new Chief Executive for Mendip District Council
 - Godney Road would be closed for 1 weeks from 1st February 2010 to enable a new sewer connection to be carried out
 - Feasibility study for the Morland's site and the listed buildings was being considered by the District Council
- b) Councillor Brunson invited any interested Councillor to attend a meeting with Conservation Studio, the consultants carrying out the Glastonbury Conservation Area Appraisal, at the Town Hall on 19th January 2010 at 11am. He reported that during the icy and snowy weather it was the policy of the District Council not to salt or grit their car parks due to legal reasons.
- c) Councillors James informed the Town Council that the District Council had received a report back from the District Valuer regarding the Northload Street toilet block, which was being considered by Councillors.

141. GLASTONBURY SKATEPARK

Councillor Barron reported that although the Town Council had agreed to connect the electricity supply for the floodlighting, there had been some

problems with connection. The Town Clerk reported that the lights should now be operational.

142. TOR LEISURE

Councillor Barron confirmed that external monitoring by Mendip District Council had begun and negotiations were ongoing regarding the lease. This included talking to the Sea Cadets to discuss joint use of their sports changing rooms at the weekends.

Councillor Sharp confirmed that there could be health and safety implications if works highlighted in the survey were not carried out shortly. He was concerned that if the facilities were left to deteriorate too much, there would be a risk that the whole sports centre could be lost to development. He felt it was vital for the Town Council to support Councillor Barron in his efforts to maintain and improve these sports facilities for the Town. It was **AGREED** to write to Malcolm Williams and ask him to attend the next meeting to explain the current situation.

143. A416 – SIDS DEVICES

The Town Clerk reported that due to bad weather, Dave Grabham, Traffic Engineer, would not be attending this evening's meeting. He had agreed to attend the February meeting.

144. GRIT BINS

The Town Clerk reported that she had received a number of requests for grit bins for Windmill Hill (opposite McColls); Dod Lane near Chalice Hill and the corner of Monington Road and Leg of Mutton. Somerset County Council have undertaken to fill any bins that the Town Council provide. Councillors were asked to report any other areas that may be of need of a grit bin to the Town Clerk.

RESOLVED to purchase 5 bins at a sum of no more than £131.67 plus VAT per bin financed from the Security budget.

145. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Hull reported on the success of the Transition Town and Conservation Society Joint fruit trees project, which had seen 70 new fruit trees planted in Town.

Councillor Barron reported that there are problems at the Tourist Information Centre and if alternative incomes streams are not found it may not survive past next year.

Councillor Coles asked that the Council send a letter of condolence to the parents of the pupil from St John's School who died suddenly from Meningitis last week.

Councillor Cox reported that he has been meeting regularly with the Road Run organisers and would be taking part in the run himself. He asked the Mayor to continue the traditional opening of the race.

146. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted.

- a) Police Neighbourhood newsletter for Street, Glastonbury and surrounding area
- b) NHS Somerset – Joint Needs Assessment – Glastonbury and Street
- c) Somerset County Council – Proposed works to Poplar Trees, Austin Road
- d) Flourish Homes – News from Flourish Homes Ltd
- e) Mendip District Council – Parish Bulletin - January 2010

147. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

It was **AGREED** to place Tor Leisure on the agenda.

148. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT WEST MENDIP PARTNERSHIP MEETING

It was **AGREED** to request that loading bays for Glastonbury High Street and Glastonbury Police Station are included on the agenda for the meeting in March.

149. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

It was **RESOLVED** that the schedule of payments, now tabled, 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

Mayor, 9th February 2010