

**Meeting of the Council held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2009 at Glastonbury Town Hall at 7pm**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk

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**PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Ingrid Crawford explained that she was looking for a piece of land in Glastonbury suitable for a community garden to grow food and plant fruit trees and would be grateful if the Town Council had any land or could identify any land which could be used for that purpose.

**149. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were accepted from Laiqa Browne who was absent due to illness.

**150. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Brunsdon and White – Personal interest – Planning application no. 012153/25.

**151. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor announced that he had been informed by Somerset County Council that works to convert the pedestrian crossing near the medical centre on Wells Road to 'puffin' technology would be starting on 20<sup>th</sup> February 2009 for approximately one week to ten days.

He will be attending an information session on the Power of Wellbeing on 27<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

**152. MINUTES**

- a) The minutes of an Extraordinary meeting of the Council held on 21<sup>st</sup> January 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 meeting of the Planning Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> January 2009, were received and noted.

Councillors Sharp and Keery were not happy about the monies being spent on dog and litter bins.

**RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should write to the Orchard Veterinary Practice to ask them to consider providing sponsorship for the dog bins.

Councillors Brunsdon and White declared a personal interest in the following application and decided to take no part in the decision made.

### **153. PLANNING APPLICATION**

The following planning application was considered:

Planning application no. 012153/025 – Installation of replacement patio doors at Abbey House, Chilkwell Street

**RESOLVED** to recommend approval.

### **154. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER REPORT**

PCSO Becky Smith reported on police activity in Glastonbury over the past month.

Councillor Cox asked for an updated list of Police numbers. Councillor Hull complained that she had been unable to contact any of the Beat Teams numbers when trying to report an incident. PCSO Smith advised Councillors to contact 0845 4567000 to report a crime. It was suggested that maybe one mobile could be used by the officer on duty to avoid people having to try all the mobile numbers.

Councillors asked to pass on their congratulations to PCSO Lawson on receiving her Award.

### **155. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Councillor Gloak's report was tabled. He confirmed that he would be meeting with representatives from the Post Office, Councillor Andrews, the Town Clerk to discuss the future of a post office counter service at Windmill Hill.

Questions were taken regarding:

- Pot holes in the road
- Non-functional lights in Benedict Street alleyways
- Sustainable Communities Act and why the County Council had not yet opted in
- Councillor Tucker informed Councillor Gloak that the bank opposite his property in Bove Town seemed to be leaning out and needs checking by an engineer. He also asked the County Councillor to approach SWRDA again to sort out the lights at the junction to the Morland's site so there is no activation unless traffic is joining the main road ie. on demand.

### **156. GLASTONBURY COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT TRUST**

Sara Clay reported on the recent activities of the Trust. She thanked the Council for their grant of £350 towards the Job Shop alterations. She reported that the Trust is more important now due to the economic downturn. 10 people a day are coming in, seeking training and employment. The Trust is run by volunteers and costs £10000 per annum to run.

**RESOLVED** to invite Sara Clay to the next meeting to update the Council further on the work of the Trust.

## **157. POWER OF WELLBEING FOR PARISHES AND TOWNS**

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that the legislation for the Power of Wellbeing for Town and Parish Councillors had been issued. Guidance and Training instructions are expected to be issued later in the month. Councillors will be expected to attend training sessions in the near future. The new power will enable a Town Council to support economic development projects and commercial operations, environmental projects or for individuals. The Town Clerk will attend an information session on March 12<sup>th</sup> 2009.

## **158. NOTICE OF MOTION**

It was proposed by Councillor Andrews, seconded by Councillor Coles and **RESOLVED** that this Council appoints Councillor Barron as Town Council representative on the Morland's Executive Group, along with the Mayor of the day.

## **159. RED BRICK BUILDINGS ON MORLAND'S SITE**

Councillor Tucker suggested that in the current climate it would be sensible to take on the red brick buildings to bring them into use to create employment. Loans are available via the Public Loans Board and he circulated a concept drawing of how the buildings could look once restored and enhanced.

Some Councillors were concerned that the Council could be taking on a liability.

Councillor Barron suggested that the Council waits to see the outcome of the feasibility study before committing the Council to anything regarding these buildings.

## **160. TRANSFER OF RESIDUAL LAND AT MORLAND'S FROM SWRDA TO THE TOWN COUNCIL**

The Mayor advised that there is possibility of SWRDA transferring ownership of residual land at Morland's to the Town Council being the site of the old bicycle sheds on the opposite side of the road and land next to the skate park.

**RESOLVED** that this Town Council agrees, in principle, on the transfers but would need monies to carry out landscaping which is a planning condition for the sites.

## **161. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

District Councillors reported on:

- Planning permission granted by District Council for apartment block on Avalon Tyres site, Street Road against the Town Council's refusal  
**RESOLVED** that the Town Council should write to the Planning Department and Planning Inspectorate asking for a review as it would appear that the opinions of the Town Council were not taken into consideration and also to write to the District Council to request a Conservation Area appraisal
- 3% increase in Council Tax

- Wifi review
- Waiting list for social housing
- Loss of funding for Tourist Information Centres

Councillor Preston reported the lack of help offered to residents regarding removal of mess made by feral cats.

## **162. REPORTS FROM APPOINTED COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillors reported on:

- Transition Towns
- Possible new site for Tor Fair – Tor Leisure
- PACT meeting

## **163. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a) Councillor Hull informed Councillors that the Paddington Farm Trust would be holding an open day on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2009 from 10am-2pm.
- b) Councillor Sharp informed Councillors that the Lalibela website had now been updated and that a £5000 donation had been received recently.

## **164. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence had been circulated to members with the agenda.

- a) Somerset County Council – Communications Team – Safe in your Community information booklet
- b) Avon and Somerset Police Authority – Community Policing Awards – Councillors were pleased to learn that PCSO Jemma Lawson had won the PCSO of the Year Award
- c) Somerset Partnership NHS – Proposals for the development of mental health services in Mendip and Bridgwater – Consultation – **RESOLVED** that Councillor Sharp to respond on behalf of the Town Council
- d) The Sustainable Environment Company CIC – Greener Lifestyles Exhibition 2
- e) Mendip District Council – Council Information Bulletin
- f) Somerset Market Towns Forum – Membership – **AGREED** that the Town Council should join the Forum

## **165. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

**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.

## **166. RISK ASSESSMENT**

The Town Clerk circulated a reported regarding current Town Council investments which is attached to the official minutes.

Following advice from the District Council monies were moved from the Bank of Ireland to the Alliance and Leicester Commercial Bank.

Investigations into investment in mutual societies have not been fruitful as the majority of mutual societies will not take investments from Town Councils, only individuals.

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**Chairman, 10<sup>th</sup> March 2009**