

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 1st July 2008 at Glastonbury Town Hall at 7pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
District Councillor J Barron

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Zero asked that the Town Council considered including the Timbuktu Friendship link on the Town Signs.

Terry Napper complained about the poor state of Benedict Street
Complained that the traffic lights at Morland's are causing traffic hold ups and asked that the Town Council request Highways to alter the phasing.

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer

30. APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted from Councillor L Browne.

31. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor James – Personal and prejudicial interest – Wearyall Hill

32. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

- The Mayor and Councillors had been invited to the Catholic Pilgrimage at the Abbey on Sunday 13th July 2008.
- The Mayor will be attending the 1st Anniversary of the opening of the Gauntlet Shopping Precinct on 4th July 2008.

33. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3rd June 2008, 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 Town Hall Committee held on 17th June 2008, were received and noted.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 17th June 2008, were received and noted.

34. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER REPORT

PC Mark Pople reported that the PACT meeting would take place at the Town Hall on 9th July 2008.

Members asked that the Police recommend that the traffic lights near the Morland's site are returned to the original phasing.

Councillors Andrews reported that contractors were causing an obstruction at the exit road from St John's Car Park.

Councillor James reported illegally parked caravans at Hill Head.

Report attached to official minutes.

35. AREA REGENERATION OFFICER REPORT

Skateboard Park - Ros Wilkins explained that the skateboard park was checked by a health and safety professional and deemed unfit for purpose. The decision had then been taken by the District Council to demolish the equipment to prevent accidents. The District Council had obtained £110,000 funding for a new park and it was hoped that the new concrete structures would be in place by the end of the year and should last 40 years. Full consultation with users would take place. In the meantime the provision of temporary ramps was being considered.

Councillors were unhappy about the way the equipment was removed and such short notice.

Councillor Tucker mentioned the alternative area, off Street Road opposite Morland's.

Mrs Wilkins also reported that an application to list Chilkwell Street red telephone box had been made.

The Town Clerk was asked to contact the District Council regarding the matter of the skateboard park.

36. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

The Mayor summarised Councillor Gloak's report in his absence. A copy is attached to the official minutes.

37. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Coles said that following reports that the Road Run had been moved to Burnham on Sea, he had met with Mr Stone regarding the Vintage Car Rally. After discussions, Mr Stone is prepared to look at bringing it back to Glastonbury.

Councillor Brunsdon voiced his concerns at the closure of the Skateboard park but stated that the safety of young people is paramount. He also reported that the problem of vagrancy around the White Spring had been sorted out. He had attended a meeting regarding the Local Development Framework.

Councillor Tucker asked how the Council could further the cause of providing the Southern Relief Road.

Councillor Barron had met with officers regarding the Northload Street toilet block and a further meeting with Town Council representatives would be taking place.

Councillor Sharp was concerned about the expenditure involved in converting the block to a Police Station.

The Mayor brought forward for consideration the letter from Glastonbury Chilkwell Carnival Committee which informed the Town Council that Mendip District Council would not be funding the provision of portable toilets at the Mendip carnivals.

The District Councillors said that they were unaware of the decision.

RESOLVED that a letter be sent to all District Councillors informing them of this decision and asking them to do everything in their power to reverse the decision.

38. REPORTS FROM APPOINTED COUNCILLORS ON OUTSIDE BODIES

The Tourist Information Board of Directors had again refused Councillor Hull's nomination to the Board. The Town Clerk was asked to arrange a meeting with the Chairman of the Board.

The Town Clerk was asked to remind the Chamber of Commerce, Glastonbury Leisure Centre and Glastonbury in Bloom of their Town Council representatives.

39. PARKING PROVISION - ST JOHN'S CHURCH

The Mayor and Councillor Free had met with representatives of the Church to discuss the parking difficulties for wedding and funeral cars.

Councillor Free provided a drawing of the proposed layby to provide parking for Wedding and Funeral cars outside St John's Church including removable bollards.

RESOLVED that the Town Council would not support the scheme.

40. PATMOS TWINNING

Zoe d'Ay provided a report of the Civic visit to Patmos which is attached to the official minutes.

41. TOWN SIGNS

Following a notice of motion from Councillors Sharp and Knight it was

RESOLVED that Glastonbury Town Council recognises the twinning links with Lalibela and Patmos by placing appropriate road signs on the A39 and A361 approach roads into Glastonbury.

Councillors Free, Keery, Knight and Sharp agreed to form a working party and report back to the Town Council with designs and costings.

42. PUBLIC TOILETS

Councillor Barry said she had noticed that people were attempting to use the toilets after closing.

The Town Clerk said that there had been an arrangement to open the toilets overnight at weekends but when used hypodermic needles were found last week she had closed them on health and safety grounds.

RESOLVED that the Magdalene Street toilets should remain open for 24 hours on a 3 month trial basis. The Town Clerk will arrange for Sharps bins to be provided.

Councillor Barry remained concerned that there was no night shelter provision in Glastonbury.

43. DISABILITY WORKING GROUP

Councillor Barry was concerned about the lack of disabled access within the Town.

RESOLVED that the Disability Working Group be reformed with the following membership, Councillors Barry, Billing, Brunsdon, Free and Preston.

44. GLASTONBURY FRUIT AND FLOWER FESTIVAL

Councillor Tucker proposed that following the success of the first event last year that the Town Council should support the event which will be taking place on .

RESOLVED that the Town Council donates a sum of £250 towards prizes for the Festival.

45. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND BALANCE SHEET 2007-2008, ANNUAL RETURN, ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT AND REPORT FROM INTERNAL AUDITOR

Copies of the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet and the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement had been circulated to members for approval following a satisfactory inspection by the internal auditor.

RESOLVED that the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance sheet and the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement for the year ending 31st March 2008, were approved and adopted.

The comments in the report from the Internal Auditor were noted.

The Mayor and Town Clerk signed the Accounts and the Annual Return.

46. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and noted.

- a) Letter from Eileen M Bridges enquiring about the possibility of placing a plaque in the Town as a memorial to Miss E O Rice, ex-Mayor of Glastonbury and Freeman of the Town.
- b) Somerset County Council – Temporary Road Closure – George Street to be closed for 3 weeks from 14th July 2008 to enable the construction of two man-hole covers and for a foul and storm sewer connection to be carried out – Councillor Tucker confirmed he is meeting with the Director to discuss arrangements
- c) Avon and Somerset Police Authority – Letter inviting applications for three new independent members for Police Authority
- d) Letter from Glastonbury Chilkwell Guy Fawkes Carnival Ltd regarding the

withdrawal of portable toilet provision on carnival night by Mendip District Council

47. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Brunsdon reported that the Somerset Preservation Trust had met in the Council Chamber of the Town Hall.

Councillor Barry reported that on 9th August Barry Trower would be talking about the possible effects of Wifi on the Bee population.

Several members were unhappy that this item had been moved to the bottom of the agenda.

It was **AGREED** that this item should appear before 'Correspondence' in future.

48. 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.

Chairman, 5th August 2008