

**Meeting of Glastonbury Town Council held at Glastonbury Town Hall on
Tuesday 2nd October 2007 at 7pm**

PRESENT: Councillors: A Andrews, C Barry, T Billing, L Browne, 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
Councillor J Barron, District Councillor

The Mayor said a prayer prior to commencement of proceedings.

Public participation prior to meeting

- Sarno reported to the Council that White Cottage, Bere Lane would be closing on 29th October 2007 when she would become homeless. The Mayor said that Mendip District Council had a duty to provide emergency accommodation for those being evicted from their homes.
- Jon Cousins thanked the Council, on behalf of Zoé d'Ay for its interest in linking Glastonbury with Patmos, Greece.
- Loku Bandu welcomed Councillor Hull being elected to serve on Glastonbury Town Council and spoke regarding climate change, the Carbon Reduction Action Group (CRAG) and the success of the harvest show held by Glastonbury United at the Town Hall.
- Paddy Hickman who lives on the A361 complained about the dangers of the road and asked for his complaint to be included in the pinch point consultation.

53. APOLOGIES

All Councillors were in attendance.

54. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J White – Confidential item
Councillor J Brunsdon – Confidential item

55. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE

The Mayor congratulated Councillor Hull on her election win and welcomed her to the Council.

Councillor Linda Hull signed her acceptance of office.

56. APPOINTMENT OF NEW COUNCILLOR TO COMMITTEES

Councillor Linda Hull informed members that she had decided to spend her first year with the Council attending Committee meetings as an observer, in order for her to make an informed decision on which of those Committees she would like to join at the beginning of the next Council year.

57. APPOINTMENT OF COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES TO OUTSIDE BODIES

RESOLVED to make the following appointments:

Glastonbury Tribunal Ltd – Councillors Hull and Knight
St Edmund's Community Hall Management Committee - Councillor Hull
Glastonbury in Bloom Committee – Councillor I Tucker
Glastonbury Community Development Trust – Councillors Hull and Preston

58. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER REPORT

PC Pople offered to give names of housing associations to the person who reported that the White Cottage would be closing soon.

He reported that:

- Jemma Lawson had now formed two new community speed watch groups.
- With the transfer of PCSO Dury to Shepton Mallet there were now two vacancies in Glastonbury.
- Complaints had been received from Windmill Hill regarding the behaviour of young people since the 'open door' policy stopped at the youth club and changed to invitation only.
- PC Pople to check whether the PCSO's would be permitted to open a session at St Edmund's Hall.
- Difficulties have arisen at the Market Cross on Friday and Saturday nights as a large number of people are coming out from the pubs and using it as a smoking area since the smoking ban in public houses came into effect. Should people behave in an anti-social manner and are drinking alcohol the Police would be within their rights to deal with them as the Market Place is a designed public place where restrictions on public drinking can apply.

The Mayor asked for speed checks along the A361 due to blatant disregard for the speed limits.

The Town Clerk was asked to write to the Youth Service regarding the failure of the new youth club arrangements.

59. WATERLINKS

Martin Lofthouse, Tourism Office from Mendip District Council gave a presentation on the Waterlinks projects.

60. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) The Mayor announced the following forthcoming events:

- The MarthaCare Trust Ball at the Town Hall on 6th October 2007
- Dedication of the Labyrinth at St John's Church at 10.30am on 14th October 2007
- The Mayor's Concert featuring Bertie's Big Band at the Town Hall on 31st October 2007
- Bingo Night to raise funds for Martha Care, Saturday 8th December 2007 at Glastonbury Town Hall

b) Councillor Hull announced that there would be a Glastonbury Transition Town Open Space event for those interested in local food grown, served and sold in Glastonbury at Tor Leisure on Oct 20th from 2pm-6pm.

61. AREA REGENERATION PROGRAMME

A letter had been received and circulated to members from the Area Regeneration Officer asking for specific projects, which may be suitable for funding under the 2007/2008 budget.

Councillors asked about the Youth Café project. Councillor Billing suggested that the youth need a venue where a permanently configured sound system is in place to allow bands to play and practice.

62. A361

Councillor Sharp gave a short history of the campaign for a safer A361 through Glastonbury.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should ask for a representative from Somerset Highways to attend the next Council meeting to explain the situation regarding the A361 and for a working party to be formed, after that visit to discuss how the Council may put pressure on the Highways Department to deal with the problem in a more effective manner.

The Town Clerk was also asked to write to the MP regarding the matter.

63. HGV PINCH POINT CONSULTATION

A letter had been received from a Transport Planner at County Hall who is currently trying to develop a full list of roads which are unsuitable for Heavy Goods Vehicle traffic in order to help improve the routing information that is provided to Hauliers. The letter included a form for completion.

A copy of the letter and form was circulated to each member for completion if they so wished.

It was agreed that the Town Clerk should include the A361 on the form and forward Mr Hickman's form regarding pinch points along Coursing Batch, Chilkwel Street, Bere Lane and Fishers Hill. Should any other areas be identified the Town Clerk should also include these.

64. AFFORDABLE HOUSING FOR GLASTONBURY

Councillor Barry reported that she had attended the forum on Rural housing and sustainability held at the Bishop's Palace on behalf of the Council. Many aspects of providing affordable housing. West Dorset Council are funding a strawhouse development and she urged Councillors to put their minds to providing affordable housing for Glastonbury.

Councillor Tucker suggested that the relief pond at Dyehouse Lane could be used to create moorings and facilities for houseboats.

RESOLVED that the Town Council should approach the County Council in order to investigate the possibility of leasing the pond to create moorings and facilities.

The suggestion was put forward that the Town Council might be able to persuade owners of obscure pieces of land to lease the land for development instead of selling which, without the purchase price of the land, would allow houses to be sold at an affordable level.

The Town Clerk was requested by members to contact the South West Regional Development Agency to ask when the renovation of the cottages at Beckery would be completed as they had now been empty for over a year.

65. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

A report was tabled in Councillor Gloak's absence.

66. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

The Mayor reported that:

- He had been appointed to the Planning Board at Mendip District Council and therefore would need to reassess his position on the Town Council Planning Committee due to the matter of predetermination.
- He had attended the Planning Board last Wednesday when the Tor Leisure Centre was not granted permission for change of use to bed/breakfast accommodation due to inadequate car parking. At the same meeting the Avalon Plastic application was approved with the condition that they will be unable to develop the old site until the factory is built on the Morland's site.
- A meeting would be taking place at St Edmund's Hall regarding the change in bus timetable for Windmill Hill.

Councillor Barron reported that the District Council had resolved to freeze car parking charges for 6 months and that the peppercorn lease paid by Tor Leisure was dependent on the leaseholder keeping the playing fields in good order.

Councillor Coles reported that:

- District Council car parking takings were £115,000 down on last year.
- The results of a study show that the Mendip area is one of the most healthy in the UK.
- New pay and display car parking machines are being installed District wide. The new machines are solar powered.

Councillor Browne asked that the District Councillors consider short stay parking ie 15 mins.

Councillor Keery suggested that the parking hours are reviewed ie. charging from 9am – 5pm to allow local people to park after work and overnight for free in an effort to reduce on-street parking.

67. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillors Billing and Browne had attended the Somerset Association of Local Councils AGM on behalf of the Town Council. Subjects covered were new guidance regarding predetermination due out; new specific powers in relation to local energy saving measures and Quality Council status.

Councillor Hull circulated a list of forthcoming meetings of the Transition Town Glastonbury sub-groups. She reported that the groups would like to see

representation from the Town Council and Glastonbury Community Development Trust.

68. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 2nd October 2007, which had been circulated to each member with the agenda, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.
- b) The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 18th September 2007 were received and noted.

69. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence received since the last meeting was noted. Copies of f,g and h were circulated with the agenda.

- a) Invitation to Councillors to attend a meeting at St John's Church on Wednesday 10th October 2007 at 7.30pm for a presentation of the proposals for the renovation and growth of the Church.
- b) Invitation from Sea Cadets for Councillors to attend Trafalgar Parade in Street on Sunday 21st October 2007 at 1.30pm
- c) Street Parish Council – Letter inviting Glastonbury to share a Lengths man with Glastonbury – Agreed that the Town Clerk should liaise with Street Parish Council and the County Council.
- d) Mendip District Council – Road Closure – Glastonbury Carnival – Friday 16 – 18 November 2007
- e) Somerset Highways – Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Temporary closure of footpath WS15/68 from 1st October 2007
- f) Somerset County Council – The future of waste management in Somerset
- g) Mendip Housing – Letter introducing Annual Report 2006/2007 (Annual report available from the Town Clerk's Office)
- h) Mendip Area Working Panel – Letter of explanation regarding cancellation of meeting scheduled for 25th September 2007

70. 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.

71. BUDGET REPORT

A copy of the revenue budget to 31st August 2007 was circulated to each Councillor for information.

72. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

Report attached for Councillors.

Chairman, 6th November 2007