

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday, 3rd June 2003 at 7.00. p.m.

- PRESENT** The Mayor (Councillor A Gloak)
Councillors: D. Allen, J. Billing, T. Billing, J. R. Brunson,
J. E. Coles, N. Cottle, E. W. Higgins, E. N. James, J. S.
Keery, Dr H Sharp, I C Tucker, and A. F. Willis.
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk
- APOLOGIES:** Councillors Mrs J E White and K Mitchell

The meeting was opened with a minutes silence for the late John Bromfield, (ex Mayor of Glastonbury) whose funeral had taken place the previous day.

15. REPRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Stephanie Morland – After attending the last area board meeting where the Mendip officer appointed to deal with A Boards and obstructions on pavements spoke, she hopes that local Councillors will ensure that removal of A boards is negotiated with the traders and the Chamber of Commerce, not enforced wholesale and that compromises and constructive alternatives are sought, to benefit the town as a whole.

Mr Miers – Asked why it appears that local people are not able to obtain council housing in Glastonbury. eg. Elderly people from Glastonbury are offered housing in Street where they may not wish to be. The Mayor informed Mr Miers that the social housing is now in the hands of Mendip Housing. Councillor Coles is monitoring the situation and mentioned that there are 600-700 people on the housing waiting list.

Martyn Wheeler – Asked why the agenda for this meeting was not on the website and what was the Council's policy on the content of the website. Councillor Billing informed Mr Wheeler that the Agenda does appear on the website but not in the regular place and stated that there would be a Website Committee meeting called soon where the policy would be looked at.

16. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Tucker – Correspondence.
Councillor Keery – Planning minutes.

17. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed members that since the last Council meeting he had attended:-

- Mayor making at Weston-Super-Mare and Wells
- The commencement of the demolition of the Morland's site
- Beating the Retreat at Millfield School
- Mini Sure Start nursery
- Royal Bath and West Show
- British Heart Foundation Bike Ride
- The funeral of ex-Mayor J Bromfield

And

- Wrote to the Queen on behalf of the people of Glastonbury congratulating her on the 50th anniversary of her coronation

18. TO RECEIVE WRITTEN QUESTIONS, PETITIONS OR OTHER REPRESENTATIONS FROM THE RESIDENTS OF GLASTONBURY

Letter from Laura Kavanagh asking for financial help towards double glazing due to anti-social behaviour in the street outside her home in the town centre.

AGREED The Mayor will write to the Inspector at Wells and the Town Clerk will inform the District.

Councillor Sharp suggested the Council should try and work with Police and that a Security Committee meeting is called. Councillor Tucker believed the Council should be talking to an Inspector. **AGREED** that the Town Clerk should arrange a Security Committee meeting on a date that would be convenient for Inspector Dean to attend.

19. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13th May 2003, copies of which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record subject to the following amendments. Page 3 Talking Newspapers should read 'Glastonbury and Street Talking Newspaper for the Blind', Page 5 Councillor Andrews abstained and did not vote against the application. Page 6, item 12 f) 7.215pm should read 7.15pm.

Councillor Tucker pointed out that at the last meeting the Council had neglected to appoint a new Morland's sub-committee. He hoped that the previous members would be prepared to continue.

AGREED that the Town Clerk should arrange a date for the Morland's sub-committee to meet with Esther Scott, Regeneration Consultant for the RDA. Councillor Willis is concerned regarding the possibility of an illegal rave before, during or after the Glastonbury Festival. Councillor Higgins is still awaiting information regarding the contingency plans put in place by the District Council.

The Police have confirmed that there will be increased Police cover for Glastonbury over the Festival period.

20. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

The report of the Planning Committee meeting held on 22nd May 2003 was received and noted. Members were reminded that the time of planning meetings has been changed from 2.30pm to 7pm.

Continued concern was shown by Councillor Willis regarding the provision of parking for intensive development. It had been noted by Councillor James that private developers would need to provide parking in order to sell properties whereas Housing Associations would not have the same incentive.

The Market Cross had been discussed at the Town Hall Committee, when after perusing four quotations for essential works to the Market Cross, it was agreed to appoint the local mason to repair the Cross. Councillor Brunson proposed, seconded by Councillor Andrews that the Council approves this decision.

RESOLVED, unanimously to appoint the local mason (details available from Town Clerk).

21. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND BALANCE SHEET

Deferred to next meeting.

22. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Gloak had no points to raise. He informed members of issues currently being discussed at County, being:-

- The Taunton North West Packages: Compulsory purchase and side road orders.
- Review of Children's Residential Provision.
- Genetically Modified Crops
- Strategy to address property issues in culture and heritage
- Development of Special Schools to meet the needs of Children and Young People with the most severe and complex learning difficulties.
- Central Services Review
- Review of Financial Services
- Broadband Access in Somerset
- Somerset Pension Fund request for admitted body status.

And answered questions regarding:

- Lack of lighting at Street Road crossing
- Lack of yellow lines in George Street
- Uneven pavements in High Street
- Clarification regarding the status of Northload Street – This has been raised with WS Atkins.
- Resurfacing of Benedict Street
- Policy regarding hedge and verge cutting.

- Flower bed in Magdalene Street.

23. REPORTS OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Brunsdon reported on:

- His appointment to the Mendip District Council Cabinet
- Frome and Shepton Mallet Town enhancement
- Environmental Services
- Toilet in Butt Close – Temporary toilet will be provided for 10 weeks during the summer. The Town Council will be asked to fund any extension to this. Councillor Tucker thanked Councillor Brunsdon and asked that he investigate the possibility of the Town Council taking over part of the car park and building its own block of toilets.

And answered questions regarding:

- Lack of play equipment at the Abbey Park. The Councillor will investigate.
- Plans for the future – The new Council will be reviewing the whole of Mendip including Finance.

Councillor Coles reported on:

- Increase in funding for Tourist Information Centres from £15,500 to £19,000.
- A review of homelessness in the Mendip area to establish the extent of homelessness in Mendip and what the future levels are likely to be. Also to identify what is currently being done and what resources are available to prevent and tackle homelessness.

24. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Glastonbury in Bloom – Concern was shown that as Richard and Faye Robinson were no longer part of the G in B Committee who would plant out and tend the Memorial. The Mayor confirmed that the memorial planting would be completed next week.

Somerset Association of Local Councils – Councillor Billing reported that At the last meeting Councillor Cottle was appointed Chairman of the East Somerset Division. They were informed that there is a delay by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister in publishing the Quality Council Scheme. The scheme will require the clerk to become a ‘trained’ clerk by taking the certificate in Local Council Administration qualification the approximate cost being £75.

25. STREET LIGHTING IN NORTHLOAD STREET

The following notice of motion proposed by Councillor T Billing and seconded by Councillor A Andrews was passed unanimously.

‘Glastonbury Town Council requests that Somerset County Council examines the feasibility and costs of improving the street lighting in the vicinity of Manor House Road/Northload Street junction and through the County Councillor produce a written report regarding the measures that will be taken.’

26. GLASTONBURY AND STREET YOUTH SERVICE

Mark Holden of the Glastonbury and Street Youth Service explained that the SRB will be funding 2 extra youth workers to work with disaffected youngsters in the town. They will be funded for 12 hours per week (to be worked at varying times). It would be their aim to build relationships, raise self-esteem through building on the skills of the young people and involving them in the creation of projects. He asked the Council to consider match funding this project to the tune of £2600. £800 for this financial year and the remainder to be provided for the following year.

It was **RESOLVED** to match fund this SRB project to the sum of £2600.00 (£800 for this financial year and the remainder to be provided for the following year).

Councillor James declared a personal interest and took no part in the decision.

27. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

111689/001 – Mr and Mrs A Bewley – Single storey rear extension, change flat roof to pitched over garage/porch (CAT A) – 5 Austin Road

FULL

‘No objection’.

28. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Brunsdon

- Security Guard has been provided by the National Trust for when work on the tower is not in progress.

Councillor Sharp

- Delay in starting the new hospital due to a problem with the pitch of the roof. A reserved matters planning alteration will be submitted in June/July.
- Road improvements to A39/A361 are due to start.

29. CORRESPONDENCE

Councillor Tucker declared a personal and prejudicial interest and left the room.

- a) Letter from Clive Kemp, Chief Fire Officer regarding the second pump at Glastonbury.
- b) Letter from Clive Kemp to HMI D Harper, HM Fire Service Inspectorate.

- c) Letter from Mr S Underhill of the FBU Region 14 Somerset to HMI D Harper, HM Fire Service Inspectorate.

Councillor Coles proposed, seconded by Councillor Billing that the Council should write to the Deputy Prime Minister regarding its objection to the removal of the second pump at Glastonbury.

A recorded vote was taken the results being 10 members for (Allen, Andrews, J Billing, T Billing, Brunson, Coles, Cottle, Higgins, James, Willis), 1 member against (Keery), one abstention (Sharp). The Mayor did not vote on this issue. Therefore the Town Clerk was instructed to write to the Deputy Prime Minister.

- d) Urban Surfers Group – Progress regarding skatepark and request for further funding – Mayor suggested this was deferred to the Finance and General Purposed Committee on 29th July 2003. Town Clerk will advise Judi Hawkins to apply for funding via the grant system.

Councillor Tucker returned to the room.

- e) Somerset County Council – Re proposed 20 mph speed limit – Wells Road – Informing Council that following comments from the Chief Constable the restriction has been reduced to a length of approximately 300m and will now extend from the existing 40mph signs north of Underhill Road to a point north of Manor House Road.
- f) Glastonbury Green Business Club – Request from Linda Hull for the Town Council to continue in its role as a partner to this project and, in principle, be in support of a business plan and strategy for the continuation of the GBC as part of a three year project to include related projects in waste, energy, local sourcing and sustainable tourism.

AGREED that this Council should continue in its role as partner to the Green Business Club.

30. 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.

The meeting concluded at 9.30pm.

Mayor _____
July 1st 2003