

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday, 2nd September 2003 at 7.00. p.m.

PRESENT: The Mayor (Councillor A Gloak)
Councillors: A. Andrews, Mrs J D Billing, T Billing, J. R. Brunsdon MBE, J. E. Coles, N. Cottle, E. N. James, J. S. Keery, K Mitchell, Dr H Sharp, I C Tucker, Mrs J White and A. F. Willis.

IN ATTENDANCE: Town Clerk
Mr Alan Jones, Chief Executive, Somerset County Council
Mr Rod Salter, Prince's Trust

APOLOGIES: Councillors D. Allen, E Higgins

At the request of the Mayor, the meeting convened in the Main Hall to allow full access to the disabled.

The meeting opened with a moment's silence.

62. REPRESENTATION FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC

Mr Andrews and Mr Thomson, residents of Beckery, spoke to the meeting to complain about 'boy racers' in Beckery. Recently Mr Andrews' daughter's car was written off by one of these drivers. They questioned why there are not 20 mph limit signs outside the Beckery Resource and Mendip Centre, as with other educational establishments and suggested that in future Beckery Road should be sealed off.

Councillor Brunsdon has informed Inspector Dean and the County Councillor will enquire regarding the 20 mph speed limit.

Sergeant Halliwell, who was present at the meeting, noted the problems and will inform the traffic division.

Councillor James suggested this could be a site for Community Speed Watch.

63. ALAN JONES, CHIEF EXECUTIVE, SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr Jones, who has been in post for 3 months, gave an insight into the functions of the County Council.

He answered questions regarding:

- Highways – Difficulties in contacting local office and delay in painting double yellow lines in George Street – Mr Jones will investigate.
- Fire Service
- County commitment regarding 999 Centre on Morland's site – The County has a member of staff working on the proposal.

64. REPORT FROM SERGEANT T HALLIWELL

Sergeant Halliwell introduced himself to the Council. He has been in post for 4 weeks and is based at Street Police Station.

He reported that the Police have been tackling anti-social behaviour. He will be meeting with Heroes nightclub and other licensed establishments as much anti-social behaviour occurs after closing time.

The crime figures from 8th-23rd August 2003 were Domestic burglaries 0, other burglaries 1, vehicle crime 2, robbery 0, violent crime 0, theft 3, criminal damage 2 other 0, total 8, %age of District crime 1.8%.

Questions were answered regarding:

Noise in Market Place until 2am

Serial offenders

Rough sleepers under St Johns car park canopy

Community Speed Watch

Abandoned vehicles – As long as tax is valid and safely parked it is left to the subjective opinion of the officer as to whether the vehicle is abandoned.

65. PRESENTATION BY MR ROD SALTER, TEAM LEADER, PRINCE'S TRUST

Rod Salter explained that the Prince's Trust has come to Glastonbury in partnership with the SRB to work with 14-30 year olds who face disadvantage. They aim to help young people to set up businesses and run volunteer personal development courses. The Council was asked to identify community projects which could be taken on by these volunteer groups. The volunteer scheme involves unemployed 16-25 year olds.

Councillor Cottle asked whether there would be liaison with the Youth Offending Team. Mr Salter confirmed that the Trust is piloting a scheme with first time offenders or people about to offend.

Councillor Tucker proposed that the upgrading of the Abbey Park, already identified as a possible Tercentenary project could be the 'flagship' for the work of the Trust. He also suggested that the Council could possibly house a team room in the car park for the duration of the programme.

Mr Salter gave the Clerk some information regarding the volunteer programme to be circulated to members.

The Council gave its full support for the project.

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor reminded members to check that their declarations of interests are up to date.

67. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 5th August 2003, copies of which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

68. TERCENTENARY

Proposed by Councillor Brunsdon, seconded by Councillor Cottle and **RESOLVED** to create a Tercentenary Fund.

69. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES OF COUNCIL

- a) The report of the Planning Committee held on 21st August 2003 was received and noted.

70. REPORT OF COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor report attached to official minutes.

Questions were taken regarding:

Light on Street Road crossing – The surveyor has checked the light which apparently is within guidelines.

Proposed by Councillor Tucker, seconded by Councillor Keery and **RESOLVED** that the Council should look into upgrading the light on the crossing. Clerk to liaise with the County Councillor.

71. REPORTS OF DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Councillor Brunsdon reported on:

- The retirement of the Graham Jeffs, Chief Executive.
Proposed by Councillor Brunsdon, seconded by Councillor Cottle and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk writes on behalf of this Council to thank him for his services over the years.
- Temporary toilet in Butt Close will be in situ until after Carnival night.
- Lighting in Northload West Car Park
- Seats outside the Town Hall are being refurbished after damage through vandalism
- A-board proliferation in the High Street
- Leisure equipment for hire from Mendip District Council

- Gum on pavements – Investigation into removal
- The eradication of rats from Lowerside

And took questions regarding:

- Play equipment at Windmill Hill
- Toilets

Councillor James reported that Nick Tolson has been appointed CCTV co-ordinator for Mendip District Council.

72. REPORTS FROM REPRESENTATIVES ON OUTSIDE BODIES

Glastonbury Development Trust – Councillor Mitchell reported that the office is now up and running and will be open weekdays from 10am – 4pm.

Mendip Strategic Partnership – Councillor Cottle and Brunsdon recently attended a meeting of this Partnership

73. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported that he had represented the Council at the following since the last meeting:

- Maillezais, France – 1000 year anniversary of the Abbaye de Saint Pierre.
- Miracle Plays
- Launch of the Prince's Trust
- Burma Start Remembrance Service at St John's Church and the main Somerset service at Weston-Super-Mare
- Axbridge Somerset Day

74. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Clerk advised the Council regarding:

- Mendip District Council – Planning Department Open Day – 25th September 2003 2pm – 8pm.
- Mendip District Council Parish Forum – Training session on Development Control – Monday 6th October 7pm – 9pm.
- Councillor Tucker advised that he has been discussing the alternative site for the skateboard park, ie. Morland's bike shed site, with Esther Scott of the RDA. The RDA now plan a bus dropping off bay on that site, which this Council was told was to go back to green field. Councillor Tucker still feels there is space for both on the site and asked Councillors to survey the site for themselves. He asked the District Councillors to make the District aware of the Council's proposal.
- Councillor Sharp advised:
 - External work on the hospital site should start next month.

- Regarding lack of speed cameras in Coursing Batch.
- The Neighbourhood Watch co-ordinator's meeting is to be held on 9th October 2003, 7pm at the Town Hall. Please would Councillors identify two residents from their ward from roads not in the scheme to come along with them to the meeting.

75. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) Somerset County Council – Proposed waiting restrictions – Northload Street and proposed changes to Prohibition of Driving Order in the Market Place. Copy circulated to members

Members were generally unhappy with lines shown on the map provides as it did not show a holistic view of the area.

RESOLVED to arrange a site meeting with members and Jeff Bunting to discuss yellow lines in the area.

- b) Cartwrights Licensing Team – Transfer of Justices' Licence – Safeway Store, Street Road – Mr S Concannon, 86 Summerleaze Crescent, Taunton – No objection
- c) Somerfield Licensing Administrator – Transfer of Justices' Licence – Somerfield, Northload Road – Ms Victoria McLaurie, 13 Rectory Road, Shepton Mallet – No objection
- d) Mendip District Council – Road Closure Order – Glastonbury Carnival 14-16th November 2003 – No objection
- e) English Heritage – Notification of scheduling of Glastonbury Abbey – Noted

76. GLASTONBURY AND STREET AREA BOARD

Next meeting to be held at Crispin School Hall, Street at 6.30pm on 17th September 2003.

77. OTHER BUSINESS

Councillor Tucker asked the Mayor why the meeting was no longer opened with a prayer. The Mayor replied that during his year of office it was his choice on how the meeting begins. A discussion ensued and it was **RESOLVED** that the summons should read 'The meeting will start with a moment's silence during which time you may wish to pray'.

Councillor Tucker also pointed out that the Council should be addressing disabled access to meetings at the Town Hall.

The Mayor was asked about a scoping exercise which he had arranged. He explained that he had been requested to do this by Inspector Dean and it was not on behalf of the Town Council. He had also arranged a meeting with Michael Eavis at the request of certain individuals in the town.

78. 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 payment.

Mayor _____
October 7th 2003