

Meeting of the Council held on 7th November 2006 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: D Allen, J Barron, T Billing, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles (Mayor), E Higgins (Deputy Mayor), N Cottle, A Gloak, J Keery, K Mitchell, H Sharp, I Tucker, J White

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk

APOLOGIES: Councillors: A Andrews, E James

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- a) District Councillor L Bennett, Chairman of the West Mendip Community Partnership invited Councillors to the next meeting of the Partnership when a decision regarding the siting of a tolerance garden in Glastonbury will be made.
- b) A representative from Healing Hearts Charity informed the Council of their wish that Glastonbury be nominated to be twinned with Timbuktu. The deadline for nominations would be November 15th 2006.

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer.

56. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor Higgins – Personal and prejudicial - All matters relating to planning
Councillor T Billing – Personal and prejudicial – Planning application no. 049199/004

57. REPORT OF COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

PC M Pople reported on the following:

- Issuing of parking tickets in Manor House Road and Northload Street
- Meeting with Mr Barron
- Catholic Youth 2000 weekend – Only one arrest made
- Airgun pellets found by street cleaner

He was requested to check on an area in Selwood Road where youngsters were causing a disturbance for residents. He undertook to encourage the youngsters to use the Mound.

Acting Sergeant Edward Hawkins introduced himself as the successor to Sergeant A Pritchard.

Councillor T Billing left the room.

58. DISQUALIFICATION OF COUNCILLOR AND CO-OPTION OR ELECTION OF COUNCILLOR

The Clerk reported that she had been required to disqualify Councillor J Billing as she had failed to attend a Council or Committee meeting since April 2006. She advertised the vacancy as soon as she had received confirmation from Councillor J Billing that she had not attended any meeting on behalf of the Council during the past six months.

She explained that should an election not be called by 10 electors by 5.30pm on 9th November 2006 that the Councillor would be in a position to co-opt a Councillor. A provisional date for the co-option was made for Tuesday 14th November 2006. Any persons interested in co-option should contact the Town Clerk for information and the press were asked to report this.

Councillor T Billing returned to the room.

59. BAKER ASSOCIATES, PLANNING CONSULTANTS FOR MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL'S LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Sarah Jones reported that they are now formulating the preferred options ready for the submission document in Spring 2007.

It would appear that Glastonbury remains constrained regarding residential building land and that the stock of employment land needs to be safeguarded.

The Council asked whether Baker Associates could calculate how many new dwellings would need to be built on the southern slopes to generate a Section 106 agreement to finance the building of a Southern relief road. Ms Jones undertook to carry out the calculation and respond to the Council prior to the next meeting.

60. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced that he would be holding a New Year's Eve Fancy Dress Party at the Town Hall - £15 a head – All proceeds to the Fire Brigade Benevolent Fund.

61. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Following a serious fire in Lambrook Street Councillor Tucker highlighted the danger of keeping loft hatches open as this acts as a chimney. He also reminded members of the importance of smoke alarms and that these can be provided for free for the elderly and the needy.

b) Ros Wilkins informed Councillors that the Frost Fair would take place on 8,9 and 10th December 2006. This would consist of a Christmas Market on the Friday night, music in the cafes on Saturday and launch of the Xmas Tree Festival on the Sunday. More information on events to follow.

62. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 3rd October 2006, which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record subject to addition of the following in respect of the Tolerance Garden - 'Councillor T Billing pointed out that this would be a significant health hazard and likely to give rise to a fatality'.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 19th October 2006 were received and noted.
- c) The minutes of the Security meeting held on 1st November 2006 were received and noted.

63. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

Councillor Higgins left the room.
Councillor T Billing left the room.

The following applications were considered:

- a) 049199/004 - Riverside Investment Properties – Conversion of existing building to eight flats (DEL) – 22 Northload Street

'Recommend refusal of permission'

Additional comments: This appears to be over development of a site which can only be accessed from one side.

- b) 119191/001 – Orchard Renovations Ltd - Erection of 2 dwellings and garaging (DEL) – 8 Hill Head Close

'Recommend approval'.

Councillor T Billing returned to the room.

- c) 022525/014 – Egdon Developments – Demolition of existing garage and development of 21 new apartments (DEL) – Avalon Tyres, Street Road

'Recommend refusal'.

Additional comments: Although the Council approves of the change of this site from commercial to residential use, the proposed design and materials are disappointing being totally inappropriate for this important entrance to the town'.

Councillor Higgins returned to the room.

64. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

- a) Councillor Higgins reported that he had attended meetings regarding skateparks in Mendip which revealed that many more facilities were needed for Mendip. Glastonbury Skatepark, a advanced facility. was found to be extremely popular locally and minibuses of skaters visit the site from as far afield as Bristol. Mendip District Council are in the process of asking Councils how they feel about taking on the running of the skateparks. **AGREED** to

write to the District Council detailing the involvement the Council already has in the running of the skatepark and declining to accept responsibility at the present time.

b) Councillor Coles reported that there has been a significant decline in homelessness in the Mendip area in the last year.

c) Councillor Brunsdon reported on:

- Planning training events
- Traffic circulation in Glastonbury
- The poor contribution Highways make to planning applications

Questions were taken regarding:

- Land on the Morland's site – When will District retake ownership and is there a ransom strip involved.
- Sign in Selwood Road to deter youngsters from congregating on a grass area and disturbing residents.

65. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Questions were taken on the following subjects:

Double yellow lines – Northload Street

Lighting on zebra crossing at Street Road – Illuminated poles suggested

66. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

a) Councillor Sharp reported on the link with Lalibela, Ethiopia that he and his wife have forged and his wish that the Council considers establishing a friendship link. He did not wish the recent publicity regarding the possible twinning of Glastonbury with Timbuktu to overshadow links already forged with an African country.

b) Councillor White reported that there had been a total reorganisation of the Youth Service. As youngsters do not now seem to appreciate 'youth clubs' and prefer 'drop-in' facilities, Karen Mills will be looking at opening a Youth Café at the old Magistrates' Court building and any money belonging to Glastonbury will be handed over to Street and Glastonbury and used for Glastonbury projects.

She also reported that as there had not been a Youth Club at Windmill Hill for over a year that the money granted by the Council of £3000 would not be used this year.

67. REQUEST FROM COUNCILLOR J BRUNSDON MBE OF GLASTONBURY ANTIQUARIAN SOCIETY TO HOUSE ARTIFACTS IN GLASTONBURY TOWN HALL

Councillor Brunsdon explained that there were some worthy artefacts in the possession of the Antiquarian Society and that the Society would like them displayed to the public.

It was **AGREED** that the recessed area in the bar would be a suitable place for a display cabinet and that the Society should be given permission to draw up plans to be presented to the Town Hall Committee for approval.

68. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and noted. Copies of items a and b had been circulated with the agenda.

- a) Somerset County Council – Summary of discussions and proposed outcomes from workshops held at meetings with Parish and Town Councils
- b) Glastonbury Order of Druids - Request for approval from Glastonbury Town Council to register name – **RESOLVED** to inform the Order that the Council has no objection to the registration of the name
- c) Somerset County Council – Temporary Road Closure – A39 Glastonbury to Wells Road, Hartlake Straight, Glastonbury Western Relief Road, Tinbridge Roundabout, Northload Roundabout and Beckery Roundabout – 3 weeks (nightworks) starting 13th November 2006
- d) Mendip District Council – Parish information bulletin

69. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the schedule of payments, a copy of which had been circulated to all Councillors and which is attached to the official minutes to be approved and signed by two members as the Town Clerk's authority to make the payments.

Mayor, 5th December 2006