

**Meeting of Glastonbury Town Council held at Glastonbury Town Hall on  
Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> December 2007 at 7pm**

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk

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The Mayor said a prayer before the meeting and asked Councillors to remember ex-Town Councillor John Frith who had recently passed away.

**90. APOLOGIES**

Apologies were accepted from Councillor L Hull

**91. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillors Brunsdon and White – Personal and prejudicial interest – Glastonbury Abbey

**92. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a) The Mayor, Councillor J Brunsdon reported that
  - o He had visited Ex-Town Councillor Ted Higgins on 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2007 to congratulate him on his 80<sup>th</sup> Birthday.
  - o He had noted that 'The Rushes' development was making good progress but the heavy lorries using the roads through Wick was regrettable.
- b) Councillor Barry announced that the film 'A Convenient Truth' about a City in Brazil and how environment-friendly and cost effective changes were made would be shown at Tor Leisure Centre on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2007 at 7pm.

**93. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER REPORT**

Sergeant Mark Edgington introduced himself as the new Sergeant based at Street Police Station with responsibility for Street, Glastonbury and Wells.

He explained the PACT (Police and Communities Together) initiative which a panel made up of Police, County Council, Town Council and other agencies calls a meeting for the public. At the meeting points are raised by the public, put on a board, the top 3 are used and worked on collectively over the next 10 weeks. The top 3 issues which came out of a recent meeting were drinking on the streets; adults purchasing alcohol for minors and double parking and speeding in the High Street. The next meeting will be held on 6<sup>th</sup> February when each representative will explain action taken since the last meeting to address the problem. It is hoped that this will make the Police and other agencies more accountable.

#### **94. PATMOS TWINNING**

The Mayor, Councillor Brunsdon, welcomed Father Martinianos from the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Patmos and invited him to address the Council.

The Father thanked the Mayor and mentioned that by coincidence he had carried out his medical training at Mendip Hospital 30 years previously and was pleased to be visiting the area again.

He stated that he welcomed the initiative to twin Patmos with Glastonbury and would be happy to help with communication between the two Councils.

The Father was asked whether Patmos was twinned with any other town or city and he confirmed that Patmos was twinned with towns in Belgium, Italy and Russia.

The Mayor thanked the Father and presented him with a historical booklet on Glastonbury written by Stephen Morland.

It was **AGREED** to discuss the matter further at the next Council Meeting.

#### **95. A361**

As the representatives from the County Council were unable to attend Councillor Sharp spoke to the item.

He had spoken with the Highways Department who explained that going on the volume, size and speed of vehicles using the road that they expect saturation by 2020. Medium term Somerset Highways are doing a survey of all A roads regarding HGV traffic and that if the road is one of community concern that a VISOR traffic control sign could be allocated for 6-7 weeks per year.

Councillor Sharp had spoken with Jeff Bunting, the local traffic engineer who suggested again that the Town may wish to join a cluster of surrounding parishes and purchase a VISOR sign for joint use.

It was **AGREED** to investigate the possibility and to request that the County Council funds the sign.

Councillor Billing pointed out that the volume of HGV traffic is down to the classification of the road from Bristol to Wells.

#### **96. SOMERSET YOUTH VOLUNTEERING NETWORK**

An application for grant aid of £3000 to fund a project providing space for young people to practice playing music had been received at the Finance and General Purposes meeting and representatives were asked to attend the Council meeting to explain the project. They explained that there was a real need for this facility in Glastonbury and that a grant from the Council would be used as match funding for the project, which had been offered space at the Glastonbury Youth Centre.

The Councillors were supportive of the project and unanimously **RESOLVED** to grant the sum of £3000.

## **97. YOUTH NOTICE BOARDS**

Councillor S Cox had produced examples of signs, which could be placed about the Town to advertise youth activities. It was **AGREED** that this item should be discussed further at the next planning meeting.

## **98. GLASTONBURY TOWN PLAN**

Due to Councillor Hull's absence this was deferred to a future Council meeting.

## **99. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Councillor Gloak reported on:

- Mendip Community Transport
- Frost Fair 10am-5pm – 15<sup>th</sup> December 2007
- Party for Pensioners – 18<sup>th</sup> December 2007
- Yellow lines at Windmill Hill
- Pothole – Old Wells Road

## **100. AREA REGENERATION OFFICER REPORT**

Ros Wilkins reported that a meeting between officers and District Councillors to discuss the skate park would be taking place, on site, on 14<sup>th</sup> December 2007.

She confirmed that the lights were still not in operation at the park. Town Councillors asked that all efforts were made to arrange for the park to be illuminated.

## **101. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Verbal reports were received from Councillor Barron, Councillor Brunsdon and Councillor James.

## **102. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Tucker reported that the Beckery Island Regeneration Trust had been successful in obtaining the Mill House at Northover, with conditions. He asked if the Town Council would be happy for the planning application to go in under the name of Town Council in order to take advantage of a 50% reduction. This was **AGREED**. He also explained that the Trust did not at present hold any funds and would be unable to return the loan until new funding is received. A meeting with the Princes Foundation had been arranged for 13<sup>th</sup> December 2007.

## **103. MINUTES**

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 6<sup>th</sup> November 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 meeting of the Burial Board Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2007 were received and noted.

- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Town Hall Committee held on 13th November 2007 were received and noted.
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Property and Assets Committee held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2007 were received and noted.
- e) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007 were received and noted.
- f) The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> November 2007 were received and noted.

#### **104. BUDGET AND PRECEPT RECOMMENDATION FROM THE FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE**

In order to limit the increase on last year to 2.78% it was **RESOLVED** that the precept for 2008/2009 be fixed in the sum of £110,00 which equates to £35.55 per 'D' band dwelling.

#### **105. COMMUNITY HOUSING TRUSTS**

Councillor L Browne explained that she was still researching the subject which could allow Council's to lease land for low cost housing. She will report at the next meeting.

#### **106. REQUEST FOR PERMISSION TO USE THE NAME 'GLASTONBURY' ON JUTE/COTTON BAG**

**RESOLVED** to allow Glastonbury and District Chamber of Commerce and Trade to use the name 'Glastonbury' on jute/cotton bags.

The Town Clerk was asked to make sure that the materials were from an ethical source.

#### **107. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was noted. Copies of c,d,e and g had been circulated with the agenda.

- a) Somerset Highways – Road Closure – Old Wells Road – 2 days starting 10<sup>th</sup> December 2007
- b) Somerset Highways – Road Closure – Sharpham Drove – 3 months from 10<sup>th</sup> December 2007
- c) Avon and Somerset Constabulary – Invite to Police Headquarters, Portishead on Friday 7<sup>th</sup> December 2007
- d) Martha Care Trust – Request for Trustees – Councillor Browne expressed an interest in becoming a Trustee.
- e) Somerset Waste Partnership – Promotion of the refuse and recycling collection service during the festive period
- f) The Planning Inspectorate – Review of additional pitch requirements for Gypsies and Travellers in the South West
- g) Councillor H and Mrs C Sharp – Progress Report - Lalibela

#### **108. SELECTION OF FUTURE MAYORS**

To avoid any confusion in the selection process the Town Clerk was asked to formulate a replacement clause for standing orders.

## **109. 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.

**Councillors Brunsdon and White left the meeting at this point along with the press and public.**

**Councillor T Billing (Deputy Mayor) chaired the meeting for the following item.**

## **110. GLASTONBURY ABBEY**

Confidential item.

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**Mayor, 8<sup>th</sup> January 2008**