

Meeting of the Council held on 11th November 2008 at Glastonbury Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: T Billing (Mayor), E James, I Tucker, J White, M Free, P Preston, S Cox, L Hull, L Browne, J Barron, W Knight, J Coles, A Andrews and J Brunsdon MBE

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
Ros Wilkins, Area Regeneration Office
County Councillor A Gloak
Graham Bagley, Somerset County Council

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

A member of the public spoke regarding motorcycling on land at Maidencroft Lane.

96. APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted from Councillors J Keery and H Sharp.

97. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

98. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor welcomed Councillor Andrews back to the Council following his ankle injury.

He thanked those Councillors who attended the Remembrance Day Parade.

He confirmed that the Wells Community Band would be playing in the Town on the evening of 5th December 2008 during the Yuletide Celebrations and late night opening.

99. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 7th October 2008, which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record with the following amendments; page 24 the Food Guide was funded by the District Council.
- b) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 21st October 2008, were received and noted.
- c) The minutes of the Town Hall Committee held on 21st October 2008, were received and noted.

- d) The minutes of the Security Committee held on 28th October 2008 were received and noted with the addition of Councillor Barron being present.

100. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER REPORT

PC Mark Pople informed the Council that the next PACT meeting would be held on 26th November 2008 at 7pm at the Town Hall.

He reported that PCSO Jemma Lawson has been recording the graffiti and made a catalogue of 'tags' in the Town. Two people have been arrested as a result.

He also reported that he is now making regular patrols with the District Council Licence Enforcement Officer.

It was **AGREED** that the Town Councillor graffiti clean up should take place on 23rd November 2008 from 10am-12noon.

The Mayor congratulated PC Pople on the recent birth of his son.

101. AREA REGENERATION OFFICER REPORT AND SKATEPARK

Ros Wilkins reported that there is now a preferred tender for the skatepark which will be announced before the end of December 2008. She also reported that it has been discovered that the land used for the skateboard park is not contaminated as was previously believed.

102. TOUR OF BRITAIN CYCLE RACE

Graham Bagley, Tour of Britain Project Manager, Somerset County Council spoke to the Councillors about the Somerset stage of the Tour of Britain 2009 and asked the Council to consider contributing £5000 towards the costs of the race to ensure that the race passes through Glastonbury.

He pointed out the impact the race would have on tourism and how this could put Glastonbury on the sports map.

There were concerns that the cyclists would be in Glastonbury for a short time and therefore would not benefit the Town.

Councillor White felt that the Town Council should be supporting the County Council and asked for the item to be referred to the Finance and General Purposes Committee, which was **AGREED**.

103. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

Councillor Gloak had circulated a report which is attached to the official minutes.

He announced that the County Council were holding a public meeting regarding Wifi in Glastonbury at the Town Hall on 21st November 2008 from 1-3pm.

Councillor Andrews asked about the Post Office at Windmill Hill and that he

had heard from the Glastonbury Post Office Manager that the Post Office will be writing to the Town Council turning down the suggestion of an outreach post office at Windmill Hill.

RESOLVED to write to the MP regarding the matter.

Questions were taken regarding:

- Traffic lights between Glastonbury and Street adding to local pollution
- Speed Visors
- Culverts at Wells Road
- Obstruction in Cinnamon Lane

Councillor Gloak reported that had been in touch with Bev Norman to arrange a site visit at Coursing Batch.

104. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Brunsdon reported regarding:

- a) The new telephone number for the District Council was 01749 648999.
- b) Car Park Management report
- c) Maidencroft Lane

Concern was shown regarding the Car Park Management Report, the cost of the report and its implications for Glastonbury, especially as it recommends that the District Council should approach the Town Council in a bid to acquire St Dunstan's Car Park. Councillor Barron undertook to look into the matter and report back.

105. SOUTH SOMERSET DISTRICT COUNCIL – PIONEER: DEVOLUTION OF SERVICES SURVEY – REPORT FROM WORKING PARTY

RESOLVED to approve the recommendations of the working party.

106. A CONSULTATION – COMMUNITIES IN CONTROL: REAL PEOPLE, REAL POWER – CODES ON CONDUCT FOR LOCAL AUTHORITY MEMBERS AND EMPLOYEES

It was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk should forward the responses recommended by Somerset Association of Local Councils.

107. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT 2000 – ADOPTION OF MODEL SCHEME

RESOLVED to adopt the model publication scheme from 1st January 2009 with no amendments as legislation requires, to produce a guidance document and to charge 10p per black and white copy.

108. GLASTONBURY AND SHARPHAM BURIAL BOARD SUBSIDY

RESOLVED that the Town Council subsidises the Glastonbury and Sharpham Burial Board over and above the usual precept, if required.

109. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Hull updated Councillors on recent Transition Town Glastonbury activities ie working with local farmers regarding local food; looking at planting an orchard in conjunction with the Conservation Society and the formation of an Energy and Transport Group. She also reported on a meeting of the Somerset Strategic Partnership and Mendip Energy.

Councillor Barron reported that the skaters had been successful in obtaining £36,000 in grant aid towards further equipment etc. for the new skateboard park.

Councillor Knight reported that he had been invited to a Glastonbury in Bloom meeting on 18th November 2008.

Councillor Free asked if the Disabled Group had met following the resignation of Councillor Barry. Councillor Free, Preston and Billing volunteered to reform the Group.

The Mayor reported that he would be attending a TIC meeting on 13th November 2008.

110. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted.

- a) Mendip District Council - Parish Information Bulletin – November 2008
- b) Somerset Association of Local Councils – Items of interest to Councillors and Clerks
- c) Letter from Glastonbury and District Chamber of Commerce and Trade regarding the Yuletide Fair to be held on 5th December 2008
- d) Business Link – Increased support in Somerset – Free business information available at www.businesslinksw.co.uk.

111. 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

112. INVESTMENTS

The Town Clerk reported that she had been advised that the financial compensation scheme does not cover local authorities and therefore, following consultation with the Chairman and Deputy of the Finance Committee, she had transferred £100,000 to the Bank of Ireland which the Irish government guarantees. The remainder of funds are with the Alliance and Leicester and HSBC banks.

RESOLVED that £100,000 should remain with the Bank of Ireland and decisions on transfers of Council funds devolved to the Town Clerk for the time being and that regular financial risk assessments are carried out.

Chairman, 9th December 2008