

Meeting of the Council held on 11th August 2009 at Glastonbury Town Hall at 7.15pm

PRESENT: Councillors E James (Mayor), A Andrews, T Billing, J Barron, I Browne, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, M Free, J Keery, W Knight, P Preston, H Sharp and I Tucker

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
PCSO M Pople

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

- Natalie Fee spoke regarding Glastonbury Wifi and handed information papers to the Councillors regarding alleged health risks
- Jane Sanders spoke regarding Glastonbury Wifi and the cost implications to the tax payer
- Ann Morgan spoke regarding illegal parking at junctions and double parking in the regions of Wells Road, Manor House Road, Archers Way, Northload Street and St Edmund's Road

Councillor Sharp pointed out that the highway matters have been drawn to the attention of the Highways Department.

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer.

54. APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted from Councillors: S Cox, L Hull and J White.

55. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

56. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on events he had represented the Town Council at since the last Council meeting.

57. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER REPORT

PC Pople reported that funding had been found for the Beat Team to work later shifts, in order to address the PACT priorities to provide a greater visible police presence over weekends. He confirmed that head cams are used by the Beat Team and are a great deterrent during night patrols.

Councillor Knight was concerned that the Town Crier had been verbally abused whilst carrying out a guided tour of the Town and asked for increased police presence during the Twinning visit.

Councillor Sharp asked whether the Police could assist with the problems of car parking. PC Pople confirmed that if a vehicle is illegally parked, ie obstructing a junction and/or obscuring visibility the Police can arrange for it to be moved.

58. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the Council meeting held on 14th July 2009, which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 21st July 2009 were received and noted.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 21st July 2009 were received and noted. The Town Clerk confirmed that she would amend the original minutes to include which Power the Town Council had used to grant monies.

59. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

A written report was circulated to all members and noted.

Councillor Keery commented that the recommendations made at meetings with the County Councillor, Town Councillors and Highways Representatives had not yet been implemented.

The County Councillor agreed to arrange a meeting with representatives from the Highways Department to discuss signage within the Town.

The County Council confirmed the Vietec Ltd (Glastonbury Wifi providers) did not receive any start up costs from the County Council and that the money for the pilot project came from a government fund, not directly from the County Council.

Councillor Tucker asked for more information regarding the siting of the aerial on the Town Hall roof.

60. TOR SPORT AND LEISURE CENTRE

Councillor Barron informed the Town Council that Mendip District Council Cabinet had unanimously rejected the tenant's application for Landlord's Consent. Monitoring of the sports facilities will take place during the next two weeks.

61. REVISION OF CURRENT PARKING TARIFFS BY MENDIP DISTRICT COUNCIL

A letter had been received from the Mendip District Council Car Park Manager, updating the Town Council on the decision of the Cabinet to approve the Parking Strategy as a working document for the District Council, subject to recommendations made and to revise the current parking tariffs to encourage short and long stay in appropriate car parks. The Parking Strategy recommended that the District Council consulted with Glastonbury Town Council to ask them to adjust the charges. Due to the capital expenditure involved in altering signs and ticket machine software and the fact that the

Town Council car park charges are very similar to those suggested, it was **RESOLVED** to reject the suggestion by the District Council.

62. APPRAISAL OF GLASTONBURY CONSERVATION AREA

The Conservation Officer had informed the Town Council that he would like to produce a Conservation Area Appraisal for Glastonbury with an associated boundary review. The review was likely to cost between £7000 and £1000 and his current budget would only cover 65-75% of the cost. Therefore he was requesting a financial contribution from the Town Council.

Councillor Brunsdon said that he had been asking the District Council to provide an appraisal of Glastonbury Conservation Area for some time and confirmed that Glastonbury Conservation Society is prepared to match fund the project.

It was proposed by Councillor Tucker, seconded by Councillor Andrews and **RESOLVED** that the Town Council match funds the project with the Conservation Society to the sum of £1000 each.

63. NAMING OF NEW ROAD ON MORLAND'S SITE

The developers of the 3 units on the Morland's site had proposed two names for the road servicing their units, being Tannery Road and North Lights Road.

After discussion it was **AGREED** to recommend that the road and subsequent roads on the site should be named after Mayor's who had worked at Morland's and that the road in question should be named 'Morland Road'.

64. GLASTONBURY AND STREET TOURIST INFORMATION CENTRE LEAFLET

A draft copy of the new leaflet, to be funded by Glastonbury Town Council and Street Parish Council, had been circulated to members.

RESOLVED that Councillors Brunsdon, Knight, Billing, Barron and Preston form a working party to decide on any changes which may be needed.

65. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT

a) Councillor Barron reported on the progress of the new Wells Road Surgery and confirmed that it will also include a dentist. He also reported that the car park wall in Silver Street will be taken down to a low level in an attempt to stop anti-social behaviour and that the Beckery Cottage Terrace renovation is on track.

b) Councillor Coles reported that the Bartletts Farm site enforcement order remains and that the land will be tidied up and decontaminated by the new owner.

c) Councillor Brunsdon spoke regarding the letter which had appeared in the Press about anti-social behaviour and confirmed that the Tourist Information Centre staff do report problems to the Police, if asked by the public. He has spoken with the local MP who has undertaken to speak to the

Police about the problems in the churchyard. The Vicar has assured the Town Council that the Bishop has written to the District Council to give permission for the churchyard to be included in the designated alcohol area order.

Councillor Brunsdon urged members to the next West Mendip Community Partnership when Simon Eames will be leading a presentation regarding the LDF (Local Development Framework) which will replace the Local Plan.

Councillor Brunsdon informed members that Civil Parking Enforcement is being addressed by the District Council in partnership with the County Council.

He also reported that he had attended a meeting about the possibility of the District Council taking on the responsibility for the Morland's site when it was resolved to appoint consultants to provide a feasibility study.

Councillor Tucker reminded District Councillors that the Town Council had expressed an interest in becoming partners with the District Council in relation to the Morland's site.

Councillor Coles reported that he had attended St Dunstan's School Speech Day and had been impressed by the behaviour of the students and praised the new head teacher for all she had done since her appointment.

Councillor James confirmed that the Magdalene Close development by Carr Gomm is a partnership project between the District and County Council.

Councillor Sharp proposed, seconded by Councillor Tucker and **RESOLVED** to invite a representative from the District Council and Carr Gomm to the next Council meeting to explain the project.

66. OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Barron reported that he would be standing down as Chairman of the Tourist Information Centre at the end of August 2009.

67. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Councillor Coles asked if the Town Council could write a letter of condolence to the family of Harry Patch mentioning his position of Chief of Clerk of Works for Glastonbury. He also reminded Councillors of the invitation to the Burma Star Service on Friday 14th August 2009 and arranged for Councillors to meet at the Town Hall at 10.45am to walk to the church together.

b) Councillor Andrews reported that he had met with two Police Officers to discuss the possibility of a Section 106 Agreement to provide Police facilities on the Morland's site.

c) Councillor Preston reported that since the Security Meeting inspection of street lighting in Benedict Street he had arranged for lighting to be increased to 15 lux.

68. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) Diocese of Bath and Wells – Letter of thanks for use of St Dunstan’s Car Park during day of celebration on 4th July 2009
- b) Street and Glastonbury Community Learning Partnership – Letter of thanks regarding Restorative Justice Dance Project
- c) Somerset County Council – Highway Lighting – Policy relating to attachments to Highway Lighting Units
- d) Somerset County Council – Letter informing Town Council that Somerset County Council has agreed, in principle, to hand over the Glastonbury Wifi operation to a private sector operator – **AGREED** to consider at the next Town Hall meeting, whether the siting of the Wifi aerial on the Town Hall should continue.

69. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENT

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.

Mayor, 8th September 2009