

Meeting of the Council held on 10th November 2009 at Glastonbury Town Hall at 7.15pm

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

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk

APOLOGIES: Councillors A Andrews and H Sharp

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The newly appointed Director of Glastonbury Abbey, Catherine Goring, along with Trustee, John Bendon introduced themselves to the Council. They spoke regarding their aspirations for the Abbey and how they intend to work with the Town Council and other organisations to better the relationship between the Abbey and the Town to the mutual benefit of both.

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer.

100. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

101. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor and Mayoress had attended the Poppy Appeal Concert on 24th October 2009 at the Town Hall.

He reminded Councillors that the Remembrance Day Parade and church service would take place on 8th November 2009, leaving the Town Hall at 10.40am.

102. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER REPORT

Police Constable Pople reminded Councillors that the last PACT priorities were illegal parking in St Edmund's Road and the High Street, lowering of car parking charges and uncontrollable dogs. He said that since the last meeting 65 illegal parking warning notices have been issued and 89 patrols made. He reported that the Dog Warden would be visiting the Robert Barton Trust to hand out dog leads.

Since the last meeting 60 fixed penalty notices have been issued and 66 alcohol vessels seized. All licensees have agreed to take strong alcohol off their shelves apart from one supermarket.

With regard to graffiti, the Press are helping by publishing photographs of graffiti and tags in a hope that someone may recognise the tag and report the culprits.

PC Pople confirmed that restorative justice could involve people cleaning up graffiti.

PC Pople was hoping to resurrect the LAT meetings in order to look at diversionary tactics for youth ie. the provision of a youth café. The first meeting has been arranged for 25th November 2009.

Councillor Cox highlighted the problems delivering goods to traders in the High Street, especially on Tuesdays.

Councillor Hull asked for advice regarding squatters. PC Pople confirmed that the Police can only get involved with removal of squatters if the owner requests an eviction.

Councillor Billing asked about Glastonbury Speed Watch. PC Pople confirmed that Jemma Lawson will be arranging a meeting in an effort to continue with Speed Watch.

103. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the Council held on 13th October 2009 were received and adopted.
- b) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 27th October 2009 were received and adopted.
- c) The minutes of the Town Hall Committee held on 27th October 2009 were received and adopted.

104. PRESENTATION BY MR J DUNCAN OF REACTION ELECTRIC

Mr Duncan gave a presentation detailing the benefits of siting an 'Electrobay' in the Town Council car park, to enable owners of electric emission free personal transport to charge their vehicles whilst in Glastonbury.

RESOLVED to refer the matter to the Property and Assets Committee and a working party from that Committee would consider the matter and report back to the Town Council. Councillors Billing, Free, Browne, Cox, Knight and Tucker volunteered to join the working party.

105. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

A report from the County Councillor had been circulated to each member.

Councillor Billing asked the County Councillor to investigate the possibility of having the road surface in Northload Street repaired. He also asked that, in light of the possible cut in funding for Strode Theatre by the County Council, that Councillor Gloak does everything he can to ensure the funding remains.

It was **AGREED** that the Town Council should write to the County Council in this respect.

106. AREA REGENERATION OFFICER REPORT

The Area Regeneration Officer was unable to be present. The Town Clerk was asked to speak to the Officer and ask for a written report should she be unable to attend meetings in the future.

107. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

District Councillors reported on:

- The planning permission granted by the District Council for the Tesco development has been called into question and is being reviewed by the Government Office of the South West
- £80,000 to be made available for play equipment in Glastonbury including a sum for St Bride's Close play park
- The value of the voluntary sector which with every £1 invested generates £18 worth of services
- PCT
- Wimpy development at Wells Road had received a £1000 fine due to breached hours of operation.
- Possible amalgamation of Polling Stations in Glastonbury
- Website survey to ask residents for views on priority spending
- Refusal of planning application for cottage at Alpaca Farm, Gipsy Lane
- District Council painting railings at St John's Church

Councillor Free thanked Mendip District Council for accessing funding for new equipment for St Brides play park.

He asked why the skateboard park lights were not operational and had understood that a group of users were supposed to be fundraising in order to pay for the electricity.

Councillor Billing suggested that an un-metered supply could be the cheaper option.

Councillor Brunsdon reported that there would be a Conservation Area Appraisal meeting on 13th November 2009 at 3.30pm at the Town Hall.

108. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

St Edmund's Hall Committee - Councillor White reported that GEMS Scrapstore were no longer able to take bookings and following her resignation were also looking for a new Secretary.

Beckery Island Regeneration Trust – Councillor Tucker reported on his attendance at a meeting with the County Council who have recently taken over the Chapel Fields (St Bride's Mound) which is of national importance, for educational and tourism purposes. He reported that Esther Croft would soon be leaving her post as Development Officer for the Morland's site and was keen to finalise the transfer of the Mill to BIRT and also the piece of land opposite Morland's to the Town Council.

Councillor Coles reported that he had spoken to the Carnival Committee regarding placing a fun fair in St Dunstan's Car Park on Carnival day but they

had objected, as in the past the Police had opposed the idea on the grounds of possible anti-social behaviour.

Glastonbury in Bloom – Councillor Tucker wished to make the Council aware of the time, effort and financial contribution Councillor Gloak makes to Glastonbury in Bloom. It was hoped that Section 106 Agreement monies attached to the Tesco development would be forthcoming in order for the Bloom Committee to provide baskets around the Market Cross.

Councillor Cox had attended a meeting of the Road Run Committee.

Councillor Hull reported that Somerset had received funding of £250,000 over 3 years for food security and that Andy Norris from the Adult Learning and Skills Council had obtained funding for reskilling at 5 centres in Somerset, to include food production, food preservation and transport and Somerset Land and Food were in the process of identifying unused land which could be used for local food production.

109. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Clerk informed the Council that the Cutting of the Holy Thorn would take place on 8th December 2009 at 10.30am at St John's Church. The Civic Party would be leaving the Town Hall at approximately 10.10am.

110. A361 – PROVISION OF A SPEED INDICATOR DEVICE FOR CHILKWELL STREET

It was **AGREED** to defer this item to the next meeting when Councillor Sharp would be in attendance.

111. FROST FAIR

Councillor Knight spoke regarding this year's Frost Fair, which was being arranged by the Chamber of Commerce. He said that this was a chance to prove to people that Glastonbury can organise an event to be proud of and the highlight was intended to have been reindeer pulling a Harry Potter sleigh around the Town and giving children rides. Traders had already part funded the provision of the sleigh which will cost £1500 plus VAT and therefore the Chamber were looking to the Town Council for match funding.

The Town Clerk said that there were funds available in the Tourism Fund.

RESOLVED to grant the sum of £750.

112. NAMING OF ROAD

The Town Clerk had been informed that the developers of the site at 54 Wells Road would like to name the new close 'Jack's Close' as the former property on the site (now demolished) was called Jack's Close.

It was **AGREED** that this was a suitable name and therefore had no objection.

113. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted.

- a) Glastonbury Tourist Information – Letter thanking Town Council for contribution towards production of the new Glastonbury and Street Leaflet
- b) Mendip District Council – Parish Bulletin - November 2009
- c) Somerset County Council – Winter Service 2009/2010
- d) Somerset Association of Local Councils – Cancellation of Area Meetings until March 2010
- e) Mr M Webb – Request to improve signage for the Town Centre from the Tor direction
- f) South Western Ambulance Service – Aspirant Foundation Trust Consultation

114. AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT WEST MENDIP PARTNERSHIP MEETING

The Town Clerk will arrange for questions to be asked about how the congestion in High Street and problems with deliveries to traders could be addressed with the provision of loading bays.

115. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

It was **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 December 2009