

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 11th September 2012 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: A Black, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, N Cottle, J Cousins, I Forster, S Henderson, J Keery, W Knight, D Michell, H Sharp, S Shepherd, S Thurgood, I Tucker

APOLOGIES: Councillor M Free (absent due to illness)
County Councillor A Gloak

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
PC M Pople
Sgt D Verelle
Gary Knight – Macebearer
Terry Dowden – Macebearer

Public Participation

Morgana West of Glastonbury Pilgrim Reception Centre and Dharam Barratt, local film-maker, informed the Council that in partnership they are producing a film about the town. £17000 is needed in total to produce the film and they have so far raised £3000. Leaflets about the project were distributed to Councillors.

Louis Akabani of 'MyHigh.St' introduced his company as the UK's first free shopping portal tailor-made for independent retailers to instantly set up shop online. The company has interest from Glastonbury traders and hopes to encourage others to join.

56. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

The Mayor, Councillor I Tucker – Disclosable Pecuniary Interest – Director of adjoining land to skate park and Red Brick Buildings

57. POLICE REPORT

PC Pople introduced Sergeant Duncan Verell, the new temporary Sergeant who has taken over from Sergeant Justin French who has taken an acting Inspector role based at Wells Police Station for the next 6 months.

He reported that the next PACT meeting would be held at the Town Hall on 17th October 2012. With regard to recent graffiti in the Town, people were urged to take photographs of the 'tags' for PCSO Gemma Lawson who is keeping a 'tag' archive.

58. REPORT FROM ROB TAYLOR OF AVALON LEISURE, LEASEHOLDERS OF TOR SPORT AND LEISURE

Rob Taylor, Managing Director of Avalon Leisure, updated the Council on their activities since signing a 3 year lease from Mendip District Council in June 2012.

He said that works to the roof and north facing wall should be completed by 1st

December 2012 allowing the internal repairs and refurbishment to be carried out with an estimated opening of the facility on 1st January 2013.

Plans are going ahead to hold an opening evening at the end of October/beginning of November.

The Mayor thanked Rob Taylor for attending and said he looked forward to attending the open evening.

59. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 14th August 2012 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a true record.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Town Hall Committee held on 28th August 2012 were accepted following the suspension of standing orders in order to approve a decision which would have contravened the six month rule. Councillor I Forster and D Michell had been present at the meeting.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 28th August 2012 were accepted.
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Youth Provision Committee held on 29th August 2012 were accepted subject to the alteration of the figure £7500 (Para. 18) to £8500 and that Councillor S Henderson was present. The Chairman asked members of the committee to remain after the Town Council meeting to discuss the Agreement with the Red Brick Building Centre regarding toilets for the skatepark.

60. COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

It was **RESOLVED** to approve Councillor Keery's membership of the Youth Provision Committee.

61. CODE OF CONDUCT

Councillors were issued with a copy of the new Glastonbury Town Council Code of Conduct, adopted at the last Council meeting. All Councillors signed a declaration form, to be kept on file, stating that they understand and accept the new Code.

62. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillors Coles and Henderson provided written reports.

Councillor Brunsdon reported that he had spoken on behalf of the Town Council at the Planning Board with regard to the Section 106 agreement to provide play equipment at Watts Corner. Due to pressure from residents the decision of the planning board was to vary the Section 106 agreement to secure a commuted sum for the enhancement of existing equipped play space off site, rather than the provision of play equipment on site. Councillor Brunsdon said that he felt at the least the grassy areas should be retained as play areas and that the Development Control Manager had confirmed that there were open spaces provided on the development which could be used for play.

RESOLVED that the Town Council should request the District Council to identify the land by signing the areas clearly as play areas.

Councillors Cottle and Cousins abstained from the vote.

Councillor Cottle reported on the proposed development on the Drapers site and the wall at the bottom of Hamlyn Lane.

63. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

In his absence the County Councillor report had been circulated via email to the Councillors.

Councillor Cousins asked that should the Town Council hold a special meeting and invite an officer to address the Council on the Hinkley Point planning application, it would be useful to know that should any motion passed where would that be directed to best effect. The Town Clerk will ask the question of the County Councillor.

Councillor Sharp pointed out that there is graffiti on Highways signs near the skatepark.

64. ARTICLE 4 DIRECTIONS

The Town Clerk had provided Councillors with detailed costings, supplied by the Principal Conservation Officer, relating to the implementation of the Article 4 Directions. The total costs were expected to be £2907. The Officer had asked whether the Town Council would be prepared to contribute to the costs.

Councillors Cousins was not happy with restrictions on positioning of solar panels on the front elevation and hoped that with the Localism Bill the Town Council would consult the community on planning issues in the future.

Councillor Brunsdon said that those who would be affected were consulted by post.

Councillor Thurgood said that the restrictions on positioning of solar panels seemed to be in contradiction with the Environmental Charter.

RESOLVED that this Council supports the Conservation area of the Town with a contribution of £250, match funded with £250 contribution from Glastonbury Conservation Society.

65. AVALON TYRES SITE, STREET ROAD, GLASTONBURY

Complaints had been received from neighbours of the site which remains derelict and untidy and now lies within the Conservation area. The Town Clerk said that the Town Council had complained in the past to Mendip District Council about the untidiness and safety of the site.

Councillor Sharp said it was incumbent on the owner to tidy up the site.

It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should write to the owner of the site and the Enforcement Officer at Mendip District Council to request the matter is dealt with immediately.

66. FAIRTRADE STATUS

The Town Clerk said she had been informed by the Fairtrade Organisation that to renew Fairtrade status the Council would need to appoint a Councillor or Councillors to promote Fairtrade within the Town.

Councillor Cottle said that Councillors would need to visit the shops and businesses and organisations to explain Fairtrade status and what it entails.

It was **RESOLVED** that the matter should be considered by the Environmental Charter working group.

67. DECOMMISSIONED RED TELEPHONE BOXES

The Town Clerk explained that the Town Council owns two decommissioned red telephone boxes on Manor House Road and needs to consider their future use and maintenance.

It was **RESOLVED** to refer the matter to the Property and Assets Committee.

68. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced that he had attended 10 occasions on behalf of the Town since the last meeting. He reminded Councillors of the opening of the Mendip Carers Drop In at the Town Hall on 18th September 2012.

69. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Clerk had received three quotations for the new website and was in the position to recommend a provider. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation of the Town Clerk and accept the quotation from Glastonbury Online at a cost of £300, with a review of the site after 6 months.

The Town Clerk said that the election for a Councillor for St Benedict's ward would take place on 7th November 2012. The District Council had asked whether the Town Council would like polling cards. The Town Clerk confirmed that the District Council must post the cards and that there was not an option for the Town Council to deliver them on their behalf. The estimated cost was £1200.

It was **RESOLVED** to provide polling cards for the by election.

70. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was considered:

- a) Email to Mayor regarding the planting of a tree in Glastonbury by District Councillor Ron Forrest to mark the Queen's Diamond Jubilee
- b) Agenda for Somerset Association of Local Councils AGM at Edgar Hall, Somerton on 29th September 2012 at 9.30am

The following correspondence was noted:

- c) Copy of letter of thanks to Chief Executive, Mendip District Council from The Rt Hon Eric Pickles MP re Olympic Games Torch Relay
- d) Letter from Probusiness Accountants – Internal Audit of Glastonbury Town Council for the Year Ended 31st March 2012 – Recommendations will be actioned by the Town Clerk

71. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the schedule of payments, now submitted, 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.

72. YOUTH PROVISION COMMITTEE

Amendments were made to the draft Agreement between the Town Council and the Red Brick Building Centre. The Town Clerk will inform the Directors of the RBBC of the proposed amendments and following satisfactory agreement will release £15,000 towards the project from the funds raised by the youth for provision of toilets for the skatepark.