

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 9th October 2012 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: A Black, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, J Cousins, M Free, I Forster, J Keery, W Knight, S Shepherd, S Thurgood, I Tucker

APOLOGIES: Councillors: N Cottle, S Henderson, D Michell and H Sharp

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
PC M Pople
Acting Inspector J French
Gary Knight – Macebearer
Terry Dowden – Macebearer

Public Participation

The Rev Evelyn Ridout asked the Town Council to help in improving signage to Glastonbury Churches. She reported on other church matters including the coffee van which sets up in the car park once a month to dispense coffee and advice to revellers.

73. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J Cousins – Personal interest – Red Brick Building Co.
Councillor I Tucker – Disclosable Pecuniary Interest – Red Brick Building Co.

74. POLICE REPORT

Police Constable Mark Pople and Acting Inspector French reported on local issues.

Councillor Cousins urged people to use the police van which sets up regularly in St Dunstan's Car Park.

The Mayor was concerned that Glastonbury was still without a Police Station.

75. LOCAL BUSINESS AWARDS

The Mayor said that two local businesses have recently won national awards and he would like permission from the Town Council to invite Glastonbury businesses to an evening of celebration at the Town Hall. He had spoken to the MP who is keen to attend and talk about corporation tax versus capital allowances. There is an amount left in the Mayor's Allowance to pay for light refreshments. The Town Council **AGREED** to the idea and that the Mayor and Town Clerk make the arrangements.

76. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Promoting Glastonbury Forum held on 6th September 2012 were received and noted. Councillor Cousins asked for his name to be spelt correctly.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11th September 2012 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a true record.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Property and Assets Committee held on 18th September 2012 were received and noted.
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Town Hall Committee held on 25th September 2012 were received and noted. Councillor Shepherd was not present.
- e) The minutes of the meeting of the Staffing Committee held on 26th September 2012 were received and noted. It was **RESOLVED** to accept the request that the Committee is given delegated powers to decide pay scales.
- f) The minutes of the meeting of the Youth Provision Committee held on 26th September 2012 and 8th October 2012 were received and noted. Councillor Keery was present at the meeting held on 26th September 2012.
- g) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 26th September 2012 were received and noted. Councillor Cousins was present at the site meeting but was unable to attend the remainder of the meeting as he had to attend another Committee meeting.

77. HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORT AND SUPPORT

The Town Clerk had approached three companies to request a quotation for providing a health and safety report for the Town Council operations. The recommendation from the Town Clerk was that Ellis Whittam specialises in the Town Council sector and therefore is the most appropriate company to appoint. Ellis Whittam would act as the competent person for Glastonbury Town Council as required by the Management of Health and Safety at Work Regulations 1999. The cost of the service would be £1890 per annum plus VAT. There would be an additional fee of £300 for the Fire Risk Assessment.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation of the Town Clerk and appoint Ellis Whittam to provide Health and Safety Support Services to Glastonbury Town Council for an initial 3 year period and to carry out the legally required fire risk assessment.

78. CCTV AGREEMENT

The Service Level Agreement document from 2012 to 2016, for the provision of CCTV services within the Town by Mendip District Council, had been circulated to members.

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to sign the agreement.

Councillor Cousins asked about the webcam on the Town Hall flagpole. Councillor Gloak confirmed that this had been a County Council project and that it would appear to no longer be in operation. He undertook to look into the matter.

79. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Brunsdon reported on an excellent auditors report at the District Council. He reported that two seats have been repaired at Ashwell Lane and Dod Lane.

He asked people to report any seats in the town which need repair.

Councillor Free asked the District Councillors to try to influence the opening hours of the recycling centres as he is convinced fly tipping has increased due to limited closing hours of tips and the extra charges.

Councillors Coles and Henderson provided written reports.

Councillor Coles was asked by Councillor Keery to speak to the enforcement officer about removing the buildings from the land at Meare Road as it remains a blight on the entrance to Glastonbury. Councillor Coles said that the enforcement officer has difficulty in contacting the land owner. Following an inspection of the animals on site by the RSPCA the owner is being charged with cruelty to animals.

80. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

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

It was **AGREED** that a Special Council meeting should be called to discuss the Hinkley Point Planning Application.

The County Councillor will arrange for Alan Jones from the County Council to attend. He confirmed that the correct vehicle to direct any resolution on the matter would be to the appropriate Minister.

Councillor Cousins suggested that residents could contact their Councillors with Questions.

81. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had represented the Town on 17 occasions since the last meeting including the visit of the Duke of Gloucester to the Somerset Motor Project.

The Town Clerk said that the Glastonbury Peace Candle, gift to the Queen from the people of Glastonbury on her Diamond Jubilee, would be delivered to the Palace next week with a letter signed by the Mayor.

82. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Forster asked for badger culling in the area to appear on next month's agenda.

Councillor Cousins reported that he and Councillor Forster had attended the AGM of the Somerset Association of Local Councils. They had been reminded of the fact that not to declare a disclosable pecuniary interest is now a criminal offence.

Councillor Thurgood reported on the Urban Parish Forum where there was a presentation by Mendip Community Transport who welcome any groups to contact them to discuss local transport. Frome Town Council spoke about their Neighbourhood Plan which has cost them £38,750.

Councillor Coles reminded Councillors of the Red Brick Building open day on 21st October 2012 from 11am-4pm.

83. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was considered:

- a) Moore Stephens – External Audit Report for the year ended 31 March 2012 – The Town Council had been awarded an unqualified audit for the last financial year. Matters not affecting their opinion with regard to the accounting statements were noted. The auditor recommended that the Town Council reviews its financial regulations annually.
- b) St Margaret's Hospice – Invite to Light up a Life Service in St Mary's Church, Glastonbury on December 4th 2012 – The Town Clerk was asked to write to accept the invitation on behalf of the Mayor and Town Councillors

For information:

- c) Mendip District Council – Local Listing Project for Mendip District – Councillor Brunsdon informed Councillors that this is being dealt with by Neill Bonham from the Conservation Society.
- d) Mendip District Council Waste accumulations at Mocha Berry Café, Market Place, Glastonbury – The Environment Health Department reported that they are dealing with the problem of waste being dumped by the door of the kitchen of this cafe and blocking the pavement.

84. BUDGET UPDATE

Councillors were provided with an up to date budget report.

85. 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.

Mayor, 13th November 2012