

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 8th January 2013 at 7pm

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

APOLOGIES: Apologies were accepted from Councillor J Coles and M Free

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
Sergeant Verell
Gary Knight – Macebearer
Terry Dowden – Macebearer

Public Participation

Morgana West presented the proposal to plant a Glastonbury Thorn World Tree alongside a World Peace Pole at the front of St Dunstan's Car Park on 26th January 2013. Celebrations were planned to follow in the Town Hall.

Paul Weston spoke about the forthcoming anniversary of the First World War and his vision that a website should be created linking the names on the war memorials in Glastonbury to photographs of the fallen and their history. The idea was well received and it was agreed that the item should be referred to the Promoting Glastonbury Committee.

114. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor A Black – Shareholder – Red Brick Buildings.

115. POLICE REPORT

Sergeant Verell reported on the PACT priorities. He said that a spate of anti-social behaviour on Windmill Hill had been curbed by issuing ABC's and putting in place diversionary tactics. He introduced James Higgins, the new PCSO.

116. MINUTES

a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11th December 2012, which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record. Councillor Keery reported that he and the Town Clerk had met with Sharpham Parish meeting who had agreed to apply jointly with Glastonbury for the Community Warden Scheme.

b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 18th December 2012 were approved.

Councillor Sharp was unhappy with the comments made with regard to the Local Plan and felt there should have been wider consultation. The District Councillors confirmed that the consultation had been ongoing for several years.

An area of land off Coursing Batch had been suggested for development by the Planning Committee in order to provide finance for the bypass to relieve the traffic problems along the A361. Councillor Sharp was concerned about the proposal as there would be objections from existing house owners. He said that a remedy to the traffic problem would be to put a weight restriction on the road and reroute lorries to the bypass from Rush Hill. Councillor Cousins said that the Councillors have a duty to protect the landscape and are not obliged to develop the area, should this be under threat.

It was proposed by Councillor Cousins, seconded by Councillor Michell and **RESOLVED** to remove from the recommendation the suggested land for development in the Coursing Batch area.

A recorded vote was taken: Councillors Barron, Brunsdon and Cottle abstained. Councillors Thurgood, Sharp, Keery, Shepherd, Black, Cousins, Michell, Forster and Henderson voted for the proposal. Councillors Tucker and Knight voted against the proposal.

Councillor Brunsdon confirmed that it is in the draft Local Plan to work with partners to reroute traffic.

The Town Clerk was asked to show the allotments more clearly on the map.

117. AVALON MARSHES LANDSCAPE PARTNERSHIP – PRESENTATION BY ALEX SHERMAN, DELIVERY MANAGER

The Landscape Partnership is a scheme for the Avalon Marshes in Somerset and has been awarded a £1,772,500 grant from the Heritage Lottery Fund. This support secures further local income to raise a total of £2.7 million to be invested from 2012 to the end of 2015.

There are six main themes for the work and activities that will happen through the Scheme:- Wildlife and Habitats; New Views on the Marshes; Ancient and Modern Past; Avalon Marshes People; Unlocking the Marches and Learning Conservation.

Councillors were keen to promote Glastonbury as a hub for the scheme and wished to be involved in any event (ie Wetlands Festival) or project which would help promote Glastonbury, including bike hire.

118. PLANNING APPLICATION

Application no. 2012/2944 – Prior notification for a proposed telecommunications cabinet to be positioned opposite Abbey Tea Rooms and Restaurant, Magdalene Street.

It was **RESOLVED** to recommend refusal of the application and to offer that the box is re-sited in a suitable place in St Dunstan's Car Park.

119. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Brunsdon reported that John Meeker was leaving the District Council. He also reported that he had arranged for the County Council to repair a dangerous footpath from Gipsy Lane to Stonedown Lane.

Councillor Henderson reported on the new Street Cleaning contract.

Councillor Keery asked District Councillors to check the appeal process for parking fines.

Councillor Barron said that he had proposed a special rate for residents to park in Norbins Road car park which had not been agreed.

Councillor Cottle reported on a landslip at Wick Hollow which narrowly missed a house.

120. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

The County Councillor provided a written report.

Councillor Brunsdon was becoming increasingly concerned about the time taken by the Highways Department to repair damage following accidents. The Town Clerk was asked to contact the County Councillor regarding the matter. She was also asked to request a review of the yellow lines systems around the town since the civil parking enforcement had come into effect.

121. OTHER REPORTS

Councillor Sharp reported that Karen Deverell, Chief Executive of Mendip YMCA would be reporting on the Windmill Hill Youth Club on 12th February 2013 at 2pm at the Town Hall. All Councillors were welcome to attend.

122. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor had represented the Town on 13 occasions since the last meeting. The Mayor's Ball had been successful and £575 raised for the Air Ambulance.

The Mayor thanked Councillor Michell for organising a successful Frost Fair. He also thanked Councillor and Mrs Forster for decorating the Town Council Christmas tree for the St John's Church Christmas Tree festival. Councillor Forster offered to assist again next Christmas.

The Mayor also reported that the Town Crier was unwell and unable to carry out his duties at present.

123. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor said that the Conservation Society would be carrying out pruning at Northover Park on 12th January 2013 at 9.30am. Councillor Barron said that as Wearyall Hill is still littered since the carnival, he had arranged for a working party to litter pick at the same time.

Councillor Cousins suggested that the Town Council contacted Tessa Munt MP regarding the community payback scheme.

Councillors reported that the Christmas Lunch at St Benedict's Church was well attended with approximately 150 people taking part.

124. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was considered.

- a) Letter to Mayor from Peter Smith regarding Glastonbury World Peace Candle with draft copy of letter of support from Town Council – The draft letter was approved by Councillors with a small amendment.
- b) Email from Mendip District Council – Naming of Streets – Land for 11 plots west of Somerset House, Magdalene Street – The District Council informed the Town Council that the developer had put forward two name suggestions, Tannery Close and Mayfield Close. Councillor Shepherd said that as there is already a Tannery Close in Street, Royal Mail would prefer Mayfield Close. It was **RESOLVED** to recommend that the new street be known as Mayfield Close.

The following correspondence was noted.

- c) Letter of thanks from Red Brick Building Centre for grant for Youth Cafe
- d) Letter of thanks from CHALISS for grant for Youth Counselling Service

125. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

It was **RESOLVED** to suspend standing orders in order to consider the request from the Glastonbury Pilgrim Centre to position the peace pole and Holy Thorn at the front of St Dunstan's Car Park.

After discussion it was **RESOLVED** to permit the peace pole and Holy Thorn to be positioned and planted on the grassy area at the front of St Dunstan's Car Park.

126. BUDGET UPDATE

Councillors were provided with an up to date budget report.

127. 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, 12th February 2013