

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 14th October 2014 at 7pm

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

APOLOGIES: Councillors: W Knight and S Shepherd – Absent due to illness

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
County Councillor A Gloak MBE
County Councillor T Napper
David Greenway, Town Crier
Terry Dowden – Macebearer

Public participation

- Eddie Alder spoke against Agenda 21 and asked the Town Councillors to give their opinion on the matter
- Sandie Adams spoke against Agenda 21
- David Robinson called for the Town Council to join him in Lawful Rebellion and said he was seizing the Town Hall until they did so
- David Hatfield spoke against Agenda 21
- Hazel Pegg said that she objected to the way the decision regarding the Coat of Arms was made and that it could be potentially damaging to the Council
- Gary Butlin said he cared deeply about his country and spoke against the TTIP

The Mayor asked Morgana West to light the Unity Candle prior to the meeting.

66. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

67. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9th September 2014 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a true record.
- b) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 30th September 2014 were noted.
- c) The meeting of the Town Hall Committed held on 30th September 2014 were approved.
- d) The meeting of the Youth Provision Committee held on 7th October 2014 were approved.

68. 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.

69. BUDGET REPORT

A budget report to 30th September 2014 was circulated to all Councillors and noted.

70. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Due to congestion, especially by buses in the High Street, Councillor Brunsdon revisited an idea to pedestrianise the High Street as in Sherborne, which closes its High Street during the Summer months. He thought there could be mileage in creating a bus hub in St John's Car Park. He reported on the adoption of the Local Plan.

Councillor Keery suggested meeting with the bus companies to discuss the idea.

Councillor Free asked District Councillors to find out who is responsible for the green area in the communal parking area near Circus Field Lane.

Councillor Coles provided a written report.

Councillor Cottle said he would support pedestrianisation of the High Street. He also reported on planning matters and the lack of car park markings. He reported clamping of vehicles going on in Glastonbury.

Councillor Coles confirmed that the Backpacker's licence would be reviewed in December.

Councillor Brunsdon said that any complaints about licensed premises should be directed to Mendip District Council.

71. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

County Councillor Gloak provided a written report. He lodged a copy of the feasibility report for the creation of a parking area at the bottom of Bove Town with the Town Clerk.

Councillor Napper provided a verbal report on the Beckery Centre.

Councillor Brunsdon was pleased to note that the County Council has started on a programme to clear all Glastonbury gullies.

Councillor Free reported that Chalice Hill Close has problems with people parking in the turning bay and suggested that it should be marked 'no parking'.

Councillor Sharp reported that a caravan in a lay by in Cinnamon Lane has been burnt out.

Councillor Tucker said that the Member of Parliament had managed to get a Senior Officer from Bristol Water to meet at the Tor with Councillor Tucker. Councillor Tucker had an old publication detailing springs and wells of Somerset and hopes that Bristol Water has been persuaded that they do have an issue with a leak from their reservoir.

Councillor Free asked about the money set aside for potholes.

Councillor Sharp asked Councillor Gloak to note the Youth Provision minutes with regard to the community enablement fund and that the remaining funds for youth provision in the Town Centre is to be administered by the Town Council.

The Mayor asked the County Councillors to arrange for the drains in Benedict Street to be checked.

72. GLASTONBURY COAT OF ARMS

As agreed at the last Council meeting, The Town Clerk and Daniel Salter had prepared the following statement about the Coat of Arms for approval:

'Whenever possible Glastonbury Town Council has a duty of care to conserve historical artefacts for future generations. The Coat of Arms and Motto have been in used for about 300 years and are considered important historical artefact.

It is not the remit of the Council to interpret historical artefacts, however it is intended that the Arms and Motto be viewed within their historical context alone. It is specifically not intended that the arms design or motto be considered in any way offensive to anyone today.

Glastonbury Town Council cannot accept responsibility for the personal opinions or views expressed by individuals regarding the historic arms or motto'.

The mayor invited Daniel Salter to speak who said that the Town Council should be custodian of the artefact and it belonged to the people.

Councillor Cousins proposed an amendment to the statement.

A recorded vote was called for:

Voting for the amendment: D Michell, A Black, N Cottle, J Cousins, I Forster.

Voting against the amendment: S Henderson, J Barron, I Tucker, S Thurgood, J Coles, M Free, J Keery, J Brunsdon, H Sharp.

The amendment failed therefore a vote was taken on adopting the original statement.

Voting to adopt the statement: Councillors S Henderson, J Barron, I Tucker, S Thurgood, J Coles, M Free, J Keery, J Brunsdon, H Sharp.

Voting to not adopt the statement: Councillor I Forster

Abstentions: Councillors Michell, Black, Cottle and Cousins.

It was therefore **RESOLVED** to accept the statement as presented.

73. NOTICE OF MOTION – QUESTIONS FROM A MEMBER OF THE PUBLIC

The following notice of motion was Proposed by Councillor Cousins and seconded by Councillor Denise Michell:

'Disappointed that the questions from a member of the public were not addressed at the last full Council meeting and noting concerns about how this reflects on the Town Council's general Equality Duty (Equality Act 2010), it is proposed that Glastonbury Town Council addresses each question in turn during the full Council meeting of Tuesday 14th October discussing the subject raised in each question and agreeing on a suitable reply – the six replies to be issued as a public statement by Glastonbury Town Council.

The Town Clerk said that the Equality Duty of the Town Council would normally be dealt with by the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

Councillor Cousins and Michell agreed to withdraw the motion and the matter was referred by the Mayor to the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

74. AGENDA 21 AND TREATY OF ROME AND LISBON

Following information given to the Council by members of the public at the last meeting about Agenda 21, the Town Clerk had approached the local Member of Parliament and the South West MEP's who were not prepared to meet with the Council to discuss the matter.

She issued a short report to Councillors with a brief explanation of what the Agenda 21 document is.

Councillor Michell requested the Town Council arranges a meeting to discuss the TTIP with the local Member of Parliament which was **AGREED**.

Councillor Cousins said it may be prudent to ask the opinion of the 4 peers of the Realm who objected to the Treaty of Nice.

75. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced that he had attended a number of funerals and memorials since the last meeting. He had attended the South West in Bloom presentation and had been proud to collect several awards on behalf of Glastonbury. He thanked Councillor Tucker, Councillor Knight, Councillor Michell, the Committee, the Community Warden and volunteers for their hard work.

76. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Thurgood reported on the recent activities of Community Speed Watch. Councillor Cousins said he was honoured to have been selected as the Green Party parliamentary candidate for the Wells Constituency.

Councillor Tucker had attended the Scrap Store which is run from the Red Brick Building by a group of churches and recommended the resource. He also reported that Beckery Island Regeneration Trust had approved their plans for the 12 affordable housing units for the Beckery Site. He asked permission from the Town

Council to submit the application in the name of the Town Council in order to attract the 50% discount. This was **APPROVED**.

The Mayor advertised that the Poppy Concert would be taking place on 24th October 2014 at the Town Hall at 7pm.

Councillor Cousins wished to make it clear that Britain does have a constitution, albeit unwritten.

77. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Glastonbury Conservation Society – Councillor Brunsdon reminded the Town Council that they had funded the training of Kevin Mitchell to use the strimmer donated by Somerset County Council and that he and Mr Mitchell were currently working on a programme of footpath clearance.

Austin Memorial Homes – Councillor Keery reported that the 4 homes have been fitted with new central heating boilers to replace the back boilers to comply with new regulations and had new electric fires installed to replace the gas fires.

Councillor Sharp said he would be visiting the twin town of Lalibela shortly. Councillor Cottle hoped that in the future Glastonbury could look at sending a delegation to Lalibela and arrange a return visit. Councillor Sharp thought that it was unlikely that anyone would be able to visit from Lalibela but he would be more than happy to help with arrangements for anyone who wished to go.

78. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was considered:

- a) Letter from Grant Thornton – External Auditor Report Certificate and Opinion 2013/2014 - It was noted that in the opinion of the Auditor the information in the Annual Return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met. Comments which did not affect their opinion were noted.
- b) Letter from M Ruddle requesting reinstatement of bus stop near Peugeot garage, Wells Road, Glastonbury. It was **AGREED** to recommend to Somerset County Council that the stop is reinstated.
- c) Email from Mendip District Council informing of the intention of the developer of houses at rear of 13 Fairfield Gardens to name the street 'Chalice Park' – **RESOLVED** to recommend the name 'Fairfield Close' as 'Chalice' is more appropriate to the Chalice Well area and could be confusing to the emergency services and the post office.

The following correspondence was noted:

- d) Letter from Action for Children re Fostering 'Keeping Siblings Together'
- e) Letter from Bluebird Care introducing Bluebird Care Mendip
- f) Letter from Morrisons re Glastonbury in Bloom thanking Glastonbury in Bloom for their award.

79. CONFIDENTIAL ITEM

The press and public were excluded for this item which dealt with the possible acquisition of property.

Mayor, 11th November 2014