

## Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March 2016 at 7pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors: D. Abbott, G. Avalon, A. Black, J. Brunson MBE, J. Coles, J. Cousins, N. Cottle, E. George, S. Henderson, J. Keery, L. MacDougall, D. Michell [Mayor], T. Napper, S. Thurgood, I. Tucker

**APOLOGIES:** The Police representative

**IN ATTENDANCE:** Interim Town Clerk  
County Councillor A. Gloak  
Terry Dowden Macebearer  
Gary Knight Macebearer  
The Town Crier

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A candle was lit and a short time of silence was held for reflection by those present

### Public Participation [ 7pm ]

- **Ian Mutch**

Spoke re tree planting at the end of Benedict Street – now suggested to be located on green area opposite end of road on side of by pass. He said that a License [permission to plant] would be required from Mendip District Council and asked whether the Town Council would consider this.

The Mayor spoke in general favour of further tree planting and it was requested that Councillor T. Napper [as District and County Councillor] investigate the license process and report back to Council for the next meeting how to proceed and whom to pay, if necessary.

- **Angela Friend**

Spoke about the deteriorating appearance of the Morland site and the increasing occurrence of signage.

The Mayor stated that this matter would need to be looked into. County Cllr. A. Gloak advised those present of a potential pecuniary interest in this matter that would prevent him from reporting.

- **Lembit Opik**

Spoke on behalf of Star Ship Technologies about the trial of an automatic delivery system being trialled in Glastonbury for a few days in the spring, following on from a similar trial in the London Borough of Greenwich.

The Mayor, following a brief poll of Councillor's opinions, expressed the approval of the Council for such a trial and requested that Mr. Lembit Opik contact and liaise with the Town Clerk.

#### **150. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None were declared.

#### **151. POLICE REPORT**

None provided.

#### **152. MINUTES**

- The minutes of the Glastonbury Town Council meeting held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2016, which had been circulated to each member, were signed by the Mayor as a correct record following the amendment of the spelling error [ Mural not Muriel ] on page four
- It was noted that the copy provided to Councillors did not have the correct page numbering.
- The minutes of the Communications Committee 10<sup>th</sup> February 2016 were noted.
- The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 23<sup>rd</sup> February 2016 were noted. It was reported that Cllr. P. Sander – Jackson has resigned from Council for health reasons and Councillor S. Henderson had taken over as Chair of this committee.
- The minutes of the meeting of the A361 Committee held on 25<sup>th</sup> February 2016 were noted.
- The minutes of the Glastonbury in Bloom Committee meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2016 were noted.

#### **153. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

It was **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.

#### **154. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

County Councillor A. Gloak had tabled a full report and further advised:

- Further information required by officers with regard to inappropriate vehicles using Manor House Lane. Council office requested to forward photographs and further information received from Ms. A. Friend to County Cllr. A. Gloak in order that he may progress the matter further.

The following concerns were raised for the attention of the County Councillor:

- **Councillor N. Cottle** expressed his thanks for the information provided but requested a further follow up with regard to the finger post signage.
- **Councillors I. Tucker and J. Brunsdon** expressed concerns with regard to the objections raised against the installation of the zebra crossing in Chilkwell Street, proposing a ramp be installed in the same manner as the steps currently are. It was also suggested that an alternate location might be close to Abbey Barn near the mini roundabout at the junction with Bere Lane.  
Councillor A. Gloak responded that he would make further enquiries.
- **Councillor J. Keery** proposed that a sign stating deliveries only with a 7.5 tonne limit would solve the existing problem at Manor House Road.  
The Point also needs to be made that heavy traffic needs to be re routed for safety and for health.  
County Councillor A. Gloak responded that the Council submit a 'FOI' request for the recent figures taken by Mendip District Council re pollutants. It was noted by Council that this had been done and the figures provided show that air quality has improved.
- **Councillor J. Cousins** requested that the specific question be put to Mendip District Council. "what value do you place on human life of residents" – and the response of that specific question be reported back to this Council.

**County Councillor Gloak** advised Council that the banks petition had been presented and was scheduled to be debated in May. As all the town's banks will be closed by then what question does council want to pose? Liaison with other Town Councils in Somerset?

**Cllr. Avalon** responded that County Council would be liaising with regard to the use of the hub and the question to be asked would relate to that campaign.

**County Councillor A. Gloak left the meeting at this point.**

**County Councillor T. Napper** had tabled a full report and further advised:

- For Safety, Council could look at the installation of an island in Chilkwell Street to effectively widen the width of the pavement which could facilitate both traffic calming and the installation of the zebra crossing.  
The Mayor responded that the issue was the responsibility of County and requested that Councillor Napper as the County Councillor kept chasing up on the issue.

**The following concerns were raised for the attention of the County Councillor:**

- **Councillor J. Cousins** requested that Councillor. Napper as County Councillor, put the specific question to the controlling group at County Council and the Highways department "What price do they put on the lives of Glastonbury residents?" and the response of that specific question be reported back to this council.
- C. Cllr. T. Napper stated that the question would be put.

- **Councillor S. Henderson** restated the proposal by Cllr. Brunsdon that the crossing could be located closer to the roundabout located at the Rural Life Museum.
- **Councillor N. Cottle** noted that the zebra crossing could have an impact on traffic flow if installed close to the rural life museum.

The Councillor also reported that the issue of water in Wick lane had not been resolved and residents were requesting a site meeting.

County Councillor T. Napper responded that the known leak should be repaired first in order to discover the impact of those works on this issue. Bristol Water had advised that those works were scheduled to occur after the Easter Break.

**Cllr. N. Cottle** requested action on the issue of grass in Leg of Mutton Road that was still outstanding.

The concern with regard to the cutting back of bus passes for carers of disabled people was raised and how many people in Glastonbury it affects. County Councillor T. Napper requested that a written question be submitted to him and Councillor N. Cottle stated that he would comply with that request.

The issue of the re surfacing of Old Wells Road was raised.

County Councillor T. Napper responded that this was being delayed due to the discovery that the road surface contains contaminants and as the entire surface requires scouring and resurfacing this needs to be done with appropriate care for disposal and will therefore be costly.

- **Councillor L. MacDougall** advised that the reason for placing the zebra further along Chilwell street was to facilitate users of the Drapers car park and residents of the new estate.
- **Councillor J. Keery** Stated that Old Wells needs repairing now as is a bus route and a hospital access route. The Zebra crossing also urgently needed and saying that no money is available is not good enough.
- **Councillor L. MacDougall** asked why money could be spent at Stonehenge but not in Glastonbury for safety.
- **Councillor J. Cousins** suggested that Council invite the Queen to visit for her birthday as the last time the Queen visited all the roads were repaired prior to her arrival.

**County Councillor T. Napper** advised that the Queen may be arriving before Christmas.

- **Councillor J. Brunsdon** advised that the water at Wellhouse Lane needed to go under the road and not over it.

**County Councillor. T. Napper** advised council that double yellow lines for Bretenoux Road would now not be happening. Condition of buildings in Northover – specifically the zig zag building - currently a disgrace to the town, would take longer to fix.

## 155. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

### District Councillor J. Coles

- Written report submitted
- **Cllr. J. Keery** requested an update on enforcement at Cold Harbour Bridge and the rear of Tor Rugby.

District Councillor Coles advised that there were currently 2 enforcement orders in place at Cold Harbour and the presence of Alpacas on site at the rear of Tor Rugby effectively stalling enforcement at that location.

- **Councillors J. Cousins** stated his approval of the number of comments submitted to the draft local plan and looked forward to receiving a copy.

#### District Councillor J. Brunsdon

- Reported that another Mendip Town Council had been required to increase their precept by 90% and Glastonbury council needed to keep a financial eye on any commitments made.
- Cinnamon Lane Play Area – Badly drained area received negative comments in the press. This is a District owned play area and therefore Mendip District Council have been asked to respond to the comments.
- Tree planting – if permission is granted by land owners funds are available for tree planting. Consideration should continue to be made to request a condition for additional tree planting within the landscaping when any appropriate planning applications are submitted.

#### District Councillor S. Henderson

- Written report submitted
- **The Mayor** requested that action be taken with regard to the big bins from high street food businesses again appearing in Silver Street.  
Councillor S. Henderson advised that he would pay a visit and try to sort the current situation.
- **Councillor J. Brunsdon** advised that they had been notified that big bins were not permitted in Hanover Square. The religious pilgrimage processes through this area in occasion and the area needs to be kept clear.
- **Councillor Keery** raised concerns with regard to the zig zag building.  
Councillor S. Henderson advised that follow up was in progress.

#### District Cllr. N. Cottle

- Council needs to be aware of ongoing vandalism at Windmill Hill Community Hall, youth shelter and telephone box. Police should be requested to keep a closer watch on the area. Work is also required with regard to tidying up and repairing the damage done.
- Had proposed to full Council that the rates go up by inflation on an annual basis however this had been rejected.
- Councillor S. Thurgood advised that she had visited the Hut with Cllr. E. George and confirmed the damage and advised that hopefully it would be repaired shortly. Requested that Council notes the difficult job of the Youth Workers in that area and the amount of work that they do put in.
- Councillor E. George advised of vandalism to the top of the Tor.
- Councillor T. Napper advised Council of graffiti appearing at Premier Inn, Well house Lane and the pumping station and general graffiti becoming a problem in town.

- Councillor J. Brunsdon requested an official letter from the Town Council to the police advising of the increase in vandalism on Windmill Hill and general graffiti and also requesting an update on when the PCSO posts currently vacant will be filled.

#### 156. YOUTH COUNCIL

As no representative currently in attendance

- Cllr. S. Thurgood advised that next Youth Council meeting would be on Thursday and all Councillors were welcome to attend. Minutes are circulated after all meetings.
- Issues raised recently included concern the lack of lighting in certain areas around town causing 11 and 12 year olds not to feel safe. Mayor requested that these areas be identified at the next meeting in order that council could consider remedial action. Council advised that new lighting had recently been installed in St. Edmunds Road.

#### **TAKEN PRIOR TO MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The youth representative now in attendance, reported that there had been contact with the local schools in order to discuss a potential survey that would reach over 100 local young people. This would both promote the youth council and give a direct voice to young people on the issues that affected them locally. The youth council would then have a representative source of issues and motions that it would be able to raise with the relevant authorities.

It was noted that council was aware that some of the section 106 funds allocated toward the improvement of play provision might already earmarked for other projects.

Cllr. J. Keery suggested that the issue of graffiti be raised at the next Youth Council meeting.

#### 157. NOTICE OF MOTION

**Proposed by Councillor A. Black**

**Seconded by Councillor J. Cousins**

“ That this Council joins with others in the UK to oppose the undemocratic introduction of the TTIP Trade agreement, by voting to become a TTIP FREE ZONE”

Following considerable, heated and varied discussion of the topic Glastonbury Town Council Resolved [12/3] to defer any decision on this matter until information and advice had been obtained from a wide range of people and / or, organisations.

#### 158. CCTV SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

The new 3 year agreement, commencing 1<sup>st</sup> April 2016 was considered.

Following discussions with regard to the quality of the images produced, the standard of the existing equipment and any planned replacement programme it was **AGREED** by Council that any decision be deferred until the next meeting and that the attendance of Mr Reeves with footage to illustrate quality, be requested and information as to what was required be obtained from the local PACT group.

***DUE TO THE ARRIVAL OF A YOUTH COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE COUNCIL RETURNED TO THE YOUTH COUNCIL TOPIC ON THE AGENDA AT THIS POINT***

**159. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor reported the following:

- Attendance at the 20<sup>th</sup> February Flash mob
- Attendance at the 1<sup>st</sup> March youth club opening
- Attendance at the 4<sup>th</sup> March further flash mob
- General invite to the proposed April 23rd Afternoon tea dance as her departure event – with a separate evening event from 7pm to midnight with Seize the Day and Animal Crackers – both as final fundraisers for the current Mayor's charities.

**160. DATE OF ANNUAL TOWN MEETING**

It was proposed by Councillor J. Cousins, seconded by Councillor I. Tucker and **RESOLVED** by Council that the date of the Annual Town Meeting be moved from 5<sup>th</sup> April to the 19<sup>th</sup> April 2016 in order to facilitate the use of the main hall.

**161. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Councillor S. Thurgood reported on the opening of the new youth group venue
- Councillor J. Cousins reminded Council of the SCC volunteer of the Year award and encouraged councillors to nominate and champion local volunteers. The Mayor proposed that Sandra Booth be put forward by Council and this was **AGREED** unanimously.
- Councillor S. Henderson raised the question of the public participation session prior to the meeting asking if the arrangement could be altered to facilitate decisions and responses. It was noted that this would require an amendment to council standing orders. Council were also advised that if an item is not specifically listed on the agenda then no decision could be made on it.
- Councillor J. Coles advised that a recent two showings of the Gone but not forgotten S and D Railway film had raised £200 for charity.
- Councillor E. George advised that Foamstream vehicle is due to arrive soon and equipment would be collected at that point.
- Councillor A. Black advised that donations for trip to Calais for unaccompanied children were required by Saturday

**162. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Nothing reported

The Mayor re arranged the agenda at this point to take an update report on Last Bank Standing

**163. BANK CLOSURES UPDATE REPORT**

Councillor G. Avalon reported on:

- Crazy Horse second flash mob has increased awareness of the issue even further.
- A third flash mob occurred coinciding with Barclays closure last Friday. Great success.
- Supportive ITV coverage had spread all over the south west area. The Central Somerset Gazette had also been supportive.
- Campaign website : [www.lastbankstanding.org](http://www.lastbankstanding.org)
- Petition currently stands at just under six thousand
- Need to engage with more High Street businesses
- Crowd funding account set up with a target of three thousand pounds
- Would council consider further funding
- Lloyds closes by the date of the next meeting.
- Proposed press release film with regard to extra work undertaken by the local post office due to the bank closures.  
Post office had been very very supportive of local businesses.
- Councillors were requested to come and support the campaign by approaching local businesses in order to encourage their support.
- Local newsagents is having an external machine fitted at his own cost and with a loss of commission.
- DCLG re tweeting flash mob films

The group were congratulated for all the work put in and what they had achieved to date.

**164. CORRESPONDENCE**

- a. Letter from the Chairman of SCC re Somerset Day 11<sup>th</sup> May – noted
- b. MDC parish bulletin – noted
- c. Letter from Sandra Booth re St. Benedicts Church Christmas lunch. – Noted that the grant was very well used.
- d. Avon & Somerset Police Newsletter - noted

**165. PRESS RELEASES**

No press releases were proposed.

**MEETING CLOSED AT 9.55pm**

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Mayor, 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016