



# Glastonbury Town Council

**Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2016 at 7pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors: D Abbott, G Avalon, A Black, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, J Cousins, E George, S Henderson, W Knight, T Napper, D Michell, S Thurgood, I Tucker

**APOLOGIES:** Councillor N Cottle, J Keery, L MacDougall  
County Councillor A Gloak MBE  
David Greenway – Town Crier  
PCSO M Rowlands

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk  
Gary Knight - Macebearer  
Terry Dowden - Macebearer

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## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

Malcolm Allen and Karen Henge spoke about the Sleeping Bus project for the homeless and whether it could be sited in St Dunstan's Car Park; electric points for cars and the possibility of pedestrianising the High Street.

The meeting was opened with the lighting of the Unity candle.

Councillor George chaired the meeting at the request of the Mayor who arrived late due to his attendance in his capacity as Mayor at the Forget-me-not over 60's Christmas meal.

## **123. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Councillor Napper – Street Parish Councillor

## **124. REPORT FROM GLASTONBURY POLICE BEAT TEAM**

PCSO Rowlands gave her apologies due to emergency duties.

## **125. MINUTES**

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the A361 Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were tabled and approved.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Glastonbury in Bloom Committee held on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were approved.
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Youth Provision Committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were approved.

- e) The minutes of the Planning Committee held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were noted.
- f) The minutes of the Property and Assets Committee held on 1<sup>st</sup> November 2016 were accepted.
- g) The minutes of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2016 were accepted. Councillor Tucker pointed out that it had been agreed to allocated a lump sum for TIC, GCDT and Pilgrim Reception Centre to hold in reserves until plans for St Dunstan's House come to fruition.

Councillor Cousins arrived at this juncture (7.40pm).

#### **126. BUDGET FOR 2017-2018 AND PRECEPT**

It was unanimously **RESOLVED** to accept the recommendation of the Finance and General Purposes Committee and set the precept for 2017-2018 at £300,000.

#### **127. NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN**

Gerard Tucker gave a presentation to update Councillors on progress. The next meeting will be held on 4<sup>th</sup> January 2017 at 7pm.

#### **128. PROMOTING GLASTONBURY**

Gerard Tucker updated the Council on the position of the Committee. Work is continuing on finalising the Tourism Strategy. A draft copy is available from the office.

Councillor Thurgood asked whether there would be merit in joining Visit Somerset. Mr Tucker said that the website has an app which would go directly to the Glastonbury pages and in his opinion Visit Somerset needs Glastonbury as much as Glastonbury needs Visit Somerset. It was **AGREED** that membership should be discussed at the next Promoting Glastonbury Committee meeting.

#### **129. SUSTRANS FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR WALTON, STREET AND GLASTONBURY**

Street Parish Council had requested a contribution from Glastonbury Town Council towards a feasibility study for a cycle route between Walton, Street and Glastonbury which they have commissioned Sustrans to carry out at a cost of £8685. They also asked for representation from Glastonbury Town Council on the steering group. The Town Clerk said that Walton Parish Council has not as yet contributed.

It was **AGREED** that Councillors Avalon and Knight should represent Glastonbury Town Council on the steering group.

The Town Council asked for further information before considering whether to financially support the project. A number of Councillors felt that there is already sufficient cycleway provision and that the exercise is therefore unnecessary.

#### **130. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

County Councillor Napper reported on:

- The development of a jetty for Hinkley Point.
- Discussions taking place on moving to a 3 weekly collection of general waste.
- Recycling will still be collected every week.

Councillor Michell asked whether plastic will be recycled as currently this fills up the general waste bins.

Councillor George asked for a list of everything that will be collected for recycling.

Councillor Avalon predicted a rise in flying tipping should the collections are moved to three weekly.

Councillor Brunsdon asked for the introduction of double yellow lines at Bretenoux Road be revisited due to excessive parking of live-in vehicles.

Councillor Avalon said that he hoped to see a substantial drop in lorries along the A361 when the jetty is operational.

### **131. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Councillor Brunsdon said that a District Councillor from Street reported that they are still looking for a property in Glastonbury to house a Syrian family and that the Empty Housing Agency at the District Council will look into the matter.

Councillor George said that she chairs the volunteer group of local people facilitating the housing of two Syrian families in Glastonbury and that one property has already been found.

Councillor Coles reported that the Chief Constable attended the District Council meeting last night. He reported that 80% of calls to the Police relate to domestic violence. The Police Station in Yeovil is closing and will be housed in the fire station.

He reported at the Traveller site at Beckery is contaminated land and earmarked for future use. The residents have until Spring 2017 to leave.

Councillor Avalon asked why the land cannot be decontaminated and used as a site.

Councillor Henderson said that the District Council is not in a position to sell the land for residential purposes and planning permission would not be allowed due to the smell zone from the sewage works.

Councillor Michell said that the Travelling Co-operative is saying that Mendip District Council do not want to sell the land.

Councillor Brunsdon said that the District Council are waiting for travellers to get together and apply for funding to set up a site elsewhere.

### **132. REPORT FROM YOUTH COUNCIL**

New members from Sea Cadets, Air Cadets and St Dunstan's School attended the last meeting when the results of the survey were discussed.

From the survey it has been ascertained that a graffiti wall is needed. A local artist keen to be involved with graffiti projects attended the meeting. A site has been found at the skate park and a Quantity Surveyor has priced the job. It is hoped that local builders will agree to construct the wall at little or no cost.

Concerns about the lack of lighting in some parts of town were raised.

Councillor George said that she hoped that a representative from the Youth Council would attend future Council meetings.

### **133. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS**

#### **a) Town Centre**

Councillor Emma George reported that the group will meet every three months. Amendments to the Road Traffic Order have been submitted.

#### **b) Tor Fair**

Councillor John Coles reported that a meeting had taken place between Councillors and Chipperfields to discuss bringing the Fair into the Town due to the current field being used for residential development in the near future. Councillor Coles had spoken to Stuart Finney at Mendip District Council about the possibility of using St John's Car Park and received a positive response. The Chipperfields and the working party favour St Dunstan's Car Park, with a road closure on one day for a street fair.

Councillor Thurgood suggested using the field near Bretenoux Road.

Glastonbury Abbey has concerns about siting the fair next to the Abbey and the Town Clerk said that there are further issues which need to be addressed before a final decision is made.

It was **RESOLVED** that the working group should reconvene to discuss the issues and provide a report for the January Council meeting.

Councillor Coles and Tucker abstained from the vote.

### **134. 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.

### **135. BUDGET REPORT**

The budget report was noted.

### **136. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor tabled a list of events he had attended since the last meeting.

He asked for the Citizen of the Year Award to be placed on the next Agenda.

### 137. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Coles reported that the Carnival DVD is now available for £16. He reported that this year's carnival collection was down by £2000.

Councillor Thurgood reported on a successful visit to the Houses of Parliament with St Dunstan's School Year 10.

Councillor George reported that Nationwide Building Society have announced that they will be opening a branch in Glastonbury next summer. They have not yet released which premises they will be using. Their first consultation will be in the small hall on 17<sup>th</sup> December when they will be taking account applications. They are looking into whether they could provide a service for businesses, as currently they can only provide deposit accounts for businesses. If that is not possible, they have been asked to consider providing space for another financial provider for businesses.

Councillor Emma George reported that plans have been finalised for the Christmas Free Lunch being held at the Town Hall. She suggested that should Councillors wish to contribute, more tins of sweets and Christmas puddings are required. She reported that the Market House Public House will also be providing a free lunch.

### 138. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Knight reported his attendance at the Citizens Advice Bureau AGM. He had been impressed by the work carried out by the Bureau and with the new initiative which will involve representatives going into schools to discuss money management with the students. In his opinion the money granted to the CAB by the Town Council of £3500 per annum is well used.

### 139. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was considered:

a) Mendip District Council – Application for Aldi Alcohol Licence from 7am-11pm, 7 days a week – It was **AGREED** to forward the following comments: It was noted at a recent multi-agency meeting where the Police were present, that the anti-social behaviour experienced in the town is directly linked to the consumption of alcohol. It would therefore be helpful if the sale of alcohol could be restricted to at least 9am to 10pm.

The following correspondence was noted:

- b) Somerset Waste Partnership – Monthly briefing
- c) Somerset County Council – Temporary Closure of Church Lane for gas mains replacement works – 23<sup>rd</sup> January 2017 for 17 days
- d) Mendip District Council – Parish Bulletin – December 2016 issue
- e) James Heapey MP – Letter to Mayor re referendum principals

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Mayor, 10<sup>th</sup> January 2017