



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 13th March 2018 at 7pm in the Council Chamber at Glastonbury Town Hall

PRESENT: Councillors: D Abbott, A Black, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, N Cottle, E George (Mayor), J Keery, W Knight, S Henderson, L MacDougall, D Michell, T Napper, S Thurgood and I Tucker

APOLOGIES: Councillors G Avalon and J Cousins
Gary Knight (Macebearer)
PCSO Karen Pack

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
Terry Dowden (Macebearer)
County Councillor L Leyshon

Public Participation

Chris Lavis asked the Town Council to work with Mendip District Council to sort out the maintenance of the fencing around the balancing pond near Morrisons. He was concerned about a press announcement by Mendip District Council that an area of land at Norbins Road may be allocated for housing and asked whether the District Council had any more plans for 'land grabbing'. He reported that people are living in two caravans parked on the road in Tor View Avenue.

Heather Proud said that she was disappointed in the way the Road survey had been produced and distributed.

Stephen Bower asked what people can expect from public participation at the Council meetings. The Mayor confirmed that it allows residents the opportunity to raise issues with the Council but not for these to be debated at the meeting. The Council considers the issues and acts appropriately. Only items on the agenda can be considered by full Council at the meeting.

The peace candle was lit by Chris Lavis and the meeting was preceded by a silent moment.

167. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

168. REPORT FROM POLICE

A written report of reported crimes in Glastonbury for the last 28 days up to 5.3.2018 had been received from the Police and circulated to

Councillors.

169. REPORT FROM YOUTH COUNCIL

The Mayor reported that members have signed up to take the Bronze UK Youth Achievement Award with the help of Somerset Rural Youth Project. Members will be taking part in an Equality and Diversity project held by Somerset Youth Service when they will be taught BSL (British Sign Language) skills.

170. REPORT FROM GLASTONBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Paul Manning informed the Council of the AGM being held at the Red Brick Building on 15th March at 6pm and the next breakfast meeting on 9th April at Hawthorns. Membership now stands at 80. 10 shops have expressed an interest in the radio link project plus the Town Hall, Police and CCTV post. 15 are needed to make it a viable scheme.

171. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the Special meeting of the Council held on 8th February 2018 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13th February 2018 were accepted.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 20th February 2018 were noted.
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Property and Assets Committee held on 27th February 2018 were accepted.
- e) The minutes of the meeting of the Promoting Glastonbury Committee held on 27th February 2018 were accepted.

172. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillors Coles provided a written report.

Councillor Brunsdon reported a balanced budget and an increase in Council tax of 3.41% for the forthcoming financial year. He and other District Councillors had attended a special planning training session regarding new more stringent rules relating to the number of refused applications and how in future Councils will be fined if more than 5% of refused applications are appealed. He circulated copies of the new District Council management structure.

Councillor Henderson reported that the District Council has been offered £800,000 of government money to develop the car park land at Norbins Road to provide affordable housing.

Councillor Cottle said that the Deputy Town Clerk met with Keith Pennyfather, Assets Manager at Mendip District Council to discuss the Town Council acquiring the land. Mr Pennyfather has asked the Town Council to provide details of what they would like to do with the land before further negotiations take place.

Councillor Tucker was concerned about the possible loss of Norbins Road car park and asked District Councillors to find out whether the Town Council will have the chance to debate the matter.

173. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillors Leyshon and Napper provided written reports.

Councillor Leyshon suggested calling an A361 meeting to address the increase in heavy goods traffic servicing the Hinkley Point development.

Councillor Henderson asked if there are any funds available to mitigate the impact. County Councillor Leyshon said that there are funds and due to the increase in aggregate movements it may be worth asking again as initial enquiries for traffic calming had not been fruitful due to the projected impact on Glastonbury not being sufficient.

Councillor Cottle reported that there are still dangerous pot holes along Old Wells Road and pointed out that it is a bus route.

Councillor MacDougall reported blocked drains at Fishers Hill.

The Mayor reported that the bollards near the skate park have been removed again which allows vehicles to enter the area and park up on the new garden area.

Councillor Leyshon reported that there is currently a County Council spending freeze and money will only be allocated to deal with safety issues.

174. GLASTONBURY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD 2018

The Town Clerk informed Councillors that adverts for nominations had been placed on the Town Council website and Facebook page. The closing date for nominations is 21st March after which the Town Clerk will contact Councillors and ask them to vote for their preferred nominee. There is only one award and no runners up. The winner will be presented with a certificate at the Town Meeting.

175. NOTICE OF MOTION

It was proposed by Councillor Abbott, seconded by Councillor A Black and unanimously **RESOLVED** that Glastonbury Town Council should support Volunteers' Week by the provision of facilities to promote relevant organisations in Glastonbury and to encourage recruitment of new volunteers.

176. 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.

The Town Clerk provided a break down of expenditure for renovation works to St Dunstan's House.

177. BUDGET REPORT

The budget report to was circulated to Councillors and duly noted. The Town Clerk will provide a break down of miscellaneous expenditure and income for the next meeting.

178. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor reported on activities she had undertaken, on behalf of the Council, since the last meeting.

She reported that she had acted as a Mackenzie friend for the travellers at a hearing on 7th March which was postponed by the judge due to the pro bono lawyer being unable to attend.

179. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor J Coles reported that St Dunstan's Lodge recently made a charitable donation of £10,000 to local good causes.

Councillor Michell was concerned to have heard that the security guard at Glastonbury Abbey is telling children not to run around the ground.

Councillor Tucker reported that the Brue Boys would be in concert at St Benedict's Church on 17th March 2018 at 7.30pm to raise money to restore the Beckstein piano.

Councillor Keery reported the death of Lance Clark, one of the true Quakers of the Clark's family and who saved the Company from going public in 1993.

Councillor Brunsdon reported the death of local resident Marcus Govier.

180. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Councillor Thurgood reported that the Youth Provision Committee Focus Group to discuss the future of the tennis courts in Benedict Street would be meeting on 16th April at 10am.

181. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Knight circulated copies of the Health and Wellbeing Board Action Plan 2017-2019 to Councillors and informed the Council of SPARK an organisation which signposts people with social and health problems.

182. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted:

a) Mendip District Council – Parish Bulletin

For consideration:

b) UK Parliament – UK Parliament week and other events

c) Email from N McGerr re Road consultation

In accordance with the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 160 amended by the Openness of Local Government Bodies Regulations 2014,

the press and public were excluded for the following item (183) due to the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

183. TO CONSIDER PURCHASING A FAIR FIELD FOR GLASTONBURY

Due to the financially sensitive information discussed, a separate brief confidential report has been prepared which will not be released into the public domain until negotiations are over.

Following the Special Meeting of the Council held on 8th February 2018 The Mayor and Councillor Tucker met with the owners of the field to discuss options. The owners are open to selling to the Council and responded well to the field being a legacy for the town. For the field to be suitable for the Fair to use, hardcore will need to go down which would be turfed over. A balancing pond to relieve flooding will also be necessary. Consultation will be required with the Chair of Mendip District Council Planning, the Environment Agency, Drainage Board etc. to make sure that planned works are acceptable to them.

It was **RESOLVED** to purchase the land to use as a Fair field, with the proviso that the purchase would not go ahead if the relevant agencies were not able to establish that the land could be altered to provide the necessary infrastructure.

It was further **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk should apply for a loan from the Public Works Loan Board to cover the purchase cost.

The Town Council gave permission for the Mayor and Councillor Tucker to continue negotiations and to arrange a meeting between the owners, Chair of Mendip District Council Planning, Drainage Board, the Environment Agency, the land agent and other relevant parties.

184. PRESS RELEASES

The Town Clerk to issue a press release about the code of conduct hearing once the relevant paperwork had been received.

Mayor, 10th April 2018