



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 11th December 2018 at Glastonbury Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: D Abbott (Mayor), A Black, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, S Henderson, W Knight, T Napper, S Thurgood, I Tucker

APOLOGIES: Councillors J Cousins, E George, J Keery, L MacDougall, D Michell. Also, SCC County Councillor L Leyshon.

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk

Public participation – 3 members of the public took the opportunity to speak.

Topics raised included:

Unofficial Traveller encampment

Call for support of an electric bus from Glastonbury Town Centre to the Beckery.

Global warming, Agenda 2030 and the use of Smart Meters

The Unity candle was lit, followed by a minute's silence prior to the meeting.

124. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

125. REPORT FROM A MEMBER OF THE GLASTONBURY POLICE BEAT TEAM

PC Moyse had forwarded a report prior to the meeting which had been previously circulated. The key points raised were the intention to expand the regularly weekly police post to locations other than Unit 2 (consideration being given to St Edmunds Hall) and the expansion of the use of social media as a means to engage with residents and businesses on police related matters.

126. REPORT FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chairman, Paul Manning informed that the Christmas dinner is to take place this Thursday at the Sheppey Inn, Godney. He also informed that the Chamber has discussed the planning application for an extension of the hotel by 39 bedrooms, as coach travel to Glastonbury can be encouraged. The Frost Fayre was considered a tremendous success, although improvements to car parking signage need to be considered for future events. Cllr Napper thanked the Chamber and all from Beckery Village who involved with tidying the Morland Industrial Estate.

127. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 13th November 2018 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record. Under Item 116, it was confirmed that Zara Scott-Davies is prepared to undertake the Youth Study on behalf of the council.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 20th November 2018 were **NOTED**.
- e) The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 27th November 2018 were accepted
- f) The meeting of the Promoting Glastonbury Committee held on 5th December 2018 were accepted. Councillors agreed that when reviewing the Tor Bus transport service, consideration should be given to supporting the Beckery Resource Centre.

128. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Coles tabled a report which was noted. Reference was made to an NHS questionnaire called Fit For My Future which is considering ways to devolve some services to a parochial level. Councillors were encouraged to complete the questionnaire.

Councillor Brunsdon verbally reported that he had attended the funeral of Dennis Allen, former Glastonbury Mayor. He also informed that the Local Plan II refresh was being debated at the Full Council in Mendip next week and asked for any points of concern to be raised with him prior to attending the meeting.

Councillor Henderson provided a written report.

129. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Leyshon provided a written report. In her absence, a follow-up email informing that the County Council has acknowledged the contribution of £10,000 towards the Chilkwell Street pedestrian crossing which has brought the requirement to the highest priority. There is still no indication as to the anticipated delivery date, or if this coincides with the planned road closure.

Councillor Napper tabled a written report which was **NOTED**.

130. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

The schedule of payments was presented and after a few questions of clarification were signed by the Mayor and countersigned by Cllr Brunsdon.

131. BUDGET REPORT

The budget report to 11th December 2018 was circulated to Councillors and duly **NOTED**.

132. SUMMARY OF MARTOCK COMMUNITY SUPPORT PROGRAMME

A discussion was recently held with the Chairman of Martock Parish Council – Neil Bloomfield and Councillors. In summary, the Martock funding was largely raised through an increase in the precept over a number of years and delivered a number of activities. Of particular note was the size of the youth provision budget which is £25,000 higher than Glastonbury's. Martock employs a private security company when required to address anti-social-behaviour concerns. Their sports field extends to some 27 acres and has a sports pavilion and village hall incorporated,

together with football, rugby, cricket pitches, together with tennis courts and children's play equipment.

In response, Cllr Napper stated that Glastonbury continues to be prudent with expenditure and that the delivery programme within Glastonbury is the envy of many communities. The report was **NOTED**.

133. TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSED BUDGET AND PRECEPT FOR 2019-20

The Town Clerk informed the meeting of the proposed areas of increased expenditure in the ensuing year, which included – additional sums being set aside for youth provision, St Dunstan's House renovation, Tor Bus and smaller expenditure, including membership of Visit Somerset. The proposed precept is an increase of 8% on the previous year to £370,000. It was proposed by Cllr Thurgood, Seconded by Cllr Tucker and unanimously **AGREED**.

134. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION NUMBER 2018/1961/FUL WHITBREAD PLC, PREMIER INN, 3 STOREY, 39 ROOM EXTENSION WITH ADDITIONAL PARKING.

Cllr Henderson presented the application informing that this proposed extension Will provide an opportunity for Glastonbury to receive additional coach travellers, Which in turn supports the economy. The extension however will make the building much larger on a main entrance into Glastonbury. The discussion and debate that followed concluded that the application was broadly acceptable with the following suggested contribution and conditions.

Recommend Approval

Additional Comments : Subject to the provision of a Section 106 agreement with the provision of £50,000.00. This to be used specifically for enhancements in the vicinity of the application site – including the dredging of the Mill Pond, clearing of the Mill Stream and general clearance of the area to improve the ambience of the setting for visitors to Glastonbury and customers of the Premier Inn.

The proposed development should also include the following: -

- Electric car charging points
- Coach parking facilities
- Cycle shed & racks
- A landscaping scheme to include tree planting
- A shared parking agreement with surrounding businesses, including the Red Brick Building
- The inclusion of double yellow lines in the vicinity of the Premier Inn to prevent roadside parking, particularly HGV's

Proposed by Cllr Tucker, seconded by Cllr Henderson and unanimously **AGREED**.

135. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION ON THE PROPOSED POLICIES IDENTIFIED THROUGH THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLANNING PROCESS.

The Town Clerk (formally Neighbourhood planning Officer) presented this item in the absence of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group Chair – Cllr Cousins. He informed that the plan had been commissioned by the Town Council and it was correct procedure for the Council to agree to the proposed policies prior to the submission of the draft plan to Mendip District Council. There are broadly six areas where through the consultation process, residents and businesses identified areas that needed to be included in the plan. These are:

- Art and Culture
- Heritage and Character
- Local Green Space
- Trees
- Development land – residential
- Development land – commercial

The report having been previously circulated with the agenda, the Town Clerk took questions. A concern was raised by Cllr Thurgood that the recreational area - Thorndurn Park had not been included. Cllr Napper enquired why Lowerside Park had also not been included in the areas of protection through a Local Green Space. The Town Clerk offered to review both of these locations. There being no further concerns, it was **RESOLVED** to submit the plan to Mendip DC once clarification had been obtained on the two areas of Local Green Space.

136. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the last meeting The Mayor had represented the Town on 13 occasions including the Frost Fayre and Forget Me Nots Christmas Dinner

137. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Cllr Thurgood informed that the Glastonbury Food Bank, known as Bridging the Gap has supported 140 different people since it started. This incredibly important facility is managed by volunteers and delivers support to many who would struggle to afford food for themselves and families if the facility were not available.

Glastonbury Brass are performing a concert in St John's Church on Saturday 22nd December with guest singers Hannah and Greg Wills.

The cutting of the Holy Thorn ceremony will take place on Wednesday 12th December at 10.30am at St John's Church.

138. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

Cllr MacDougall had requested that the amendments to the Glastonbury Environmental Charter were considered at this meeting, as there are only a few amendments. Having heard the detail of the amendments, it was proposed by Cllr Napper, seconded by Cllr Thurgood and unanimously **AGREED** that the item be included on the agenda of the January meeting of the Town Council.

Cllr Tucker informed that the recent purchase of land at Northload Bridge known as Herbies Field has received the welcomed support of the Conservation Society. There is soon to be erected a stock proof fence around the perimeter of the field, set 8 metres in from the rhynes. The planting of native hedging, fruit and nut trees will then take place on 26th January. There is an opportunity to purchase 4m lengths of hedging at £20 per length in memory of loved ones, or possibly organisations in Glastonbury. The Information Centre has agreed to manage the sale of the hedging project.

Cllr Tucker further informed that the former Morlands gates are being painted and will soon be erected at the entrance to Herbies Field.

Cllr Knight brought to the attention of the council the repair of the double faced clock on the High Street which had been funded by the Glastonbury Masonic Lodge.

The Worshipful Mayor – Cllr Abbott informed that there has been a renewed interest in supporting the twinning with Kunisaki as she had attended a meeting where two Glastonbury based businesses with an interest in Japan were wishing to be involved.

139. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

There were no reports from outside bodies..

140. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Somerset CC informed that the salt and grit provision has been extended for one more winter
- ii. Somerset Waste Partnership informed of the revised waste and recycling programme over the winter period.
- iii. Street Parish Council wrote inviting Glastonbury Town Council to partake in the finger post renovation programme. Proposed by Cllr Brunsdon, seconded by Cllr Tucker and unanimously agreed to respond positively to Street Parish Council requesting an involvement.
- iv. *For consideration* – Glastonbury and Sharpham Burial Board wrote requesting the transfer of their assets to Glastonbury Town Council for £1.00, with an annual charge of £3,000 being raised for the use of the assets for the upkeep of the cemetery. Cllr Tucker informed that the increasing use of the equipment by the town Council created problems when reallocating expenditure. Proposed by Cllr Brunsdon seconded by Cllr Tucker and unanimously **AGREED** to accept the proposal.

141. PRESS RELEASES

- i. The renovation of the well - off Old Wells Road is now completed with the support of a Conservation Society grant. This is both the highest and deepest well in Glastonbury.
- ii. The planting of hedging at Herbies Field
- iii The 8% rise in the councils precept with an explanation what it is hoped to deliver with the additional income generated

The meeting closed at 8.50pm

Mayor, 8th January 2019