



# Glastonbury Town Council

**Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2019 at 7pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors J Cousins, J Keery, P Lund, L MacDougall, D Michell, I Mutch, B Outten, C Prior, S Roney-Dougal, M Smyth and I Tucker.

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs S Barnet, L Browne, J Coles, N Cottle, S Henderson.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk  
Claire Crompton and Terry Dowden – Macebearers  
County Councillors Leyshon and Napper

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## **PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TOOK PLACE BETWEEN 7.00 AND 7.15PM**

Subjects raised included: Positive Living use of the Town Hall  
Rough sleeping  
Kennard Moor drove travellers  
Morrisons bund  
Seedy Sunday

### **105. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs Cousins and Michell declared an interest in item 13 (b) as supporters of the Beltane festival

### **106. APPROVAL AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2019.**

The minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> October were considered an accurate record and were signed by the Mayor.

### **107. APPROVAL AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF AN EXTRAORDINARY MEETING HELD ON 29<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2019**

The minutes of the extraordinary meeting held on 29<sup>th</sup> October in closed session were considered an accurate record and were signed by the Mayor.

### **108. POLICE REPORT**

PC Moyse submitted a written report which was read by the Mayor. The key points being feedback on the 'Y DON'T U' community event, information on various restorative justice, arrests and other incidents. The recent caravan fires has resulted in additional patrols and an offer of smoke alarms.

### **109. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF:**

- a. **Planning committee held on 15<sup>th</sup> October** The minutes of the planning committee were presented by Cllr Smyth and accepted

- b. **Promoting Glastonbury Committee held on 30<sup>th</sup> October.** The minutes of this committee were presented by Cllr Cousins. He drew attention to the decision to change the format of this committee and in future only the nine town councillor members will partake. Other organisations will involve only if items of specific interest to them is to be discussed.
- c. **Youth committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> November.** The minutes of the Youth Committee were presented by Cllr Outten and accepted.
- d. **Property and Assets Committee held on 6<sup>th</sup> November.** The minutes of the Property and Assets committee were presented by Cllr Keery and accepted.

#### **110. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS**

Cllr Napper informed that the majority of his public engagement requests were to address residents concerns over the number of unauthorised encampments.

Cllr Leyshon informed of the various Authorities responsibilities with regards to the unauthorised encampments issues. A housing crisis due to the shortage of affordable, appropriate housing is a major issue. There is an increase in rough sleeping, although it is noted that this problem is not unique to Glastonbury. The problems are accentuated due to the increased demand for Air BNB and the legislative changes to living in Housing of Multiple Occupation (HMO), shortage of affordable housing and appropriate traveller sites. Cllr Leyshon continued, informing that Mendip DC has a responsibility that when requested by someone who has moved from within the district to Glastonbury, to attempt to provide suitable accommodation. However, for someone coming into the area from a different authority, there is no obligation to provide a solution. The removal of the boulders is still being assessed with a potential solution for the land nearest the war memorial to be fenced in a different, less antagonising way. In summary, there is a shortage of potential sites to be used for traveller accommodation and when an area is identified, Romany Gypsies and Travellers take priority over new age travellers. The consultation regarding the Pilton and Glastonbury bypass has not been well received with a suggestion that perhaps the focus was now more on delivering the Ashcott/Walton section only.

#### **111. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

Cllr MacDougall provided a verbal report informing that the unauthorised encampment at Pomarles Bridge was the focus of much attention. Other items of report included a forthcoming Mental Health awareness day and a People's Assembly discussing in particular the Climate Emergency Plan.

Cllr Cousins drew attention to the pending opportunity to apply for funding through the Town's Fund. He also mentioned his involvement with discussing the Local Plan II refresh. The road consultation was the main focus of a recent cabinet meeting at Mendip DC. Cllr Cousins was pleased to inform that his training programme has now been completed.

Cllr Cottle (written report) mentioned the reintroduction of free parking in the run up to Christmas. He also mentioned the free parking of coaches prior to Christmas. Finally, he supports Markets and will be encouraging an improvement in the promotion, publicity etc.

**112. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

The schedule of payments was presented and following questions, signed off by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

**113. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

The budget monitoring report was presented and following a few points of clarification were signed off by the Mayor.

**114. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS**

- a. 5G – Cllr Smyth informed that the group is continuing to meet and is gathering evidence. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> November.
- b. Climate Emergency – The event held in the small hall on Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> October attracted more people than the hall could accommodate. Four speakers presented and with the benefit of hindsight, perhaps too much had been included in the event. A second day is planned for mid-January when the large hall will be used.
- c. Frost Fayre – Cllr Tucker informed that all the arrangements seemed to be coming together. The next meeting will look at logistics including a final run through of operations etc.

**115. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

- a. Cllr Lund provided an overview of the work of the partnership. The role of the Town Council in the partnership was questioned, particularly as the meetings are organised and recorded by the town clerk, with agendas and minutes being distributed on council headed paper. There is acknowledgement that a Terms of Reference is required which will better inform the purpose and identify the workstreams of the partnership.
- b. Cllr Tucker informed that a bulb planting session has been organised for Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November commencing at 10.00am when bulbs that have been retrieved from planters etc will be replanted at a location near the foot of the Tor.
- c. Cllr Lund informed of a recent visit to Stroud where the subject of Climate Change was discussed with people from other location including Frome and Totnes. Discussions included sustainable co-housing, environmental initiatives, eco-friendly lifestyles community participation and self-reliance. It is anticipated that the next conference will take place in Glastonbury.
- d. Cllr Outten shared the detail of readings gathered from Nitrous Oxide monitors taken at various locations throughout the town. Of particular note was the lower than expected results gathered in the High Street and the higher than average readings at various locations on the A361. Further research needs to be undertaken to make the report more meaningful.

**116. MOTIONS:**

- a) Proposed by Cllr MacDougall, seconded by Cllr Roney-Dougal.

In order to facilitate the successful implementation of our Climate Emergency and Earth Protector aims and objectives, this council will employ a part-time Climate Emergency and Resilience Officer from April 2020.

Cllr MacDougall informed why there is a need to employ a professionally trained person who understands the actions required to help the council deliver it's aim of

being carbon neutral by 2025. Ideas to be considered for the work programme include the introduction of a car club, energy clinics, waste management. Cllr Tucker suggested that the employment of a Regeneration Officer could include the skills required to deliver climate emergency and resilience.

Cllr Keery proposed an amendment to the motion, seconded by Cllr Tucker that the requirement to employ a Climate Change and Resilience Officer is referred to the Staffing Committee. The amendment was defeated 4-7-0

The original motion was then put to the vote and approved by a majority of 7-0-4

b) Proposed by Cllr Roney-Dougal, seconded by Cllr MacDougall

In light of the growing success of Glastonbury's Beltane celebrations on May 1<sup>st</sup> and this council's wish to encourage to the positive promotion of tourism, this council will facilitate and ensure an annual road closure on 1<sup>st</sup> May from 10.00am – 2.00pm.

This motion was passed 9-0-2

#### **117. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

The Mayor informed that she has attended the SW in Bloom presentation ceremony in Newquay where Glastonbury received a gold award and trophy. In addition, Herbies Field was recognised for its community involvement and was highly commended.

#### **118. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a. The clerk had previously circulated the response sent to The Strategic Commissioning Manager at Somerset County Council with regards to the roads consultation. To date, no reply has been received. The same letter was sent to the Deputy CEO at Mendip DC, Tracy Aarons.
- b. A request that the mayor of Glastonbury is to automatically be the patron for Glastonbury Male Voice Choir was unanimously supported.
- c. The Clerk presented the three priorities of the council following the prioritisation exercise recently conducted. In equal first position was Climate Change and the renovation of St Dunstan's House to a community hub. In third place was dealing with Anti-social behaviour.

#### **119. CORRESPONDENCE**

Information was shared on the work of Age UK, a support organisation who help predominately older people.

Cllr Wyke, Leader of Mendip DC responded to the clerks letter regarding the future of the land to the north of the green burial field. She informed that any aspirations the Town Council may have to develop this land are to be put on hold until such time as further research has been undertaken.

#### **120. NEWS RELEASES**

Bulb planting at the Tor on Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> November

#### **121. ACTIONS**

To inform the Glastonbury Community Partnership of the need to prepare a  
Terms of Reference

The meeting closed at 10.05pm

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Worshipful Mayor  
10<sup>th</sup> December 2019