



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 10th March 2020 at 7pm

- PRESENT:** Councillors S Barnet, L Browne, J Coles, J Cousins, S Henderson, J Keery, P Lund, L MacDougall, D Michell (Mayor), I Mutch, B Outten, C Prior, M Smyth, S Roney-Dougal and I Tucker.
- APOLOGIES:** Cllr Cottle and County Councillor Napper
- IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk
Claire Crumpton, Terry Dowden – Macebearers
County Councillor Leyshon
-

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION TOOK PLACE FROM 7.00PM

Subjects raised included:

Bretenoux Road unauthorised traveller encampments
Closure of the parent and child Sure Start programme in the library
West Mendip Hospital consultation regarding its future
Climate change, carbon footprint and public transport

179. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST .

180. APPROVAL AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2020.

The minutes of the meeting held on 11th February were considered an accurate record and signed by the Mayor.

181. SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS

Cllr Cousins proposed, seconded by Cllr Barnet and unanimously approved that Standing Orders be suspended to allow a debate on a suggestion presented by Cllr Leyshon. The motion, subsequently agreed informs 'That this Council supports the proposal (such as the introduction of double yellow lines) for parking restrictions as submitted by the County Council. Subsequent to the debate and motion being approved, residents are encouraged to participate in consultation for a Traffic Regulation Order with Somerset County Council. Residents are also encouraged to report incidents of anti-social behaviour to the police using the 101 telephone number or their on-line service.

182. POLICE REPORT

A written report was tabled for councillors. In summary, PC Moyle informed crime reduction visits continue following a spate of burglaries. Anti-social behaviour issues are continually being monitored and addressed. Incidents of vehicle damage and vandalism were mentioned. Cuppa with a Copper continues at cafes around the town.

183. TOWN DEAL FUND

Cllr Tucker informed that the appointment of the Board is now complete, although there is an embargo on the recent additions until 11.00am on 11th March. The next meeting of the Board will take place on the 20th March at 2.00pm. At a meeting held earlier, attended by the District Councillors and Cllrs Tucker and Leyshon, it became evident that the £140,000 funding awarded by the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (MHCLG) is all that is available for consultation and preparation of a detailed business plan with costs. This may require a rethink of the decision to employ a Regeneration Officer in the current climate. Cllr Tucker also informed that Glastonbury Town Council are not permitted to lead on the consultation process as they are not on the register of qualified consultants.

184. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER THE MINUTES OF:

- a. **Planning committee held on 18th February 2020** – Cllr Browne presented the minutes which were noted. From these minutes, item (k) 2 Meare Road was discussed more fully, particularly attempting to understand whether the Planning Officer or Planning Board made the decision to approve this application contrary to the recommendation of the Town Council. *(It appears from the Mendip DC planning website that the application was referred to the Planning Board by the ward member, which was subsequently the request was overturned by both the Chairman and Vice Chairman)*

185. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Leyshon's report was tabled. The main points being:

- a. Continuation of involvement of the Glastonbury Living Spaces Panel at Mendip DC to resolve the issues of unauthorised encampments.
- b. Glastonbury Town Fund and the appointment of Cllr David Hall to be the elected county representative, possibly shadowed by Cllr Leyshon.
- c. Small Improvement Schemes include the introduction of a 20mph zone in locations around the town. There is a requirement to meet with a county Officer which is suggested for 24th March to resolve an issue.
- d. Red Brick Building and St Dunstan's House have both been recipients of the Improving Lives Fund.
- e. SCC are hosting a 5G meeting in County Hall on 11th March.

186. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr Henderson's report was tabled. He informed that he has involved with:

- a. The Glastonbury Living Spaces meeting and hope to soon be able to report a resolution to the unauthorised encampment issues at Pomparles Bridge.
- b. Wyrral Park Bowls club who are hoping to renew their lease with Fusion and have ambitious plans for an expanded clubhouse.
- c. The withdrawing of the Village Green application from the Friends of Tor Leisure.
- d. Celebrating ten years of 'open mic' nights at The Hawthorns.

Cllr MacDougall informed that she has involved with:

- I. Debates at Cabinet regarding homelessness and in particular how an improvement to planning procedure may be able to assist.
- II. Discussions on resolving the number of unauthorised encampments in the area.
- III. 570 trees to be planted locally as part of the District Councils bio-diversity plan of action

- IV. Continued work on the preparation of Mendip DC's climate, carbon and equality footprint.

Cllr Cousins informed that he attended the Full Council meeting and successfully helped progress a motion to ensure all electricity is obtained through renewable sources.

A question on the level of precept being charged in 2020/21 received the answer that the District Council is raising the precept by the maximum amount

188. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

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

189. BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

The budget monitoring report was presented and following a few points of clarification were initialled by the Mayor. A question regarding the presentation of the Frost Fayre income was raised, which the clerk will seek clarification on and report back to Councillors.

190. GLASTONBURY CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD

The Town Clerk informed that nominations for the annual Glastonbury Citizen of the Year award closed earlier that day and that nine nominations have been received.

191. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

- a. 5G – The most recent meeting received a report from Chris Baker a member of the group and via a skype link to Professor Butler who is based in Ireland. Councillors are to meet on 24th March to discuss the summary reports submitted to the council by non-councillors who remain on the group.
- b. Climate and Emergency Group are proposing to meet again on 21st March. Projects that they are working towards delivering include the Eco Homes growers Community Land Trust and the Fridge project for distribution of excess chilled food. The Climate Emergency Action Plan has been circulated to all councillors. The Clerk informed that he had undertaken some research on Solar Streets and informed that whilst Mendip DC had allowed the use of their logo to brand the initiative, they did not endorse IDDEA. Frome Town Council informed that they had undergone a due – diligence programme and were comfortable that the organisation are sound. Cllr Henderson proposed, seconded by Cllr Smyth that Glastonbury Town Council supports the Solar Streets initiative to encourage solar panel installation, whilst keeping options of supply open to other companies. This was **APPROVED** 13-2-0

192. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

- a. Glastonbury Community Partnership. Cllr Henderson reported that a report had been received on homelessness, particularly for young adults and teenagers. Signage and information promoting the Community Alcohol Partnership has been ordered for distribution and display locally. PCSO Mel Rowlands is preparing an information sheet which will outline the standards of behaviour which are unacceptable and where additional support can be obtained.

193. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS.

The Mayor informed that she is to attend a seminar in Bere hosted by SW in Bloom with Cllr Prior. Cllr Cousins and the Mayor are organising an Earth Protector event on 2nd May in the Town Hall.

194. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a. An update from Glastonbury Chamber of Commerce was tabled which included information on two pending events – Tourism Symposium on 12th March and a presentation entitled 'The art of being brilliant' on Wednesday 11th March.
- b. Copy of an email received from Donna Landy with regards to the Fields in Trust and Village Green closure at Tor Leisure.
- c. Copy of a letter distributed to residents local to Tor Leisure informing them of the situation.
- d. Summary document of the Mendip DC Corporate Plan.

195. CORRESPONDENCE

- a. Letter received from Cllr David Fothergill, Leader of Somerset County Council asking if he can attend a meeting to address councillors on the subject of a Unitary Authority.
- b. Email correspondence received from Cllr Leyshon informing that the Glastonbury to Pilton section of the Major Road Network has been withdrawn. On receipt of the minute from the Peninsula Group, this will be displayed on the Town Council's website.

196. NEWS RELEASES

It was agreed to produce a news release on the consultation process with the NHS on the Fit for my Future programme, with particular emphasis on the proposed closure of mental health facilities in Wells and the review of the Minor Injuries Unit at West Mendip Hospital.

197. ACTIONS

The Clerk is to:

- a. Write formally to the NHS and inform of the concern of the council on the future delivery of services in Glastonbury.
- b. Pursue a response from Professor Butler via Chris Baker on the question of non-biased balanced research on non-thermal impacts of technology.

The meeting closed at 9.55pm before going into confidential session to discuss:

- c. Nominations for the 2020 Citizen of the Year
- d. Informal discussion to consider the position of Deputy Mayor
- e. To consider a draft of the business continuity plan in the event of widespread coronavirus.

Signed _____

Worshipful Mayor
14th April 2020