

## Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 7pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors: J Barron (Deputy Mayor), A Black, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, N Cottle, Cousins, J Keery, M Free (left the meeting at 8pm), I Forster, S Henderson, W Knight, D Michell, H Sharp, S Shepherd, S Thurgood (Mayor), I Tucker

**APOLOGIES:** County Councillor A Gloak

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk  
PC M Pople  
County Councillor T Napper  
Gary Knight – Macebearer  
Terry Dowden – Macebearer  
Town Crier – David Greenway

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### Public participation

Sara Clay who has retired as Chair of the GDCT introduced her replacement, Helen Roper. Clare Anderson, who volunteers in the Opp Shop was also introduced. She has joined the Board and is responsible for Community Relations.

Tanya Dawson, Paddington Farm Trust informed the Council of their new metal recycling scheme which they hope to launch at the Frost Fayre.

Angela Friend complained about upgrading of traffic lights at the bottom of Benedict Street as an unnecessary expense.

The Mayor introduced Stephen Power who has volunteered for the new Youth Council.

### 83. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

### 84. APPOINTMENT OF TOWN CRIER

It was proposed by Councillor Thurgood, seconded by Councillor Michell and unanimously **RESOLVED** to appoint David Greenway as Town Crier for Glastonbury.

### 85. BRIDGING THE GAP – GLASTONBURY FOOD BANK

A volunteer from Glastonbury Food Bank explained how the schemes works and clarified that clients are recommended to the scheme by Social Services. She said they were looking for a larger store in the Town and asked people to contact them if they knew of a suitable venue in Glastonbury. At this time of year the Food bank would be grateful for extras to go in the Christmas boxes. ie. crackers, chocolates etc.

## **86. REPORT FROM MEMBER OF THE GLASTONBURY BEAT TEAM**

The next PACT meeting will be held on 4.12.2013. PC Pople asked Councillors to encourage members of the community to attend. He passed on apologies from Sergeant Spikes for the Police Cadets being unable to attend the Remembrance Day Parade but said they would attend the Frost Fayre.

Councillor Cousins said that he and Councillor Michell had a constructive meeting with Inspector Nicholson following inappropriate policing by Police from other areas during the Fracking Event in Glastonbury earlier in the year.

Councillor Tucker asked for gentle policing at the Frost Fayre.

## **87. UPDATE REGARDING CHARGING POINT FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES FOR ST DUNSTAN'S CAR PARK**

Councillor Free explained that the Town Council had been offered two charging units for the car park and that the offer ends on 15<sup>th</sup> November 2013. He reported that three spaces would be needed to service two machines and the cost of installation would be £497.84 plus VAT. Councillors required further information regarding the cost of running the machines (ie. electricity, loss of car park income, potential usage and whether the Council could charge people for the service. It was **AGREED** the matter should be passed to the Property and Assets Committee for further investigation and in the meantime the Town Clerk should ask the company for an extension on the offer.

Councillor Free left the meeting.

## **88. MINUTES**

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 8<sup>th</sup> October 2013, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a true record. Councillor Cousins reminded Councillors that Patrick Whitefield should be included in negotiations regarding the fence at Folliott Road woods.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Burial Board held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2013, were noted. Councillor Tucker said that the budget may need to be reconsidered in order to ensure a positive balance is retained at the end of the 2014-2015 financial year.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2013, were received and noted.

## **89. BUDGET REPORT**

The budget report to the 31<sup>st</sup> October 2013 was considered by Councillors and a copy attached to the official minutes. The Town Clerk pointed out that the budget figure for remissions would be exceeded by the end of the year and the Council may need to vire monies from another fund to cover the shortfall. She said this can be dealt with in March 2014.

## **90. 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.

## **91. EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013**

The report was noted. The Town Clerk said that she was in dispute with the Auditor over how the loan payments are reported and that she would be reviewing the Financial Regulations at the next Finance and General Purposes meeting. Internal controls will be documented in future and all recommendations from the internal and external auditors will be acted upon.

## **92. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Reports were received from the District Councillors.

Councillor Brunsdon reported on the Somerset Preservation Trust, the Morland's site and fly-tipping. He commented that the upgrade to the traffic lights mentioned earlier may have been the result of Section 106 monies.

Councillor Black said that the Holy Thorn on Wearyall Hill looks a mess. Councillor Brunsdon said that the guard had been provided by the Conservation Society. He confirmed that there is a definitive footpath on Wearyall Hill so there would be no need to create a footpath.

Councillor Cousins thanked Councillor Coles for his written report.

Councillor Coles provided a written report and mentioned that Somerset Rural Youth Network is looking for a Chairman.

Councillor S Henderson said there was a delay with the review of late night opening of an establishment in Glastonbury. The Town Clerk said the Town Council had supported a review but she had been told by the Licensing Department that due to a mistake in procedure it had been delayed. Councillor Coles had been told that the application had been withdrawn. She was asked to write to the Chief Executive for clarification on the matter.

Councillor Cottle said he hoped to sit on the task and finish group for Scrutiny for solar and wind farms.

## **93. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT**

A written report was received from Councillor Gloak.

Councillor Napper provided a verbal report. He said that he had made an application on behalf of the Town Council for funding for a small improvement scheme which should address the lack of signage between car parks. He informed the Council that the Heritage Service will be moved to a Charitable Trust to include the Rural Life Museum. Councillor Cottle asked the County Councillor to find out where the revenue from the Museum car park goes and whether the staff from the museum will be redeployed during renovations. Councillor Tucker said that the Museum and car park need to be transferred to the Trust as a package in order to protect the land. He was also concerned about future of the County Archaeologist and other Heritage staff. He asked Councillor Napper to speak to the Highway engineers about the matter at Ashwell Lane to address the flooding before the cold weather arrives.

Councillor Napper was also asked to arrange for a missing parking restriction sign to be replaced in Butt Close as the Civil Parking Enforcement officers are unable to act without signs in place.

#### **94. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

- a) Councillor Cottle reported on the good work of the Citizens' Advice Bureau.
- b) Councillor Sharp said he remains concerned about the Village Green application for the Benedict Street playing field and the fact that should it succeed the site will stay as it is, poorly drained and unable to be utilised as a sport ground by Tor Sport and Leisure.

He suggested calling a meeting with the applicants, Friends of Tor Leisure, Town Council, Mendip District Council, County Council and residents in an effort to allay any fears the applicants may have regarding the future development of the site. Councillor Sharp, Tucker and Henderson agreed to represent the Town Council.

#### **95. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS**

The Mayor reported that there had been a full and frank discussion at the Coat of Arms working group and that a follow up meeting will be called in January 2014.

Councillor Barron said the Great War working group is progressing its ideas for the commemoration next year. A stall asking for local memorabilia will be run at the Frost Fayre.

#### **96. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had represented the Town at 24 events since the last meeting. She thanked Councillor Barron for assisting with the Poppy Appeal this year and said that the Poppy Appeal Concert she had organised was well attended. She had attended a Somerset Community Fund event where she learned that SCF will receive a grant from EDF.

The Mayor asked Councillors whether they thought the Town Council should create an appeal for the Philippine Disaster. This was supported by members and it was agreed that the Mayor should discuss the matter with others in the Town who may be collecting for the same cause.

#### **97. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Coles reminded Councillors that the Mayor would be hosting a welcome evening at the Town Hall for visitors from Patmos on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2013 at 7pm. All Councillors and their partners are invited.

Councillor Knight said that Alex Sherman of the Levels & Moors Partnership had invited Councillors to the Levels & Moors Centre on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2013 at 2.30pm.

Councillor Michell asked for volunteers for the Frost Fayre on 30<sup>th</sup> November 2013.

Councillor Barron said that volunteers are needed to help with the flower and vegetable garden at St Dunstan's School. He thanked the Mayor for organising an excellent Poppy Concert.

## **98. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following information was noted:

- a) Somerset Highways – Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 – Temporary Road Closure - Silver Street, Chilkwell Street and Lambrook Street – Road to be closed from 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2013 for 2 days to enable resurfacing remedial works to be carried out.

The following information was considered:

- b) Avon and Somerset Police & Crime Commissioner Newsletter – October 2013
- c) Somerset Highways – Ashwell Lane – Progress update – November 2013 - Councillor Tucker asked the County Councillors to speak again to the engineer
- d) Information received from Paul Branson regarding funding for Armed Forces Day
- e) Mendip District Council – Polling Districts and Polling Places Review

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**Mayor, 10<sup>th</sup> December 2013**