



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 12th September 2017 at 7pm in the Council Chamber at Glastonbury Town Hall

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

APOLOGIES: Councillor A Black

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
Terry Dowden – Macebearer
Gary Knight - Macebearer
Liz Leyshon, County Councillor

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Chris Lavis reported that a) there is a 20 foot gap in the fence near the Morrison's bund b) hedges near the bypass have been trimmed but the debris has not been removed; There is a lack of maintenance taking place at Tor Leisure culminating in blocked gullies with stagnant water. He was also concerned about the lack of investment in sports facilities for Glastonbury. County Councillor Liz Leyshon agreed to meet with Mr Lavis to discuss the tennis court area at the bottom of Benedict Street.

Ian Fraser reported people sleeping in vans in Morrison's car park.

Carolyn Blair reported that lorries are mounting the kerb outside her house in Chilkwell Street and her rubbish bin regularly gets pushed down the street by vehicles. The County Councillors will meet with Carolyn to look into what can be done.

John Ravenscroft reported on continuing anti-social behaviour including 'boy racers' in the High Street. He complained about the lack of consultation with businesses over the siting of the Fair in St John's Car Park.

Indra Donfranceso reported on the new Friends of the Earth Group and the national campaign to create a Bee wildlife corridor. She urged people to attend a film about fracking called 'The Bentley Effect' at the Town Hall on 23rd September 2017.

The Mayor read a statement regarding the Fair and said that a Town Meeting will be called after the Fair to discuss its affect on the Town.

74. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

75. REPORT FROM POLICE

PC Mark Pople reported that three vehicles had moved onto the car park at the rugby club and the legal process to remove them had begun. He had patrolled the Fair the previous evening with no issues of anti-social behaviour apart from dealing with a complaint from Henry Chipperfield that someone had threatened to blow up the Fair. The team will keep a close eye on proceedings. With regard to people rough sleeping PC Pople reported that Mendip will house people with local connections and encourage others to return to where they were previously living. Elim outreach workers provided an excellent service and work with rough sleepers to try and get them into bricks and mortar accommodation but some people decline assistance. He will inform the traffic department about lorries mounting the kerb in Chilkwell Street. The next PACT meeting is on 15th November at the Town Hall at 7pm.

76. REPORT FROM CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Paul Manning reported on the last Breakfast meeting when the Mayor and Deputy Mayor spoke about the Glastonbury Community Christmas Meal. James Heapey MP is the guest speaker at the next Breakfast meeting at Tor Rugby Club on 9th October at 8am. High Street and Accommodation provider sub groups are being formed to look at promoting Glastonbury and attracting more visitors to the town. Evening meeting will be introduced during the autumn. There are now 70 members and there are ongoing discussions on whether to alter the name to Glastonbury Chamber of Commerce and Tourism. Paul confirmed Mendip Chambers of Commerce meet regularly with Kelly Knight from Mendip District Council.

77. MINUTES

a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 11th August 2017 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record with the following amendments:

i) Item 65 Page 19 - an addition of 'dependent on the donation of a raffle prize' to the last sentence.

ii) Item 66 Page 19 – 'Friends of Glastonbury Abbey' to be replaced with 'Friends of Abbey House'.

iii) Item 69 Page 20 – '12th September 2017' should read '12th August 2017'.

b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 22nd August 2017 were received.

c) The minutes of the A361 Committee held on 24th August 2017 were received. Councillor Keery pointed out that the MP was present at the meeting. Councillor Abbott informed Councillors that she has been talking to the Neighbourhood Planning Officer about including plans for a bypass in the Neighbourhood Plan. Councillor Tucker said that if the town is to get a bypass there will need to be an honest discussion with the public about economic development. He encouraged Chamber of Commerce members to attend the breakfast meeting to hear what James Heapey has to say on the matter.

d) The minutes of the meeting of the Property and Assets Committee held on 6th September 2017, were received. Councillor Knight said that he had suggested that the garden room in St Dunstan's House could be used as a dementia hub. Councillor Cousins suggested that Avalon Community Energy could work with the Town Council on the purchase of the solar panels from SBS.

78. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillors Coles provided a written report. He hoped that Street Parish Council would reconsider reversing their decision to stop financially supporting the Opp Shop, currently run by Glastonbury Community Development Trust.

Councillor Cousins asked why the letter sent to residents informing them of the Tor Fair was signed from Glastonbury Town Council when it was not. Councillor Coles apologised if the letter had been misleading.

Councillor Henderson said that he will check on the fencing at Morrison's. He took the opportunity to remind Councillors to be careful about how they comment on social media.

Councillor Cottle said that in his opinion the District Council should be subsidising rodent control and will investigate the matter raised in correspondence.

Councillor Tucker asked about the negotiations between the Town Council and Mendip District Council about the land adjacent to the cemetery. Councillor Cottle said that he was waiting for a date for a meeting with the Deputy Town Clerk. The Town Clerk was asked to liaise with the Deputy Town Clerk.

79. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

The County Councillors provided written reports.

Councillor Leyshon reminded the Council that small improvement schemes need to be in by the end of October. Discussion took place over the possible schemes and it was **RESOLVED** to request that priority is given to the 20 mph limit through Glastonbury and a zebra crossing at Chilkwell Street.

Councillors Napper and Thurgood abstained from the vote.

Councillor Napper said that to increase visibility the zebra crossing at Street Road needs the addition of a halo at the cost of £1500.

Councillor Keery asked the County Councillors to investigate why the 5 vans illegally parked behind the Bocabar have not been moved on.

80. 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.

81. BUDGET REPORT

The budget report to 31st August 2017 was circulated to Councillors and duly noted.

82. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor provided a written report of her activities on behalf of the Town Council since the last meeting.

83. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Coles reported that the Blessing of the Fair will take place on at 11.45am on 13th September.

Councillor Cousins reported that the Fair Trade Steering Group had a stall at the Harvest Show. Oxfam donated a hamper and people were encouraged to complete surveys about their understanding of Fairtrade.

Councillor Thurgood reported that the Poppy Appeal Concert will take place on 20th October 2017 featuring the Glastonbury Town Band. She informed the Council that the twinning between Glastonbury Abbey and Maillezais, France seems to have lapsed and that the Friends of the Abbey organised their own trip this year. She suggested that maybe the Town would like to take this on as there is no other link with a French town since the Bretenoux link dissolved.

Councillor Brunsdon reported on the Heritage open day at Glastonbury Tribunal on 10th September.

84. WORKING GROUPS

Councillor Coles reported that the Tor Fair working group scheduled for 15th August did not take place.

85. OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Knight reported on his attendance at the Mendip Health and Wellbeing and the plans for creating dementia friendly towns in Mendip.

The Mayor reported on the progress of the Glastonbury Community Christmas Lunch group. She and the Deputy Mayor have purchased equipment to meet most of their needs. Fund raising continues and a request for donations has gone out to local businesses. The Quakers are now involved and are providing volunteers. More baking trays, saucepans with lids and cutlery is required.

86. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was noted:

- a) Letter from South West Heritage Trust informing the Council of the the return of the sculpture of Jack Stag to safe storage in the Tribunal, Glastonbury

- b) Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner Newsletter
- c) Somerset County Council – Advance notification of major road works 20th to 29th October 2017. Councillors pointed out that there could be implications for postal deliveries and refuse collection.

The following correspondence was considered:

- d) Email from Kevin Spears re rats in Chalice Hill Close. Councillor Cottle said that he would contact Mr Spears.

Mayor, 10th October 2017