



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 13th November 2018 at Glastonbury Town Hall at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: D Abbott (Mayor), J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, N Cottle, S Henderson, J Keery, T Napper, L MacDougall, D Michell, S Thurgood, I Tucker

APOLOGIES: Councillors G Avalon, A Black, J Cousins, E George, W Knight

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
County Councillor L Leyshon

Public participation – 8 members of the public took the opportunity to speak.

Topics raised included:

- Unofficial Traveller encampment
- Anti-social Behaviour response
- Proposed closure of the Get Set service
- Tor Leisure Field and Fusion Management

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

108. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

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

PC Moyse had forwarded a report prior to the meeting which was read in full by the Mayor. In summary, there continues to be a reduction in the incidence of anti-social behaviour in Glastonbury following the numerous initiatives that have been put into place. The Community Partnership is now working effectively in drawing together the expertise of many different organisations. The Day of Action where representatives of organisations operate from the High Street is continuing to be a success. PC Moyse was grateful for the Town Council's generosity in allowing the police to use Unit 2 in St Dunstan's car park as a base.

110. REPORT FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

The Chairman, Paul Manning informed that there is now a new committee at the Glastonbury Chamber of Commerce. Members have reported that the levels of anti-social behaviour has reduced, yet is at times still unacceptable. Consultation with the Police and Crime Commissioner has been welcomed. Membership remains at approximately 80 businesses. The breakfast meetings have now finished for this year and have proved successful with a broad range of topics covered.

111. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 9th October 2018 were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 23rd October 2018 were noted.
- e) The minutes of the meeting of the A361 Committee held on 1st November 2018 were accepted
- f) The meeting of the Property and Assets Committee held on 7th November 2018 were accepted.

112. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Coles had not attended any meetings since the last Town Council meeting and had nothing to report.

Councillor Brunsdon verbally informed that Mendip District Council Planning Officers have informed that the recently painted retail premises at the top of the High Street will need to apply for retrospective consent for the mural painted on it. Similarly, signage on Street Road will require planning consent. The amount of resource required by Mendip District Council to respond to the constant demands of dealing with unauthorised encampments is unsustainable. It was proposed by Cllr Brunsdon, seconded by Cllr Tucker and unanimously **AGREED** that the Town Council writes to the CEO of Mendip DC suggesting that the two councils work collaboratively to reduce the impact of unauthorised encampments.

Councillor Henderson provided a written report. In addition, he noted that a recently painted retail premises in the High Street was strikingly bright and he would inform the planning authority.

Councillor Cottle informed that he was in receipt of the suggested amendments to the Local Plan II and had shared the document with the Town Clerk. The previous Car Park review has been suspended and a revised review is soon to commence. A number of Planning Officers have left the employment of the council which is creating a back log of applications.

In response the following questions were raised:

- i. Might the strategic placement of boulders at Pomparles Bridge prevent unauthorised access to the area? The Town Clerk was asked to write to Cllr Taylor the Portfolio Holder for his guidance.
- ii. There are many departments within Mendip DC that are struggling to present sufficient staff to operate efficiently including Planning, Enforcement and Licensing. Is Mendip DC prepared to raise its precept sufficiently to ensure these positions are filled?
- iii. Support for the continuation of the Citizens Advice Bureau is considered extremely important for the residents of Glastonbury. A full report is awaited from the CAB on the outcomes of their activities. Meanwhile demand for access to Food Banks and support through the Opp's Shop remain very high.

113. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Leyshon provided a written report. In addition, she informed:

That consultation has commenced with determining the future delivery of leisure services as 1610 will be ceasing to operate from 8 locations across the county, including St Dunstan's School, Glastonbury. Somerset County Council stand to save £927,000 annually by not delivering the 1610 contract.

There is to be an On Road Parking review. Glastonbury is in the second wave of research with this strategy.

That the amount of single use plastic used in the Remembrance wreaths was disturbing, requesting that anyone with influence over the purchasing of wreaths considers alternative biodegradable ones.

In response, the following points were raised:

- i. Appreciation for the assistance with resolving the issues at Wick Lane was extended.
- ii. The Chilwell Street crossing point seems to have met with an impasse as the available officer time to prepare the detailed plans is predicted to be 18 months. It was **RESOLVED** that all councillors need to apply pressure whenever they can to try to get the works completed during the planned road closure in 2019. Further, it was proposed by Cllr Tucker, seconded by Cllr Cottle and unanimously **AGREED** to approach John Roberts and ask if he would consider drawing up the plans for the works.

Councillor Napper tabled a written report. Included was the detail of a recent visit to West Mendip hospital. The parking of cars close to the junction of Underwood Road and Austin Road continues to create a problem. Information from meetings attended included Health Care Somerset, home advice service to help vulnerable people and the audit review of Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority. Design of the cooling plant at Hinkley Point C is causing concern with an anticipated unacceptable level of fish killed. The systems being incorporated is to be reviewed.

In response, Councillors raised a concern that wifi was inaccessible at West Mendip hospital. Cllr Napper agreed to contact the matron and ask why the facility is not available.

114. 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 Tucker

115. BUDGET REPORT

The budget report to 13TH November 2018 was circulated to Councillors and duly noted.

116. MOTION

The following motion was proposed by Cllr Tucker and seconded by the Mayor, Cllr Abbott. *That Glastonbury Town Council explores whether the current expenditure in support of youth services would be of greater benefit if the funds were made available to employ a dedicated youth worker.* Following an extensive debate in which it was concluded that further research in to the provision of youth services would be of interest. The findings may identify areas of activity that could be enhanced and areas that are being under utilised. The Town Clerk was asked to lead the study which is to include the provision of support services to the 0-4 age group as well as the more traditional youth services.

Proposed by Cllr Tucker, Seconded by Cllr Keery and **AGREED** that the wording of the motion is amended to read: *That Glastonbury Town Council asks the Town Clerk to explore whether the current expenditure of young peoples services would be of greater benefit if the funds were made available to employ a dedicated youth worker.* The motion was carried. In favour 10, against 1.

117. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Since the last meeting The Mayor had represented the Town on 11 occasions including Commemorative Services for remembrance.

118. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) Martock Community support programme

The Mayor informed that she had attended a presentation by the Chairman and Clerk to Martock Parish Council. The precept has been raised considerably to create a delivery mechanism for the delivery of numerous services. The council is now locally accountable for providing youth services, care support for the elderly and infirm. Proposed by Cllr Cottle, seconded by Cllr Keery and **AGREED** that both the Chairman and clerk to Martock Parish Council are invited to attend a meeting of the council to share their experiences. In favour 7, against 1, abstentions 2. It was **RESOLVED** not to consider a visit to Martock to view the services provided.

b) Twinning, Kunisaki, Japan.

The Chamber of Commerce responded, informing that they saw little economic benefit twinning with a city so far away. During the discussion on this item, it was concluded that whilst the educational gain would be of benefit, it needs interested people to be invited to participate with the initiative. Should there be sufficient interest, then a meeting will be called where Paul Crossley from Bath will be invited to present the opportunity. In the first instance a news release is to be prepared and distributed.

119. REPORT FROM THE CHAIR OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN STEERING GROUP

In the absence of the Chair, the Town Clerk provided a brief overview of the Neighbourhood Plan, informing that the plan was almost ready for submission to Mendip DC. He further suggested that it would be appropriate for the Steering Group to present to the town council the research undertaken, conclusions reached and policies to be presented. He suggested that the December agenda would be an appropriate meeting to present this report, subject to the availability of the chair of the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group.

120. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS

No reports were presented

121. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

The Opportunities Shop (Opp's Shop) is looking for a replacement for Sara Clay who is looking to retire.

122. CORRESPONDENCE

- i. Mendip DC informed that the road closure for Glastonbury Carnival on Saturday 17th November has been approved.
- ii. Somerset County Council have provided information on the proposed County wide parking review. Glastonbury will be in the second level of research.

- iii. YMCA informed that Karen Deverell has received national recognition for her sterling work in support of Glastonbury's youth clubs. She was '*praised by the judges for working tirelessly to build a sustainable organisation, but never losing focus on the importance of young people.*' It was **RESOLVED** that the Town Clerk is to write to Karen and congratulate her on this prestigious recognition.

123. PRESS RELEASES

- i. The Citizens Advice Bureau are now providing benefits advice from the Doctors surgery at Faversham Lane
- ii. Invitation to attend a presentation on the opportunities of twinning with Kunisaki, Japan.

Mayor, 11th December 2018