

Meeting of Glastonbury Town Council held at Glastonbury Town Hall on Tuesday 6th November 2007 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: A Andrews, C Barry, T Billing, J Brunsdon MBE (Mayor), J Coles, S Cox, M Free, L Hull, E James, J Keery, W Knight, P Preston, H Sharp, I Tucker, J White

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk

The Mayor said a prayer prior to commencement of proceedings.

Public participation prior to meeting

- a) Mike King asked Councillors to provide a bottle of drink for a prize for the bingo session being held in aid of the Martha Care Trust on 8th December 2007.
- b) Patrick Whitefield spoke regarding the Farmers' Market and problems they have had with advertising.
- c) Loka Bandu spoke regarding Transition Towns and the hope that through their work, especially on climate change, they will be able to engage some of the young people in the town.

73. APOLOGIES

Apologies were accepted from Councillor L Browne.

74. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Councillor J White and Councillor J Brunsdon – Personal and prejudicial interest – Glastonbury Abbey.

75. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Councillor Sharp announced with regret that due to personal reasons he would be resigning from the post of Deputy Mayor. He agreed to remain in post until the election of a successor.
- b) The Mayor announced that the President of the Parliament of Lower Saxony, Germany would be visiting the area as a guest of the Avalon Rotary Club and had been invited to the Town Hall on 21st November 2007 at 12noon and to lunch at 12.30pm at Knight's Fish and Chip Restaurant. All Councillors were invited to attend.

76. COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER REPORT

Police Constable Mark Pople reported on the following:

- PACT (Police and Communities Together) meeting on 28th November 2007 at 7pm at the Town Hall. All interested parties are welcome to

attend.

- PCSO Mel Hunter's move to Street
- 2 new PCSO'S starting at the end of the month.
- Community Speed Watch continues to be successful
- Youth provision and his concern that the Youth Disco has closed and the Skateboard Park is unlit and therefore unusable at night

Questions were taken regarding speeding vehicles along Wells Road; possible problems with CCTV at Northload West car park and whether a Speed Watch scheme could be set up in Bove Town.

77. ANTI-SOCIAL BEHAVIOUR

Councillor Preston reported on problems in the Town and recently Benedict Street. Groups of youths have been intimidating the public around Morrisons, damaging car tyres in Benedict Street, drinking alcohol, causing noise pollution and on more than one occasion kept residents awake until 3.30am. On one evening 75-100 youths were drinking in Benedict Street. A resident had spoken about taking matters into his own hands.

Councillor James suggested that the mobile CCTV could be used and maybe this would discourage the behaviour. It was pointed out that this could just move the problem on to elsewhere in the Town and a strategy was needed.

Councillor Billing warned against vigilante type behaviour.

78. YOUTH PROVISION IN GLASTONBURY

Discussion took place regarding youth provision within the Town.

Councillors felt that a youth café would be more attractive as a place to go than the standard youth club.

Councillors were concerned to learn that the skate park is now unlit and there were safety problems ie the electric box had been broken due to people accessing the meter and overriding the timer.

Councillor Hull reported that the County Council had funds to help set up a Youth Council.

RESOLVED to write to the County Council, with a copy to the County Councillor that we look at the Youth Club becoming a Youth Café, secondly write to the District Council with concerns about the skateboard park, offering to be involved in getting the box repaired.

79. 365 BUS SERVICE AT WINDMILL HILL

Councillor Tucker explained that the 365 bus service has ceased. There was a meeting held at St Edmund's Hall when it was explained that the bus company had withdrawn the service as damage to cars etc was costing more than the fares taken. The long term solution seems to be a rerouting of the bus through Windmill Hill which will cause problems creating a clearway. The Council needs to raise it as a public issue and make everyone aware of the problem. Councillor Hull spoke regarding a tenant of Mendip Housing who has created a driveway on his garden which is in contravention of his lease. He has been asked to reinstate the garden by Mendip Housing. She pointed

out that due to heavy rainfall driveways need to be made using a permeable surface to avoid run off.

Car owners also need to be consulted and the Council should be encouraging off street parking.

Councillor Tucker suggested that the Mayor might wish to chair a meeting with Mendip planners etc to come up with a sensible way forward.

80. GLASTONBURY TOWN PLAN

Councillor Hull highlighted the fact that Glastonbury has a Town Plan and that in future documents such as this will play a part in planning strategy for the Town.

She was concerned that she had spoken to a planning officer who confirmed that there were 800 houses planned for Glastonbury over the next 20 years.

81. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORT

A report was tabled in Councillor Gloak's absence.

82. AREA REGENERATION OFFICER REPORT

Ros Wilkins reported on the following:

- Current Investigation into coach parking out of town at the football or rugby clubs
- finger posting in the Town being repainted
- Revamping of tourist information boards
- That the deadline for projects funded by the Area Regeneration Budget was the end of November 2007. She reminded Councillors that projects should address business, amenity, accessibility or community.
- Future plans for the skate board park and that the District Council would be developing Glastonbury skate park as part of their play strategy.
- The Frost Fair would be taking place on 15th December 2007.

Councillor Free asked whether the Twin Towns could be acknowledged on the information boards.

83. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Barron reported that all options on the Morland's site had now been taken up and that work will be starting on the terrace of houses in 2 to 3 months.

Councillor Brunsdon reported that the West Mendip Community Partnership had been given a presentation from Esther Croft, Priority Sites and Urban Splash. The Government Office of the South West have approved Avalon Plastic's application to go on the site and The Mill House has been offered to The Beckery Island Regeneration Trust for renovation.

Councillor Coles passed some information from Urban Splash to the Town Clerk. He also reported complaints from residents about dust and noise from the Taylor Woodrow site.

84. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Transition Town Glastonbury - Councillor Hull reported that a meeting took place last night. Information is available on the internet.

Robert Barton Trust – Councillor Barry reported that there are 16 people sleeping rough in Glastonbury. She wondered whether any of the church halls would be able to open their doors to these people to give them shelter at night.

Councillor James said that the District Council had a duty to house the homeless.

Councillor T Billing reported that the Patmos group had met to discuss the proposal to twin Glastonbury with Patmos.

85. MINUTES

a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 2nd October 2007, which had been circulated to each member with the agenda, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record subject to the amendment that the Glastonbury Harvest Show was organised by Glastonbury Gardeners' Group, Glastonbury Events Management and Transition Town Glastonbury.

b) The minutes of the meeting of the Town Hall Committee held on 2nd October 2007 were received and noted subject to the amendment that Councillors Billing and Knight were in attendance.

c) The minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on 23rd October 2007 were received and noted.

86. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence received since the last meeting was noted.

- a) Letter of complaint from Mrs Lumber regarding closure of Mendip Community Transport Dial-a-Ride service from 1st January 2008
- b) Somerset Highways – Temporary Road Closure – Godney Road
- c) Somerset County Council – Future Waste Planning in Somerset – Issues and Options Consultation – **AGREED** that Councillors Brunsdon, Free, Hull and Cox form a working party to formulate a response
- d) Mendip District Council – Road Closure – Sunday 11th November 2007 for Remembrance Day Parade
- e) DEFRA – Ways to tackle climate change
- f) Somerset County Council – Application to stop up land adjacent to Sedgemoor Way
- g) Mendip District Council – Review of Local Plan Policies by Government Office for the South West
- h) Letter from St John's Church inviting the Council to book a tree for the Christmas Tree Festival – **AGREED** that the Town Clerk should book a tree
- i) Mendip District Council – Consultation on Revision of Statement of Licensing Policy

87. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the schedule of payments, now tabled, 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.

88. BUDGET REPORT

A copy of the revenue budget to 31st September 2007 was circulated to each Councillor for information.

89. CONFIDENTIAL ITEMS

a) CCTV – SERVICE LEVEL AGREEMENT

The Town Clerk had circulated the proposed SLA supplied by the District Council.

Discussion took place regarding the quality of the service and concern was shown regarding the number of cameras, position and quality of images.

Councillor James suggested that the Councillors might like to visit the monitoring station.

RESOLVED that the Council approves the agreement.

The Town Clerk was asked to arrange a visit to the monitoring station and write to the manager again requesting extra cameras and expressing concern about the lighting impairing images in the car parks.

b) GLASTONBURY ABBEY

RESOLVED that Councillor Free, Councillor Tucker and the Town Clerk should negotiate with the tenant of St Dunstan's House regarding land exchanges/purchase and report back to the Council for approval.

Chairman, 4th December 2007