

Meeting of the Council held on 5th December 2006 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: D Allen, J Barron, T Billing, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles (Mayor), E Higgins (Deputy Mayor), N Cottle, A Gloak, E James, H Sharp, J White

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk

APOLOGIES: Councillors: A Andrews, J Keery, K Mitchell, I Tucker

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Ros Wilkins, Area Regeneration Officer informed the Council that the Winter Fayre would be taking place on 8,9,10th December 2006 and that Magdalene Street and the High Street would be closed for the Fayre on the 8th December 2006 from 4pm-10pm. Programmes of events were circulated to members.

She also reported that she was preparing a draft Area Regeneration Budget for 2007/2008 and asked members to inform her of any relevant projects in the Town which could benefit from funding.

The Mayor opened the meeting with a prayer.

At the request of Councillor Gloak it was agreed to give Councillor Andrews a leave of absence for 6 months, due to ill health.

70. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations.

71. REPORT OF COMMUNITY POLICE OFFICER

PC M Pople sent his apologies and in his absence PCSO H Bulpitt reported on the following:

- Issuing of parking tickets at the Tor and Manor House Road
- Increased patrols at Selwood Road
- CCTV monitoring of the Christmas Tree

Questions were taken regarding:

- Persons suspiciously trying cardoor handles in St John's Car Park
- Horse belonging to a member of the travelling community which was regularly tethered on the footpath outside St John's Church soiling area
- Young children ringing doorbells and disturbing households in Northload Street at 3am
- Government cutting funding for PCSO's

72. CO-OPTION OF COUNCILLOR FOR ST BENEDICT'S WARD

Following the disqualification of Councillor J Billing due to non-attendance at meetings the vacancy had been advertised. As an election was not called for within the allotted timescale, applications for the co-option of a Councillor were received from Laiqa Browne, William R J Knight, Hazel Pegg, Paul Preston, Ian Thomson, Martin Wheeler and David Wood. Statements from the candidates had been circulated to Councillors with the agenda. At the meeting a voting slip was provided to each Councillor. Each Councillor then placed a mark against their preferred candidate and the votes were collected. The Town Clerk and Area Regeneration Officer verified the votes and the Mayor announced that William Knight had gained an overall majority of 7 votes and therefore gained the seat.

73. DECLARATION OF ACCEPTANCE OF OFFICE BY NEW COUNCILLOR

Mr W Knight read and signed the declaration of acceptance of office which was countersigned by the Town Clerk.

Following a request from a member of the Planning Committee it was **RESOLVED** that Councillor Knight be co-opted onto the Committee.

74. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor announced that he had represented the Town at the following events since the last meeting:

- Glastonbury Carnival
- Remembrance Day Parades at both Glastonbury and Street
- Conference on Safeguarding Children
- Carnival Draw
- Fireman's Ball

He also announced that a Pensioners Tea Party would be held at the Town Hall on 19th December 2006.

75. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Knight ascertained that the Town Hall did not have a defibrillator. It was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk should investigate the possibility obtaining a machine for the Town Hall. Councillor Sharp recommended contacting Avalon Cardiac Support Group for advice.

76. THE FORMATION OF A FRIENDSHIP LINK BETWEEN GLASTONBURY AND LALIBELA, ETHIOPIA

Councillor Sharp had circulated a letter received from the Mayor of Lalibela expressing interest in the formation of a twinning/friendship link between Lalibela Town and Glastonbury.

Councillor Barron said that he would like to receive more information regarding Lalibela and it was **AGREED** that Councillor Sharp and Mrs Sharp should make a presentation regarding Lalibela at the Council meeting on 9th January 2007, to better inform the Council about the Town and links already forged by themselves and Glastonbury schools.

The Town Clerk confirmed that this would not preclude a similar relationship being formed with Timbuktu, Mali as the towns are in different countries.

77. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the Town Hall Committee meeting held on 7th November 2006 were received and noted.
- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 7th November 2006, which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record subject to the addition of the year 2006 being added to Public Participation item b.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Property and Assets Committee held on 14th November 2006 were received and noted.
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee held on 21st November 2006 were received and noted.
The Mayor highlighted that the precept for 2007/2008 had been fixed in the sum of £105000 which equates to £34.60 per 'D' band dwelling a reduction on last year of 97 pence.
- e) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 23rd November 2006 were received and noted.

78. WINTER FAYRE

An application had been made by Glastonbury Events Management for financial aid for the Winter Fayre to be held on 8,9 and 10th December 2006.

RESOLVED to grant the sum of £600.

Councillor Gloak informed the Council that Sparks Transport would be providing a lorry free of charge to be used to stage band performances at the top of the High Street.

RESOLVED that the Town Clerk should write to Sparks expressing thanks for their generosity.

79. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

The Town Clerk had received an e mail from Baker Associates. They gave a rough estimate that 800 houses would need to be built to provide enough funding for a Southern Distributor Road. They confirmed that they would be meeting with the County Council shortly whose Strategic Planning and Transportation Officer had informed her that the Glastonbury Southern Distributor Road has been ranked as second for potential strategic scheme priority in 2010.

The Town Clerk informed the Council that she would be forwarding the Town Council's views for the future development of Glastonbury as agreed at the Special meeting held on 27th June 2006 along with information provided by Baker Associates regarding the Southern Distributor Road.

80. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

A copy of the report was circulated to each member and a copy attached to the official minutes.

The following matters were covered:

- Project to combine Somerset and Devon Fire and Rescue Services

- ISIS – County Council project to engage with private sector to deliver HR, IT, Community Consultation and Property Services
- Area Working
- Inspection on Corporate Performance
- Bid for Unitary Authority status

Questions were taken regarding:

- Illumination of pedestrian crossing at Street Road
- Bus stop on Wells Road – Siting of new stop will depend on entrance and exit of new estate on northern side of bypas
- Double yellow lines for Northload Street

81. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Councillors reported on:

- Car Park Working Group
- Free car parking in District Council car parks after 3pm from 11th – 24th December 2006
- Licensing Board – Gambling in Public venues
- CCTV – Cameras in Glastonbury best in Mendip
- Questions were taken regarding:
- Land at Maidencroft Lane – Complaint from resident re misuse of land including erection of a boundary fence and formation of a parking area. The Town Clerk confirmed that this had been investigated by the Enforcement Officer from Mendip District Council who had found no breach of planning regulations.
- Leader+ Group – Successor to LAMP

82. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received and noted. Copies of items a,b,c and d were circulated with the agenda.

- a) Somerset Association of Local Councils – Items of interest to Councillors and Clerks – The Local Government White Paper – Strong and Prosperous Communities Reflective Summary
- b) Somerset County Council – Localisation and Frontline Councillors – A new County Council scheme providing a platform for the devolution of budgets and service decisions to frontline councillors as well as to key local partners such as Town Councils.
- c) Conservatives – Comment on Unitary Authority for Somerset
- d) Somerset County Council – Transport interchange, Old Wells Road
- e) Somerset County Council – Parish Emergency Planning – The Town Clerk reported that she had contacted the relevant department of the County Council expressing an interest in formulating a plan.
- f) Somerset County Council – Relaunch of Community Chest – Information regarding the relaunch of the Community Chest whereby local organisations can apply for funding for projects of benefit to the local community.

83. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

RESOLVED that the schedule of payments, a copy of which had been circulated to all Councillors and which is attached to the official minutes to be

approved and signed by two members as the Town Clerk's authority to make the payments.

The Town Clerk reported that she had received the External Auditor's Report which confirmed that the information contained in the Annual Return for 2005/2006 was in accordance with the Audit Commission's requirements.

Mayor, 9th January 2007