



# Glastonbury Town Council

**Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 at Glastonbury Town Hall at 7pm**

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

**APOLOGIES:** Councillors Avalon and Keery

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk. Mace Bearers - Crumpton and Dowden

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**Public participation – 5 members of the public took the opportunity to speak.**

Topics raised included:

- Inappropriate parking signage in Magdalene Street
- 5G concerns on residents' health
- Removal of a tree in the Conservation Area
- Climate Change
- Placement of boulders at Pomparles Bridge to prevent unauthorised encampment.

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

## **186. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllrs Abbott, Brunsdon, George, Henderson and Tucker declared an interest on agenda item 7 as trustees of the Beckery Island Regeneration Trust.

Cllrs Cousins and Michell declared an interest in agenda item 6 as they consider themselves closely acquainted to the applicant.

Cllrs George and MacDougall declared an interest in agenda item 8 as they are both involved in the community group working to acquire the Crown Inn

## **187. TO RECEIVE A WRITTEN REPORT FROM A MEMBER OF THE GLASTONBURY POLICE BEAT TEAM**

The Glastonbury Beat Team report was well received. Prepared by PC Katie Moyse and verbally presented by the Town Clerk, items of interest included:

- The success of the 'Cuppa with a Copper' initiative where different locations each week are used to meet with members of the public.
- The introduction of beat surgeries which took place recently at Bretenoux Road and Tesco car park.

- Three examples of positive policing where individuals have been apprehended and arrested for anti-social behaviour, carrying a knife and misuse of the communications system.
- Recent visit to the new Mosque in Benedict Street
- A revival of the Community Speedwatch programme and a call for more volunteers.
- Police attendance at a youth club to engage with young people.
- Encouragement of a former miscreant who is now supporting the Police to engage with young people, sharing the message that some life choices are not good.
- Sgt Matt Slade has been seconded and two temporary officers will be covering his position whilst away. First three months T/Sgt Heather Anderton, the second three months T/Sgt Darren Pearson.

Cllr George asked that the Town Councils appreciation for Matt Slade be shared, in particular for his work endorsing the civilian person to work with young people.

### **188. TO RECEIVE A REPORT FROM THE GLASTONBURY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

Jill Barker was appointed chair at the recently held agm of the Chamber. Jill Informed that:

- There are now approximately 80 members.
- A map surrounded by advertisements has been warmly received by businesses and 10,000 copies are to be distributed locally.
- The Tourism Symposium held in the Town Hall recently was considered a great success, with approximately 60 people listening to the key note presentation.
- Glastonbury High Street is to be entered in the Bristol, Bath and Somerset Tourism awards.
- The Chamber is supportive of the mural trail initiative which will encourage more people to visit Glastonbury at the end of the summer during Somerset Arts Weeks.
- Retailers are encouraged to remain open on a Friday evening until 9.00pm

In response Cllr Thurgood thanked Paul Manning for his dedication to reviving the Glastonbury Chamber over the past three years.

### **189. MINUTES**

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Council held on 12<sup>th</sup> March 2019 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 19<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were **NOTED**.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the A361 Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were **NOTED**. Cllr Abbott relayed a recommendation from John Roberts that an additional traffic monitoring camera is purchased. She further explained that whilst the amount of HGV's using the A361 and A39 route from Pilton through to Ashcott is monitored, information on the number of HGV movements using the A39 between Glastonbury and Wells would be helpful. The cost of the additional camera is anticipated to be £300. Proposed by Cllr George, Seconded by Cllr Napper and unanimously **AGREED**
- d) The minutes of the Property and Assets Committee meeting held on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2019 were **NOTED**

- e) The minutes of the Promoting Glastonbury Committee meeting held on 5<sup>th</sup> March 2019 were **NOTED**. Cllr Tucker informed that the work of the Glastonbury Information Centre Community Interest Company and Promoting Glastonbury Committee often duplicated. He suggested that consideration is given to amalgamating the two groups and it was unanimously **AGREED** that this is further researched after the elections in May.

#### **190. PLANNING APPLICATION FOR CONSIDERATION 2019/0052/FUL**

Cllr Henderson presented this application for *alterations to an external structure at The King Arthur public house, Benedict Street*. Councillors **RESOLVED** to support the application yet asked the clerk to seek clarification if an enclosed smoking shelter then becomes a building in which smoking would be prohibited.

#### **191. MENDIP LOCAL PLAN PART II – SITES AND POLICIES**

A review of the Local Plan Part II was requested by members of the Planning Committee who sought clarification of a few points prior to responding. Following detailed discussion, it was **AGREED** that the Town Clerk would submit the following comments:

- The map shows Tor Leisure field to be protected from development to the boundary with Benedict Street. This is to be supported, yet does not conform with previous statements informing of protection to the boundary of the former tennis courts.
- Cinnamon Lane recreation area is identified as being protected as a local green space on the map, yet the location is not listed in the text of the report.
- The area on Morlands which is currently used as a travellers' site should be identified as a dual use site – being both potential for residential and commercial development.
- The Council accepts the loss of the four existing commercial employment sites to residential as identified in the plan.
- The net loss of commercial land has not been offset, as no additional employment land has been identified. The Council would like to see additional employment land created, possibly in the vicinity of Porchestal Drove.

#### **192. NOMINATION OF THE CROWN AND BACKPACKER AS AN ASSET OF COMMUNITY VALUE**

A community group is emerging who would like to be considered as potential owners of The Crown Inn and Backpackers. The group has registered their interest with Mendip District Council. As part of their consideration process, Mendip have sought the views of Glastonbury Town Council.

In response, Cllr Cousins proposed, seconded by Cllr George and **AGREED** that Cllr Cousins would assist the Clerk to compile an appropriate response in support of the application, to include:

- Glastonbury's recent history of developing community facilities in previously redundant buildings.
- Residents have a good track record of creating successful Community Share projects.
- The Conservation Societies previously raised concerns that this historic building was in danger of being lost through neglect.

### **193. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Cllrs Henderson – due to the pending elections, there have been no meetings of Mendip District Council that he has attended and therefore he has nothing to report.

Cllr Brunsdon informed that he is to attend just one more Planning Board meeting at Mendip DC and then his service to the District Council comes to an end. Cllr Cottle thanked Cllr Brunsdon for the many years dedicated service to the authority as an elected member and spoke for the entire council when he wished Cllr Brunsdon every success for the future

Cllr Cottle questioned the anticipated £18,000 cost by Mendip DC to place large boulders around the authority owned land at Pomparles Bridge. He considered the boulders unsightly and not in keeping with the entrance to Glastonbury.

Cllr Coles tabled a report.

### **194. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Both Cllr Leyshon and Napper tabled reports. Cllr Tucker asked that the blocked kerbside drains on Basket Field Lane are cleared. A concern was expressed regarding misleading signage at times of road closures are reducing income opportunities for Glastonbury businesses. It was proposed by Cllr George, seconded by Cllr Henderson and **RESOLVED** that the Clerk is to write to Somerset County Highways and request input to appropriate signage at the time of road closures.

### **195. SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

The schedule of payments was presented and duly signed by the Mayor and countersigned by the Deputy Mayor Cllr Black.

### **196. BUDGET REPORT**

The budget report to 9<sup>th</sup> April 2019 was circulated to Councillors and **NOTED**. Councillors requested that in addition to the report as presented that they receive a monitoring report giving an indication on income and expenditure that are significantly higher or lower than predicted.

### **197. STRODE COLLEGE – CONTRIBUTION FOR FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TOWARDS THE RENOVATION OF THE SPORTS HALL FLOOR.**

The Town Clerk read an email received from Mike Dear, Strode College Sports Facilities Manager requesting a financial contribution to the replacement floor costs. Due to purdah, the Town Clerk was asked to invite Mr Dear to an appropriate meeting of the council after the elections to present the problem personally.

### **198. TOR FIELD – VERBAL UPDATE ON THE TRANSFER TO A FIELDS IN TRUST**

Cllr George informed that a deed of dedication in perpetuity under the Fields in Trust is requested from Mendip District Council. Somerset County Council need to enact the deed, which requires agreement from each of the three parties involved. A suggestion of a binding solicitor undertaking is being explored, which would allow the enactment of the deed when Somerset County Council withdraw the

agreement.

### **199. NOTICE OF MOTION**

Proposed by Cllr Cousins, Seconded by Cllr George that *From Monday 6<sup>th</sup> May 2019, this council will act upon its power to confer the title of Honorary Alderwomen or Honorary Alderman on no more than eight persons who have, in the opinion of the council, rendered eminent services to Glastonbury Town Council as past members of this council, but who are not at that time elected or co-opted Members of the Council.* This motion was unanimously **AGREED**

### **200. FUTURE USE OF TOWN COUNCIL OWNED LAND AT COMMON MOOR**

This item was considered to have been appropriately discussed under the Local Plan Part II item previously presented on this agenda.

### **201. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Tabled and taken as presented

### **202. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The Town Clerk informed that recruitment process for two positions recently advertised had attracted 9 applications for the Team Leader and 31 applications for the Administration and Receptionist position. Interviews are planned for both positions in the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> April.
- A footpath across Tor Leisure Field is blocked near the Air Cadets building at Street Road.
- Tor Leisure has benefitted from the closure of 1610 with an increase in sports teams using the Tor Leisure facilities.
- Concerns expressed about the state of the sports field surface and the emptying of rubbish bins were not recognised by the Ward Member Steve Henderson, who considered that when he walks the field, all appears in order. He has a regular meeting with the Fusion Manager Rob Taylor in a few weeks where these concerns will be aired.
- Glastonbury Cricket Club has unfortunately suffered a spate of theft and criminal damage with the score board being stolen and cricket nets having been slashed.
- The Town Clerk informed of a pending visit by 15 Tourism professionals from Japan on 5<sup>th</sup> May. Afternoon tea is being presented before visits to the Abbey, Chalice Well and the Tor.
- Training for new councillors has been organised for Wednesday evening 22<sup>nd</sup> May at 7.00pm
- The annual town meeting is taking place on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April in the town Hall, commencing at 7.00pm

### **203. REPORTS FROM WORKING GROUPS**

There were no reports from working groups

### **204. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

There were no reports from outside bodies

### **205. CORRESPONDENCE**

Parish Information Bulletin

An invitation from Glastonbury FM to attend a 10 year celebration on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April at Red Brick Building commencing at 7.00pm.

#### **206. PRESS RELEASES**

The following items were considered worthy of a news release.

- The appointment of Honorary Alderwomen and Aldermen
- The encouragement of residents to vote at the forthcoming election.
- John Brunsdon having completed almost 50 years as a Town Councillor
- Town Council's endorsement for the Crown Inn community project.

#### **207. CITIZEN OF THE YEAR**

Under closed session, Councillors discussed and voted on their preferred choice of the two nominations for Citizen of the Year

The meeting closed at 10.00pm

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**Mayor, 14<sup>th</sup> May 2019**