

## Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 7pm

**PRESENT:** Councillors: D Abbott, G Avalon, A Black, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, J Cousins, N Cottle, E George, S Henderson, J Keery, L MacDougall, D Michell (Mayor), P Sander-Jackson, S Thurgood, I Tucker

**APOLOGIES:** None.

**IN ATTENDANCE:** The Town Clerk  
Gary Knight – Macebearer  
Terry Dowden – Macebearer  
Town Crier, David Greenway  
Sgt M Slade  
County Councillors A Gloak and T Napper

---

**The meeting was opened with the lighting of the Unity candle and a moment for quiet reflection.**

### **Public Participation**

- Angela Friend reported on the Poppy collection.
- Gillian Booth requested a bus shelter near the hospital and suggested the Town Council moves the out of use 29 bus stop from Old Wells Road.
- Morgana West reported that the Glastonbury Reception Centre has moved into the Library of Avalon and they are working with them to provide an information point.
- Chris Black, owner of the Bauhaus building on the Morland site invited Councillors to visit. He is housing some people in vans who are helping with the restoration of the building and running small businesses.
- Lee Lintern thanked the Council for putting a notice board in the telephone box at the top of Manor House Road. He would like to see the road humps removed from the road and a 20 mph limit implemented. He would like to hold a street party next year to help bring the community together.
- Malcolm Allen congratulated Mendip Community Credit Union on their 15 year anniversary. He handed information relating to Neighbourhood Plans to the Town Clerk.

### **89. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

### **90. POLICE REPORT**

Sergeant Matt Slade introduced himself as the new Sergeant for Street and Glastonbury. He confirmed what had been said by the Police Commissioner, that in future the Police will not attend Council meetings, unless they are on duty. He

informed the Council that the PACT meetings are held for the community and that is the correct forum for questions.

Councillor Keery suggested that policing issues which arise at Council meetings could be forwarded to be dealt with at the PACT meetings.

Councillor Avalon asked whether people can feel safe in the High Street with the proposed cuts.

Sergeant Slade said that unfortunately Beat Managers are being taken away from their core duties too often due to lack of numbers, which is being addressed. He said that they are recruiting and when the Police numbers are up to speed PC Wolstenholme will not be taken away from Glastonbury so often which should help people feel more secure.

It was **AGREED** to contact the Police and Crime Commissioner to challenge the fact that a percentage of the Council Tax goes towards funding Avon and Somerset Police and therefore the town should receive the appropriate service.

## **91. PRESENTATION BY MENDIP COMMUNITY TRANSPORT**

Mike Curtis and Mike Forbes gave a presentation on the work of Mendip Community Transport. They have been successful in obtaining 2 extra buses under the government scheme and instead of using them to replace older buses, have decided to use them to enhance the service.

They asked Councillors to talk to residents and find out what people want. The service is paid for by the users.

## **92. LALIBELA**

Hugh Sharp gave a six monthly report on the progress of the Lalibela Trust.

Due to substantial donations by Festival Medical Services and a local Trust they are pleased to have been able to fund a maternity unit for Lalibela Hospital.

Matt Alford and Zeena Lemon have been working with Hugh and Catherine Sharp and would like to improve links with Lalibela and Patmos. They suggested an information point in the foyer could be a start. They are opening Twitter and Facebook accounts and suggested an annual twinning day. They are starting a project to knit hats for the babies in the maternity unit. The Mayor thanked Matt and Zeena for attending and referred the matter to the Promoting Glastonbury Committee.

## **93. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor had attended several functions on behalf of the Town since the last meeting including a volunteer drop-in at Tor Leisure, Remembrance Day Service, and launch of the Holy Grail Route in London. She will be attending the Mendip YMCA sleep out to raise awareness and money for the homeless.

## **94. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Thurgood reported on Bridging the Gap food bank. 131 adults and 38 children have been helped over the past year. On average there are 2 parcels a week going out.

Councillor George said she was concerned that First Bus intends to use a double decker bus for their new service through Glastonbury.

Councillor Tucker said there is a Frost Fayre volunteer's meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> November 2015 at 6.30pm and encouraged Councillors to come along. Help was particularly needed for the start of the day from 7.30am.

Councillor Black announced that there would be a Climate Change March on 29<sup>th</sup> November 2015.

## **95. 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.

Councillor Cousins said that the Town Council should regularise the recycling of waste at the Town Hall.

## **96. ANNUAL RETURN 2014-2015**

The Annual Return had been received from the External Auditor stating that on the basis of their review of the annual return, in their opinion the information in the annual return is in accordance with proper practices and no matters have come to their attention giving cause for concern that relevant legislation and regulatory requirements have not been met.

## **97. REPORTS FROM INTERNAL AND EXTERNAL AUDITORS 2014-2015**

Reports had been received from internal and external auditors.

The opinion of the internal auditor was that the Financial Statements have been properly prepared in accordance with current guidelines and the Council's system of internal controls is adequate and effective. There were no issues they considered needed to be brought to the attention of the external auditors.

The external auditor asked the Council to in future fully document its internal controls and to update its Financial Regulations. A full risk assessment is required to be updated and adopted as least annually. The fixed assets should be accounted for a purchase cost, not insurance cost. The Town Clerk will arrange for these amendments to be made and the relevant documents to be written before the end of the financial year.

## **98. MINUTES**

- a) The minutes of the Council meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> October 2015, which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.

- b) The minutes of the meeting of the Promoting Glastonbury forum held on 15<sup>th</sup> October 2015 will be present at the next Committee meeting.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Youth Provision Committee held on 20<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were accepted.

Councillor Cottle asked for the youth club to put their equipment away after sessions, including the football table. He informed the Council that Councillor George had volunteered to be secretary of St Edmund's Hall Management Committee.

- d) The minutes of the meeting of the A361 Committee held on 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2015 were accepted.

Councillor Abbott pointed out the request for the Town Council to fund a traffic survey. It was **RESOLVED** in principle to fund a survey.

- e) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2015, were accepted.
- f) The minutes of the meeting of the Glastonbury in Bloom Committee held on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2015 were accepted.
- g) The minutes of the meeting of the Property and Assets Committee held on 3<sup>rd</sup> November 2015 were accepted.

Councillor Tucker asked whether the Council has applied for grants. Councillor Sander-Jackson said there is an £8000 grant for particular things but this cannot be applied for before the council submits an application. He confirmed that the precept would be used in order to cover the employment of an officer.

## **99. COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Councillors Gloak and Napper provided written reports.

Councillor MacDougall presented a petition for a zebra crossing for Chilkwell Street. Councillor Gloak said that he would need a letter of support from the Town Council which was **AGREED**.

Councillor Tucker asked about the reinstatement of the 29 bus and whether it would be a possibility to move the stop to that requested by the member of the public in public participation.

Councillor Napper said that Somerset County Council proposes to remove funding for the 29 bus. He reported on the Orchard Court Hub, National HIV testing week. He was asked to continue to work on getting the broken pipe under the road at the junction of Gipsy Lane and Wick Lane replaced, which is still leaking. He has been

## **100. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Councillors Coles and Henderson provided written reports.

Councillor Brunsdon had attended a training session on Community Assets held by Historic England at the MShed in Bristol.

Councillor Cottle reported on District Council Procurement.

Councillor Henderson has asked Mendip District Council Scrutiny to review the CCTV provision and reported that a Committee to discuss bus provision will be convened shortly.

### **101. YOUTH COUNCIL REPORT**

In the absence of a member of the Youth Council, Councillors Thurgood and George reported an excellent night at the Battle of the Bands. It was run by the young people themselves. There were 5 acts, 5 prizes and 5 judges.

### **102. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

Councillor Coles reported that Mendip District Council car parks will be free after 2.30pm on carnival night and there will be a shuttle buses from Clarks Village.

### **103. CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was considered:

- a) Request from Vicky Sullivan, East Mendip Area Lead, Health Connections Mendip to attend a future meeting.

It was **AGREED** to invite Vicky Sullivan to the January 2016 meeting.

The following correspondence was noted:

- b) Mendip District Council – Parish Newsletter – November 2015
- c) Mendip Community Credit Union – Autumn Newsletter

---

**Mayor, 8<sup>th</sup> December 2015**