

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 11th June 2013 at 7pm

PRESENT: Councillors: J Barron (Deputy Mayor), A Black, J Brunsdon MBE, J Coles, N Cottle, Cousins, M Free, S Henderson, J Keery, W Knight, D Michell, H Sharp, S Shepherd, S Thurgood (Mayor), I Tucker

APOLOGIES: Councillor I Forster (work commitments)

IN ATTENDANCE: The Town Clerk
PC M Pople
County Councillors A Gloak and T Napper
Gary Knight – Macebearer
Terry Dowden – Macebearer

Public participation

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were none.

15. REPORT FOR MEMBER OF THE GLASTONBURY BEAT TEAM (POLICE)

PC Mark Pople reported that the three PACT priorities at the last meeting were speeding vehicles along Wells and Street road, parking issues at Leg of Mutton and better lighting at pedestrian crossing at Watts Corner. He said there have been fewer incidences of anti-social behaviour on the fields at Avalon Leisure Centre. Magdalene Court continues to be a problem and the Police are in talks with Stoneham Housing in an effort to improve matters. Complaints had been received regarding noise during a Skate Jam at the Skatepark.

Councillor Black had circulated an email from a resident of Windmill Hill whose family has been suffering from anti-social behaviour. He said that he is aware of the situation and that Gavin Jennings, Family Liaison, is working with all the agencies to find a solution. The Town Clerk had brought the issue to the attention of the Police Commissioner. Councillor Gloak said that with the mix of people renting houses and owner occupiers in that area he detected a them and us attitude and suggested holding a community reconciliation meeting at St Edmund's Hall

which he would be happy to facilitate. Councillor Cottle disputed the fact that the community at Windmill Hill was divided. Discussion took place regarding the annual fun day which used to be held on the Hill by the housing association and whether the Town Council could put on something similar.

16. MINUTES

- a) The minutes of the meeting of the Town Hall Committee held on 10th May 2013, were received and approved.

- b) The minutes of the Annual meeting of the Council held on 14th May 2013, which had been circulated to each member, were taken as read and signed by the Mayor as a correct record.
The Mayor said that the Head teachers of St Dunstan's and Crispin had been invited to the next meeting to report on changes in leadership.
- c) The minutes of the meeting of the Planning Committee held on 21st May 2013, were received and approved.
- d) The minutes of the meeting of the Promoting Glastonbury Forum held on 5th June 2013 and the minutes of the meeting of the Youth Provision Committee held on 10th June 2013 to be presented at the next meeting.

17. BUDGET REPORT

The budget report was considered. The Town Clerk pointed out that due to the government introduction of the Council Tax Support Scheme – whereby the District Council must devise its own scheme to replace Council Tax Benefit, Mendip District Council had passed on a percentage of their Government Transition Grant to the Town Council to soften the impact of the decrease in the Council Tax base. This year the Town Council received £24,009.46. This sum was not included in the budget for 2013-2014 and is therefore additional to the precept request of £200,000. It was **RESOLVED** to place the £24,009.46 in a earmarked fund called 'Council Tax Support Grant'.

18. 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.

19. INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND BALANCE SHEET 2012-2013, ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2012-2013

Copies of the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet and the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement had been circulated to members of approval following a satisfactory inspection by the Internal Auditor.

RESOLVED that the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet and the Annual Return and Annual Governance Statement for the year ending 31st March 2013, be approved and adopted.

20. INTERNAL AUDITOR

The Town Clerk confirmed that Probusiness is independent of the Council and is not involved in the process of accounts preparation or the implementation of financial controls and maintains knowledge through regular contact with involved parties such as NALC, SALC and the external auditors.

It was **AGREED** that Probusiness remains suitable to carry out internal audits for the Town Council.

It was **RESOLVED** to appoint Probusiness as Internal auditors for the Council for 2013-2014.

21. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Councillor Brunsdon reported that the District Council will be meeting at other venues during the Phoenix Project. At a Conservation Advisory Panel he had been asked by Jayne Boldy why the Town Hall solar panels had not yet been resolved. The Town Clerk was asked to investigate the matter.

Councillor Coles provided a written report.

Councillor Cottle reported that he now sits on the following committees, Scrutiny, Licensing, Planning, Standards, Sponsorship, Legacy (New Homes Bonus), Health and Wellbeing, Drainage Board, Somerset Waste Partnership. He reported that Danny Unwin is now leader of the Liberal Democrats at MDC.

Councillor Tucker asked the District Councillors to sort out the directional signs to the car parks as visitors are moving on to other towns when they cannot find alternative parking. The Town Clerk said that the Mendip District Council Car Parking Strategy stated that car park directional signs to alternative car parks, especially from St Dunstan's Car Park were required. Councillors Henderson said he would investigate the matter.

22. COUNTY COUNCILLORS' REPORTS

Reports were received from Councillors Gloak and Napper.

Councillor Free asked if signs for highways works could be removed when the works are over. He was concerned about the new cheaper bus services and hoped that they would not push out other services. He also complained about dangerous parking due to yellow lines at Leg of Mutton Road.

Councillor Cousins asked the Councillors to request that heavy traffic be diverted at Cannards Grave.

Councillor Henderson asked the Councillors to find out whether Somerset County Council is responsible for the fence between Sedgemoor Way and Bella View Gardens.

Councillor Tucker asked for the pothole at Basketfield Lane/Ashwell Lane junction to be repaired.

Councillor Napper reported on a meeting between residents regarding the loss of parking at the bottom of Bove Town. It had been agreed to put a sign saying no parking in the pavement and when afforded, to create a two vehicle layby. Councillor Cottle asked Councillor Napper to push for funding for the layby.

23. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

Councillor Cottle had attended a Citizens Advice Bureau meeting when he was informed that Sonia Pike is retiring.

The Mayor said that with the help of Glastonbury resident, Martyn Webb, the Sea Fury from Yeovilton will be flying past the Town Hall on 29th June 2013. Time to be confirmed.

24. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councillor Henderson asked whether the Community Warden could consider taking on the maintenance of a small piece of land near Bella View Gardens.

The Town Clerk said that currently the position was that the warden would be looking after the Town Council land and assisting with issues relating to Somerset County Council and District Council land.

25. SOMERSET COUNTY COUNCIL ASSET STRATEGY

Councillor Barron reported on his attendance at a meeting chaired by Councillor Napper regarding SCC assets in Glastonbury which had started with a library review and ended up as a review of assets. It would appear that the County Council are working towards forming a community hub at the library building (Orchard Court). He said that although social services are moving to Shepton Mallet, an information point will remain at Orchard Court. Citizens Advice Bureau will also remain. The Town Clerk circulated a paper detailing the background to the SCC asset strategy. Councillor Barron said that this would be a 4 year program and there will be a further meeting in 3 months.

26. GLASTONBURY REMEMBERS

The Town Clerk had received a paper seeking outline support from the Council to an event in the summer of 2014 which will recognise the centenary of the commencement of World War I and remember the men who gave their lives for the security of our way of life.

As several projects are in place regarding the centenary of the commencement of World War I it was **RESOLVED** to form a working party made up of Councillors and other interested parties. Councillors Thurgood (Mayor), Barron (Deputy Mayor), Free, Cottle, Cousins, Michell, Coles and Brunsdon volunteered for the working party.

Councillor Brunsdon said he would be publishing his mother's diary, a Diary of a VAD, in commemoration of the War.

27. CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was considered:

- a) Letter from Avon and Somerset Police and Crime Commissioner – Contents of letter were noted.
- b) Letter from Somerset Association of Local Councils suggesting that Somerset Councils each donate £10 towards a memorial seat for Peter Lacey, SALC County Secretary who recently passed away – It was **RESOLVED** to donate the suggested £10 towards the seat taken from the civic hospitality budget.

For information:

- c) Somerset County Council – Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Temporary Road Closure, Dyehouse Lane, Glastonbury Western Relief Road, Beckery Road, Park Farm Road and Porchestall Drove from 31st July 2013 for 3 nights for resurfacing work.
- d) Somerset County Council – Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, Temporary Road Closure, The Archers Way, for manhole repair works from 22nd July 2013 for approximately 5 days.

- e) Glastonbury and Street Talking Newspaper – Letter of thanks for use of Hall.

Mayor, 9th July 2013