

REPORT of the Meeting of the Finance and Policy
Committee held 29th January 2015

Present: Cllr: Bob Griffin (Chairman)

Cllrs: Guy Rawlinson
Graham Lanfear
Clive Parkinson
Phyllida Parsloe
Neil Halsall
Maggie Tyrrell
Judith Payne (Town Clerk)
Sandra Richardson (Deputy Town Clerk)

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllr: Matthew Stringer (Other Commitment)
PC Sean White
PCSO Tony Blackmore

2. POLICE MATTERS

PC Sean White and PCSO Tony Blackmore had sent their apologies and e-mailed a written report of the following incidents:-

- Six Youths had been arrested for the arson in Mundy Playing Fields and four had been dealt with for criminal damage.
- Three windows damaged in St. Mary Centre, CCTV distributed
- Window smashed at Gillingstool nursery
- Scratches and wing mirror damage to two cars in the centre of Thornbury
- Damage to lead window at Thornbury Castle
- Vodka stolen from Aldi, images distributed of offenders and now awaiting identification.
- Attempt to steal alcohol in Tesco but offenders disturbed by security. A male was also arrested for low level theft and was banned from the store.
- Theft in the Co-op involving youths stealing chocolate and drinks. Three males arrested and cautioned and one male now banned from all shops on Shop Watch.
- Theft in the Co-op early on a Sunday morning, the male was identified a few days later, arrested and has been dealt with by way of restorative justice.
- Window broken at Parky's Chip Shop and two charity boxes stolen.
- Attempted break-in to a shed at the nursery at Gillingstool, no entry gained and nothing stolen.
- Reports of moto-x type bikes being ridden dangerously around the town and both roads and footpaths. Police are dealing proactively with this problem
- Incidences of youths throwing stones at cars in Streamleaze and also doors being thumped and knocked during the evening in various locations.
- The police have been carrying out pub licensing checks and drug testing. Several people had been searched and one male arrested for possession of a controlled substance.
- The Christmas and New Year period were generally quiet with little reported crime.

The information was received and noted.

3. MATTERS ARISING FROM LAST REPORT

(a) Project Steering Group for Thornbury Hospital

Cllr. Maggie Tyrrell reported that the Health Minister would be meeting with representatives from the Health Service and South Gloucestershire Council and a report would be made to South Gloucestershire Council's Health Scrutiny Committee. Proposals for Thornbury were rising up the agenda as part of the strategy for rehabilitation and it was hoped that the matter may progress a little quicker.

The Health Scrutiny Committee had also been in discussion with Sirona Care, an independent not-for-profit organisation providing publicly funded health and social care services that support people in their communities.

At the present time there was a very low number of Thornbury residents in Thornbury Hospital and for some considerable time there had not been any more than five beds taken up by local people.

Cllr. Neil Halsall said that one of the most important gains for a new development would be the provision of a new Health centre with out-patient care.

(b) Safer and Stronger Community Group

The Clerk reported that the next Safer and Stronger Community Group Meeting will be held on 12th February 2015. The information was noted.

(c) Town Hall Website

The Deputy Clerk informed members that the site would be going live on the 1st February and asked that members look at the site on the internet and contact her with their suggestion for any amendments that they feel are appropriate. The Deputy Clerk provided members with a link to the internet site and advised that she would be e-mailing all members with the same request.

(d) Youth Provision in Thornbury

Cllr. Clive Parkinson advised that a Stakeholders' meeting was scheduled for next week. The information was noted.

(e) Creating a Dementia Friendly Community

Cllr Clive Parkinson advised that he had met Jane Gilliard before and after the seminar and produced a report of those meetings which was tabled for members' information. A copy of the report is appended hereto.

Cllr. Clive Parkinson proposed that the Town Council calls an initial meeting between representatives of key partners in this area such as Alzheimer's Society, Age UK, Memory Café, Singing for the Brain, Carers Support Group & South Gloucestershire Dementia Alliance. The Chamber of Commerce would also be invited to attend. Members agreed to Cllr. Parkinson's proposal and suggested that a meeting be arranged for the second week in March.

Cllr. Phyllida Parsloe advised that she was happy to undertake anything connected with this matter on behalf of Council.

(f) Castle School Students – Ideas for a Teen Council

Cllr. Clive Parkinson reported that since the last Committee meeting, Castle School had put back the meeting with the School Council until February. The information was noted.

(g) Police Premises in the Town Centre

Cllr. Clive Parkinson had recently contacted Chief Inspector Simon Ellis who continues to be optimistic that there is sufficient space in the premises for both organisations. The police were still awaiting a formal agreement with the Peer Group to park two police vehicles in the service yard at the rear of the Town Hall.

(h) Local Flood Risk Management Strategy Consultation

As instructed at the last meeting, the Clerk had resubmitted Cllr. Lanfear's report on flooding in the Crossways Area to South Gloucestershire Council and Wessex Water and responses were awaited.

(i) Consultation of Local Government Finance Settlement 2015/16

The Clerk had submitted a response to Central Government based on the points raised by Cllr. Halsall and also the recommendations received from the Society of Local Council Clerks. The information was noted.

4. MATTERS IN PROGRESS

(a) Public Participation at Committee Meetings

Members agreed that the wording relating to Public Participation that is included on the Full Council agenda should also appear on all Committee Agendas.

(b) Cemetery Regulations

Following a request from a local resident with a terminal illness to pre-purchase a grave space, Cllr Clive Parkinson proposed the following addition to the newly agreed cemetery regulations:-

“As an addition to the second bullet point (h) Cemetery Terms, Conditions, Charges in the minutes of the Playing Fields and Cemetery Committee held on 11 September 2014, I propose an exception to this policy can be made for individuals who have a terminal illness and whose life expectancy is less than 12 months. Both conditions must be confirmed in writing by their General Practitioner or Consultant”

The proposal was debated at length and Cllr. Clive Parkinson withdrew the proposal and after further debate Cllr. Neil Halsall resubmitted the proposal with no change in the wording. The proposal was seconded and carried with 6 in favour and one against.

5. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

Resolved that the following accounts paid out of meeting be approved:-

South Gloucestershire Council	Rates (January) – Town Hall	1265.00
South Gloucestershire Council	Rates (January) – Cemetery	273.00

It was agreed that the following accounts now due for payment be approved:-

Central Services

Avon Wildlife Trust	Membership Renewal	48.00
GAP Supplies Ltd	Emulsion paint for TH kitchen	34.94
Newey & Eyre	Light fittings	24.66
Siemens Financial Services Ltd	Lease rental and facility fee	537.44
Viking	Stationery	91.18

Playing Fields & Cemetery

Abbey Loos	Hire of standard WC unit	110.40
Brass Founders	Brass plaque	119.64
Brass Founders	Brass plaque	119.64
Brass Founders	Brass plaque	119.64
Brass Founders	Brass plaque	111.24
Brass Founders	Brass plaque	111.24
Countrywide Farmers plc	Manure fork	35.99
Countrywide Farmers plc	Wellington Boots	49.99
Cotswold Surfacing Co	Patching works at MPF and Cemetery	1302.00
GAP Supplies Ltd	Lamps etc for Pavilion	14.40
Sullivans	Blades etc	29.16
Travis Perkins Trading Co Ltd	Silicone etc for repairs to roof	91.24
Veolia ES (UK) Ltd	Waste collection	133.18
Veolia ES (UK) Ltd	Waste collection	243.67
Yate Supplies Ltd	Refuse sacks	105.14

6. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence had been received.

7. SCHEDULE OF PUBLICATIONS

No publications had been received.