



## GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL

<b>Minutes of Glastonbury in Bloom Committee held Monday 8<sup>th</sup> September 2025 at 7pm</b>	
Councillors Present	Cllr M Oakden (Chair), M White (Deputy and Mayor of Glastonbury), Lokabandhu, I Mutch
Apologies	A Redwood (Volunteer)
Absent	Cllr J Cousins
In Attendance	S Marks (Committee Clerk)
Public Participation	

### **32. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTE REASONS GIVEN**

Apologies were received from A Redwood, due to being on holiday.

### **33. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr M White in on the Town Deal Board.  
Cllr Lokabandhu is a trustee for St Edmunds Hall.

### **34. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 7<sup>th</sup> JULY 2025**

The minutes of the meeting held on the 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025 were **SIGNED** by the Chair, as a true record of the meeting.

Cllr Lokabandhu asked the Committee Clerk about the Open Gardens agenda item she confirmed this will be discussed in the new year.

### **35. TO DISCUSS THE FINANCE REPORT**

The committee went through the finance report and discussed the recent expenditure in the last month and future expenses that are still to come out of the budget.

The Committee Clerk asked the committee to consider having the winter and summer bedding supplier not only supply but also plant the bedding. She confirmed that this option would be more cost-effective than paying the Community Services Officer to carry out the planting, as this is currently consuming a significant portion of the Glastonbury in Bloom 2025/2026 budget.  
After discussion, this proposal was agreed.

### **36. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON CREATING DOG WASTE SIGNS AND SPONSORSHIP SIGNS FOR CHILKWELL STREET**

The Committee Clerk confirmed that all Glastonbury in Bloom supporter signs and dog waste signs have been installed on the railings at Chilkwell Street.

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She reported that, although the new sign design and materials were a significant expense from this year's budget, any future replacements will be sticker-based and applied to the front of the existing signs—making them considerably more cost-effective in the long term.

### **37. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE GLASTONBURY IN BOOM RESIDENTIAL COMPETITION**

The Committee Clerk informed the committee that judging took place during the week commencing 14th July 2025. All 29 entries were judged by A Redwood and C Barnard. A Redwood reported to the Clerk that the standard of entries was exceptionally high this year, with one category proving too close to call, making it impossible to select an outright winner.

The Committee Clerk also requested that, in future, the judging of the residential competition be scheduled to avoid clashing with the South West in Bloom competition. This year, two entries submitted to both competitions caused confusion due to overlapping judging dates.

### **38. TO RECEIVE FEEDBACK ON THE SOUTH WEST IN BLOOM JUDGING DAY (17TH JULY 2025)**

The Committee Clerk gave feedback on the judging day with C. Bassett-Smith. She explained that the weather on the day was very humid with light misty rain. However, this did not deter the Town Clerk and the Committee Clerk from ensuring that the judge received the full Glastonbury experience.

The judge appeared to thoroughly enjoy her visit and even chose to stay after the formal judging had concluded to explore the local shops.

The Committee Clerk expressed confidence that the town had done well, although the final result would not be confirmed until the awards ceremony in October, to be held in Torquay. Overall, it was believed that the judging day went very well.

Cllr M Oakden thanked everyone and that Glastonbury in Bloom should be very proud of itself!

### **39. TO DISCUSS THE PRESENTATION EVENING ON 17<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2025**

The Committee Clerk asked the committee how they would like the room to be set up for the Presentation Evening. It was agreed to use round tables, as in previous years.

It was also agreed that no alcohol would be served—only soft drinks, water, elderflower cordial, and juices would be provided.

Cllr M Oakden kindly agreed to take on the flower arranging again this year.

The Committee Clerk confirmed that she has designed this year's certificates and will also organise the photo display to be shown throughout the Presentation Evening.

She also confirmed that she has ordered the trophy for the Glastonbury in Bloom Special Award, which will be presented to R Chapman in recognition of his volunteering work in the community gardens and his regular litter-picking efforts.

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**40. TO CONSIDER WOODEN DECORATIONS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH FROST FAYRE FOR THE MARKET SQUARE CHRISTMAS TREE**

The Committee Clerk advised that the Frost Fayre Committee had agreed to produce wooden decorations again this year for the Market Square Christmas Tree. She was asked whether Glastonbury in Bloom would be willing to contribute towards the cost of these decorations. The initiative was considered highly successful last year, with all local Glastonbury schools participating.

Cllr Lokabandhu proposed that £100.00 is awarded towards the cost of the wooden decorations for the Glastonbury Market Square Christmas Tree. Seconded by Cllr M Oakden. It was **RESOLVED** unanimously.

The Committee Clerk confirmed she would contact the schools after the summer break to find out if they are interested again in taking part.

**41. TO DISCUSS WINTER BEDDING FOR GLASTONBURY INCLUDING WINTER BASKETS FOR THE TOWN HALL**

The Committee Clerk confirmed that she had sent out four tender requests to local nurseries, and only Sweet Acre Nursery responded. It was agreed to proceed with Sweet Acre Nursery for this year's planting.

The Committee Clerk also outlined the winter bed requirements. Cllr M. Oakden requested that daffodil bulbs be saved from this year's winter bedding in order to help reduce costs.

The Committee Clerk explained that the Community Services Officers, who assists with Glastonbury in Bloom preparations and planting, is currently being funded by the Glastonbury in Bloom Committee for the time spent on these projects. The Clerk presented the associated costs to the committee. Following discussion, it was agreed that Sweet Acre Nursery will carry out the winter planting this year. For future planting, all tender requests will include a costing for the planting of bedding, to support improved financial planning.

Due to current financial constraints, the Committee Clerk asked the committee to consider limiting the winter baskets to the Town Hall only, rather than extending them to the surrounding area as was done last year. This proposal was agreed.

**ACTION:** Committee Clerk to arrange for daffodil bulbs to be saved from the winter bedding season.

**42. TO CONSIDER A GLASTONBURY IN BLOOM CALENDAR**

The Committee Clerk asked the committee to consider producing a Glastonbury in Bloom calendar as a fundraising initiative. The committee reviewed a sample calendar and agreed that this would be a suitable project to pursue for 2026.

**43. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING – 10<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2025**

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