



GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Arts, Culture and Events Committee held on 24th February 2026 at 7pm	
Councillors Present	J. Cousins (Chair) Z. Price, (Deputy Chair) M. Oakden,
Apologies	Cllr L. Lokabandhu, Cllr. L. Osborn, Z. Hanley, A. Bolton.
Absent	
In Attendance	Scarlet B. Shaffer (Committee Clerk) Conor Ogilvie-Davidson (Town Clerk) B. Crowley (Town Crier) L. Lyte (GTC Drummer) M. Claridge, C. Glazebrook, K. Knuepfer, S. Madog, K. Shaw, R. Branchflower, J. Branchflower, T. Webster, J. Constable, G. Avalon, T. Brown, E. Tannoh, T. Irvine, K. Hodge, P. Genoux, A. Shepherd
Public Participation	None

61. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies were received from Cllr. L. Lokabandhu (Prior commitment) Cllr. L. Osborn (Prior commitment) Z. Hanley (Family commitment) A. Bolton (Family commitment) A. ap Ellis (Work commitment) K. Redpath (Prior commitment)

These apologies were duly **NOTED**.

T. Brown joined the meeting at 7.40pm.
C. Glazebrook left the meeting at 9.20pm

62. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. J. Cousins – Glastonbury Mental health Network director.

63. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 14th January 2026

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The minutes of the meeting held on the **14th January 2026** were **SIGNED** by the Chair, as a true record of the meeting.

64. TO REVIEW THE ACTIONS OF THE LAST MEETING

Committee Clerk

- Add Beltane, St George's Day and UK Town of Culture to the next ACE agenda
- Contact Mike at the Oracle to add a belated listing for the January Film Screening.
- Add the Holocaust Memorial Event to the annual Calendar Wheel.
- Contact the R.F.O and confirm the budget amount allocated for ACE 2026/2027.

Cllr. Z. Price

- Follow up with a personal message of invitation to Her Imperial Highness Princess Esther Selassie Antohin, for Glastonbury St. George's Day.

Cllr. J. Cousins

- To send the Committee Clerk a contact email to contact the Credit Union to obtain more information on their 25th Anniversary

65. FILM SCREENING FEEDBACK AND REVENUE

Attendance was excellent. The event raised £550 after deductions. Fifty percent of the profits (£275) were donated to support the Love Glastonbury Charity. The Committee Clerk highlighted the Eventbrite fees were a factor in funds being lower than expected. Committee members suggested other platforms, Ticket Source and Ethical Tickets. There were also a large number of people with cash to purchase tickets. Cllr. Price suggested going forward, there is the opportunity to pay online and in person with cash. Cllr. Serena Roney-Dougall suggested an autumn screening, and the Committee Clerk highlighted the film may now be available on YouTube, impacting on ticket sales. S. Madog suggested exploring purchasing a film screen to hold regular film screening.

66. TO CONSIDER ST. GEORGE'S DAY EVENT 2026

J. Constable gave some suggestions to the Committee, including a showing of the previously performed Mummers Play. S. Madog suggested putting on a live performance of a mummers play. Her Imperial Highness Princess Esther Selassie Antohin has been sent an invitation from the ACE committee, but the committee have not received a response to date. Cllr. J. Cousins will contact Princess Esther in the next ten days, as her attendance will determine the itinerary for the evening. If she is unavailable to attend, Cllr Oakden alongside the Committee Clerk and J. Constable will discuss an alternative plan.

67. TO CONSIDER BELTANE EVENT 2026

Cllr. Price gave an update on proceedings, and there will be a leaflet available with information on the event. The festival Hall has been booked for use on the day. The Green-Men's commitment to conservation of the trees will not be using the trees at Wearyall Hill for the Maypole. The Committee Clerk asked for and received confirmation to order a Portaloo and a rapid responder for the Beltane ceremony. T. Webster asked if there could be a block of toilets. The Committee

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Clerk was asked to obtain quotes for a block of toilets and an additional single. The stage will be to the left of the GIC, away from the entrance.

Hostile Vehicle Mitigation barriers were discussed. Chilkwell Carnival Club members R. and J. Branchflower gave an overview of the procedure to purchase the barriers which cost in excess of £85, 000 and have a service level agreement cost attached to them. The committee expressed concerns at the cost and that the barriers once bought, will incur ongoing costs. Cost to hire per event is in excess of £2,000. The Committee Clerk was asked to send a letter to MP. Sarah Dyke to raise the concerns at parliament, and ascertain how smaller parish and town councils are expected to find monies to support the implementation of Martyn's Law.

68. TO CONSIDER UK. TOWN OF CULTURE INFORMATION

Cllrs Cousins and Cllr. Oakden delivered an overview of the UK Town of Culture bid and discussed its potential benefits. Members raised concerns about whether local infrastructure could support increased demand and stressed the importance of preserving Glastonbury's unique character. Cllr. Oakden emphasised the need for balance and that tourists are an integral part of Glastonbury Town, and are needed for the town to continue to thrive. Cllr. Price recommended any references in the bid to the "Wheel of The Year" be considered carefully to avoid causing offence. The Committee explored whether there were any significant anniversaries that could be considered. M. Claridge suggested in 2028 it will be 110 years since WW1.

69. TO CONSIDER OTHER MATTERS RELATING TO ARTS CULTURE AND EVENTS IN GLASTONBURY

- G. Avalon informed the committee Merlin's anniversary of his passing is on the March 20th
- A showing of Cinderella in the Assembly Rooms will be on Wednesday 25th February.
- C. Glazebrook will send the Committee Clerk details of what Chalice Well is offering at Beltane, for inclusion in the town leaflet.
- Green-Men Beltane meeting to be held on Sunday 8th March @3pm
- T. Brown gave dates from the Wheel of The Year – Spring Equinox , Saturday 21 st March 12:30
- Assembly rooms Spring Equinox event Saturday 21st March

70. ALLOCATIONS OF ACTIONS FROM THE MEETING

Cllr. J. Cousins

- Invite Her Imperial Highness Princess Esther Selassie Antohin, to the Glastonbury St. George's Day 2026 event

Cllr. Z. Price and Cllr. Oakden

- To assist at the St. George's Day event

Committee Clerk

- Obtain quotes for a block of toilets or an additional Portaloo for Beltane.

- Send a written request to MP Sarah Dyke to present in parliament and question the viability of purchasing Hostile Vehicle Mitigation Barriers at a cost in excess of £85,000 with hiring costs in excess of £2,000 per event.

71. DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

Tuesday 24th March 2026

SIGNED:	DATE:
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