



GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Glastonbury in Bloom Committee held Monday 29 th June 2026 at 7pm	
Councillors Present	Cllr M Oakden (Chair), M White (Deputy Chair), Gez Smith (Volunteer)
Apologies	Cllr I Mutch, Ark Redwood (Volunteer)
Absent	Cllr J Cousins
In Attendance	S Marks (Committee Clerk)
Public Participation	

17. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTE REASONS GIVEN

Apologies were received from Cllr I Mutch and A Redwood due to prior arrangements.

18. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interests in addition to those already disclosed via councillor's register of interests to the Monitoring Officer.

19. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 1st JUNE 2026

The minutes of the meeting held on the 1st June 2026 were **SIGNED** by the Chair, as a true record of the meeting.

The Committee Clerk reported with sadness that Terry Porter, one of the South West in Bloom judges, had passed away. Terry had always enjoyed his judging visits to Glastonbury and would be greatly missed by everyone involved with Glastonbury in Bloom. The Committee expressed its sincere gratitude for his guidance and support throughout Glastonbury's Bloom journey.

It was agreed that the Committee Clerk would send a card of condolence to Terry's family.

Cllr M Oakden asked for an update on the portfolio. The Committee Clerk confirmed that it had been completed and submitted to both South West in Bloom and Britain in Bloom.

20. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER A COMMITTEE BUDGET REPORT AND MAKE ANY ASSOCIATED DECISIONS REGARDING ANY EXPENDITURE NOT OTHERWISE LISTED ON THE AGENDA

The Committee Clerk presented the finance report and confirmed that all invoices were up to date. The only outstanding expenditure to be added to the accounts was the buffet catering for both judging days, together with the costs of the bedding plants for outside St Dunstan's House and the bedding area in the St Dunstan's House car park.

The Committee Clerk also reported that she had designed and printed the competition certificates in-house, resulting in a saving on external printing costs.

21. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON SUMMER BEDDING FOR 2026

The Committee Clerk reported that the summer bedding programme was almost complete, with only the planters outside St Dunstan's House and the bedding area in St Dunstan's House car park, near the bus stop, remaining to be finished. She continued to report that displays survived the heavy rain and thunderstorm from the previous week

The Committee Clerk reminded Members that a community litter pick would take place on Sunday 5th July to help prepare the town ahead of the South West in Bloom judging visit on Monday 6th July.

22. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON BUSINESS SUPPORT

The Committee Clerk reported that 20 local businesses had supported Glastonbury in Bloom for 2026.

She advised that new banners had been designed and ordered in preparation for the South West in Bloom judging visit on Monday 6th July.

The Committee Clerk also reported that support stickers for the Chilkwell Street flower barrels had been ordered. As one advertising sign remained unsponsored, she had taken the opportunity to create additional promotional signage for the Glastonbury Information Centre and St Dunstan's House, making full use of the sign.

The Committee Clerk reported that all sponsors had been sent an invitation to meet the South West in Bloom judge at the Glastonbury Tribunal on Monday.

23. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON SOUTH WEST IN BLOOM AND DISCUSS ARRANGEMENTS FOR JUDGING DAY

The Committee Clerk confirmed that the South West in Bloom judging day is on Monday 6th July 2026, with Judge R Pooley due to arrive at 10.00am. The Festival Hall and the Glastonbury Tribunal had been booked for the visit. The Committee Clerk thanked Somerset Council and the volunteers for all their work in preparing the town for judging.

The Committee Clerk reported that the planned mop-up day had been postponed due to the Extreme Heat Weather Warning. As the schools scheduled to be visited were closed, it had been agreed with South West in Bloom that the judging day would be postponed accordingly and a new date would be arranged.

The Committee Clerk further advised that the judge R Pooley would be unable to visit the Chalice Well following the Glastonbury judging tour.

It was reported that Burns the Bread would be providing the buffet lunch. D Summers-Cooper (Glastonbury Information Centre Lead) and Cllr M Oakden would assist with setting up at the Glastonbury Tribunal, and the Committee Clerk would help tidy up after the judging had concluded. Cllr M Oakden will speak to D Summers-Cooper about the final arrangements.

The Committee Clerk confirmed that everyone involved in the judging day had been informed of the arrangements and issued with lanyards. All invited guests had been contacted, and Cllr M Oakden and the Committee Clerk would purchase the remaining refreshments from the supermarket on the Friday prior to the judging day.

Initial:

Date:

24. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON BRITAIN IN BLOOM

The Committee Clerk reported that all arrangements for the Britain in Bloom judging visit were in place. She had also reminded the participating schools to prepare a short film for the Britain in Bloom judges.

The Committee Clerk confirmed that the judges would arrive at Castle Cary railway station and travel to Glastonbury by taxi. Following tea and cake in the Festival Hall, the Committee Clerk would take the judges to their hotel.

The Assistant Town Clerk would collect the judges from their hotel at 8.30am the following morning and return them to the Town Hall. A taxi had been arranged to take the judges back to Castle Cary railway station for the next stage of their judging tour.

It was agreed to discuss Britain in Bloom more at the next meeting.

25. TO DISCUSS "HISTORY IN GLASTONBURY"

G Smith reported that he had been in contact with local people and organisations to support the project. A September event was being considered, as gardening activities would be beginning to wind down at that time.

G Smith also advised that he would produce a short video explaining how participants should clean and prepare their pieces of pottery before bringing them to a venue (to be confirmed) where they could be incorporated into the display.

The Committee discussed the proposal further, including possible venues for the event.

It was agreed to continue discussions on the project at the next meeting.

26. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON THE GLASTONBURY IN BLOOM POSTER COMPETITION

The Committee Clerk presented the winners posters to the Committee and confirmed that award assemblies had been held at St John's School and St Dunstan's School.

She reported that the award assembly at St Benedict's School had been postponed due to the extreme heat weather warning, which resulted in the school being closed. A new date of 9th July had been arranged, when the Mayor, Cllr Z Price, would join the Committee Clerk to present the remaining awards.

Some posters had already been given to local businesses to put up in their shop windows.

27. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON GLASTONBURY IN BLOOM RESIDENTIAL COMPETITION

G Smith updated the Committee on this year's Residential Garden Competition, reporting that many gardens had been entered, with two wishing to be added after judging had taken place.

The Committee agreed that the competition categories should be reviewed for next year, as some of the existing categories could cause confusion.

As the application process is now online, space is no longer an issue, and additional categories could be introduced. It was also agreed that the Community Garden category should be reviewed.

G Smith commented that Glastonbury residents had created two distinct styles of gardens: beautifully manicured gardens and wildlife-friendly gardens, both of which were equally impressive.

G Smith advised that he had been unable to judge one of the entries. The Committee Clerk agreed to contact the entrant to arrange a suitable date for the garden to be judged.

It was agreed that G Smith would prepare a PowerPoint presentation featuring the gardens visited for the Glastonbury in Bloom Presentation Evening in October.

28. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON GLASTONBURY GARDEN OPEN DAYS

The Committee Clerk invited G Smith to update the Committee on this year's Open Gardens Day.

G Smith reported that his garden had received a good number of visitors during the day, including many of his neighbours as well as two groups of visitors whom he had not previously met.

He suggested that, for next year's event, a map could be produced showing the participating garden addresses, provided that the names of the owners were not included, to comply with GDPR requirements.

The Committee Clerk reported that she had also received positive feedback from other participants who had taken part in the event.

It was agreed that an Open Gardens Day would be held again in 2027.

The Committee Clerk confirmed that the Keep Britain Tidy notice boards and the Dog Poo Fairy stickers had arrived and were ready to be installed at appropriate locations around Glastonbury.

29. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The date of next meeting will be held Monday 20th July 2026.

SIGNED:	DATE: