



GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Glastonbury in Bloom Committee held Monday 12th January 2026 at 7pm	
Councillors Present	Cllr M Oakden (Chair), M White (Deputy Chair), Cllr Lokabandhu, Ark Redwood (Volunteer), Gez Smith (Volunteer)
Apologies	
Absent	Cllr J Cousins, I Mutch
In Attendance	S Marks (Committee Clerk), Katie Armstrong (Assistant Town Clerk)
Public Participation	

55. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTE REASONS GIVEN

No apologies were received.

56. 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.

57. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 10th NOVEMBER 2025

The minutes of the meeting held on the 10th November 2025 were **SIGNED** by the Chair, as a true record of the meeting.

58. TO DISCUSS THE FINANCE REPORT AND BUDGET FOR 2026/2027

The Committee Clerk reviewed the finance report with the Committee and confirmed that the final large invoices had now been paid.

Cllr M Oakden explained that the current year had been financially challenging, as staff costs for work on Glastonbury in Bloom had now been included, which had a significant impact on the budget. The Committee has requested an increased budget from Full Council to cover these staff costs, as well as expenses relating to South West in Bloom and the potential entry into Britain in Bloom.

As in previous years, support will be sought from local businesses; however, this funding cannot always be guaranteed.

K Armstrong explained that new procedures are now in place and that changes have been made to budgeting processes. It was agreed that K Armstrong would speak with the Finance Officer regarding the Glastonbury in Bloom budget for 2025/2026, specifically in relation to the staff costs that have been charged.

G Smith suggested that the Committee explore potential grant funding to support the forthcoming Bloom projects and recommended a contact who may be able to assist.

Initial:

Date:

13

59. TO DISCUSS SUMMER BEDDING FOR 2026

The Committee Clerk reviewed the summer bedding requirements and reminded members that the colour theme for this year will be rainbow colours. She confirmed that she has spoken with Sweet Acre Nursery and received suggestions regarding suitable bedding plants and hanging baskets for the display. Using this information, the Committee Clerk will prepare a quotation, which will be circulated to three nurseries for pricing.

60. TO DISCUSS THE OPEN GARDENS FOR 2026

It was agreed that an Open Garden Day should be arranged this year, and that further information would be required on how to proceed. The Committee Clerk had contacted another Bloom committee with experience in these events and was awaiting a reply.

G Smith suggested contacting residents involved in the Glastonbury in Bloom competition to see if they would be interested in participating. K Armstrong suggested also approaching the Glastonbury Tribunal Garden Club to determine their interest.

The committee agreed that 6th and 7th June 2026 should be considered as the proposed dates for the Open Garden event.

This matter will be discussed further at the next meeting.

61. TO DISCUSS HANGING BASKET PRICES FOR 2026

The Committee Clerk asked the committee to consider the pricing for hanging baskets for 2026.

Cllr M White proposed that the cost of the hanging baskets for 2026 be set at £30.00 including VAT, with any additional reminder baskets purchased at £15.00 including VAT.

The proposal was seconded by Cllr M Oakden and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

62. TO DISCUSS LOCAL SUPPORT FROM LOCAL BUSINESSES IN 2026

The Committee Clerk raised the matter of the Chilkwell Street Barrels. She noted that, due to the poor quality of the sponsorship boards in 2024, it had been agreed that sponsorship for 2025 would be free. With the improved quality of the boards this year, she recommended that a charge be applied.

Cllr Lokabandhu proposed that the cost of support for the Chilkwell Street Barrels for 2026 be set at £50.00. The proposal was seconded by Cllr M Oakden and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

It was also agreed that support from local businesses would be a suggested donation of £250.00. The Committee Clerk was tasked with approaching Glastonbury Festival for assistance towards the hanging baskets and The Crown Hotel / The Mitre for their continued support of the Market Square.

63. TO DISCUSS SOUTH WEST IN BLOOM AND BRITAIN IN BLOOM JUDGING DAYS AND VENUE REQUIREMENTS

It was agreed to request the Glastonbury Tribunal as the venue for the end of the judging process, and to use the Festival Hall as a replacement venue (for the Council Chamber) for the start of the judging process to meet and greet the judge(s).

64. TO DISCUSS THE SOUTH WEST IN BLOOM SPRING SEMINAR 2026

The Committee Clerk confirmed that the Spring Seminar would once again be held at RHS Rosemoor and asked Cllr M Oakden to confirm for whom tickets should be purchased.

Cllr M Oakden confirmed that five tickets should be purchased for:

- Cllr M Oakden
- Cllr M White (Mayor)
- C Ogilvie-Davidson
- K Armstrong
- S Marks

Cllr M Oakden explained to the committee that these seminars are very important, as they provide information that is useful in preparation for the judging days.

65. TO DISCUSS POTENTIAL PROJECTS FOR 2026

The Committee Clerk asked the Committee to consider the possibility of producing a Glastonbury in Bloom Christmas card to send to other councils and organisations. An example of a Town Council Christmas card designed by a school child was shown, and the Committee was asked to consider a similar approach. It was agreed that this item would be brought to the next Full Council meeting for consideration.

G Smith suggested that the Committee consider giving out free plants, for example lavender or sunflowers, to encourage residents to plant pollinator-friendly flowers in their own gardens.

G Smith also proposed a project entitled "History of Glastonbury in the Gardens of Glastonbury." He explained that residents would be invited to collect any pottery or historical items found in their gardens and take them to Glastonbury Tribunal or the Festival Hall to learn more about the history of what lies beneath their gardens.

It was suggested that this project could be advertised via social media, the Glastonbury Town Council newsletter, and the Town Council website. To be discussed further.

66. TO CONSIDER FUNDING A PLANTER PROJECT AT ST EDMUNDS HALL

Cllr Lokabandhu approached the Committee to request funding for bedding plants for the raised planters at St Edmunds Community Hall.

Cllr M Oakden proposed that £100.00 be allocated for the purchase of bedding plants for the raised planters at St Edmunds Community Hall. The proposal was seconded by Cllr M White and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

The Committee Clerk will inform Sweet Acre Nursery that £100.00 has been allocated for St Edmunds Hall.

Cllr Lokabandhu requested that K Armstrong ask the Community Services Officers to check the raised planters at St Edmunds Community Hall once a week, if possible.

67. TO CONSIDER THE SAKURA CHERRY TREE PROJECT IN BUTLEIGH, SOMERSET

The Committee Clerk reminded members that information on this project had been emailed to them in advance of the meeting for their consideration.

The Committee discussed various areas within Glastonbury where these could be planted. It was suggested that Fishers Hill be contacted, and that Cinnamon Lane Play Park could also be considered as a potential location.

This matter is to be discussed further at the next meeting.

68. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The date of next meeting will be held Monday 30th March 2026.

SIGNED:	DATE:
----------------	--------------

Initial:

Date: