



GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL

Minutes of Climate & Ecological Emergency Advisory Committee (CEEAC) held on August 7th 2025 at 7pm	
Councillors Present	Cllr Lindsay MacDougall, Cllr Serena Roney-Dougal, Cllr Mike Smyth.
Apologies	Gareth Lowe, Ailsa Masterton, Sue Pearson.
In Attendance	Ramona Belcher, Susannah Clemence, Alakhrupa Harper, Joe Joseph, Melissa Taylor (clerk).
Public Participation	Bev Coggan spoke. The subjects raised included: Pedestrian safety on the A361 and bus stop near the Drill Hall.

1. ELECT A CHAIR

Cllr Serena Roney-Dougal was elected as Chair of this committee. Susannah Clemence proposed, Joe Joseph seconded, supported unanimously.

2. ELECT A DEPUTY

Susannah Clemence was elected as Deputy Chair of this committee. Cllr Roney-Dougal proposed, Alakh Harper seconded, supported unanimously.

3. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Gareth, Ailsa and Sue.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest.

5. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

The APRIL meeting minutes were reviewed, considered a true record, and will be signed by the Chair.

6. ACTIVE TRAVEL & TRANSPORT: 20mph and Speedwatch

Following Bev's description of her experience of standing waiting for a bus to Wells at the bus stop on the A361 close to the Drill Hall with 5 grandchildren, there was a discussion about road safety. The speed limit on this road is 30mph, but most vehicles, including Heavy Good Vehicles, exceed this. There is not safe place to wait for a bus, and no safe route for residents to walk to Tesco. Two problems: hedges and brambles have reduced the usable pavement space; the speed of vehicles makes it feel unsafe to be so close to traffic. Christine Prior spoke at the last Full Town Council

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meeting, about the need to remind people of the 20mph limit around the town, and the benefits it brings. It was suggested that we need to have a dialogue about speed.

One Speed Indicator Device (SID), which generates data, was purchased for the town through Susannah's police grant application nearly two years ago, and is positioned at Coursing Batch. Another SID (which does not generate data) is moved around to three different locations. Melissa offered to collect the data from the Coursing Batch SID and publish it regularly. She will get the information from Katie.

CEEAC Recommendation 1

Proposed by Cllr Serena Roney-Dougal, seconded by Susannah Clemence

That GTC purchases two additional Speed Indicator Devices for the town, with one to be positioned near the Drill Hall (where cars and HGV's are frequently exceeding the 30mph speed limit making it dangerous to stand at the bus stop on the narrow pavement).

The underuse of the community bus was raised, with only 45 passengers a day using it (2-3 per trip). It was suggested that as this service is subsidised by GTC it should be reviewed.

CEEAC Recommendation 2

Proposed by Cllr Lindsay Macdougall, seconded by Cllr Serena Roney-Dougal

That the operations and finances of the Community Bus, which GTC subsidises, are reviewed.

Making active travel safer is an important part of CEEAC's work. Serena proposed that this committee formally include active travel. Mike seconded. It was unanimously agreed that the A361 committee be integrated into this committee, and its members be invited to join meetings in future. This topic will be a regular item on this committee's agenda.

Susannah shared that regarding the crossing from the Millstream estate to Premier Inn and Tesco, a feasibility study will be funded by Active Travel UK, and Somerset Council will help with finding funding for the crossing.

7. ADAPT: Act to Adapt; climate Adaptation Summit

The River Pollution leaflet has been distributed to homes in the town. Serena would now like to relaunch the tree group, which will assess where trees could be planted within the town centre and help reduce urban overheating. She will send out an email inviting people to get involved. Somerset Climate Adaptation Summit will be held on Friday 27th September, 13:00 - 16:00 at the Red Brick Building. Somerset Wildlife Trust are bringing together all their 'Act to Adapt' communities for an afternoon of knowledge sharing and learning from each other (and cake).

8. UPDATE: from Water pollution working group

The Water pollution group reported that they went on the *Round the Bend* tour at the Sewerage Works. They found it interesting and enlightening. Data is available publicly and reveals that mercury and phosphates are high. At their last meeting the group asked Environment Agency representatives what GTC could do. It was suggested that they could support people who are not connected to the sewerage network to do so, and support businesses. One of the main problems they face is the ingress of storm water into the sewerage system. It was pointed out that the river

pollution leaflet is an important step in encouraging residents to separate rain water from foul water and divert it away from the sewerage system.

9. INFLUENCE: Wellbeing & Wonder event update

Melissa shared details of the Wellbeing & Wonder event to be held at the Town Hall on Sunday September 14th 11am to 5pm. There is a full programme of talks and stalls with activities. The poster and programme will be shared next week.

10. REPORT from Climate Emergency & Resilience Officer

Melissa shared some of the activities that she has been working on apart from those already mentioned:

- Decarbonisation work is progressing - Planning application for insulation and solar panels should be submitted soon.
- GTC's Emergency Response Plan will be launched at the Wellbeing & Wonder event on Sept 14th. Also working on Business Continuity Plan and Lockdown Procedures.
- A Freedom of Information Request has been submitted to the council regarding 'Green Net Zero Policies', and various documents have been sent in response.
- Weed control without pesticides is an interest of other councils who regularly send requests for information about GTC's experience. A new machine is being used and has proved to be quicker and easier than the Foamstream.
- A film from Bath Spa University students will be released next week, featuring Glastonbury and its climate adaptation work, along with other towns.
- Disinformation training materials have been sent to councillors and staff to help them respond to people and social media with consistent messages.
- Attended community resilience building training and will focus on this in future months.

11. ANNOUNCEMENTS

There is concern about work to the bridge at the end of the Willow Walk as there are Swallows nesting under it. Melissa will send Alakh the details of the ecologist Geckoella so that she can contact them.

Peat restoration project on Common Moor field to be added to the next agenda. What else could the land be used for? Football? What sort of survey needs to be carried out, and could the peat help with offsetting GTC's remaining CO2 emissions.

Fisher's Hill verges need tidying.

12. Date of next meeting

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday October 30th 7pm in the Council Chamber.

SIGNED:	DATE:
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