



GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL

| Minutes of Glastonbury Town Council held on 11 March 2025 at 7 pm | |
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| Councillors Present | R. Cook, S. Henderson, Lokabandhu, P. Manning, I. Mutch, N. Cottle, M. Oakden, L. Osborn, S. Roney-Dougal, I. Donfrancesco, L. MacDougall, J. Cousins, T. Napper and M. White |
| Apologies | Cllr M. Smyth and Z. Price. |
| Absent | |
| In Attendance | Town Clerk, Assistant Town Clerk, Two Macebearers, and 13 members of the public |
| Public Participation | Four members of the public spoke during public participation. The subject raised included: 1. Safer routes for pedestrians 2. Petition relating to safer routes for pedestrians 3. Sacred Birth Centre 4. Sacred Death Centre |

228. TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE AND NOTE THE REASONS GIVEN

Cllr Smyth offered apologies owing to family commitments and Cllr Price offered apologies owing to being unwell. These were duly **NOTED**.

229. DECLARATIONS OF DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interests in addition to those already disclosed via councillor's registers of interests.

230. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING AS A CORRECT RECORD

The minutes of the meeting of February were considered a correct record, these were then duly **SIGNED** by the chair.

231. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING

The Town Clerk gave an update on completed actions from the February Full Council meeting, this included:

- Information regarding the successful grant received from SALC for Avalon and Polden Local Community Network for Step, Ride and Thrive initiative.
- The working group is due to meet regarding the recruitment for a Town Crier and
- The market Terms and Conditions is an item on the agenda to discuss later.

232. TO NOTE THE LATEST CRIME STATISTICS REPORT

The statistics were noted by Councillors.

233. TO CONSIDER THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

Various questions were raised by Councillors and answered fully by the Responsible Finance Officer and the Town Clerk.

Members considered the Schedule of Payments, and it was duly **SIGNED** by the Chair and another Councillor.

234. TO RECEIVE THE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

Members considered and **NOTED** the budget monitoring report.

235. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ASSET AND SERVICE DEVOLUTION FROM SOMERSET COUNCIL

An update was given by the Town Clerk, the sub-committee has met regarding the key decision details which is likely to be delivered on the 1st April. The Town Clerk reported that the car parks at St Edmunds Hall and St Dunstan's will be transferring along with the Tuesday Market to Glastonbury Town Council on this date.

236. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON ST DUNSTAN'S HOUSE

The £500,000 from the Community Ownership fund had been received. The SALC grant has been awarded and the £35,000 was due to be received, this will roughly pay £25,000 for the St Dunstan's Facility Lead and £10,000 for 37 "Snug" sessions run by Glastonbury Mental Health Network.

237. TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE ON TOWN HALL HEAT DEMAND-REDUCTION MEASURES

A report from our Climate Emergency and Resilience Officer was shared with Councillors and discussed. It was Proposed by Cllr Donfrancesco to add this to an agenda for the 2030 Committee. This was seconded by Cllr White and **AGREED** unanimously with three abstentions.

238. TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT THE NEW BUDGET STRUCTURE FOR 2025-26

This document detailing the new reporting structure for the budget was shared with Councillors prior to the meeting. The Town Clerk talked through and explained the changes that have been made to improve the clarity of our financial reporting.

It was highlighted that a budget line of £5775 was not factored into the budget and will need to be removed; the reason for this budget line was also not clear and its removal would not affect the budget, planned operations or projects of the Town Council.

It was proposed by Cllr Cousins for the Town Council to adopt this budget structure and to remove the highlighted budget line. This was seconded by Cllr Donfrancesco and **AGREED** unanimously with three abstentions.

239. TO CONSIDER AND AGREE THE GLASTONBURY NEIGHBOURHOOD PLAN SCREENING DOCUMENT AND SUBMIT IT TO THE PLANNING AUTHORITY FOR SCREENING

It was proposed by Cllr Roney-Dougal to accept the Neighbourhood Plan Screening Draft and submit it to Somerset Council. This was seconded by Cllr Henderson and was **AGREED** by majority (11:2:1)

240. TO RESOLVE TO OPERATE THE WEEKLY GLASTONBURY CHARTER MARKET IN LINE WITH PART III (MARKETS) OF THE FOOD ACT 1984 AND CONSIDER AN AMENDMENT TO THE COUNCIL'S MARKET POLICY

Councillors were updated regarding the weekly Tuesday Market. The Town Council markets team have been making regular visits and a meeting with stall holders is scheduled to take place.

The Town Clerk recommended that Glastonbury Town Council agree to run the Weekly Tuesday Market and that the pitch prices are revised from £25 to £20, with a 20% reduction in January and February owing to new information that has come to light since the last draft of the policy was agreed.

It was proposed to accept the recommendations from the Town Clerk by Cllr Lokabandhu. This was seconded by Cllr Oakden and **RESOLVED** unanimously.

241. TO CONSIDER A REQUEST FROM A LOCAL AUTHOR TO BE THE LISTED PUBLISHER AND DISTRIBUTOR OF A SECOND WORLD WAR "GLASTONBURY WAR BOOK", INCLUDING A CONTRIBUTION TOWARD PRODUCTION

A discussion was had, and Councillors considered this request.

It was proposed by Cllr Cottle to accept the author's full request and allow up to £700 for printing; this will be delegated to the Town Clerk. This was seconded by Cllr Cousins and was **AGREED** by majority (12:1:1)

242. TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT THE CHARTER FOR COMPASSION FOR GLASTONBURY

It was proposed by Cllr Cousins to adopt the Charter for Compassion. This was seconded by Cllr Cottle and **AGREED** by majority. (12:1:1)

243. TO NOTE THE RESOLUTIONS OF DELEGATED COMMITTEES

a. Arts, Culture and Events Advisory Committee meeting held on 12th February 2025

- i) Cllr. Z. Price proposed the Arts, Culture and Events Committee recommend to Full Council to engage the services of a dedicated Communications Officer.

This was seconded by K. Shaw and **RESOLVED** with no abstentions.

It was proposed by Cllr Lokabandhu to defer this decision to the Staffing Committee to consider. This was seconded by Cllr Donfrancesco. The was agreed by **MAJORITY**. (13:1:0)

b. Planning Committee meeting held on 18th February 2025

- i) 2025/0111/VRC - Variation of condition 4 (Relief Sculpture Panels) on consent 2022/2206/FUL (Development of an open piazza space and the extension, refurbishment and modification of the visitor shop, cafe and museum buildings to include new toilets. Demolition of the former shop/store building, the central entrance building and toilet block. New hard and soft landscaping) – The Abbey, Magdalene Street, Glastonbury, BA6 9EL – J Bell – Variation or Removal of Conditions.
(This application was not debated due to the Applicant being an adjoining property to Glastonbury Town Council).
- ii) 2025/0181/HSE – Removal of existing single storey back extension and replace with new one & half storey extension. New veranda and decking area along the north and west elevation of the new extension – Replacement of the existing flat roof dormer with new pitch roof – 7 Havyatt, Glastonbury, BA6 8LF – Mr & Mrs Eady – Householder.
(Cllr Cousins proposed, seconded by Cllr Henderson and unanimously agreed to recommend approval of this application).
- iii) 2025/2311/FUL – Class E, Commercial Unit comprising Light Industrial, Offices, Drink and Food Outlet and Recreation – Mollen Farm, Edgarley Road, Edgarley, Glastonbury – Hui Yang – Full Application.
(Cllr Smyth proposed, seconded by Cllr Henderson and unanimously agreed to recommend Refusal of this application, based on the following material considerations:-
- The proposed development would have a harmful impact upon the character and appearance of the special landscape feature of St. Michael’s Church and Glastonbury Tor.
 - The proposed development would also cause harm to the significant views / vistas identified in the Glastonbury Conservation Area Appraisal (see CAA Composite Map 3 attached).
 - The proposed development may cause traffic problems, such as traffic generation, access, or safety problems – especially being close to a pre-prep school (ages 2-7 year olds).
 - There is a history of rejecting similar developments in the area.
 - Approval would create a precedent meaning that it would be difficult to object to similar proposals.
- iv) 2025/0211/ADV – Erection of new sign affixed to south elevation wall & new sign affixed to west elevation wall – The Abbey, Magdalene Street, Glastonbury, BA6 9EL – Janet Bell – Application to Display Adverts.
(This application was not debated due to the Applicant being an adjoining property to Glastonbury Town Council).

c. Youth Committee meeting held on 6th March 2025

i) Children’s World – Easter Extravaganza

Cllr Lokabandhu proposed the full amount of £500.00. Seconded by Cllr White and RESOLVED unanimously.

ii) Lost Projectz – Afterschool Skate Club every Thursday

Cllr Z Price proposed the full amount of £500.00. Seconded by Cllr M White and RESOLVED unanimously.

244. TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND CONSIDER RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DECISION

a. Town Centre Crime Reduction Advisory Committee meeting held on 20th February 2025

No recommendations from this Committee.

b. Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee meeting held on 25th February 2025

Cllr M Smyth proposed, seconded by Cllr Roney-Dougal and unanimously agreed that the Committee supports the aspiration of a Cultural Quarter being included in the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr J Cousins proposed, seconded by Cllr Roney-Dougal and unanimously agreed to add Glastonbury Football Club and the Orchard next to St Anne’s B&B on Chilkwell Street to the list of Green Spaces in the plan.

c. A361 Advisory Committee meeting held on 26th February 2025

No recommendations from this Committee.

d. Community Review Advisory Committee meeting held on 3rd March 2025

No recommendations from this Committee.

245. TO RECEIVE UNITARY COUNCILLOR REPORTS

An update was given by Cllr Cottle.

246. TO RECEIVE UPDATES FROM LEAD COUNCILLORS AND REPRESENTATIVE TO OUTSIDE BODIES

Cllr White gave an update regarding the Town Deal projects.

Cllr Cousins attended the AGM of the Somerset Internal Drainage Board and gave a wider update.

Cllr Manning gave an update regarding the Chamber of Commerce.

247. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor gave an update on events he had attended and projects he is involved in. A reminder to Cllrs regarding the Town Meeting on the 22nd April.

248. CORRESPONDENCE, COMMUNICATIONS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Town Clerk announced that Glastonbury Brass have made the National Finals in Gloucester. The Property and Assets meeting has been rearranged for the 10th April.

249. TO CONSIDER ANY ITEMS FOR NEWS RELEASE

Council agreed that news releases would be made on the following topics:

- War Book
- Massai Warriors
- Annual Town Meeting

250. TO REVIEW ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING

Several actions were noted from the Town Clerk including:

- The 20230 Committee will consider the carbon neutral gas offered by Ecotricity
- The new budget structure has been adopted
- The Neighbourhood Plan is to be submitted for screening, and
- The Staffing Committee is to discuss the Marketing position.

251. TO PASS A MOTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 AMENDED BY THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014, THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WILL BE EXCLUDED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEMS DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED

This was proposed by Cllr Cousins to **ACCEPT** this motion. This was seconded by Cllr Henderson and **AGREED** unanimously.

252. TO CONSIDER THE NOMINATIONS RECEIVED FOR COMMUNITY AWARDS

Councillors considered the nominations received for Citizen of the Year and other Volunteer awards, winners were chosen, and the presentation will be made at the Annual Town Meeting.

253. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 AMENDED BY THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014, THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WILL BE INVITED BACK FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING

This was proposed by Cllr Cousins to **ACCEPT** this motion. This was seconded by Cllr Donfrancesco and **AGREED** unanimously.

254. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT ORDINARY MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday 8th April 2025

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| SIGNED: | DATE: |
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