



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 13th July 2021 at 7pm

- PRESENT:** Councillors S Barnet, C Bishop, L Browne, J Coles, J Cousins, S Henderson, J Keery, P Lund, I Mutch, B Outten, S Roney-Dougal, M Smyth and I Tucker
- APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Cottle, MacDougal and Prior
- IN ATTENDANCE:** County Councillors Leyshon and Napper, Town Clerk, one Mace Bearer and five members of public.
- Public participation:** Five members of the public spoke during public participation. The subjects covered included:
- Tor Leisure and the Cricket Club
 - Town tidy up and traffic
 - Trillion Trees project
 - Travellers Land Rights

41. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllr Cousins declared an interest in Item 14. Town Deal as he is a member of Avalon Community Energy.

Cllr Tucker – Item 14, Town Deal as a trustee of the Beckery Island Regeneration Trust

Cllr Henderson – Item 14, Town Deal as a trustee of the Beckery Island Regeneration Trust

Cllr Lund – Item 14, Town Deal as he is leading one of the projects being submitted

Cllr Roney-Dougal – Item 14, Town Deal – involved with the Friends of Brides Mound.

42. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN- COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 8th JUNE 2021

The minutes of the June meeting of the Town Council required some minor amendments before they were approved by council and presented to the Mayor for signing.

43. SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

- The Clerk has written to the Mendip Officers and Leader to express the appreciation of Glastonbury Town Council in helping to progress the Town Deal Fund.
- The Police and Crime Commissioner has been invited to meet with the Mayor and Deputy Mayor on Friday 10th September.
- The electric powered van has now been purchased, sign written and dry lining fitted.
- The problems with the community fridge seem to have been resolved following dialogue with the clerk's office.
- Correspondence relating to the planning application for additional peat extraction has been sent to the MP, SCC and the Environment Secretary
- Our website has been updated to inform that the town council does not support unauthorised events, parades and demonstrations.

44. TO RECEIVE A POLICE REPORT

The report compiled by the Police representing Mendip West had been previously circulated. The Glastonbury Beat Team report was not available at the time of the meeting (it has now been received and circulated). Sgt Lancey was hoping to have attended the meeting in person, yet due to operational reasons, was unable to attend. Councillors responded to this item by expressing a concern that no police report was available for the meeting and asked the Clerk to enquire why this had happened. Concerns raised under this item which it is anticipated should be addressed included Public Space Protection Orders (PSPO), the serving of alcohol by retailers to street drinkers and the absence of a direct meeting with PC Tom Miler who has been seconded for two months to another department. Also mentioned, although no further information was available is the purpose of a meeting by the police with retailers.

45. TO RECEIVE THE RESOLUTIONS OF:

Planning Committee meeting held on 15th June 2021

Cllr Smyth informed that application - 2021/1159/TPO – T1: Oak – Fell – 2 Ashwell Lane, Glastonbury, BA6 8BG having been referred to the Tree Officer has informed that additional research is now underway. Cllr Barnet informed that she had met with the applicants of Harbour Farm to understand better the application submitted.

45. TO RECEIVE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Leyshon informed that there are three enormous influences which will impact significantly on Glastonbury's future. The Town Deal Fund, Multi Agency Group and the outcome of the Unitary Authority debate, for which the outcome is expected to be made before the 22nd July. The timelines for each of these major events converge and cross at various times, making the future for Glastonbury both exciting and arduous. The installation of the 20MPH zone throughout the town is still not known. Potholes on Wells Road have been resolved, yet Magdalene Street has a number of potholes which are causing concerns. With regards to the Multi Agency Group, Cllr Leyshon informed that it would be helpful if each of the respective authorities with land in and around Glastonbury, including the Town Council could retain an open mind on future uses. Purchasing appropriate land for the delivery of solutions to housing and encampments should also be considered. Access to Brides Mound and the suggested permissive routes for pedestrians was discussed. Cllr Leyshon provided a brief overview of the work of the Multi Agency Group, which she informed is incredibly complicated. The introduction of a safe cycle way at Bretenoux Road was among the suggested solutions presented.

Cllr Napper added that concerns are being expressed at County Hall on the effect of Freedom Day (July 19th) when covid restrictions are being lifted. He informed that the number of cases of covid continue across the county, although thankfully there are no covid cases currently in Somerset's hospitals and no recent deaths. The opportunity to be vaccinated is being encouraged through a programme known as 'grab a jab'.

46. TO RECEIVE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr MacDougall submitted a written report which has been placed on the councils website.

Cllr Henderson informed that he had attended a planning meeting at Mendip. He also suggested that clarity is required on town council engagement with the travelling community, informing that it was important that a single message was relayed, as he had been informed that "the town council are doing deals with travellers"!

Cllr Cousins informed that he has recently been inducted as the Mendip DC representative on the Axe and Brue Internal Drainage Board and has attended his first meeting. He is also the representative on the Joint Scrutiny panel of the Somerset Rivers Authority. He continues to be the town councils shadow representative on the Town Investment Board.

Cllr Barnet referred to Cllr MacDougall's report and requested that the town council writes to Sara Clay to thank her for the years of dedication to the Op's Shop as it is understood she is leaving Glastonbury. Cllr Henderson proposed, seconded by Cllr Tucker and unanimously **RESOLVED** that the council writes a letter, raising at the same time the emerging opportunities for integration within St Dunstan's House. 13-0-0

47. MOTION Proposed by Cllr Browne, Seconded by Cllr Cousins:

That Glastonbury Town Council congratulates the NHS on its 73rd anniversary, welcoming its award of the George Cross, from HM Queen Elizabeth II, in recognition of their dedication and compassion in serving our nation through these decades and especially through the Covid crisis. The reported underfunding of the NHS and staff shortages needs to be addressed, with a recommendation to write to the Secretary of State to relay our concerns.

The discussion that followed concluded with the agreement to write two separate letters, one to the National Health Service to congratulate them on their 73rd birthday and a second letter to the Secretary of State to raise concerns regarding funding the NHS, particularly in relation to being able to see a doctor and the improvements required.

48. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATION 2021/1298/HSE 49, Benedict Street, Glastonbury. To demolish existing UPVC conservatory lean-to at rear and construct flat roofed/cavity wall kitchen/diner. Applicant Mr and Mrs J Bull
Cllr Mutch introduced the item concluding in a proposal by Cllr Mutch, seconded by Councillor Tucker and unanimously **AGREED** that the application be supported. 13-0-0

49. TO RECEIVE THE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

There were no comments arising from the budget monitoring report which was subsequently approved. The Responsible Financial Officer organised some training with the addition of explanatory notes to accompany the report. These additions to the way the finance report is presented were welcomed.

50. TO RECEIVE THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

A few questions requiring further explanation were raised:

- i. The cost of operating the electric vehicle charging point was presented. Councillors requested additional information on the annual costs of operating the EV charging points.
- ii. CNG was wrongly identified as being a supplier of electricity, it should have been identified as a gas supplier. The contract for this supplier is due for renewal on 21st August 2021
- iii. SSE are identified as a provider of electricity, yet it was understood that the town council purchased all its electricity from renewable sources. This contract is due for renewal from 31st August 2021.
- iv. Items 733 and 752 appear to be duplicated. On checking, the item had been recorded twice, yet paid only once.

51. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

a. Climate Emergency

Cllr Roney-Dougal informed that a report is being prepared for the next meeting of the council on the subject ecological emergency. The group have concluded that there are insufficient electric vehicle charging points in Glastonbury to meet the anticipated future demand. An explanation was sought as to why some of the recently purchased cycle racks have not been installed. This was concluded with the suggestion that the Property and Assets committee review the situation and report back to the council. The committee again emphasised the need to look for additional allotments to meet current demand. It was suggested that the Climate Emergency and Resilience

Officer be invited to prepare a written report for each full council meeting.

b. Glastonbury in Bloom

A paper previously prepared by Cllr Prior was tabled.

- i. Town clean-up day** Has been organised for Sunday 18th July prior to the judging for SW in Bloom on 21st July.

c. Youth.

Cllr Barnet informed that three grant applications have recently been received. Tor Theatre, Paddington Farm (in conjunction with Children's World) and Edge Acrobatics. Consideration is being given to the refurbishment of Abbey Park for which a task and finish group has been set up. This group comprises of both councillors and non-councillors and is expected to have completed its work by November 2021.

d. Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee celebrations

A letter has recently been received from the Pageantmaster of the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, inviting the town council to partake in celebrations in June 2022. The Deputy Mayor, Cllr Browne is leading the input from the town council and sought assistance in the form of a working party to help with the organisation of the events planned. The following councillors volunteered themselves to the working group: Cllrs – Barnet, Coles, Cousins, Lund, Smyth and Tucker, Bishop, Browne. Among the ideas being considered is the creation of 'the Queen's canopy' brought about by the planting of 20 million trees.

52. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

a. Town's Fund

Cllr Tucker informed the Council that a tremendous amount of work continues in preparing the Town Deal fund projects for the second submission by the end of August. There are twelve projects currently being assessed and a business case written for each one. The future legacy beyond the completion of the projects is being considered, with some of the Board members discussing how the future delivery programmes can be delivered. The council were informed that there are concerns about the longer legacy derived from the projects on completion. A meeting has been called between the Glastonbury members of the Town Deal Board and Officers from Mendip DC. It is understood that Glastonbury has possibly been awarded more funding per head of population than any other community of the 101 towns selected.

b. Multi Agency Group

Cllr Bishop asked this item to be included on the agenda and introduced it. He raised concerns about the anti-social behaviour at Stonedown Lane over the solstice period, unauthorised encampments, parking issues and the absence of any sanitation together with the rising amount of litter. Cllr Bishop continued by informing that he considered Glastonbury residents have been let down by the situation and the seemingly lack of any response to address these issues. There is another expected insurgence of people to the Tor on the weekend of 31st July/1st August and again over the weekend of the Glastonbury festival and solstice in September. Cllr Bishop places the blame for the ineffectiveness of dealing with the situation firmly with the National Trust, Police, Mendip District and Somerset County Councils.

Cllr Bishop proposed, seconded by Cllr Browne and unanimously **AGREED** that the clerk is to contact each of the organisations and inform them of the frustration being felt due to the seemingly lack of progress in identifying and delivering solutions to the problems in and around Glastonbury.

13-0-0

53. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

An invitation to attend the agm of the Bridging the Gap food banks on Wednesday 28th July has been received.

54. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

On 17th June, the Mayor attended the Youth Council meeting with Cllr Barnet and awarded

members their certificates of community organising.

Recently, the Mayor has been in contact with the Mayor of Patmos who through a visit by a Glastonbury resident Eveline Maxwell, delivered a small gift from Glastonbury in the form of an Applewood heart, from a tree in the Chalice Well gardens, delivered in a small bag made by the former Mayor Denise Michell.

On the 9th July the Mayor met with James Heappey to celebrate the Town Deal and discuss clean energy delivery within the Town Investment Plan.

55. CORRESPONDENCE

An email invitation has been received from Mary Powell extending an invitation to all councillors to attend the agm of the Glastonbury and Street Bridging the Gap Foodbank on Wednesday 28th July at 7pm.

56. NEWS RELEASES

The purchase of an electric van is considered a news worthy item.

The setting up of a working group to prepare for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee

57. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING.

The Property and Assets Committee has been asked to review the locations of cycle racks in the vicinity of St Dunstan's car park.

The meeting closed at 10.35pm.

Signed _____

Worshipful Mayor
10th August 2021