



# Glastonbury Town Council

**Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> April 2021 at 7pm**

**PRESENT:** Councillors S Barnet, L Browne, J Coles, N Cottle, J Cousins, S Henderson, J Keery, P Lund, L MacDougall, I Mutch, B Outten, C Prior, S Roney-Dougal, M Smyth and I Tucker

**APOLOGIES:** County Cllr Napper

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County Councillor Leyshon, Town Clerk, Climate Emergency Resilience Officer and three members of public.

This meeting was held through electronic means due to the Covid-19 lockdown

## **230. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

There were no declarations of interest.

## **231. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 9<sup>th</sup> MARCH 2021**

The minutes of the March meeting of the Town Council required minor amendments and were then approved as a correct record and will be signed by the Mayor in due course.

## **232. SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

- Continued discussions are taking place with relevant councils on the transfer of assets to Glastonbury Town Council.
- The clerk to write to the Leader of Somerset County Council and explain dismay at the way the removal of unauthorised encampments at Stonedown are not progressing faster
- To bring to the next meeting of the council a recommendation on the support for promoting solar panel installations on private dwellings.

The clerk confirmed that each of these actions have been pursued.

## **233. TO CONSIDER THE RESOLUTIONS OF:**

Planning Committee meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Extraordinary Town Council meeting held on 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2021

Property and Assets Committee meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> April 2021. The key resolutions taken at that meeting were:

- a) Accept the offer from MDC for £150 per week for use of the car park as a market venue and to use the increased use of the car park as a negotiating tool with MDC for the transfer of assets.
- b) Permit Eurolink to install additional IT cabling between St Dunstan's House and the town Hall at a cost of approximately £500
- c) Purchase two sets of tennis nets and posts for the refurbished courts at Tor Leisure at a cost of approximately £800

- d) From 7<sup>th</sup> May to recommence physical meetings of the council in the council chamber, socially distanced and where appropriate, live streamed.
- e) Plant 4 trees at the entrance to Herbies Field and 2 trees in St Dunstan's car park near the bus stop. Two trees to be planted on the Willow Walk and the remaining crab apple trees to be planted on land at Pomparles Bridge near the war memorial.
- f) Galvanised steel trees in planters to remain where they are currently located. At the time of planting hanging plants around the base, the trees to be lifted higher in the planters.
- g) Apply for Herbies Field to become a Fields in Trust to protect it from future development.
- h) Tor Bus to recommence a service when legislation allows for sufficient numbers to be transported safely.
- i) During negotiations with MDC for the transfer of the land asset at Pomparles Bridge, to insist that appropriate fencing is installed prior to the transfer to protect it from further unauthorised encampments.

**234. PRESENTATION BY MELISSA TAYLOR WHO INFORMED OF THE PROGRESS IN DETERMINING THE TOWN COUNCILS CARBON FOOTPRINT.**

The Climate Emergency and Resilience Officer presented to the council the work that she has undertaken since the commencement of her employment. The key findings are that the operations of the Town Council are responsible for 46 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub>e annually. 75% of this figure relates to the heat and power to the council buildings. With gas being the largest commodity used to heat the town hall. The focus now turns to reducing demand, decarbonising supply, support nature based solutions, influence, adapt.

**235. TO RECEIVE THE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

The budget prepared for the previously postponed meeting has been superseded due to the councils accountant preparing the end of year accounts. The suggestion of holding over the analysis of the budget until the next meeting of the council was upheld.

**236. TO RECEIVE THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

The Schedule of Payments was presented and there being no questions and was duly approved

**237. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

**a. Climate Emergency**

Cllr Roney-Dougal provided a synopsis of the work of the Climate Emergency Group. Following Glastonbury Town Council's declaration of Climate Emergency, a group of town councillors and individuals first met in July 2019 to discuss and support local projects that help to reduce carbon dioxide emissions, protect the environment, and create a more climate resilient community. These include:

Open Day and People's Assembly.

Support for the Towns Deal 'Town Investment Plan' bid.

Town Centre Refurbishments.

Appointment of Climate Emergency & Resilience Officer.

Supporting the development of Glastonbury Community Fridge.

Links with Friends of the Earth, Extinction Rebellion, the Conservation Society, environmental and community groups, food growers, businesses.

Local group activities: traffic slowing, tree planting, rewilding verges, volunteer litter-picking, and cycle-path clearing.

**b. Glastonbury in Bloom**

Cllr Cousins informed that at the last meeting of the Glastonbury in Bloom committee it was announced that the SW in Bloom competition would again be running following a break due to the covid pandemic. Retailers wishing to have hanging basket displays have been asked to apply to the council and a good number are coming forward. A further meeting is planned for 5<sup>th</sup> May.

**238. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

**a. Town Deal Fund**

Cllr Tucker informed that the three accelerator projects of the Town Deal fund that the Council led on have almost completed, with just a few snagging issues to resolve. The problems of unauthorised encampments at Stonedown Lane have prevented the installation of the last interpretation board and a Glastonbury Way seat. At the last meeting of the Board, the MP James Heapey offered to take this up with County Council Officers.

The application to the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government for £24.5m is currently being assessed and the outcome of the application is not expected to be announced prior to 10<sup>th</sup> May. It was widely acknowledged that the council had undertaken the delivery of projects in a professional and time-bound way and all involved were congratulated for their input.

**b.**

Somerset County Council have appointed a part-time Officer to pull together the various strands associated with unauthorised encampments. Areas that Katherine Bright has been asked to explore include a park and ride facility on Bretenoux Road, locations for a transit site. It was further announced that the water bowsers and toilets will be removed from 17<sup>th</sup> May.

**239. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr Coles informed that he understood an application for land off Lowerside Road was imminent. The Clerk announced that the date for Mayor's Sunday was Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> July.

**240. CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence has been received by the council that has not already been shared.

**241. NEWS RELEASES**

Councillors raised a concern regarding Beltane and the need to ensure the message suggesting that people do not visit Glastonbury needs to be considered. Cllr Cousins offered to contact Mendip DC and enquire if there may be support again this year to discourage physical attendance, engaging instead by virtual means.

**242. ACTIONS**

There were no actions arising from this meeting

The meeting closed at 8.55pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Worshipful Mayor  
11<sup>th</sup> May 2021

