



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 8th June 2021 at 7pm

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

APOLOGIES: Cllr L MacDougall, County Cllr Napper.

IN ATTENDANCE: County Councillor Leyshon (part), Town Clerk, Mace Bearers and five members of public.

Public participation: Five members of the public spoke during public participation. The subjects covered included:

Rewilding
Land Rights of travellers
Residence survey analysis
Relationships with Fusion

22. TO APPROVE AND SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN-COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 11TH MAY 2021

The minutes of the May meeting of the Town Council were considered correct, were approved by council and signed by the Mayor.

23. SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

There were two direct actions from the previous meeting which the Clerk reported on:

- a. The hedge obscuring the orange flashing light on the south side of Street Road at the pedestrian crossing has now been cut back to improve visibility
- b. To request that the Police re-open the Glastonbury Police Post to members of the public. This was discussed with Sgt Lancey who informed that there has been a health and safety concern which has to be addressed to ensure members of the constabulary are safe. The installation of a panic alarm is imminent and the improvements to the telephone line to ensure mobile phone coverage has been installed.
- c. Cllr Keery asked if the Town Council had contacted the Police and Crime Commissioner Mark Shelford. The clerk informed that a dialogue through the Multi Agency Group has commenced and that he was satisfied that the Commissioner is aware of the concerns arising in Glastonbury.

24. TO RECEIVE A POLICE REPORT

A report submitted by PC Katie Moyse was tabled and discussed. The clerk confirmed that the report has been placed on the town councils website. Cllr Henderson enquired if it was proposed to continue meeting the Police during PC Tom Miller's secondment. The Clerk informed that Sgt Lancey, Mayor and Deputy Mayor are meeting monthly to discuss strategic issues. Operational issues are to be discussed with Cllr's Lund and Henderson following the return of PC Miller.

Cllr Smyth asked that the closure of Wellhouse Lane to vehicles in the period preceding and during the summer solstice be explored. Cllr Bishop raised a concern regarding the recently promoted demonstration and parade planned for Saturday 12th June. The discussion which followed culminated in a motion proposed by Cllr Keery, seconded by Cllr Henderson which read: That Glastonbury Town Council is concerned that events, parades and demonstrations may have a detrimental impact on trade in the town. Organisers of same are advised to contact the appropriate authority e.g. Police, District or County Councils to gain consent. This motion was **APPROVED 12-0-3**. The subsequent motion to instruct the town clerk to prepare a statement for the website was **APPROVED 11-3-1**.

25. TO RECEIVE THE RESOLUTIONS OF:

Planning Committee meeting held on 18th May 2021

- (a) 2021/0877/ADV – Erection of 1no. new pole mounted entrance sign and relocation of an existing 1no. ground mounted sign – Abbey Farm, Chilkwell Street, Glastonbury, BA6 8DB – South West Heritage Trust – Application to Display Adverts. *Recommend APPROVAL of this application.*
- (b) 2021/0893/HSE – Replacement bay window – 86 Benedict Street, Glastonbury, BA6 9EZ – Mrs S Mitchell – Householder Application. *Recommend APPROVAL of this application.*
- (c) 2021/0901/HSE – Conversion and extension of garage to form an annexe – 92 Boundary Way, Glastonbury, BA6 9PH – Ms Bulman-Wills – Householder Application *Recommend APPROVAL of this application with the condition that the annexe remains part of the main property.*

Property and Assets Committee held on 2nd June 2021

- To consider leasing a new van to replace the existing vehicle. To report to Full Council
- Main Hall, to continue researching quotes for either blinds or curtains
- Main Hall, to obtain additional quotes to sanding and preparing the floor.
- To enter into a contract with JS Wright and Sons for the planting of approximately 100 – 120 cricket bat willows at Herbies Field.
- Confirmation that the application to register Herbies Field as a Fields in Trust has been received
- To continue exploring the cost of fencing Pomparles Bridge land and to reengage the negotiations with the District Council.
- To apply for a solar array for the roof of the Main Hall
- To reinstate the benches in the High Street
- The town council to continue negotiations and discussions with the Multi Agency Group.
- Address the issues recently reported arising from the misuse of the Community Fridge.

26. TO RECEIVE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Leyshon informed that the majority of items that she is currently involved with have already been reported. The Multi Agency Group are to sub-divide with both an Officers Group and an elected Members Group, the latter involving predominately with the allocation of finance.

27. TO RECEIVE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Cousins had nothing to report to Council on this occasion

Cllr Henderson had previously submitted a written report which has been circulated and placed on our website.

Cllr MacDougal had previously submitted a written report which has been circulated and placed on our website.

Cllr Cottle informed that a 275 year old oak tree in Ashwell Lane protected by a Tree Preservation Order is the subject of an insurance challenge, as the tree is considered to be a risk to neighbouring properties. During questions, fly tipping at both Bretenoux Road and the Skate Park were raised as concerns that need addressing.

28. MOTION

1. Proposer Cllr B Outten, Seconder Cllr Roney-Dougal

That Glastonbury Town Council responds to the current consultation and agrees to actively discourage the extraction of peat from adjoining ancient flood plain land in the Glastonbury district and to promote alternative sustainable practice on this land to promote carbon neutrality as soon as possible. This motion was unanimously **APPROVED 15-0-0**. The clerk was asked to write to Somerset County Council, James Heappey MP and George Eustice MP Environment Secretary.

2. Proposed by Cllr Browne, seconded by Cllr Cousins.

That this council resolves to implement a purchasing policy that clearly demonstrates our commitment to, and is in line with, reducing our carbon footprint to net zero as soon as possible. This application was unanimously **APPROVED 15-0-0**

3. Proposed by Cllr Cousins, seconded by Cllr Browne.

That this council resolves to convene an advisory committee to explore the improvement of Abbey Park. The advisory committee will report to the Youth Committee. The clerk informed that there remains some funds from a section 106 agreement with the developer of land at Watts Corner. It is understood this has to be spent, or at least allocated by November 2021. Cllr Leyshon informed the council that the land remains in the ownership of Glastonbury Abbey and is leased to Mendip DC for the provision of play and recreation. The Youth Provision Committee will deliberate how best to consult with the wider public and key stakeholders. **APPROVED 15-0-0**

29. TO RECEIVE THE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT

There were no comments arising from the budget monitoring report which was subsequently approved.

30. TO RECEIVE THE INTERNAL AUDITORS REPORT AND CONSIDER TAKING ACTIONS OF ANY POINTS RAISED

The report submitted by the Internal Auditor has previously been distributed to councillors. There were just two observations from the audit, both relating to measures implemented to support the continued work of the council during the covid pandemic. The clerk was asked to write to the Responsible Finance Officer – Jane Czornij to convey the appreciation of the whole council.

31. ANNUAL GOVERNANCE STATEMENT 2020/2021

The annual governance statement was presented to the council. Councillors unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the statement which was duly signed by the Mayor.

32. ACCOUNTING STATEMENTS 2020/2021

The Accounting Statements for 2020/2021 were presented to the Council. A question regarding the level of borrowing was raised which required an explanation, duly obtained by the clerk during the meeting. Councillors unanimously **RESOLVED** to approve the statements and the Mayor and Clerk duly signed the report in the appropriate place.

33. TO RECEIVE THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

There was just one question arising from the schedule of payments summary, which having been

answered to the satisfaction of councillors, it was **RESOLVED** to accept the report which was initialled by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

34. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

a. Climate Emergency

Cllr Roney-Dougal provided a summary of the work of this group since the last meeting. A request for a further £500 was discussed and it was **RESOLVED** that the additional funds would be made available to support the activities of this group. The suggestion that the group may wish to consider purchasing high visibility clothing and litter pickers from that budget is to be taken back to the group for discussion. An observation was shared that there appears to be a number of vacant allotments at Lowerside Allotments, some unattended. A recommendation of the Climate Emergency Committee is that land for additional allotments is considered. The clerk informed that weekly visits were made and there is a robust process in place which ensures those not attending to their allotments appropriately are dismissed. He confirmed that there is a waiting list for new allotment holders.

i. Community Fridge

A number of issues were raised at the Property and Assets meeting of the council relating to the Community Fridge. The taking of large quantities of stock, feeding the birds with bread and a mock sword fight using bread sticks to name a few. The clerk has met with the organisers and put in place measures which should reduce the occurrence of each of the concerns.

- b. Glastonbury in Bloom** A paper prepared by the Deputy Chair of this group, Cllr Prior was tabled which informed of the progress with preparing the floral displays for this years competition.

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

- c. Homelessness and Housing** Cllr Smyth reported that the group continues to meet and that there was recently a meeting where Officers from Mendip DC attended, which helped to understand the complexities and challenges the group will have to address when delivering support in this sector.

- d. Youth** Cllr Barnet reported that here has been a new grant application received which will be discussed at a meeting of the Youth committee organised for next week.

35. TO DISCUSS A REPLACEMENT VAN FOR USE BY THE COMMUNITY SERVICES TEAM

The clerk informed that a report had recently been presented to the Property and Assets Committee, explaining that the current 14 year old diesel van required significant work which was not costs effective. The content of this report has largely been conducted by The Climate Emergency and Resilience Officer, based on research with other town councils that have already invested in this technology. It appears the most suitable electric vehicle is the Nissan E-NV200. This has been selected for a number of reasons including, capacity, reliability and the door openings on both near and offside of the vehicle. The committee had asked for further research to be undertaken on leasing a new vehicle. The summary presentation identified a number of issues, predominately associated to supply due to the high demand for electric vehicles and the shortage of supply of parts due to the enormous increased demand for IT equipment.

Cllr Henderson suggested that further research should be undertaken on a vehicle with dual fuel capacity, an idea supported by Cllr Tucker. Cllr Roney-Dougal proposed, seconded by Cllr Smyth that the replacement Nissan van currently held by FJ Chalke at Wincanton should be purchased for £14,000 plus VAT. Cllr Cousins requested a recorded vote.

The councillors unanimously supported the resolve to reduce emissions and the carbon footprint of the vehicles operated by the council. There was however a debate over the purchase of a new vehicle, or a second hand one, which not all councillors could agree.

Proposal to purchase a four year old Nissan van from FJ Chalke at a cost of £14,000 +VAT

Cllr Barnet	For	Cllr Bishop	Against	Cllr Browne	For
Cllr Coles	For	Cllr Cottle	For	Cllr Cousins	For
Cllr Henderson	Against	Cllr Keery	Against	Cllr Lund	For
Cllr Mutch	For	Cllr Outten	For	Cllr Prior	For
Cllr Roney-Dougal	For	Cllr Smyth	For	Cllr Tucker	Against

The motion was **APPROVED 11-4-0**

36. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

a. Town's Fund

Cllr Tucker informed the Council that confirmation had been received earlier in the day of the success of Glastonbury's application in the Town Fund Deal application, being awarded £23.6m. He emphasised that this really is great news, long awaited and will allow the delivery of already defined projects in support of Glastonbury's continued economic growth. The input from Officers at Mendip District Council and it was suggested that the clerk writes to Julie Reader-Sullivan, Jane Sharp and Tina McEwen to thank them for their hard work and commitment in preparing Glastonbury's application. **AGREED.** He real work of delivering now commences, yet Cllr Tucker informed that he was confident that having proved that the accelerator projects were delivered on time, within budget with a total of more than 2,000 hours of voluntary community input, Glastonbury has proved that it is ready to take on this new challenge.

37. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

That the long awaited introduction of the 20 MPH speed limit through many parts of Glastonbury is soon to be implemented.

That the call for tablets in support of providing IT equipment to pupils at St Dunstan's school continues.

38. CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence

39. NEWS RELEASES

It was **RESOLVED** to use the communications team working with the Town Deal Fund to prepare a news release on the success with the Town Deal Fund application.

The meeting closed at 9.40pm.

Signed _____

Worshipful Mayor
13th July 2021