



# Glastonbury Town Council

**Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2021 at 7pm**

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

**APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Browne, Lund and Prior

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County Councillors Leyshon and Napper, Town Clerk, two Mace Bearers. 24 members of the public were in attendance. A further 8 viewed the live streaming of the meeting.

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

Manor House Road Community Garden  
Local Volunteer Network and retention of the Ops Shop  
Travellers Rights  
Local Plan and permitted development  
Tor Leisure developments

## **113. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS**

Cllrs Cousins and Tucker declared an interest in item 13, as they are both members of the Town Deal Fund Board.

Cllrs Tucker and Henderson declared an interest in item 13, as they are both Trustees of the Beckery Island Regeneration Trust.

Cllrs Tucker, Keery and Cousins declared interests in item 13 as they are members of the Glastonbury Information Centre

Cllrs Barnet, Roney-Dougal and Cousins declared an interest in item 13 as they are involved with Avalon Community Energy

## **114. TO RECEIVE A PRESENTATION FROM THE SPORTS CLUSTER PROJECT OF THE TOWN DEAL FUND**

Cllr Henderson introduced the item, informing that the opportunity to work collaboratively and provide much needed improved sports and recreation facilities should not be missed. He continued by informing that there is a very long way to go and the need to prove demand, consult and harness expectations, all to be included in a robust business plan. He asked representatives of the following organisations to address the council:

Fusion  
Glastonbury Football Club  
Wyrral Park Bowls Club  
Edge Gymnastics  
Glastonbury Cricket Club.

It became abundantly clear during these presentations that many of the organisations have been operating for decades, (130 years football club, 90 years bowls club etc).

It was also very clear that collectively, there are many hundreds of participants in each of these clubs and that the existing facilities are tired and in need of investment.

In summary, Cllr Henderson informed that the land was protected under a Fields in Trust agreement and there are already discussions underway on the appropriate way forward.

#### **115. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN- COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 12<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021**

The minutes of the October meeting of the Town Council were approved by council and presented to the Mayor for signing. Cllr Roney-Dougal asked when it was intended to hold the meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan. In response, Cllr Cousins informed that he would liaise with the clerk and find a suitable date prior to Christmas.

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

The clerk informed that all of the outstanding items from the previous meeting have been actioned, including:

Meeting with Cllr Leyshon to look at the footpaths and gates off the A39

Tor Leisure sports cluster are presenting at a town council meeting

Signage in recognition of the SW in Bloom success has been ordered

Staff involved with Bloom have been contacted by letter and thanked for their input.

The RFO has been applauded for the explanatory notes that accompany the budget monitoring report

Sol-Electrical have been notified that one of the EV charging points is not working.

The Town Deal Board have been invited to use St Dunstan's House garden for a display at Frost Fayre.

#### **117. TO RECEIVE A POLICE REPORT**

Unfortunately, due to operational issues, there is no Police report available for this meeting. The clerk informed that Sgt Lancey will be attending the December meeting and presenting on the subject of Regulations and Procedures when addressing anti-social behaviour. On receipt of the belated police report, the clerk informed that it would be circulated to all councillors.

#### **118. TO RECEIVE THE RESOLUTIONS OF:**

The meeting of the Planning Committee held on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2021. The list of applications recently discussed together with committee recommendations was tabled.

#### **119. TO RECEIVE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS**

Cllr Napper reported that the decision on when the elections will next take place is still awaited.

*(The clerk informed that he had tabled the letter received from the Department for Levelling Up,*

*Housing and Communities on the draft structural change order provisions).* Cllr Napper continued and reported an on-going issue with running water at Edgarley. The clerk has been asked to write to County Highways and inform that the flow of rain water from Basket Field Lane, connecting to the A39 and flowing to Edgarley would benefit enormously from the culverts being cleared and the gullies cleaned.

During questions to Cllr Napper, concerns were expressed about the absence of any progress on re-instating the footpath between Windmill Hill and Rowley Road. The clerk was asked to write to Peter Hobley at County Hall and suggest that a legal charge be placed on the offending property owner.

Cllr Leyshon reported that there continues to be an issue of Google Maps using the wrong postcode for the Tor, sending sat nav operators to Ashwell Lane. The National Trust are seemingly being very slow in supporting residents in attempting to rectify the situation. Further, Cllr Leyshon informed that the gullies and drains in Manor House Road are inoperative and the clerk was asked to include this concern in correspondence to the Highway Authority. Cllr Leyshon continued by informing that the Multi Agency Group (MAG) has recently met with the landowners in and around Stonedown Lane. The enforcement of unauthorised parking and programme of narrowing the lane in accordance with the recently consulted plans are expected to take place in this calendar year.

During questions to both councillors, the concerns of traffic speed and management on Old Wells Road was raised. The clerk permitted this item to be considered on the next agenda as no motions or decisions were taken when this was discussed in October.

## **120. TO RECEIVE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

Cllr Cousins has attended a meeting of the Axe and Brue Drainage Board. He had nothing else to report.

Cllr MacDougall had presented a report which had been circulated and included on the council's website.

Cllr Cottle referred to correspondence regarding the date of the next elections which is still not yet known. Also, the number of councillors in the new unitary is still undefined at this time.

Cllr Henderson had presented a report prior to the meeting which has been circulated. His report included the recent 'caravan count' compiled by the enforcement officers from Mendip District Council

## **121. MOTIONS**

### **a. Proposed by Cllr Smyth, seconded by Cllr MacDougall**

This Council supports the introduction of an allowance for all Glastonbury Town Councillors of £1,000 per annum as from 30<sup>th</sup> May 2022. (in order to encourage candidates from lower income brackets to operate in the running of the Council.)

Cllr Smyth proposed an amendment to the original motion which was seconded by Cllr MacDougall. Based on the fact that at this time it is not yet known when the next election will be held, the motion was amended to:

This Council supports the introduction of an allowance for all Glastonbury Town Councillors of £1,000 per annum as from the next iteration of this Council in line with the independent body. (in order to encourage candidates from lower income brackets to operate in the running of the Council.)

Cllr Keery suggested that this item should be further researched and discussed by the Finance and General Purposes Committee and if appropriate, brought back to Full Council for discussion and ratifying.

With regards to the following three motions, the clerk interjected and reminded the Council that they had previously debated and agreed to make a Climate Emergency Declaration, have made an Ecological Emergency statement and that Glastonbury has been accepted as an Earth Protector location. In addition, the Environment strategy is reviewed annually. The clerk guided the council that the need to discuss the detail of the three motions was not required and an instruction from a councillor should suffice. In light of this guidance, Cllr Smyth withdrew the three motions and it was **RESOLVED** that the clerk is to write to the appropriate Ministers with the messages contained.

### **b. Proposed by Cllr Smyth, seconded by Cllr MacDougall**

This Council supports the progress of the Climate and Ecological Emergency Bill through Parliament (as introduced by Caroline Lucas MP in September 2020).

**c. Proposed by Cllr Smyth, seconded by Cllr MacDougall**

This Council resolves to support calls for a carbon tax by writing to our MP, Alok Sharma (President of COP26) and the Prime Minister calling for the UK to

- (1) Proposed an international carbon tax framework to the COP, the tax to be applied to imports as well as the domestic production.
- (2) Introduce a UK wide carbon tax by the end of 2022.

**d. Proposed by Cllr Smyth, seconded by Cllr MacDougall**

This Council resolves to, in this year of COP 26, add our voice to calls by the Local Government Association and the Association of Directors of Environment, Economy, Planning and Transport and others for a joint local and national Government task force to plan action to reach 'Net Zero' emissions. Such a partnership can set an appropriate regulations, benchmarks and targets and create the much needed long term funding Mechanisms to enable local communities and economies to decarbonise whilst remain resilient and sustainable.

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

The budget monitoring report have been previously circulated and raised no questions. The summary document was signed by the Mayor.

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

The schedule of payments was received without any questions being raised and duly signed by the Mayor.

**124. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES**

**a. Frost Fair.**

Cllr Tucker informed that most of the arrangements were now in place. He used the opportunity to request the support of volunteers to help on the day of the fair. The clerk informed that St Dunstan's school were to allow the use of their car park which can take 75 vehicles.

**b. Glastonbury in Bloom**

The Bloom committee has not met since the last meeting of the town council and therefore, there was nothing to report

**c. Climate Emergency**

Cllr Roney-Dougal shared with the meeting a summary of the activities of the council as presented to a recent meeting of the Climate Emergency committee. A specialist is completing a study of the current heating systems in the town hall and will advise on the appropriate actions to take in due course. Three events have been supported by the council in recent weeks to coincide with the COP26 conference being held in Glasgow. Melissa Taylor was acknowledged for her input to the programme of work organising and presenting at events in Glastonbury and in a wider Somerset context. A rewilding project on Windmill Hill is being considered. A programme of activities known as Glastonbury on foot is to encourage people to walk more. Sunlit Solar have informed the council that have been instructed to install PV arrays at ten locations. There are another ten also being considered. The library is to temporarily close to allow for the building to be decarbonised.

**125. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

**a. Town's Fund**

Cllr Tucker informed that Lynne Sedgemore is the temporary chair of the Town Deal Fund in Glastonbury. Consideration has been given to the appropriate structure for the legacy company which is likely to take the form of a Community Benefit Society without charitable status. There is a requirement to follow the Green Book method of project

engagement for which we will be guided and supported by consultants Mott MacDonald.

#### **126. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The clerk informed shared with the council the arrangements for the Armistice Day commemoration on 11<sup>th</sup> November and the Remembrance Day parade on 14<sup>th</sup> November. Frost Fayre arrangements were shared with the council, in particular the additional car parking facilities. The new defibrillator recently installed in the Fir Field near the base of the tor was in place for just two weeks before it was severely vandalised. The next meeting of the Property and Assets Committee will debate the broken lights at the Skate Park, which are expected to cost in excess of £9,000 to repair.

#### **127. CORRESPONDENCE**

Truespeed held an open event in early November. They had contacted the council to thank those who came to the event and are now better placed to understand the programme of works proposed.

#### **128. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS**

The Mayor informed of his commitments since the last meeting of the council. He also informed that the Arch Bishop of Canterbury has signed the petition to pardon Abbot Richard Whiting and it is understood that former Arch Bishop George Carey has also signed the petition.

#### **129. NEWS RELEASES**

The success of the COP26 events organised by the Town Council is to be shared through a news release.

#### **130. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING.**

The clerk is to write to the President of COP 26 and inform of Glastonbury's support for change in support of the climate emergency protocol.

Old Wells Road is to feature on the next agenda for a more detailed discussion.

The clerk is to contact the appropriate officers to raise concerns regarding footpaths between Windmill Hill and Rowley Road

The clerk is to contact the Highways Authority to raise concerns about the water egress on Basketfield Lane, Ashwell Lane and Edgarley.

The police report is to be circulated on receipt.

The Mayor is to identify possible dates for a Neighbourhood Plan meeting.

The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Worshipful Mayor  
14<sup>th</sup> December 2021

