



Glastonbury Town Council

Meeting of the Council held on Tuesday 14th December 2021 at 7pm

- PRESENT:** Councillors C Bishop, J Coles, J Cousins, J Keery, I Mutch, S Roney-Dougal, and I Tucker
- APOLOGIES:** Cllrs Barnet, Cottle, Henderson, Lund, MacDougall, Outten, and Prior County Cllr's Leyshon and Napper
- IN ATTENDANCE:** Town Clerk, two Mace Bearers. 8 members of the public were in attendance. A further 14 viewed the live streaming of the meeting.
- Public participation:** Four members of the public spoke during public participation. The subjects covered included:
The Tribunal building which is to become the Museum of Glastonbury
Travellers Rights
Housing crisis
Manor House Road Community Garden
Housing Associations

131. TO ELECT A DEPUTY MAYOR

Cllr Serena Roney-Dougal was proposed by Cllr Cousins and seconded by Cllr Mutch. There being no other nominations, Cllr Roney-Dougal was unanimously elected as the Deputy Mayor.

132. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

Cllrs Cousins and Tucker declared an interest in agenda item 17 as they sit on the Town Deal Fund Board.

Cllr Roney-Dougal declared an interest in agenda item 17 as she is leading one of the projects of the Town Deal Fund – Brides Mound.

133. TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE TOWN- COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2021

The minutes of the meeting held on 9th November were considered accurate and were duly signed by the Mayor.

134. SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FROM THE PREVIOUS MEETING

The clerk confirmed that the actions from the previous meeting had all been completed.

- The organisers of COP26 have been contacted and informed of the support of Glastonbury Town Council in addressing the climate emergency.
- Old Wells Road Traffic speed has featured on the next council agenda.
- The police report for November was circulated to all councillors.
- The Mayor did identify and chair a recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan
- That an approach has been made to county highways in an attempt to address the issues of water run off at various locations.

135. TO RECEIVE A POLICE REPORT

Sgt Lancey attended the meeting and presented the police report on behalf of the Beat Team. In addition, he gave an overview of the processes involved when addressing anti-social behaviour. In summary, whilst there are regulations and legislation in place to address concerns, incidents can only be successfully followed up if there are witnesses, statements with sufficient evidence to prosecute. Sgt Lancey also spoke on the code of conduct prepared for buskers and the signage in support of a Public Space Protection Order at the churchyard.

136. TO CONSIDER PLANNING APPLICATIONS

2021/2419/REM – Approval of Reserved Matter (Layout, Scale, Appearance, Access and Landscaping following outline approval 2020/1638/OTA for the erection of an agricultural worker’s dwelling – Paradise Farm, Edgarley Road, Edgarley, Glastonbury – Mrs C Whitcombe – Reserved Matters Application. Councillors unanimously recommended approval of this application.

2021/2549/TCA – T5-T12 (8 x sycamore) – Fell – Gorsedd, Coursing Batch, Glastonbury, BA6 8BH – Mr Simon O’Neill – Works/Felling Trees in a CA. Councillors unanimously recommended approval of this application.

137. TO RECEIVE THE RESOLUTIONS OF:

a) The meeting of the Planning Committee held on 16th November 2021

- (a) 2021/2277/TCA – T1 & T2 Elm – Fell and T3 & T4 Sycamore – Fell - Gorsedd Coursing Batch, Glastonbury, BA6 8BH – Works/Felling Trees in a CA. Unanimously agreed to recommend APPROVAL of this application but also to refer to the Tree Officer on the grounds it is considered the trees are of low value.
- (b) 2021/2304/TCA – T1: Pitisporum – Reduce crown by 30-40% to previous pruning points – 3 Park Cottages, Benedict Street, Glastonbury, BA6 9NF — Works/Felling Trees in a CA. Unanimously agreed to recommend APPROVAL of this application and to refer to the Tree Officer.
- (c) 2021/2322/HSE – Demolish garage and utility area and erect single storey side extension – 9 Austin Road, Glastonbury, BA6 9BB – Householder Application. Unanimously agreed to recommend APPROVAL of this application.
- (d) 2021/1974/HSE – Erection of replacement porch (retention of works already completed) – 2 Coombe Terrace, Bove Town, Glastonbury, BA6 8JF – Householder Application. GTC Planning Committee agreed to recommend APPROVAL of this application.
- (e) 2021/2265/OTS – Outline Planning Application with all Matters Reserved except for access and layout for the development of 6 detached dwellings – Land at 351328 138314 Ashwell Lane, Glastonbury– Outline – Some Matters Reserved. GTC recommended REFUSAL on the following material conditions:
 - Similar developments in the area in the past have not been supported and therefore there is a concern of setting a precedent,
 - Absence of a full ecological survey,
 - If Mendip DC are mindful to support this application, GTC requests that the special landscape features and national importance of the location are taken into consideration.
- (f) 2021/2466/OTS – Application for Outline Planning Permission with some matters reserved for the erection of up to 90 dwellings along with associated open space and infrastructure with details of access – Land at 349724 139873 Common Moor Drove, Glastonbury – Outline – Some Matters Reserved.

GTC Planning Committee did not discuss this application in view of the Town Council owning neighbouring land on 3 sides of the application site.

- (g) 2021/2506/TCA – T1 Apple – balance crown, prune and scale canopy to approx. 4m – 2 Launder Close, Glastonbury, BA6 8A – Aster – Works/Felling Trees in a CA.
GTC agreed to recommend APPROVAL of this application and to refer to the Tree Officer
- (h) SCC/3892/2021 - Construction of a new school building to provide space for an Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) Base at St. Dunstan School in Glastonbury, including a new drop off space and amendments to the existing highway - St Dunstan's School.
GTC Planning Committee agreed (6 to recommend APPROVAL of this application) and would also add that sustainable materials are used in the construction).
- (i) 2021/2334/ADV – Erection of 5 illuminated and un-illuminated fascia signs on the coffee shop building and 10 illuminated and non-illuminated totem signs on the forecourt – B&Q Plc, Wirral Park Road, Glastonbury, BA6 9XE — Application to Display Adverts.
GTC agreed to recommend REFUSAL of this application on the following material considerations:-
- Excessive signage / visual clutter,
 - The proximity of the site to Wearyall Hill (protected landscape feature),
 - The vista/view from Wearyall Hill and the Tor (protected landscape feature and scheduled monument),
 - The 10m tall sign is considered excessive.
- (j) 2021/2383/TPO – M1382: T1 (Oak) – Reduce crown by up to 2m, prune wounds less than 60mm in diameter and target prune to appropriate unions – 2 Ashwell Lane, Glastonbury, BA6 8BG – Mr Knickerbocker – Works/Felling of TPO Trees.
GTC agreed to recommend APPROVAL of this application and to refer to the Tree Officer.
- (k) 2021/2388/FUL – Erection of agricultural building for storage – Land South East of Cold Harbour Farm, Meare Road, Glastonbury — Full Application.
GTC to recommend REFUSAL of this application on the following material considerations:-
- Approval would create a precedent & difficult to object to similar proposals,
 - Flood risk,
 - Outside of development boundaries,
 - Inappropriate position with the road,
 - The cumulative impact of the development when considered alongside other development will have an adverse impact on the area
- b) The meeting of the Property and Assets Committee held on 16th November 2021
- Town Hall hire charges to rise marginally to 'round the figures'.
 - To propose a reduction in the town hall budget from £20,000 to £5,000
 - To retain allotment rents as previous year
 - To apply for planning consent to accommodate additional allotments on land at Common Moor.
 - To seek quotes for the replacement of gates on land off Thorndurn Estate
 - To permit the use of the small hall for the delivery of health related support
- c) The meeting of the Property and Assets Committee held on 23rd November 2021
Town Deal sub-committee
- To try and encourage Mendip DC to identify areas of land suited for car parking allocation
 - To send out a questionnaire to all councillors seeking guidance on the design of a community hub, to include an atrium.
 - To work with Mendip DC to identify an architect with a view to reducing cost.

138. TO ANNOUNCE THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE STAFFING COMMITTEE OF THE APPOINTMENT OF A TRANSITION TOWN CLERK

The clerk informed the Council that the Staffing Committee have appointed Conor Ogilvie-Davidson to the position of Transitional Town Clerk with effect from 4th January 2022. He further informed that Conor had attended a recent meeting of the Neighbourhood Plan to familiarise himself with the council and the requirement to complete the Plan.

139. TO CONSIDER APPROPRIATE TRAFFIC MANAGEMENT FOR OLD WELLS ROAD

In the absence of Cllr Cottle, a message was relayed to the council, suggesting that a site visit be organised with County Highways to discuss the issues of traffic speed on Old Wells Road.

140. RECEIVE COUNTY COUNCILLORS REPORTS

Cllr Leyshon submitted a written report:

Old Wells Road - please consider a site meeting with both County Councillors so that we can bring traffic engineers' attention to the growing issues with the completion of the housing estate and more demand for services at West Mendip Hospital.

Winter Solstice - I attended a meeting with SCC, MDC, Police and National Trust recently. I understand that as the road narrowing will not be completed in time, there is a concerted effort between the different enforcement services of those organisations. I have also been in touch with the Town Clerk asking that Town Council staff be prepared in case any of the Clearway signs need clearing off again.

Stonedown Lane - I'm told that the 'roadspace' has been booked for early January for the road narrowing work to be completed by contractors. Although I understand the frustrations of residents and farmers, you'll realise this is much quicker progress than the completion of the Small Improvement Schemes on 20mph zone and safer crossing in Chilkwell Street.

Well House Lane - refresh of all the road markings for parking restrictions is on the work programme for early 2022. I do realise that there are many leaves and debris on the side of the road and that it may need clearing before paintworks can commence.

Bretenoux Road - the plans are now on the SCC website for the work that is to be completed in the spring of 2022. You can find the drawings here <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/small-improvement-schemes-directory/>

141. TO RECEIVE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr Henderson submitted a written report which summarised his involvement with Tor Leisure, in particular weekly meetings with the various partners. He also expressed a concern about the introduction of an extractor fan being fitted to the rear of a building in Market Cross, which is not thought to have been included on plans recently submitted.

Cllr MacDougall submitted a written report informing of the meetings attended recently, including the equalities steering group, Planning Board, Scrutiny and Cabinet. Cllr MacDougall's report has been added to the town councils website.

Cllr Cousins informed that he has recently attended meetings of the District Councils audit committee and standards committee. In addition, he has attended the Board meeting of the Town Deal Fund.

142. MOTION

- a. Proposed by Cllr Outten, seconded by Cllr Prior

That Glastonbury Town Council writes to the Secretary of State for Health and Social Care, Sajid Javid MP opposing the introduction of mandatory covid-19 vaccinations for all NHS staff, health and social care workers in Glastonbury from 1st April 2022. This is due to the unethical imposition of a medical intervention which infringes on the sovereign right of all individuals not to be coerced into having a medical procedure against their own freewill, constituting a form of medical apartheid

Neither the proposer or seconder of this motion were able to attend the meeting of the council to present it. The Mayor enquired if anyone wished to speak to the motion. Receiving no response, a vote was taken. It was **RESOLVED** by majority that this motion be dismissed. 0-6-1

143. 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.

144. TO RECEIVE THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS

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

145. REPORTS FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES

- a. **Frost Fair.** Cllr Tucker informed that this year had been particularly challenging due to high winds. A much reduced Frost Fayre did manage to take place, which under the circumstances, was considered a success. It was suggested that a short 'wash-up' meeting be organised for the New Year, particularly to address the issue of refunds, or re-allocation of sites.
- b. **Glastonbury in Bloom.** Following the cutting of the Holy Thorn at the church on Wednesday 15th December, the Lord Lieutenant will be planting an oak tree to commemorate the Platinum Jubilee of Queen Elizabeth II.
- c. **Climate Emergency** Cllr Roney-Dougal raised an idea being considered, that of a citizens assembly which will look specifically at how to make Glastonbury more resilient. The group has a farmer who has a particular interest in agro-ecology, experiences he is regularly sharing with the group. The provision of additional allotments continues to cause some anxiety, particularly in light of the pending rise in water levels, which would make the Common Moor location less attractive.
- d. **Queen Elizabeth II Platinum Jubilee** Cllr Cousins informed that he has now taken over as chair of this committee and that a meeting is planned for 12th January.

146. REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES

- a. **Town's Fund** Cllr Tucker informed that progress with identifying the availability of land in and around The Beckery was going slowly and until such time as this has been resolved, three projects are unable to make much more progress. The marketing and communications organisation tasked with promoting the Town Deal – Dome Marketing is now working well. The various projects are now beginning to work on their economic and business cases, with some making more progress than others. The Town Deal Fund Board is to meet again on 17th December.

147. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Communication has been received from New Somerset informing that there will be an election on 5th May 2022. This means that purdah will take effect from 21st March 2022.

148. CORRESPONDENCE

Glastonbury Conservation Society have contacted the Town Council raising a concern about the increasing number of bins located on Hanover Square. Their presence degrades the area and Cllr Tucker suggested that they be removed.

The clerk informed that he has received negative correspondence over the time being taken to resolve the issues of the lighting at the skate park. This item is to be discussed at the next meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee.

149. MAYORS ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Mayor informed that he had attended the Chair's Awards at Taunton Rugby Club. He and two fellow councillors had attended the gymnastic display in the Town Hall. The Children's World Awards presentation in Abbey House was also attended by The Mayor.

150. NEWS RELEASES

The revival of the Neighbourhood Plan is considered worthy of promotion.
The appointment of Cllr Roney-Dougal to Deputy Mayor.

151. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING.

To pursue the opportunity of alternative allotment sites.
To try and organise a meeting with County Highways on Old Wells Road
Seek to have the benches reinstated on the High Street
The meeting closed at 10.00pm.

Signed _____

Worshipful Mayor
11th January 2022