



## GLASTONBURY TOWN COUNCIL

<b>Minutes of Full Council held on 12 July, 2022 at 7pm</b>	
Councillors Present	R. Cook, J. Cousins, I. Donfrancesco, S. Henderson, Lokabandhu, P. Manning, I. Mutch, T. Napper, M. Oakden, L. Osborn, Z. Price, M. Smyth, M. White
Apologies	Councillors S. Roney-Dougal and L. MacDougall, Alderman Tucker and County Councillor Hart
In Attendance	Town Clerk, Climate Emergency and Resilience Officer, One Macebearer and 5 members of the public
Public Participation	1 member of the public spoke during public participation. The subject raised was: 1. The Key of Avalon Ceremony

### **58. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

Apologies were received from Cllrs Roney-Dougal and MacDougall for personal reasons, from Alderman Ian Tucker and County Cllr Hart. These apologies were duly **NOTED**.

### **59. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Napper declared a potential interest as a member of Street Parish Council and Mendip District Council

### **60. TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

The minutes were considered by members and a small amendment to the noting of a Planning Committee resolution, Highlighting Wearyall Hill and the Tor as 'special landscape features' was raised.

Subject to this amendments and clarification, the minutes were duly **SIGNED** by the Mayor as a correct record of the meeting.

### **61. SUMMARY OF ACTIONS FROM THE LAST MEETING**

The Clerk updated members on the progress of actions from the last meeting.

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

The local neighbourhood policing team sent a written summary of their work since the last meeting. Members queried some of the listed crimes and some that were omitted from the report.

It was **REQUESTED** for the Clerk to write to the Police and provide feedback and seek clarity on a small number of issues including the Annual Catholic Pilgrimage, a reported disturbance and criminal damage caused at 3am and lastly an arson attack committed on a caravan at Cinnamon Lane.

### **63. TO RECEIVE COUNTY COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

No written report had been received from either County Cllrs Cottle or Hart and Cllr Hart had provided her apologies for the meeting. Cllr Cottle verbally updated members on the ongoing recruitment process for a Chief Executive to lead the new Unitary Authority and his progress on chasing various highways and footpath issues in and around the Town. Cllr Smyth reiterated his wish for the County Council to consider sets of double yellow lines on the corners of Tor View Avenue and Hillhead, in addition to the corner of Manor House Road and Wells Road. Cllr Napper raised that there was still a sign at Hartlake Bridge missing. Cllr Henderson raised the ongoing issue around gully clearance in the Town to be a proactive and regular programme of work rather than reactive and for the overgrown hedge on the boundary of the Tor Leisure site and Street Road to be looked into.

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

District Cllr Cousins verbally updated members about the meetings that he had been to since the Town Council last met. Of particular note was the scrutiny of the annual report from the Somerset Rivers Authority which highlighted a lack of proactive gully emptying as a result of lack of funding. Cllr Cottle raised that ward casework load had increased and that it was becoming more evident than ever that this community was struggling with hardship. Cllr Henderson spoke of a retrospective planning application that had subsequently been withdrawn. The Town Council's Planning Committee had recommended refusal. Cllr Henderson

It was **RESOLVED** by majority that the Town Council should see that this withdrawn, retrospective application for signage is not forgotten about, and is either dealt with through the planning system or by enforcement.

### **65. TO RECEIVE A REPORT AND PRESENTATION FROM THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY AND RESILIENCE OFFICER**

Members received a written report and a presentation from the Climate Emergency and Resilience Officer about her work to date and future work to achieve the Town Council's pledge to be Carbon Neutral by 2025. Several ideas were raised by members such as proactively tackling misinformation disseminated by a local publication and holding educational events and talks for the community.

### **66. TO RECEIVE A VERBAL UPDATE ON THE STATUS OF THE TOWN HALL HEATING SYSTEM REPLACEMENT**

Members received a verbal update from the Clerk together with Climate Emergency and Resilience Officer that the initial plan to have a consultant 'spec' a system to take to tender had been unsuccessful owing largely to the workload of specialist consultants and the method of

heating a building like the Town Hall. The Clerk updated members that the next step will be to seek a more general spec from a heating engineer to take out to tender.

## **67. TO NOTE RESOLUTIONS OF DELEGATED COMMITTEES**

The following resolutions were **NOTED** by members

### **a. Youth Provision Committee held on 15 June, 2022**

- Cllr M Smyth proposed £1,000.00 for the Somerset Youth Volunteers ‘Growing Happiness’ community and allotment project, seconded by Cllr Lokabandhu. It was **RESOLVED** to grant the funding required for the Growing Happiness’ community and allotment project from the Youth Provision budget.
- Cllr J Cousins proposed £1,000.00 for the Sea Cadet’s IT infrastructure seconded by Cllr M Smyth. It was **RESOLVED** to grant the funding required for the IT infrastructure from the Youth Provision budget.
- Cllr J Cousins proposed £3,000.00 for the Children’s World, Family Festival, seconded by Cllr Z Price. It was **RESOLVED** to grant the funding required for the Children’s World, Family Festival from the Youth Provision budget.
- Cllr J Cousins proposed to avoid the incorrect forms being used that all grant applications be removed from the Glastonbury Town Council website and replaced with contact details for the Town Council, seconded by Cllr Z Price. It was **RESOLVED** to remove all grant applications and replace with contact details from the Glastonbury Town Council website.
- Cllr M Smyth proposed the Service Level Agreement for the YMCA youth clubs starts from July 2022 ends November 2027 (6 months after a new council has been elected) be recommended to the Town Clerk, seconded by Cllr J Cousins. It was **RESOLVED** that the Service Level Agreement for the YMCA youth clubs starting from July 2022 ending November 2027 be recommended to the Town Clerk.
- Cllr J Cousins proposed using funding from the reserves to pay for Survey Monkey, seconded by Cllr Z Price. It was **RESOLVED** to use funding from the reserves to pay for Survey Monkey.

*Note: This has since been reconsidered following advice from the Town Clerk that Google Forms was an equally powerful yet free of charge tool for conducting online consultations.*

### **b. Extraordinary youth provision Committee held on 27 June, 2022**

- Cllr J Cousins proposed M Willcox produce a separate Service Level Agreement for the Youth Council. Seconded by Z Price. It was **RESOLVED** for M Willcox produce a separate Service Level Agreement for the Youth Council.

- Cllr J Cousins proposed that surplus of funding received is dedicated to the Youth Workers to produce best results for the clubs. Seconded by Z Price. It was **RESOLVED** surplus of funding received is dedicated to the Youth Workers to produce best results for the clubs.
- Cllr J Cousins proposed that item 9 in the SLA agreement read as the following: will be reviewed annually in July to ensure inflation increases are considered in additional etc etc. Seconded by Z Price. It was **RESOLVED** that item 9 in the SLA agreement read as the following: will be reviewed annually in July to ensure inflation increases are considered in additional etc etc.
- Cllr J Cousins proposed that item 9 in the SLA agreement remove the number 12 between equal instalments and replace with half yearly in advance (after in). Seconded by Z Price. It was **RESOLVED** item 9 in the SLA agreement remove the number 12 between equal instalments and replace with half yearly in advance (after in).
- Cllr J Cousins proposed the Town Clerk will manage the amendments of the SLA agreement and to add the Town Council logo on the document. The Town Clerk and M Willcox to liaise and once approved, proceed with signing. Seconded by Cllr Lokabandhu. It was **RESOLVED** the Town Clerk will manage the amendments of the SLA agreement and to add the Town Council logo on the document. The Town Clerk and M Willcox to liaise and once approved, proceed with signing.
- Cllr J Cousins proposed on the advice of the Town Clerk that Google Forms (free of charge) be used instead of survey monkey (costs applicable). This is to replace the resolution in item 9 on the 15th June 2022 minutes. Seconded by Z Price. It was **RESOLVED** on the advice of the Town Clerk that Google Forms (free of charge) be used instead of survey monkey (costs applicable). This is to replace the resolution in item 9 on the 15th June 2022 minutes.

### c. Planning Committee held on 28 June, 2022

- 2022/1047/TCA – T1 Magnolia Grandiflora: Fell. T2 Lawson’s cypress: Fell. G1 Laurel: Fell. 102 Bove Town, Glastonbury, BA6 8JG – Mr C Borket – Works/Felling Trees in a CA.

This wasn’t discussed, as Mendip DC has already approved this application.

- 2022/0725/HSE – Erection of a two storey side extension and a single storey rear extension – 11 Underwood Road, Glastonbury, BA6 9BG – Mr & Mrs Reed – Householder Application.

Cllr J Cousins proposed, seconded by Cllr Manning and unanimously agreed to recommend **APPROVAL** of this application.

- 2022/0862/HSE – 3 Dormers to be added to the First Floor roof scape – Lower Building, Cinnamon Lane, Glastonbury, BA6 8BN – Mrs Margaret Oakden – Householder Application.

This application was not debated due to the Applicant being a GTC Councillor.

- SCC/3964/2022 - 4 x roundabout advertisement/sponsorship signs. The fascia of each sign measures 500 x 1000 mm with a depth of 2mm, installed at a height of 260mm from the ground to the base of the sign. The sign will be mounted onto two galvanised tubular steel posts, height: 885mm (above ground 760mm, below ground 125mm) x 60mm diameter, fixing: two clips per post. The signs are made of road traffic grade recycled material composite. There will be only one advertiser per roundabout and each sign will be identical, displaying their company branding above a message reading "Somerset County Council supporting local businesses". Advertising on a roundabout is taken up on a minimum one-year contract and the message will remain constant during this time. All designs will be approved by Somerset County Council prior to going into production. – Northload Roundabout A39/1457 (Grid Ref 349589 139355) – Somerset County Council.

Cllr Mutch proposed, seconded by Cllr Cousins and unanimously agreed to recommend **REFUSAL** of this application as the signage could be a distraction to drivers and also could restrict the amount of visibility for drivers approaching and/or on the roundabout.

## **68. TO RECEIVE AND CONSIDER MOTIONS FROM COUNCILLORS**

### **a. "This Council condemns the proposed £200,000 salary for the Chief Executive of the new Somerset Unitary Authority"**

Cllr Osborn spoke to the motion and gave members the necessary background.

Cllr Mutch spoke in support. Cllr Cottle told Council that he would not vote as a member of Somerset County Council. He also raised that senior officers at the District Councils are remunerated generously, and this proposed salary still represents a saving and is comparable to similar senior positions across the civil service, local authorities and the NHS. Cllr Donfrancesco raised that this kind of position should partly be done out of a feeling of service and not for a high salary where money could be spent on services. Cllr Osborn raised that the Prime Minister is paid less than the proposed salary for the new Chief Executive and that this Council should take the high ground and condemn such high levels of salary inflation, which is insensitive to the community who are suffering from the increasing cost of living. Cllr Manning raised that the proposed salary is not too dissimilar to the current pay of Somerset County Council's Chief Executive, but the position comes with a lot more responsibility. He further added that a pay ratio of senior officer to junior officer / staff pay should be implemented. Cllr Henderson and Smyth raised that the new authority is essentially a very large company therefore it needs to be thought of as such and this motion does not provide the necessary information to make a decision. Cllr Osborn reiterated that this Council does not seek to set the pay scale, just that it is unhappy with the current scale. Cllr Cook rounded off the debate with a point regards this is a very high starting point. With annual increases and expenses, this position is set to cost a lot of money.

A recorded vote was requested and taken as below:

**For:** Cllrs Mutch, Napper, Donfrancesco, Oakden, Osborn and Cook

**Against:** Cllrs Smyth, Henderson and Manning

**Abstain:** Cllrs White, Price, Lokabandhu, Cousins and Cottle

The motion was **CARRIED** by majority.

**b. “This Council will make the Town Hall available for the Carnival Committee from the morning of Friday 18 November to the evening of Sunday 20 November, despite the planned closure, to facilitate the Carnival”**

Cllr Napper spoke to the motion and gave members the necessary background.

Cllr Cook also spoke to the motion and read from a letter sent to all hall hirers affected by the planned closure to replace the heating system. Cllr Henderson corrected an inference that the Town Council was cancelling the Carnival, rather than just the use of the Hall.

Cllr Napper spoke of the importance of the Carnival to Glastonbury. Cllr Smyth asked members to be mindful of the need to protect the fabric of the listed Town Hall

#### **69. TO RECEIVE THE BUDGET MONITORING REPORT**

Councillors received the budget monitoring report and it was **NOTED**.

#### **70. TO RECEIVE THE SCHEDULE OF PAYMENTS**

Members received the schedule of payments and there were no queries. The schedule of payments was **NOTED** and summary was duly signed by the Mayor and Deputy Mayor.

#### **71. TO CONSIDER AND ADOPT TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR:**

- a. Property and Assets Committee**
- b. Finance and General Purposes Committee**
- c. Staffing Committee**
- d. Planning Committee**
- e. Youth Provision Committee**
- f. Resilience Committee**
- g. Glastonbury in Bloom Advisory Committee**
- h. Neighbourhood Plan Advisory Committee**
- i. Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Advisory Committee**
- j. World Heritage Status Advisory Committee**

The above listed Terms of Reference were considered and it was **RESOLVED** by majority to adopt them *en-bloc*.

#### **72. TO APPOINT THE MEMBERSHIP OF THE RESILIENCE COMMITTEE AND SET THE DATE OF THE FIRST MEETING**

Cllrs Oakden, Manning, Henderson, Cottle, Cousins, Donfrancesco, Smyth, Lokabandhu, Price, White and Mutch indicated their wish to serve on this committee. The first meeting date was set for 20 July at 7pm.

### **73. TO RECEIVE VERBAL UPDATES FROM ADVISORY COMMITTEES AND CONSIDER THEIR RECOMMENDATIONS**

a. Cllr Cousins proposed the recommendation from the Glastonbury in Bloom Advisory Committee to purchase three additional recycled plastic planters to replace the last of the wooden potato box planters in St Johns Car Park, Butts Close and Bove Town at a cost of £510 each from the Glastonbury in Bloom budget. This was seconded by Cllr Lokabandhu and **AGREED** by majority.

b. (i) Cllr Henderson proposed to accept the recommendation from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Advisory Committee that the Council prioritises the installation of the replacement multi-use brackets on the High Street. This was seconded by Cllr White and **AGREED** unanimously.

(ii) Cllr Donfrancesco proposed the recommendation from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Advisory Committee that the Town Council's Press List was updated. This was seconded by Cllr Smyth and **AGREED** unanimously.

(iii) Cllr Cottle proposed the recommendation from the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Advisory Committee that the Council ought to have an official bagpiper for civic occasions and that this should be offered to Craig McFarlane. This arrangement is to be by honorarium and mirror that for the macebearers. This was seconded by Cllr Price and **AGREED** by majority.

### **74. TO CONSIDER FLYING THE RAINBOW PRIDE FLAG ATOP THE TOWN HALL FOR THE TOWN'S PRIDE CELEBRATION EVENT ON 17 JULY**

Members received notification from the Clerk that a community-organised Pride celebration was happening on Sunday 17 July. Members considered flying the flag for the day or for a longer period atop the Town Hall.

Cllr Cottle proposed that the Town Council fly the Rainbow Pride flag for the remainder of the month of July and this was seconded by Cllr Donfrancesco.

A recorded vote was requested and taken as follows:

**For:** Cllrs Mutch, White, Price, Lokabandhu, Smyth, Donfrancesco, Cousins, Cottle, Henderson, Manning and Oakden.

**Against:** Cllrs Napper and Cook

**Abstain:** Cllr Osborn

It was **RESOLVED** by majority to fly the Rainbow Pride flag atop the Town Hall for the remainder of July.

### **75. TO RECEIVE REPORTS FROM OUTSIDE BODIES**

a. Fairtrade – Cllr MacDougal was not present at the meeting but Cllr Smyth gave a brief update in her absence. It was highlighted that the Town Council ought to meet to consider our status as a Fairtrade town. The Town Clerk will investigate this and ensure such a meeting as necessary is held.

b. Town Deal Board – Cllr White gave members a verbal update on the last meeting of the Town Deal Board.

**76. MAYOR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Cllr Cousins updated members as to his recent engagements as Mayor.

**77. COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There were no communications or announcements from members or officers.

**78. CORRESPONDENCE**

There were no items of correspondence to raise before members at this meeting.

**79. NEWS RELEASES**

Councillors considered setting up the Resilience committee and the work of the Climate emergency and Resilience Officer as newsworthy.

**80. ACTIONS ARISING FROM THE MEETING**

The Clerk had captured all actions arising from the meeting.

**81. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 AMENDED BY THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014, THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE EXCLUDED FOR THE FOLLOWING ITEM DUE TO THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED.**

**82. TO DISCUSS THE OPPORTUNITY OF LAND ACQUIREMENT VIA PRIVATE SALE**

This item was briefly discussed and referred to the Property and Assets Committee for consideration on 19 July at an Extraordinary meeting.

**83. IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 AMENDED BY THE OPENNESS OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT BODIES REGULATIONS 2014, THE PRESS AND PUBLIC WERE INVITED BACK FOR THE REMAINDER OF THE MEETING**

**84. TO NOTE THE DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING**

The next Full Town Council meeting will be on Tuesday 9 August, 2022.

<b>SIGNED:</b>	<b>DATE:</b>
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