

Cllr Lindsay MacDougall - November District Council report

I have attended meetings (virtual) of the Licensing Board and Planning Board. Licensing Board included a presentation from Lizzie Kingsbury of CAB (Citizens Advice Bureau) re. gambling support, including help with associated debt. More information may be found at: <https://centraldorsetca.org.uk/gambling-support-service>

There has also been a meeting of Full Council to discuss and approve the Somerset Climate Emergency Strategy which is available here: <https://www.somerset.gov.uk/climate-emergency/somersets-climate-emergency-strategy-documents/> This 93 page document (there is a much shorter summary too) sets out what climate change means for Somerset and outlines some proposed actions from lobbying government to decarbonising Mendip District Council's own estate to individual actions. It is considered to be a living document subject to frequent review as the strategy develops further. The Green group of councillors tabled an amendment which was approved, urging the council to establish detailed targets and actions in order to meet the stated goal of zero carbon in Mendip by 2030.

At Cabinet, social housing was on the agenda and there was an announcement of plans to release land for Aster Housing Association to build 6 houses at Norbins Road carpark (currently owned by Mendip District Council (MDC) ).

I have also contributed to consultations regarding the government white paper, Planning for the Future, and the plans for a new community of 1700 dwellings at Selwood Garden Village on the outskirts of Frome.

MDC are proposing to offer free car parking at St John's car park on 5th December and the week before Christmas (17th - 24th Dec); also New Year's Day.

Weekly markets remain open; for stalls that cannot trade due to the Covid pandemic, there is an online service offered here: <https://www.mendip.gov.uk/article/8856/Glastonbury-Market-Online-Trading->

There is also a new page created at Glastonbury Online for High St traders so we can continue to do our Christmas shopping locally: <https://glastonbury.uk/2020/11/04/shop-online-from-glastonbury-in-lockdown/>