

Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the council held at West Kidlington School on Tuesday 9th January 2024

Meeting commenced at 5:30 pm

Councillors present: Cllr Carol Matheson, Cllr Clive Stayt, Cllr Suzanne McIvor, Cllr Merlin Smith, Cllr Nigel Simpson, Cllr Suzanne Wilson-Higgins

To receive apologies of absence from: Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Nick Duval, The Clerk who is unwell.

Other attendees: The Responsible Financial Officer (RFO) – standing in for the Clerk.

23/367 Declarations of interest: None

23/368 Public Participation: None.

23/369 To confirm the minutes of the previous council meeting on 5th December 2023

It was RESOLVED to approve the minutes of the meeting on 5th December 2023

23/370 Update on progress and matters arising from the minutes held on 5th December 2023: None

23/371 Reports

Cllr Nigel Simpson – CDC have appointed a new Chief Executive – Gordon Stewart. CDC are looking at budgets 2 years ahead. There have been no OCC meetings but advised that an inspection on the Children OCC care for is taking place at the end of January 2024.

Cllr Clive Stayt – updated that:

- Oxford United put out a consultation, then cancelled the meeting for consultee's this has not been rescheduled. The planning application is delayed until February 2024.
- Meeting of Chairs of the 4 parishes (Kidlington PC, Yarnton PC, Begbroke PC and Gosford & Water Eaton PC) met to discuss the infrastructure masterplan. PR6A has no community space for the proposed 1700 houses, it is essential that this is picked up at pre-planning consultation phase and we make comment as a PC to CDC. PR7A will be managed by Gosford & Water Eaton, with a proposed office and pavilion. S106 money requires monitoring and ringfencing at the consultation phase. It was AGREED to invite Christchurch College and Bellway to a future meeting to receive an update on progress, and CDC to discuss the S106 funds.
- Campsfield House protest group would like to come along to the 4 parishes group, this was agreed. Date to be confirmed.

23/372 Financial Matters

(23/372.01) It was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments as detailed in the clerk's report (detailed below). Payments are made via online banking with Unity bank which is now in place.

Finance committee receive copies of the invoices to review ahead of the meeting. Statutory payments were already authorised and have been paid via standing order.

Kidlington parish council	£10,365.00	Contribution to xmas lights, cemeteries, and allotments – inv GEN67
Clerk expenses Dec	£51.10	Home office, landline, printing etc.

West Kidlington Venue hire Jan	£51	January meeting
Ady Podbery	£66.60	Litter, bins – play areas inv 4920
Zurich insurance	£1294.60	Insurance renewal

£confidential relates to payroll figures – these figures are shared with councillors. They are approved annually.

(23/362.02) CDC issued the band D tax base, with an increase of 0.9, giving a total band D base of 550.00 for 2024-25. It was **RESOLVED** to increase the precept by 6% which equates to a precept figure of £76,221 or £138.58 per house. This is an increase of £7.84 per house, per annum.

23/373 Planning: None.

23/374 Parish Matters

(23/374.01) Cllr Merlin Smith will look at the maple tree on the Bicester / Gosford link to see whether it is dead or dormant.

(23/374.02) Cllr Nigel Simpson noted the roadworks at the roundabout are causing long delays, the feedback has been very poor. Highways and the utility companies look at everything in isolation and not as a whole.

23/375 Items for information and next agenda only.

(23/375.01) Invite representatives from Christchurch College and Bellway to a meeting.

(23/375.02) Invite Caroline Ford and Tom Darlington from CDC to discuss the S106 funds.

23/376

Date of the next full council meeting – 6th February 2024 - 7pm West Kidlington School at 7pm.

Meeting ends 6:24pm