

Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council

Minutes of the meeting of the council held at West Kidlington Primary School
on
Tuesday 4th February 2025

Meeting commenced at 8pm

Councillors present: Cllr Clive Stayt (Vice Chair), Cllr Merlin Smith, Cllr Suzanne Wilson-Higgins (Chair), Cllr Suzanne McIvor, Cllr Nigel Simpson, Cllr Carol Matheson, Cllr Ian Middleton, Cllr Fiona Mawson (DC)

To receive and accept apologies of absence from: None

Other attendees: The clerk

24/481 Declarations of interest: Cllr Smith farming within area of development potential. Cllr McIvor is part of Friends of Stratfield Brake. Cllr Simpson declares he is a season ticket holder for OUFC.

24/482 Public Participation: None

24/483 To confirm the minutes of the previous council meeting on 7th January 2025 It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting on 7th January 2025. Proposed Cllr C Stayt, Seconded Cllr Smith

24/484 Update on progress and matters arising from the minutes held on 7th January 2025: Nothing that is not covered further in the agenda.

24/485 To receive reports from Parish, District and County Councillors.

Cllr Wilson-Higgins: shared her report separately ahead of the meeting.

Cllr Wilson-Higgins attended part of the opening of the new funeral shop in our parish.

There were two Stratfield Brake meetings during the month, and it is clear the building needs a lot work doing to it and agreements for the property need to be redrawn soon. Funding from S106 or CDC will be required. CDC managing the site expires in March 2026. Noted that for SB we need to ensure with any agreement / lease changes the protection of the land remains as green space.

Cllr Wilson-Higgins will put an update in the Kidlington News.

Cllr Nigel Simpson – devolution at OCC – no clarification yet but will update as we hear updates. We anticipate hearing an update by mid-February.

Cllr Nigel Simpson – waiting for Department of Education and contractors to sign agreements. Due to start Easter.

Cllr Clive Stayt – attended airport committee meeting. The airport is going to raise some concerns regarding the solar park that is proposed.

Cllr Middleton – noted some of the Poplar trees along the Gosford link road are needing to be felled as they are deteriorating.

Cllr Middleton – will follow up on yellow lines and sign board at Water Eaton Lane.

24/486 To ask questions regarding the clerk's report and summary

No further questions or comments.

Bench – Cllr Middleton can assist to request via Sanctuary if we can place a bench on their land.

24/487 Financial Matters

(24/48.01) To approve financial payments: 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.

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.

Statutory salaries, HMRC, pensions already approved and set up – All to be made via online banking. These are set up by the RFO to be clicked in the approvals list.

For immediate payment:

West Kidlington venue January - £90

Clerk office expenses (Jan) - £52.35

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

They are approved annually.

24/488 Planning: To consider all recent applications received from Cherwell District Council since the last meeting including any OUFC statements / updates for consideration.

(24/488.01) **Cherwell Local Plan** – virtual meeting 4th Feb – 6-8pm. Councillor S Wilson-Higgins and Cllr C Stayt attending this virtual meeting.

The clerk confirmed that the **EWR** – response to consultation was submitted specifically commenting on the Oxford to Bletchley Route

(24/488.02) To consider and confirm the response to the **OUFC planning application**. Extension to response to OUFC planning granted to mid Feb following email to planning.

Councillors approved the suggested response text from GWEPC, and this response will be published on our website. Thank you to councillors for the preparation of this.

24/489 Items for information and next agenda only.

Annual Parish Meeting will be in May. The clerk will investigate availability of the Edward Feild school in May to hold this in the parish.

24/490 Date of the next full council meeting – 4th March 2025 – 8pm West Kidlington Primary School.

Meeting ends 8.35pm