

## **Gosford and Water Eaton Parish Council**

### **Minutes of the meeting of the council held at West Kidlington Primary School on Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025**

*Meeting commenced at 7pm*

**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

**24/501 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.

**24/502 Public Participation:** None

**24/503 To confirm the minutes of the previous council meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025** It was **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025. Proposed Cllr C Stayt, Seconded Cllr Smith

**24/504 Update on progress and matters arising from the minutes held on 4<sup>th</sup> March 2025:**

Banking – the signatories need to ensure they have their access with Unity. Signatories will need to call Unity bank themselves if they struggle to access. Cllr Matheson asked for the RFO to confirm the full amount of funds in the bank (total). This is ongoing.

Sign board – have asked OCC to cut back vegetation on main roads where it is obscuring sign boards. The existing and broken Water Eaton Lane sign board has been replaced.

**24/505 To receive reports from Parish, District and County Councillors.**

Cllr Stayt – Five parishes area oversites group. Cllr McClean arranged this meeting (CDC led). Tom Darlington is the lead CDC officer for this group. The clerk will invite Tom Darlington to a future meeting (June).

There are some questions raised on the spreadsheet. If EWR compulsory purchase any land the parish would like to know the alternative / plan B for the sports pitches. The clerk will also request a meeting schedule.

Cllr Middleton - Yellow Lines – this is going to consultation again. Fix my street is now updated to investigating.

Cllr Middleton – Alternative circumstances report has been added to portal for OUFC.

Cllr Middleton - OCC had a meeting on local government reorganisation – preference is single unitary for Oxfordshire.

Cllr Mawson – some houses have flooded on the Oxford Road and the cause is being investigated.

#### **24/506 To ask questions regarding the clerk's report and summary**

No further questions or comments.

Newsletter – trees being monitored. Cllr Middleton, Cllr Simpson sharing some parish content to the clerk to include in the newsletter.

#### **24/507 Financial Matters**

(24/507.01) To approve the financial reports. It was **RESOLVED** to approve the financial reports.

(24/507.02) 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 April - £60

Clerk office expenses (Mar) - £54.75

OCC – emptying of dog bins £133.85

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

(24/507.03) Parish Councillors **RESOLVED** to approve expenditure for the newsletter, delivery anticipated at £180 and printing up to £300.

#### **24/508 Planning:**

(24/508.01) To consider all recent applications received from Cherwell District Council since the last meeting including any OUFC statements / updates for consideration.

(24/508.02) To discuss and consider long term protection of Stratfield Brake – this is rolled over and will be discussed in the June meeting.

(24/508.03) To discuss and consider the response to OUFC Draft response to re-consultation on proposed stadium – the council have drafted a response which will be shared on our website once updated.

A few points in the draft need emphasising and this will be done ahead of publishing the draft.

**24/509 Items for information and next agenda only.**

PR7 site is due to start before summer. The clerk will contact Barwood.

**24/510 Date of the next full council meeting** – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2025 – 6-6.30pm Annual Council meeting followed by APM at 7pm-8pm Edward Feild Primary School.

*Meeting ends 8.45pm*