



# GREAT OLDBURY PARISH COUNCIL

## MINUTES OF THE GREAT OLDBURY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING, HELD ON THURSDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY 2024, AT 7.15 PM IN STANDISH VILLAGE HALL

In attendance: Cllrs Sonia Brinkworth, Chris Coombs, Andrew Deighton, Martin Bowman, Edward Turnbull-Scott and Phillip Ward (Chairman).

Also Present: District Councillor Richard Maisey and 4 Members of the Public.  
Clerk: Irena Litton.

### Public Time:

1) Thomas Legge, from Great Oldbury Football Club introduced himself to the Members and provided background information on the Football Club. Thomas asked the Council if he could open up a dialogue with the Council about the Football Club leasing part of the Playing Fields to create up to 8 pitches.

2) District Cllr Richard Maisey introduced himself and reported:

- He is a Member of the Stroud District Council Audit and Standards Committee.
- There is a consultation event, to discuss the future of the old Stroud Library - Monday 19<sup>th</sup> August from 3pm-5pm, drop in session, held in the new library in The Five Valleys Centre.
- Stroud District Council have recently agreed to a £2.7 million investment in Stratford Park Leisure Centre and Lido.
- Stroud District Council accepted their recent Internal Audit Report <https://stroud.moderngov.co.uk/documents/s12753/Appendix%20A%20Internal%20Audit%20Activity%20Progress%20Report%202024-25.pdf>
- Stroud District Council have supported the bid for the Pride of Gloucestershire bid to host Pride Euro 2027.
- Stroud District Council have agreed to set up a role, as a Member Champion for Litter and a Clean Environment.

### 45/24 To receive apologies for absence.

Apologies were received from Cllr Robert Brown

### 46/24 To receive Declarations of Interest on items in the agenda.

Cllr Sonia Brinkworth declared an interest in Agenda Item 49/24a.

Cllr Phillip Ward declared an interest in Agenda Item 51/24.

### 47/24 To approve the minutes from the Parish Council meeting held on 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024.

*The minutes of the meeting held on the 4<sup>th</sup> July 2024 were approved and were signed as a true record.*

**48/24 To consider appointing Cllr Edward Turnbull-Scott as the solicitor to act on behalf of the Council for the transfer of assets from Robert Hitchin Ltd.**

The Council thanked Cllr Edward Turnbull-Scott for his generous offer, as no remuneration can be given to a serving Councillor, although the Council will be able to refund any expenses incurred.

*The Council appointed Cllr Edward Turnbull-Scott to act in an official capacity as solicitor for the transfer of assets from Robert Hitchin Ltd.*

**49/24 Financial Issues.**

**a) To approve payments in accordance with the RFO Report.**

Cllr Sonia Brinkworth left the room, whilst this Agenda Item was considered.

*The Council approved the payments made in July and approved the expenditure that will need to be paid prior to the next meeting.*

<https://www.greatoldbury-pc.gov.uk/uploads/rfo-report-25th-july-24-public-version.pdf?v=1721901047>

**b) To receive an update on the request for a Financial Transfer of Assets, from Stonehouse Town Council and Eastington Parish Council and agree any further action.**

The Clerk reported that Stonehouse Town Council had kindly agreed to pay a Financial Asset transfer of £10,000, which is being paid to GOPC by the end of July 2024.

The Clerk reported she had received a disappointing transcript of the meeting held by Eastington Parish Councils on the 11<sup>th</sup> July 2024. The Clerk reported that she has under the Notice of Exercise of Public Rights, requested to inspect their accounts for Financial Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024 but has not yet been provided with access to any of the documentation.

The Working Group will request a follow-up meeting.

*The Council agreed to send a letter to the External Auditor, outlining its concerns that the electors of Eastington Parish Council, for the Financial Year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2024, have been overcharged due to poor budgeting and internal review procedures.*

**c) To amend the bank signatories.**

*The Council approved the new permanent Clerk, \*Mrs Victoria Cox, to be added as the administrator and signatory (\*subject to Agenda Item 51/24a). The Council also approved the removal the Locum Clerk, Mrs Irena Litton as administrator and signatory (once the new Clerk has been successfully added).*

**50/24 Planning.**

**a) To consider any plans received.**

There were none.

- b) To receive a progress report from the Clerk on applications already responded to.**

Planning Applications pending a decision.

S.24/0650/REM | Reserved Matters application for a Local Centre (Use Classes E(a), E(b), E(c), E(g) and/or (Sui Generis) pursuant to outline planning permission S.14/0810/OUT including details of landscaping, design, scale, and layout. | Parcel LC1 Land West Of Stonehouse Grove Lane

S.24/0647/REM | Reserved Matters application for a proposed employment development (Class E(g)/B2/B8) pursuant to outline planning permission S.14/0810/OUT including details of landscaping, design, scale, and layout | Parcel E5, Land West Of Stonehouse Rowbotham Way Great Oldbury

S.24/0648/REM | Reserved Matters application for a proposed employment development (Class E(g)/B2/B8) pursuant to outline planning permission S.14/0810/OUT including details of landscaping, design, scale, and layout. | Parcel E5, Land West Of Stonehouse Rowbotham Way Great Oldbury

S.24/0649/REM | Reserved Matters application for a proposed employment development (Class E(g)/B2/B8) pursuant to outline planning permission S.14/0810/OUT including details of landscaping, design, scale, and layout. | Parcel E5, Land West Of Stonehouse Rowbotham Way

S.24/1145/DISCON | Discharge of conditions 28 (fire hydrants) and 38 (Construction Environmental Management Plan and method statement) from approved application S.14/0810/OUT | Parcel H17 Land West Of Stonehouse Grove Lane

### **CONFIDENTIAL AGENDA**

That in accordance with the provisions of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 the public and press to be excluded during consideration of Agenda Item 51/24.

Members of the Public, District Cllr Richard Maisey and Cllr Phillip Ward departed the meeting and Vice Chairman Andrew Deighton took over as Chair.

#### **51/24 To receive and approve the recommendations from the Staffing Committee:**

- a) To appoint Ms Viki Cox as Clerk, Responsible Financial Officer and Proper Officer, to commence on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 2024.**

*The Council approved the appointment of Mrs Victoria Cox, as the Clerk, RFO and Proper Officer, to commence on the 29<sup>th</sup> July 2024.*

- b) To confirm the contract details and pension provision for the new Clerk.**

A copy of the Contract and Pension provision had been seen by the Council and the new Clerk prior to the meeting.

*The Council approved the contract and pension provision for the new Clerk. The Council agreed to pay an additional home office allowance of £26 per month, until the new office is available.*

- c) To confirm a training and mentoring programme for the new Clerk.**

The Locum Clerk, Mrs Irena Litton will provide a handover and cease employment with effect the 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2024, the Council agreed to pay out for any outstanding holiday entitlement.

*The Council approved up to 20 hours of support and mentoring for the new Clerk in this Financial Year, to be provided by Mrs Irena Litton.*

The Council noted that further mentoring is likely to be necessary in the next financial year, to cover the end of year procedures.

**52/24 Date of the next meeting – tbc– Standish Village Hall.**

The date of the next meeting is set as the 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024, commencing at 7pm, in Standish Village Hall.

There being no further business to transact, the meeting was closed at 7.53pm.