



Ottery St Mary Town Council

Minutes of the **PROPERTY AND LAND COMMITTEE MEETING** of **OTTERY ST MARY TOWN COUNCIL** held in the in the Council Offices, the Old Convent, 8 Broad Street, Ottery St Mary on **THURSDAY 2ND MARCH 2023 at 4.30pm**

PRESENT: Cllr Grainger (Chair), Cllrs Johns (Mayor), Lucas, Green and Stewart and Kerry Kennell CEO

PL23/03/01

TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES

Christine McIntyre, Support Officer.

PL23/03/02

TO RECEIVE DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA AND RECEIPT OF REQUESTS FOR NEW DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS (DPIS) DISPENSATIONS FOR ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Name of Councillor	Interest
Cllr Lucas	Item 9 – Personal interest as Director of Community Volunteers and Community Larder
Cllr Green	None.
Cllr Grainger	None.
Cllr Johns	Item 9 – Personal interest as Director of Community Volunteers and Community Larder Item 10 – Personal interest as Rob Johns, her husband is the Chair and a trustee of Ottery St Mary Cricket Club
Cllr Stewart	Item 9 – Personal interest as Director of Community Volunteers and Community Larder

PL23/03/03

IN CONSIDERATION OF THE PUBLIC BODIES (ADMISSION TO MEETINGS) ACT 1960 (PUBLICITY WOULD BE PREJUDICIAL TO THE PUBLIC INTEREST BY REASON OF THE CONFIDENTIAL NATURE OF THE BUSINESS TO BE TRANSACTED): TO AGREE ANY ITEMS TO BE DEALT WITH AFTER THE PUBLIC AND PRESS HAVE BEEN EXCLUDED

It was **RESOLVED** to that Item 6 - Skatepark (matters relating to finances of the Skate and BMX Trust and pertinent legal issues) and Item 14 relating to an insurance claim (legal issue) be discussed in Confidential Session.

Chair`s Initials.....

PL23/03/04

TO APPROVE AND SIGN THE MINUTES OF THE PROPERTY AND LAND COMMITTEE MEETING OF 26TH JANUARY 2023 (MINUTE REF PL23/01/01 – PL23/01/16)

The Minutes of the Property and Land Committee Meeting of 26th January 2023 (minute ref PL23/01/01 – PL23/01/16) were approved and signed by the Chair.

PL23/03/05

THE MUSEUM – UPDATE ON THE LEASE AND WINDOW (PLANNING APPLICATION)

The Council will await feedback from the Heritage Society on the draft lease. A planning application has been submitted to EDDC for the removal of the existing window and installation of a new window.

PL23/03/06

SKATEPARK – UPDATE AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AS APPROPRIATE

New signage has been put up at the skatepark and the ramps painted. There were some problems with graffiti and broken bottles on the first weekend after reopening. The skatepark is now being checked on Mondays and Fridays to ensure everything is ok before and after the weekend. Cllr Lucas gave an update on a meeting that had been held between The King's School, DCC and the Council regarding improving access arrangements to the skatepark. It was a positive first step and funding will need to be sought to enable the project to progress. A further meeting to discuss more details will be arranged shortly.

PL23/03/07

CEMETERY MATTERS – TO PROVIDE UPDATE ON WORKS TO MEMORIAL STONES AND CONSIDERATION OF CHILDREN'S AREA IN THE CEMETERY AND RELATED MATTERS

The work on the memorial stones by Orchard Memorials should be completed this month. Some memorial stones may need to be removed from the cemetery as it is impossible to fix them in the cold temperatures, but the Council will be notified which graves this affects.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that sympathetic consideration is given to a Children's section in the cemetery considering an area for seating and quiet reflection.

PL23/03/08

WINTERS LANE TENNIS COURTS – CONSIDERATION OF FUTURE USE

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the future use of Winters Lane Tennis Courts is reconsidered once the MUGA is completed. It was **RECOMMENDED** that advice is sought from Sport England regarding development of existing sports areas within Ottery St Mary Parish.

PL23/03/09

OLD BOYS SCHOOL, YONDER STREET – CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASE OF THE PROPERTY

It was **RECOMMENDED** that information on funding streams is investigated and that suitable locations within the parish are considered. It was **RECOMMENDED** that a commercial valuation of any suitable property should be carried out.

Chair`s Initials.....

PL23/03/10

STRAWBERRY LANE – UPDATE ON PROPOSED FOOTPATH AT THE CRICKET CLUB AND TO MAKE ANY RECOMMENDATIONS AS NECESSARY – UPDATE ON RELATION OF THE FENCE WITH THE BOWLING CLUB

Cllr Johns left the meeting.

A meeting was held with Rob Johns from Ottery St Mary Cricket Club. The Cricket Club confirmed that they do not want a permissive path and would want a fence in place. Cllr Green met with a consultant on site and a feasibility study on whether it is a suitable location for a footpath would cost £2,000 plus further £4,000 to complete a planning application. A fence would cost approximately £20,000. The cost of the actual path would be on top of this. It was **RECOMMENDED** that a funding package and an analysis of what the likely traffic through Kings Reach may be is carried out, with a view that the creation of the footpath could be included in the new Neighbourhood Plan. It was **RECOMMENDED** that a letter is sent back to the Cricket Club thanking for them for their offer and clarifying the Council's position.

Cllr Johns re-joined the meeting.

Bowling Club Fence: Three quotations are being sought to re-site the Bowling Club fence. The Bowling Club have raised concerns that when the fence is moved access to their drains will be on the Council side of the fence. They are concerned that when the MUGA is built access will be under the MUGA. The Bowling Club would like written confirmation that they will have access to their drain once the fence is moved. It was **RECOMMENDED** that it is put in writing that the Bowling Club will have access to clear the drain as required.

PL23/03/11

THE STATION – UPDATE INCLUDING NEW TENANCIES

A meeting was held with a tenant whose lease expires at the end of April. It was discussed that a new lease should include utilities used at the Station. It was **RECOMMENDED** that a 12-month lease is issued continuing with the current monthly rental including utilities until the feasibility study is completed. The rental will need to be reviewed at the end of this period.

PL23/03/12

UPDATE ON THE EXPRESSION OF INTEREST FORM RE PROPOSED TRANSFER OF LAND TO THE COUNCIL (RE EDDC'S COMMUNITY ASSET TRANSFER) AND FURTHER INFORMATION REQUIREMENTS BY EDDC

It was confirmed which grass verges included in the application to EDDC.

PL23/03/13

WINTER'S LANE (TENNIS COURTS) UPDATE ON TREE ISSUE

A suitable contractor is being identified and quotes are being sought to enable the work to be carried out.

PL23/03/14

COUNCIL OFFICES – UPDATE ON CAR PARKING ISSUES AND INSURANCE CLAIM

No parking notices have now been erected on the front wall of the Council Offices which are proving to be a deterrent so far. This will be reviewed regularly.

Chair's Initials.....

PL23/03/15

COUNCIL PARKING SPACES ALBERT CLOSE – UPDATE

It was noted that there is an ongoing issue between a resident of Victoria Terrace and a resident of Albert Close. This is being dealt with by the Police.

PL23/03/16

UPDATE ON SAFETY CHECKS CARRIED OUT ON ALL COUNCIL PROPERTIES

All safety checks are up to date. Guidance has been issued in respect of the Museum and the Pavilion as to safety procedures which should be implemented by occupants.

PL23/03/17

CONSIDERATION OF MISCELLANEOUS PROPERTY MATTERS

No issues were raised.

PL23/03/18

TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS' QUESTIONS RELATING TO PROPERTY AND LAND

No issues were raised.

PL23/03/19

DATE OF NEXT PROPERTY AND LAND COMMITTEE MEETING

To be confirmed at a later date.

Under s.1 (2) of the Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960, the council resolved to exclude the press and public from the meeting since publicity would be prejudicial to the public interest by reason of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted.

PL23/03/20

COUNCIL OFFICES – UPDATE ON INSURANCE CLAIM

An injury relating to a collapsed manhole in 2020 is being dealt with by the Council solicitors.

PL23/03/21

SKATEPARK – UPDATE AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS AS APPROPRIATE

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Council do not attempt to recover their legal fees and concentrate on making positive progress at skatepark.

The meeting ended at 18.30.

SIGNATURE OF CHAIR	
DATE OF SIGNATURE	

Chair`s Initials.....

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Chair`s Initials.....