



# Ottery St Mary Town Council

Minutes of the **STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING** of **OTTERY ST MARY TOWN COUNCIL** on **WEDNESDAY 14<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2023 at 5.00pm**. The meeting was held in the Meeting Room at the Council Offices, OSM EX11 1BZ.

**PRESENT:** Cllrs Green (Vice Chair), Lucas, Sneller, Cllr Grainger (Mayor), Johns, Stewart (Deputy Mayor) and Kerry Kennell, Clerk

*S23/11/01*

## **TO RECEIVE APOLOGIES**

None.

*S23/11/02*

## **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**

<b>Name of Councillor</b>	<b>Agenda Item and Interest</b>
Cllr Green	No interests declared.
Cllr Sneller	Agenda item 6 – Cllr Sneller declared a pecuniary interest as he is quoting for the job to install and allotment toilet.
Cllr Stewart	Agenda item 6 – Cllr Stewart declared a personal interest as an employee of Citizens Advice who use the Council Offices once a week for a drop-in session. During the meeting Cllr Stewart declared that he is on the allotment waiting list.
Cllr Grainger	Agenda item 6 – Cllr Grainger declared a personal interest as an allotment holder.
Cllr Lucas	No interests declared.
Cllr Johns	No interests declared.

*S23/11/03*

## **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**

There were none.

Chair`s Initials.....

S23/11/04

**TO ALLOW MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC PRESENT TO SUBMIT QUESTIONS/COMMENTS FOR CONSIDERATION *INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTIONS WILL BE LIMITED TO 3 MINUTES***

There were none.

S23/11/05

**TO RECEIVE THE STRATEGY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES OF 10<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER 2023 (MINUTE REFS S23/10/01 – S23/10/10) AND TO APPROVE THE SIGNING OF THE MINUTES BY THE CHAIR AS A CORRECT RECORD**

The Strategy Committee meeting minutes of 10<sup>th</sup> October 2023 (minute refs S23/10/01 – S23/10/10) were reviewed and were signed by the Chair as a true record of the meeting.

S23/11/06

**TO CONSIDER THE CURRENT PROPERTY PORTFOLIO: COUNCIL OFFICES; STATION COMMUNITY HUB; MUSEUM; LIBRARY; STRAWBERRY LANE; HIGHER RIDGEWAY CEMETERY; ALLOTMENTS; WINTERS LANE TENNIS COURTS; 12 PARKING SPACES VICTORIA TERRACE IDENTIFYING POTENTIAL ISSUES AND CONCERNS**

**Council Offices** – A new tenant is moving into Office 7.

**Station Community Hub** – The Clerk has met with a consultant who is interested in progressing the project looking into the feasibility of undertaking significant structural improvements at The Station. The Clerk will liaise with EDDC regarding the next steps as this project will be partly funded by the UKSPF fund. Further funding is available from REACH and a grant application for additional funds could be made as part of this project. It was AGREED that the Committee would liaise with other Councils regarding youth provision and to see whether working together could improve the range of services available. It was AGREED that a meeting will be arranged with Sidmouth Town Council which will be attended by Cllrs Lucas and Green.

**Museum** – Cllr Grainger has had an informal meeting with Peter Shrubbsall from the Heritage Society. Quotations are currently being obtained for the pointing.

**Library** – It was RECOMMENDED that in principle the Committee would support the Library taking on responsibility for the rear garden area.

**Strawberry Lane** – There was a lengthy discussion regarding the MUGA. Due to increased costs the completion of the MUGA is unlikely with Section 106 funds alone and therefore additional funding will be required. Cllr Green is investigating whether funding could be provided from Playzone. The Clerk will speak to the Netball and Tennis clubs to clarify their requirements and access to any additional funding.

**Skatepark** – An annual inspection will be carried out shortly. It was AGREED that Jon Williams at DCC will be asked to provide a quotation for the proposed new access. It was AGREED that there is a need to maintain the existing access route for emergency use. It was AGREED to propose £10,000 is allocated to this project in the 2024/25. An EDDC Planning Officer will be invited out to the site to look at the proposed route. Cllr Green will speak to EDDC regarding the lighting on the site and discuss where transformers are.

**Highway Ridgeway Cemetery** – No issues.

**Allotments** – It was AGREED that another site should be considered as there is currently a waiting list of 19.

Chair`s Initials.....

**Winters Lane Tennis Court** – No issues.  
**Victoria Terrace Parking Spaces** – No issues.

*S23/11/07*

**TO CREATE A DRAFT STRATEGIC PLAN FOR THE COUNCIL UNTIL MAY 2027 TO INCLUDE CONSIDERATION OF THE CURRENT PROJECT LIST, THE CREATION OF A PROJECT CHECKLIST AND A STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH REQUESTS TO TAKE ON OPEN SPACES OF LAND THROUGHOUT THE PARISH**

It was AGREED that the Council should also have a strategy for dealing with requests to take on any property.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Strategic Plan for the Council until May 2027 is approved by the Council at the December Full Council meeting.

It was AGREED that all Councillors will be asked to make a contribution to the mission statement.

The Clerk will contact EDDC and ask whether there is a more up to date version of the Open Space Study Review June 2014 which is a useful document but clearly out of date.

*S23/11/08*

**ANY FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEMBERS**

There were none.

The meeting ended at 6.47pm

Date of next meeting: 12<sup>th</sup> December 2023

<b><i>SIGNATURE OF CHAIR</i></b>	
<b><i>DATE OF SIGNATURE</i></b>	

Chair`s Initials.....