



## Ottery St Mary Town Council

Minutes of the ORDINARY MEETING OF Strategy Committee held on **Thursday 27 June 2024** at **16:00**. The meeting was held in the **Ottery St. Mary Town Council (8 Broad Street, Ottery St. Mary, Devon, EX11 1BZ)**

Present: Cllrs Stewart Lucas, John Green, Richard Grainger, Vicky Johns, Ben Feasey and Nick Sneller

In Attendance: Kerry Kennell, Town Clerk

Minute Taker: Kerry Kennell, Town Clerk

### 1 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

To receive apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Councillor Dean Stewart

### 2 DECLARATIONS AND DISCLOSABLE PECUNIARY INTERESTS

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

Cllr Johns	No interests declared
Cllr Green	No interests declared
Cllr Feasey	No interests declared
Cllr Grainger	No interests declared
Cllr Lucas	No interests declared
Cllr Sneller	No interests declared

### 3 ADMISSION TO MEETINGS

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.

### 4 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

To allow members of the public present to submit questions/comments for consideration  
Individual contributions will be limited to 3 minutes

There were none.

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## 5 MINUTES

To receive the Minutes of the Meeting of the Strategy Committee of 2nd May 2024 (*minute refs S24/05/01 - S24/05/11*) and to approve the signing of the Minutes by the Mayor as a correct record

The minutes of 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 were signed as a true record of the meeting.

## 6 TO CONSIDER FUTURE PROJECTS AND THEIR ALIGNMENT WITH THE STRATEGIC PLAN FOR RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNCIL

### A. To view feedback from the Planning Committee and ELDC Committee in relation to the creation of a new Neighbourhood Plan

A tender has been drawn up to create a new Neighbourhood Plan for the parish. This will be sent out to consultants and the quotations can then be reviewed.

### B. To consider any other future projects and make recommendations as appropriate

A meeting has been held with the Cricket Club regarding their project to improve their facilities and safety fencing. It was noted that consultation will have to be carried out which could prove difficult as the project has already started. The Clerk will introduce a representative from the Cricket Club to the EDDC Section 106 officer. It was noted that this would be for S106 funding directly from EDDC, not from funds allocated to the Town Council. The English Cricket Board may be able to support the project but a decision cannot be made until such time as planning permission is granted. It was AGREED that Section 106 projects will be an agenda item at the August Full Council meeting.

## 7 TO CONSIDER THE USE OF SOLAR ENERGY WITHIN THE PARISH AND TO MAKE RECOMMENDATIONS (AS APPROPRIATE)

It was AGREED that a survey will be carried out on the Council Offices to understand the costs and its suitability for solar panels as the building is in a Conservation Area. Overview of the Council approach to solar energy and commitment to net zero, Climate Emergency. The Clerk will speak to SPACE who are trying to make their centres net zero to discuss their progress. It was **RECOMMENDED** that the new Neighbourhood Plan needs to prioritise solar energy and becoming net zero in the following areas: 1. Council properties 2. New development 3. Upgrading existing property including those in the Conservation area.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the Council should focus on improving energy efficiency wherever possible and should refocus on the Climate Emergency in a meaningful way.

## 8 TO CONSIDER THE COUNCIL PROPERTY PORTFOLIO

### A. To carry out a SWOT analysis on the Council Offices

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A SWOT analysis will be carried out by Cllr Lucas, the Mayor and the Clerk and will be circulated to the Committee.

**B. To carry out a SWOT analysis on the Museum**

A SWOT analysis will be carried out by Cllr Lucas, the Mayor and the Clerk and will be circulated to the Committee.

**C. To consider any other property issues**

There were none.

**9 TO NOTE ANY SPECIFIC CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

There was none.

**10 TO RECEIVE ANY FURTHER RECOMMENDATIONS FROM MEMBERS**

There was none.

**11 TO RECEIVE COUNCILLORS QUESTIONS**

It was asked whether there had been an update from EDDC regarding the empty property in Batts Lane. The Clerk will request an update.

It was **RECOMMENDED** that the ELDC Committee consider what the Town Council can do to improve consistency of appearance in town and implement a minimum standard of buildings, shop fronts and homes in the town.

**12 DATE OF THE NEXT MEETING: 25TH JULY 2024**

Reports & Appendix 1

Meeting concluded at 17:30

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