Oldbury on Severn Parish Council

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Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 7 April 2025 @ 7pm at The Pavilion, Westmarsh Lane, Oldbury-on-Severn, Bristol

Present Chairman Cllr Bedford (SRB), Cllr I Knapp (IK), Cllr L Day (LD), Cllr K Evans (KE), Cllr M Riddle (MR), Cllr C Jennings (CJ) Cllr D Heape (DH)

Several residents and a representative of The Hill Parish Meeting were present. Rockhampton Parish Council sent their apologies.

Meeting with Great British Nuclear

The Council received a presentation from Stephen Bray of Great British Nuclear on their plans for their site north of Oldbury Power Station. A planning application will be going in this Spring for a works depot on the site of the former Horizon one. This is to facilitate ecology studies; these will then be followed by ground investigations. The current Government Spending Review which will conclude this Summer will inform the future of the site in terms of type and number of possible power station on the site.

It was suggested that parish councils near to Hinckley C be contacted so that Oldbury Parish Council can liaise with them and see the site there, along with how it interacts with the local community. **ACTION Stephen Bray to contact and make introductions to the Parish Council which includes Hinckley C.**

Council Meeting

1.Apologies for absence were received from The Clerk S Bodmer, Cllr Kayleigh Griffiths and Cllr Richard Hayden

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2. Declarations of interest were received from Cllrs Matthew Riddle and Chris Jennings due to their interest in the Oldbury Power Station planning application as they receive a honorarium as the Chair and Vice Chair of the Site Stakeholder Group and Cllr Matthew Riddle declared an interest on Naite Farm as the applicant is a friend.

3. The Minutes of the previous Council meeting held on 4 March 2025 were approved. The Council's Standing Order refresh was discussed with one option of setting a small working group of Cllrs to review them. **Action: The Clerk to add this as an agenda item for May's meeting).**

4. Correspondence

4a. An update on the complaint received about noise levels at the Pavillion was received. The band had been advised of the complaint and were going to reduce the volume. Letters would be sent both to the band and the complainant **(Action: SRB to send letters)**

5.Matters arising from the previous Minutes not included in this agenda

5a. An update on the proposed Littleton Salt Marsh was presented by MR. EDF have confirmed that they are not currently pursuing their plan and are very unlikely to so in the future. A letter has been sent opposing the plans.

5b. An update on the cars/caravan located in the lay on the power station road was given by MR. An update has been received by SGC. The number of vehicles had gone down for six to four. SGC are continuing their action again the person responsible who live in the van.

5c. An update on plans for a follow up meeting with Wessex Water, in respect of flooding and sewerage system leaks was given by MR. A letter and the minutes of the February meeting have been sent to Wessex Water with request that they investigate an early warning system and along with other actions, including a list of the water/vacuum pump chambers where they have been working and which ones they feel are 'leak proof'.

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Another meeting with the various organisations will be held later in the year.

5d. An update on concerns raised about lorry access to Haw Lane and Ham Lane was given by MR. He has been in contact again with SGC to re-erect the post in Ham Lane on which a new will then be fixed.

6. Public Forum. Two residents of West End attended and explained the current carparking problems they are experiencing. This will be discussed under the Road Safety item later in the meeting.

7.Urgent Business. There was no urgent business.

8.0 Finance and Procedures

8a. The bank reconciliation and budget analysis for the period

ending 31 March 2025 was presented. KE reported they showed a satisfactory position.

8b. The March 2025 payments were presented and approved.

8c. The March 2025 receipts were presented and approved.

8d. The bank reconciliation for the period 26th February 2025 to 31st March 2025 was presented and approved.

8e. An update was presented on the end of the financial year analysis for the period 2024/2025. KE presented the analysis and explained they show a satisfactory position.

8f. An update on the letter to Busy Bees regarding the rate review was given by KE. KE will be writing to Busy Bees **(Action: KE to write to Busy Bees)**

8g. An update on the internal audit review was given by KE.

9.0. Planning

9a. A list of current and recent planning applications was received.

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9b. An update on the Local Plan was given by MR. He has discussed this with Barry Turner and a submission would be going in raising concerns of safeguarding areas for wind turbines in the parish.

10.0. Playing Fields Report IK

10.a To receive a report from Cllr Knapp on the Pavilion. The boiler servicing to be undertaken after the Easter holidays.

IK reported that the repainting of the ceiling will be done soon by a working group.

Oldbury Cricket Club. Invoices for water, electricity and 25% of rent, need to be sent to the Club. **(Action: IK, SB and The Clerk will send out the invoices)**

Three quotes to renew the toilets and install a disabled toilet will be sought. **(Action: IK to seek three quotes)**

10.b IK presented an update of the progress of the ROSPA report and safety checklist received from Glynn Poole. Work will be completed during the next working group sessions.

10.c IK presented an update on the cleaning service and weekly. It was agreed to contact any user or user group who does not leave the pavilion in a satisfactory condition and highlight the users' terms and conditions. It was greed to give 1 month notice end of May to the current cleaner and confirm with Lisa Riddle about her taking on the duties. DH proposed, CJ seconded, this was carried. **(Action: Clerk to contact the cleaner and Lisa Riddle)**

10.d IK presented the March report from Aman pest control services. Pest control was discussed, and it was agreed to leave the pest control boxes in place and then decide in late summer about the coming Autumn and Winter requirements.

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11.0. Road Safety Report. CJ reported that the VAS has been situated on Chapel Rd looking towards Thornbury for the last 7 weeks, the results show about 12.5% of vehicles speeding, which is similar to the results when it was last there, in about May 2024.

11a. MR gave an update on the overgrown bush on the corner of Westend and Camp Road restricting visibility on the corner. It has been logged at SGC.

11b. To receive an update on parking concerns at the junction of Westend, Camp Road and Ham Lane. Due to the sensitive nature of this issue, it was agreed to exclude the Press and Public. Proposed by SRB and seconded by MR and was carried. The Press and Public were excluded and the meeting continued.

12.0. Communications Report was given by LD. A new Parish Council Facebook page had been set up.

Parish website. It was requested if the website could be changed so that the Parish Council minutes and agendas could be put into a 'folder' for each year with a 'drop box' for each year, and also for the 'Local Businesses' page so that each business is listed on a 'drop box'. **(Action: LD to ask the Webmaster to make the required changes)**

There is a need for a new piece of perspex on the notice board at the Pavillion.

13.0. New Nuclear Build report was presented by CJ. CJ reported that the Government has identified two sites that it currently owns that are 'in prime position' to house the first the SMR's. However, nothing is certain. There are still several companies being assessed and are at various stages of the assessment programme.

14.0 General Purposes. There were none reported.

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15.0 Drainage Report was presented by MR. New flood risk data had recently been published, and Cllrs were encouraged to take a look and see the effect on the parish.

16.0 Emergency Planning. No update was presented.

17.0 Village Agent report was given by CJ

18.0 Memorial Hall Report was presented by CJ. CJ reported that NRS have confirmed a grant of £14,823 towards the insulation and refurbishment costs of the Hall. The payment should be paid by mid-May. The grant request to Vistry has been declined. An application to the National Lottery for a grant to support the new floor, underfloor insulation and improved insulation in the kitchen/ committee room loft is being made. This will be made through the Parish Council in line with TNL application process. This will hopefully be submitted in the next month. The Hall is displaying local artist work which is either for sale or show depending on the artist's wishes. We continue to provide a number of events, and the Hall is being well used.

18a. Vacancy on the Memorial Hall committee – carried forward to the May meeting. **(Action: The Clerk to add it the agenda for May's meeting).**

18b. Council to receive and approve the updated Constitution – carried forward to the May meeting. **(Action: The Clerk to add it the agenda for May's meeting).**

19.0 Site Stakeholder Group (SSG) was presented by CJ. CJ reported that the SSG have been in existence for 20 years, their role is enshrined in legislation and their primary role is to hold local sites to account and be a body that liaises between the Power Station and the local community. The NRA have recently held an in-depth review of the role of the SSG and how they interact. Some changes have been made to the Site Stakeholders Guidance. It underlines how it communicates with the parishioners. i.e. should we post the Minutes on our website and put up posters advertising meetings?

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The meeting notes from the 5th of February are available to see on this link.

Minutes-NRS-BerkeleyOldbury-SSG-Meeting-05.02.25-FINAL.pdf

20.0 Parish Property Report

20a. An update on the cleaning of the marker stones. MR reported that he would do one more treatment soon on the face of the two stones.

20b. An update on the plans for Councillors to view the work undertaken by Glynn Poole on the funeral bier, was given. SRB reported that Glynn will confirm later in the year convenient times for any Councillor wishing to view the restoration and to arrange an appointment.

20.c Repair to the seat on The Pound. SRB reported that Eddie and Charles Clapham have generously volunteered to repair the existing seat. It has now been removed for repair.

21.0 Any minor matters not requiring a decision or items for the next agenda

It was agreed that the next Council Meeting and Annual General Meeting of the Council will be held on Tuesday 6th May 2025.

That Annual Parish Assembly would be held in the second half of June, a date to be agreed.

June's Council Meeting will be held on Tuesday 3rd June rather than Monday 2nd June to include a presentation from local police.

S Bedford
6/5/25