

GREAT SOMERFORD (INCORPORATING STARTLEY) PARISH COUNCIL

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting 19 May 2025 @ 7.30 pm In the Community Room

Present

Cllr T Barker
Cllr J Harper
Cllr T Harrison

Cllr H Gravell
Cllr M Griffiths
Cllr T Sturgis
Cllr D Todd

In attendance H Wallace (Clerk)

Declaration of Acceptance of Office as Councillors

1. Declarations It was **noted** that all Councillors have signed these following the recent election, with the exception of Councillors who had offered apologies for the meeting, who would sign the forms prior to their next PC meeting.

2. Elections **Election of Chairman & Declaration of Acceptance of Office for 2025-26**
Cllr Griffiths was unanimously **re-elected** as the Chairman. Proposed: Cllr Barker; seconded: Cllr Gravell.

Election of Vice-Chairman & Declaration of Acceptance of Office for 2025-26
Cllr T Sturgis was unanimously **re-elected** as the Vice-Chairman. Proposed: Cllr Griffiths; seconded: Cllr Harrison.

3. Apologies **Apologies for Absence** – Cllr H Evans, Cllr T Phillips

4. Declarations of Interest **Declaration(s) of Interest** (Local Authorities (Model Code of Conduct) Order 2007).
There were no Declarations of Interest relating to any matter being considered by the meeting.

5. Responsibilities **Councillor Areas of Special Responsibility**
The Councillors approved the areas of special interest and responsibilities as updated and published on the website.

6. Objectives **Strategic Objectives for the Council until May 2026**
The Council **decided** that the key strategic objective for the remainder of its term (as had been agreed at the last APCM) is to:
- identify how the CIL (Community Infrastructure Levy) monies shall be spent and to ensure that the project(s) are agreed and committed, commenced/are underway or completed
- pursue the aim to create a recreation area for the village
- make a concerted effort to act on and support the wishes and concerns of parishioners as brought to the Parish Council.

Action: All



7. Public
Participation

Public Participation at Council meetings

The Parish Council considered that the rights of the public should remain unchanged: i.e. 10 minute Open Forum session at the start of each meeting plus 3 minute for any individual to make representations about planning matters before the Council. However, Councillors agreed that Planning would be brought higher up the Agenda to provide a better flow to public participation. Further, the PC agreed that it would use it's discretion to extend the time by up to 5 minutes if there was a topic that called for it or a large number of public participants with questions and if the Agenda allowed for a time extension.

The Annual Parish Council meeting closed at 8.00 pm

Approved  Chair Date 17/10/26