

COOKHAM PARISH COUNCIL**Minutes of the Meeting of the Staffing Committee of Cookham Parish Council
Held in the Community Room on Tuesday 20th August 2024, at 7pm**

PRESENT: Cllrs. C. Aisladie (Chair),
B. Perry, M. Howard, R. Kellaway, L. Austin.

Also Present: No members of the public or the Press were present.

1. Apologies for Absence:

All members were present.

2. Declarations of Interest

Cllr Aisladie declared an interest in that her husband was a candidate for the employment to be discussed. She left the meeting. Cllr Perry took the Chair.

3. Motion under section 1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960) and Standing order 3d

Cllr Perry moved and Cllr Howard seconded the motion that under section 1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings Act 1960) and under Standing order 3d to agree that in view of the confidential nature of the business to be transacted below that the public be temporarily excluded and be instructed to withdraw. The motion was carried unanimously.

4. To consider making recommendations to Council regarding the employment of a Chief Commons Officer and ancillary Commons Officers for Cookham Parish Council and terms of engagement thereof

Cllr Perry moved, Cllr Howard seconded that the Committee recommend to Council that:

- (a) The Council employ Mr Roger Aisladie part-time on an hourly basis as Chief Commons Officer to enforce the Byelaws governing Odney Common and the Moor on a contract along the lines set out in his supporting paper;
- (b) Other Commons Officer(s) be employed on a similar basis to cover his absence and give him support, as appropriate and as appointed by the Chairman of the Council in accordance with the decision of the Council on 6th August;
- (c) The Council purchase for its Officers a uniform of shirt (summer & winter), trousers, footwear and cap, all in black, the shirt(s) and cap with the Parish Council logo and words 'Cookham Parish Council', and issue a photo i/d card and lanyard to them;
- (d) The Officers are to liaise fully with and obtain support from the Thames Valley Police;
- (e) A ceiling of £10,000 per annum is to be placed on the expenditure on this matter;
- (f) The arrangement be initially for a period of up to a year from Council's agreement, but be reviewed by the Chair of the Committee and the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Council quarterly; and
- (g) A financial contribution is to be sought from Odney Estates/the John Lewis Partnership, the landowner, with whom the Officers will liaise.

After discussion, the motion was carried unanimously.

Cllr Perry closed the meeting at 7.34pm.