**Minutes of a Meeting of CUTSDEAN PARISH COUNCIL**

held on **THURSDAY 30th January 2025**

at Rainbows End, Cutsdeancommencing 6.35pm

**Present**: Cllrs M Butler (Chair), T Smith, D Wright

**Officer:** A Davis (Parish Clerk)

* + - 1. **To receive Apologies for Absence and to approve the reasons given:**

Apologies were received from Cllr D Beetson

County Cllr M MacKenzie-Charrington and District Councillor L Wilkins

* + - 1. **Public Session:** NONE
			2. **Declarations of interests:** NONE
			3. **To agree the Minutes of Meetings:**

Parish Council 12th November 2024: AGREED

* + - 1. **To receive report from County Cllr MacKenzie-Charrington**

Reorganisation of the councils in Gloucestershire County and the Government’s plans for devolution were the significant issues

 RECEIVED with appreciation

* + - 1. **To receive report from District Cllr Wilkins**

Also outlined reorganization in Gloucestershire. CDC’s budget setting for 2025/6. County Council elections on 1st May could be postponed, government to decide. RECEIVED with appreciation

* + - 1. 7a **To receive and consider an update on the proposal in principle to dissolve Parish Council and transition to a Parish Meeting**

Parish Clerk provided an update on the process and timing indicated likely by Cotswold District Council. May 2026 was anticipated for the dissolution of the Parish Council, and the Parish Meeting to become active.

7b **To note key points made in the recent White Paper on Regional Devolution and the implications for Parish Councils**

As Unitary Authorities would mean that District Councils would cease to exist, it was likely that all their functions would be run from a single or two councils in Gloucestershire. There was a risk that Parish Councils might change their boundaries and responsibilities. Would this change Cutsdean Parish Council’s decision to proceed to a Parish Meeting? Proposed by Cllr Butler and seconded by Cllr Smith, Council AGREED to continue, having understood the further possible implications of county reorganization.

7c **To consider and agree to formally request that District Council commence a Community Governance Review with the proposal to convert Cutsdean Parish Council to Cutsdean Parish Meeting as soon as possible (likely to be voted on at May 2026 elections)** AGREED

* + 1. **8a Ratify payments made between meetings under delegated powers** NONE

**8b Agree payments as per schedule including PATA Payroll, and decide if and when to stop this service**

Parish Council delegated powers to the clerk to cancel services to save costs associated with nil returns to HMRC, unless discussions with PATA show up unanticipated HMRC issues. Agreed that the initial invoice was to be paid.

**8c Note bank reconciliation**: No further bank statements as no transactions

**8d Consider proposed final draft budget for 2025/26 and agree the budget**

Agreed to reduce the previous draft budget by £750 in respect of savings on employment.

**8e Note tax base received in December 2024 for use in setting the precept for 2025/26** Noted as 33.1

**8f In light of new information at 7a above regarding the length of time for democratic review to conclude, to agree a revised precept request** Council agreed a precept request of £730 for 2025/26

**8g Consider and decide whether to appoint GAPTC as the independent and compentent contractor for internal audit**

AGREED

**8h Consider, and approve as necessary, switching bank account in light of current bank introducing charges**

 Council agreed to switch banks to Nat West in light of Lloyds introducing charges of £51 per annum

* + - 1. **To progress a Cutsdean Community Resilience Plan: to receive a written briefing from recent Flood Warden training, attended by Parish Clerk**

Received. Councillors agreed that the only physical help needed at this stage was with the grips at the road edge. Council agreed to seek support from County Councillor, to clarify the extent to which local people are authorized to undertake works themselves on the grips of a public highway.

* + - 1. **Clerk’s Report** NONE
			2. To consider Matters for the agenda of the next Parish Council meeting (no decisions may take place at this item) NONE
			3. **To confirm Date of next Council meeting and a provisional date for the subsequent Council meeting**  4th March 2025 at 6.30pm