



OVER STOWEY ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

Minutes of the Annual Parish Meeting held on
15th May 2017 in the Village Hall

*Please note that these minutes are draft until approved
at the 19th June 2017 meeting*

Members are reminded that the Council has a general duty to consider the following matters in the exercise of any of its functions: Equal Opportunities (race, gender, sexual orientation, marital status and any disability), Crime & Disorder, Health & Safety and Human Rights

Present:	Parish Councillor	R. Curtis K. Barrow P. Tully J. White D. Peaster M. Cavill
	District Councillor District and County Councillor	J. Pay M. Caswell
	Over Stowey Village Hall and Recreation Ground Chairman	Mr. P Rich
	Village Agent	Mrs A. Hoare

1. Apologies

Councillor B. Bartlett

Mr. P Higginson

2. Matters arising from the last meeting:

To be discussed during the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council

3. Chairman's Report:

Councillor R. Curtis started his report by saying

'We have had a good year and this down to all of you – the members'

He continued

'The recreation ground work has gone ahead with much work put in by Councillors Tully and Barrow.

We have received a report from Stowey Walking (appendix 1) and also received an invitation to their AGM'

At this point, Councillor Peaster stated that he would be able to attend the meeting.

'The cemetery gates have been replaced and everyone agrees that it has been very well done and they look very good.

The upkeep of the graveyard and church is great, the areas look good and all garden waste is taken so there is no need to use funds to pay for the council garden waste removal service.

Free bulbs for the parish were requested and received and Councillor Barrow has planted many of them, however the ground conditions were not really suitable and the remainder will be planted this autumn.

A transparency grant was applied for and received which allowed the purchase of a printer/scanner/photocopier for the Clerk to use for all Parish business when required.

Donations have been made to the local Citizens Advice Bureau and Mendip Community Transport (appendix 2).

A sign was put up in Quantock Lane to help locate it.

Potholes and road defects were reported to the Highways department when required and most of them were dealt with quickly.

The Parish Council also funded the port-a-loos for Councillor White's garden party in the summer of 2016.

The memorial bench is still to be completed which I will be doing.

The tarmacking of the graveyard paths has been agreed and the Clerk will contact the contractor to arrange a date now that the ground is warmer.

The work to repair the monument in the graveyard has been agreed and is to be completed.

And the work that Councillor White has done with the Messenger has been good'

Councillor Curtis concluded by thanking the members of the Parish Council and handed over to County Councillor M Caswell.

4. Somerset County Council Report

County Councillor M Caswell explained that due to the upcoming election, they are in purdah so unable to comment on any of the issues.

He did state that there will be a full County Council meeting next Wednesday where respective roles and duties will be put in place.

There is also a Health and Well-being grant available for any projects that fit the criteria.

County Councillor Caswell also informed the room that he will be staying on as a district councillor.

5. Sedgemoor District Council Report

District Councillor J. Pay will send the report from the Cluster Meeting when available (received – see appendix 5)

She also said that she sits on the licensing board and there are many changes due in the next year e.g. gaming and machines and District Councillor Pay will report back when more detail has been received.

Feedback on the local plan has been received and collated and will be looked at in July by the appropriate Member of Parliament.

The decision will then be made on whether the plans are safe and if so they can proceed without Government intervention.

6. Reports from other groups:

Over Stowey Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee:

Mr Philip Rich spoke to those present saying

‘As Chairman, I would like to say thank you for all the help this year from the Parish Council. There has been a lot of help from members of the committee.

The kitchen and toilets will be the next projects and then there are no further plans in the immediate future apart from looking to spruce up the hall as well’

Councillor Curtis did comment on the level of input from the committee with regard to the recreation ground and would have liked to have seen more.

Mr. Rich responded and agreed but did say in some circumstances the work required specialist equipment and vehicles and the committee members were unable to help that those instances.

Councillor Curtis acknowledged this and just asked to bear this in mind going forward.

Over Stowey Church – Report to Over Stowey Parish Council:

Mrs A. Hoare read the report from Mr. P Higginson (appendix 3).

With regard to the work to be undertaken with funds from the Downing Legacy, Mrs Hoare explained that it is in its initial stages as various permissions from the diocese need to be obtained to allow work to take place in and on a church.

Village Agent report:

See appendix 4

When Mrs. Hoare had concluded her report, Councillor D. Peaster took the opportunity to formally thank Mrs. Hoare for the work she was doing and how she had benefitted the local community, for which the Parish Council is grateful.

The meeting concluded at 7.35pm

To: Members of the Parish Council

Cllr R Curtis, Cllr B Bartlett, Cllr D Peaster, Cllr K Barrow,
Cllr M Cavill, Cllr J White, Cllr P Tully, County Cllr M Caswell,
District Cllr J Pay

CC Amanda McMurren (Clerk to Over Stowey Parish Council)