



OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the
17th September 2018 in the Village Hall

*Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the
October 15th 2018 Meeting*

Present:	Parish Councillor	R. Curtis K. Barrow P. Tully G. Goddard M. Cavill D. Peaster
	County Councillor	J. Pay
	District/County Councillor	M. Caswell

1. Apologies for Absence:

Councillor B. Bartlett

2. Members of the Public:

Two parishioners attended the meeting to communicate various concerns from the parish.

The first issue was with regard to the recent mountain biking event of which details were only communicated two days prior to it actually taking place.

The concern is that when events are not effectively advertised or communicated, other users may not be aware and this will adversely affect them.

The Forestry Commission have apologised for this and the Parish Council will be contacting the relevant parties to request that advance notice is given by; contacting the Clerk who can include the information on the website and put a poster on the Parish Council notice board, organisers using the notice board within the Quantock Hills and also putting signs in the area before the event takes place.

This will ensure that those who use the Quantock Hills for other leisure pursuits are informed prior to any events and then if necessary can make alternative plans or use other routes on those days.

Councillor Curtis asked if during the mountain biking there are stewards in place and the response was that they were not evident – the Clerk will ask the organisers if this was the case.

It was also communicated that if any accidents or incidents occur on the Quantock Hills, these should be reported to the Forestry Commission so that they can be logged.

The next issue was a report of the finger sign post on the Plainsfield road as having been damaged possibly when the hedges were being cut and has been broken off. They had reported this but as yet no repair has taken place. The Clerk will follow this up.

The third issue was with regard to a request for a sign showing where Triscombe car park is. The Clerk will follow this up.

3. Declarations of Members Interests in Respect of Items on the Agenda

None

4. Minutes of the last meeting – July 16th 2018 and Special Planning Meeting August 1st 2018

Proposed by Councillor Tully
Seconded by Councillor Morley

5. Correspondence:

- Phone call from parishioner regarding private landowner hedging (and see also under no. 6 Items for Discussion):

Councillor Morley has spoken to the landowner and the work is due to be undertaken soon. The Clerk will contact the landowner to confirm when the work will be completed

- Phone call from parishioner regarding notice for Great Wood mountain biking events (see under no 2. Members of the Public)

6. Items for Discussion:

- Plotting of new cemetery area – this has been completed
- It has been noted by various members of the public and Councillors that some landowners are not maintaining their boundaries and in some cases,

this has adversely affected the width of the road and visibility of road signs.

It is the responsibility of the landowner and occupiers to maintain their own boundary except between 1st March and 31st July (bird nesting season) to make sure their hedge, tree or shrub does not obstruct highway users or lines of sight at junctions.

If you spot any dangerous verges or overhanging hedges on the highway network, you can report them online:

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/problems-on-the-road/report-an-overgrown-verge-or-hedge-on-the-road/>

The Parish Council would like to thank those who have already taken action and have cut or are cutting their boundaries and those who are in the process of organising work.

- The issue of footpaths is also a concern in some areas and Councillor Morley will be meeting with the relevant parties, before the October monthly meeting, to discuss what needs to be done.

Again, there is a website for reporting any blocked footpaths or those that need maintaining in other ways:

<http://www.somerset.gov.uk/roads-parking-and-transport/problems-on-the-road/report-a-problem-with-a-public-right-of-way/>

It has also been reported that where there is a gate/stile for the footpath, these are not always used and the landowners gate has been opened instead. There have been instances where they have then not been shut properly and there is the potential for livestock to escape.

7. Matters Arising for the Agenda for the September 2018 meeting:

- Report on footpath issues – Councillor Morley
- Follow up on hedge cutting and boundaries issues
- Follow up on signage requests

8. Planning:

- Application No - 40/18/00011 – the Parish Council have no objections to the proposals. The Clerk will inform the planning department
- Application No - 40/18/00007 – the Parish Council have no objections to the amendments to the original plans. The Clerk will inform the planning department

9. Financial Matters

- a) Clerks Wages - **£174.09**

Proposed by Councillor Goddard
Seconded by Councillor Peaster

- b) Ink cartridge subscription - **£10.47** (June, July and August)

Proposed by Councillor Peaster
Seconded by Councillor Tully

- c) Defibrillator installation - **£166.75** (Alan Manchip)

Proposed by Councillor Barrow
Seconded by Councillor Tully

10. Date of Next Meetings – Monday 15th October 2018 at 7.30pm

Amanda McMurren
Clerk to Over Stowey Parish Council

To: Members of the Parish Council Cllr R Curtis, Cllr B Bartlett, Cllr D Peaster,
Cllr K Barrow, Cllr M Cavill, Cllr G Goddard, Cllr P Tully

County Cllr/District Cllr M Caswell, District Cllr J Pay