



OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the
18th February 2019 in the Village Hall

*Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the
18th March 2019 meeting*

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

1. Apologies for Absence:

None

2. Members of the Public:

None

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

Councillor Barrow in respect of planning application - 40/18/00020/STP
Higher Hockpitt Farm

Councillor Goddard in respect of planning application - 40/18/00018/DD
Aley Farm

4. Minutes of the last meeting – January 21st 2019

Proposed by Councillor Goddard
Seconded by Councillor Barrow

5. Correspondence:

- An email had been received from the EDF Passenger Transport Service Manager regarding the possibility of extending the Community Bus Service through Over Stowey. Following a risk assessment on the route by the company, it was decided it will not be possible to extend the service to include Over Stowey due to the size of the vehicle
- An email regarding a new online auction tool for Somerset farmers to bid for funding for flood prevention works on their land was circulated. This runs until March 12th 2019

6. Items for Discussion

- Review, amend and approve –
 - Statement of Internal Control
 - Council's Code of Conduct
 - Standing Orders
 - Financial Regulations and Risk Management
 - Annual Review of Effectiveness

It was agreed that, apart from the Standing Orders which have been updated based on the 2018 version from NALC, all other policies could be adopted as there were no amendments.

Councillor Peaster recommended that the Standing Orders were reviewed before the March 2019 meeting and any queries discussed then. Councillor Goddard will undertake this.

Proposed – Councillor Tully

Seconded – Councillor Bartlett

- Quantock Hills – update on actions and response

The Clerk has had a response from Sue Mountstevens office and she is willing to attend a meeting to discuss the concerns raised at the January 2019 meeting.

Due the period of purdah which starts on March 18th 2019 and ends after the elections which take place on May 2nd 2019, all communications need to be absolutely impartial and factual. Any events organised during this period cannot be seen to be promoting any individual or a group of candidates.

This also applies to Mrs Mountstevens therefore as it has not been possible to arrange a meeting before March 18th 2019, the meeting cannot take place until after the elections. It is likely to be in late May or early June.

Councillor Curtis proposed that the meeting takes the following format:

- Members of the public – 15 minutes
- Over Stowey Parish Council – 15 minutes
- Other interested parties/agencies – 15 minutes
- Quantock Cluster Parishes – 15 minutes
- Follow up actions to be agreed – 10 minutes

To allow for a strategic meeting, questions will be asked for in advance to ensure the specific concerns are highlighted and possible courses of action discussed

Proposed by – Councillor Curtis
Seconded by – Councillor Cavill

- Leat wall – discussion on action to be undertaken

Councillors Curtis and Tully have assessed the damage to the leat wall and it is estimated that it will cost £2300 - £2500 to repair.

Councillor Peaster queried about the ownership of the wall, however, it was agreed by all members present that the first step will be to contact the Forestry Commission with a view to making an insurance claim. Once an estimate is received for the work required, the Clerk will write to the Forestry Commission.

- Update on the possibility of obtaining a projector for planning applications from Magnox:

A grant application can be made which must be with regard to community use. The Clerk will follow this up and apply for a grant.

- Update on Neighbourhood Watch scheme – Councillor Bartlett

Councillor Bartlett informed the meeting that the original lead will be contacting the Neighbourhood Watch scheme website with a view to restarting the scheme.

- A query regarding the new car park at Crowcombe Gate was raised about whether Over Stowey Parish Council will receive a planning application in respect of this:

Following communication with the Landscape Partnership Development Officer for the Quantock Landscape Partnership Scheme, it was stated that an application will be made once it has been agreed who will be responsible for maintaining the new car park.

Councillor Bartlett informed the Parish Council that the Commoners had been consulted and are in favour of the proposal - particularly with the increase in visitors in recent years.

- Feedback from Duncan Harvey regarding a Housing Needs Survey:

The Clerk has not yet received any information and has also contacted the Somerset Community Council who may be able to help. The Clerk will communicate any further information at the March 2019 meeting.

- Update on progress of repair of memorial bench:

The bench ends have been shot blasted and repainted. They are now at Grandfields as the timber needs to be prepared and fitted in a particular way. An estimate of the cost is £240.00. Concrete will also need to be laid in the area where the new bench will be sited.

It was proposed that the bench is completed by Grandfields as it requires specific work.

Proposed by Councillor Barrow
Seconded by Councillor Tully

- Renewal of SLCC membership (due March 1st 2019)

All members present agreed this should be renewed

Proposed by Councillor Barrow
Seconded by Councillor Bartlett

7. Matters Arising for the Agenda for the March 2019 meeting:

No matters arising

8. Planning:

1) Planning Application - 40/18/00018/DD Aley Farm

Variation of Condition 5 (approved plans) of Planning Permission 40/18/00008 (Demolition of poultry house and stables. Erection of a holiday lodge to be used for a temporary 2-year period for Hinkley Point C worker) to allow for changes to doors and windows and the roof material.

Councillor Goddard left the room whilst this application was discussed

All members able to comment stated that

- There are no objections to the change of materials from tiles to black slate.
- The change of materials from wooden to aluminum is not in line with the suggested guidelines and recommendations within the Over Stowey Parish Design Statement therefore all members request that this is taken into consideration

2) Planning Application - 40/18/00019/STP Bincombe Farm

Application for the change of use and conversion of agricultural buildings to form two dwellings and an annexe.

All members agreed that they have no objections to the proposal in principle, however they would like the following to be taken into consideration:

- The Parish Council expect the project to be sympathetic to and in keeping with the local area
- Consideration must be given to the Over Stowey Parish Design Statement 2006 with reference to the guidelines and recommendations on materials used

3) Planning Application - 40/18/00020/STP Higher Hockpitt Farm

Change of use and conversion of agricultural building to 3 No. dwellings and associated infrastructure

Councillor Barrow left the room whilst this application was discussed.

It was stated that:

- The original comments from the previous applications still stand
- Consideration must be given to the Over Stowey Parish Design Statement 2006 with reference to the guidelines and recommendations on materials used

All members agreed there are no objections to the proposals.

9. Financial Matters:

a) Clerks Wages - **£237.34**

Proposed by Councillor Peaster
Seconded by Councillor Tully

b) Bench ends shot blasted and painted (can agree as under £250 as per Financial Regulations 4.1) - **£47.25**

Proposed by Councillor Barrow
Seconded by Councillor Peaster

10. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 18th March at 7.00pm

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