

OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the
15th April 2019 in the Village Hall

*Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the
20th May 2019 meeting*

Present: Parish Councillor R. Curtis
K. Barrow
P. Tully
G. Goddard
D. Peaster
M. Cavill
B. Bartlett

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**

None

4. Minutes of the last meeting – March 18th 2019

Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Barrow

5. Correspondence:

- An email from William Jenman re fingerpost signs had been received – the cost of replacing the broken arm could be approximately £1500 and although there is a grant available with the Parish Council contributing 25% of the cost, the work may not be undertaken until summer 2020. Councillor Peaster will look in to alternatives and report back at the May meeting

- The nominations for the Over Stowey Parish Council members have been uncontested, therefore there is no requirement for an election to be held

6. Items for Discussion

- **Review and approve Standing Orders**

Cllr Goddard has read and approved the content. All members agreed the amended Standing Orders can be adopted by the Parish Council

- **Agree Certificate of Exemption re Annual Return**

After reviewing the income and expenditure for 2018/2019 and confirming both were less than £25,000, all members agreed that the Certificate of Exemption could be signed for the Annual Governance and Accountability Return.

- **Risk Management and Asset Report Review and Cemetery Inspection Schedule to agree**

This was reviewed and agreed by all members. The Clerk will arrange a date for the cemetery to be inspected.

- **Grit Bin and Rock Salt for Hack Lane**

These have been ordered and received. Cllr Tully will collect and deliver to Hack Lane.

- **Rights of Way updates – blocked bridleway and footpath**

The bridleways that are blocked are on Forestry England land and have been reported. The footpath that had been reported is now clear.

- **Meeting days and dates**

As the Clerk has taken on another parish clerk role and the other parish have tried to change their day but have not been able to find a suitable one, the Clerk had asked if it would be possible to change the monthly meeting day from the third Monday to the third Wednesday. All members agreed to the request.

Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Goddard

This will take effect from September 2019 and will be communicated in the minutes, the agenda's, in the Messenger and also on the parish council website. The Clerk communicated that Old Cleeve Parish Council very much appreciated this and wished to express their thanks.

- **Leat wall insurance claim update**

Forestry England had contacted the Clerk regarding the possibility of an insurance claim regarding the leat wall. It was stated that if a claim is to be made, then the landowner will need to make a claim against EuroForest.

The Clerk will contact the Highways department to ascertain if the leat wall is privately or publicly owned.

- **Grant application for projector**

The Clerk will complete this once the Annual Return and additional meetings have been undertaken in June.

- **Memorial bench update**

The timber is ready and progress made will be updated at the May 2019 meeting

- **Update on Neighbourhood Watch Scheme – Cllr Bartlett**

Cllr Bartlett stated that he was not sure if the original chair of the group was able to continue.

Cllr Duncan said that he would follow this up particularly as there had been reports of attempted break ins in recent weeks.

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

- Re-election of parish council members
- Annual Governance and Accountability Return

8. Planning:

- a. 40/19/00001/STP Land at Friarn, Over Stowey – amended plans**
Erection of a holiday lodge and formation of an access track.

All Parish Council members agreed there are no further comments to be made.

9. Financial Matters:

a) Financial Review – the Clerk

An overview was provided by the Clerk:

- As at 31st March 2019 there was a balance of £7868.04 in the current account and £5056.25 in the reserve account
- The additional amount from the Downing Legacy of £15741.65 is still being held for projects that are of benefit to the parish
- Various new projects have been discussed
- There are still some outstanding funds which were originally allocated as a donation but have not yet been taken up (from March 2016). The Parish Council consider that this timescale has been long enough for projects to have been undertaken
- All members agreed that the Clerk write to those who have not yet taken up their funding requests to inform them that other projects are being considered and the previously agreed donation will be withdrawn at this time. The request for a donation can be reapplied for if further progress is made and will be considered if there are funds still available

b) Clerks Wages **£237.34**

c) SALC AGAR training **£ 15.00**

d) Travel expenses – training **£ 19.89**

Proposed: Cllr Tully

Seconded: Cllr Barrow

e) Over Stowey Village Hall rent **£192.00**
(received after agenda published but agreed under Financial Regulations 3.1)

Proposed: Cllr Peaster

Seconded: Cllr Barrow

10. Date of Next Meeting – Monday 20th May 2019 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