

OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

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

*Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the
16th October 2019 meeting*

Present:	Parish Councillor	R. Curtis K. Barrow G. Goddard D. Peaster M. Cavill P. Tully
	County/District Councillor	M. Caswell (left at 20.00)
	District Councillor	J. Pay (left at 20.00)

1. Election of new Chairman and Acceptance of Office

- Cllr Curtis confirmed that he will stand down as the Chairman of Over Stowey Parish Council as of this meeting
- Nominations for a new Chair were requested
- Cllr Tully nominated Cllr Barrow – there were no other nominations
- Cllr Barrow accepted the nomination

Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Cavill

Agreed unanimously by all members present

Cllr Barrow took the Chair and signed the Acceptance of Office form before continuing the meeting.

2. Election of new Vice-Chair (if required)

- Due to the election of Cllr Barrow as the new Chairman, a vacancy for the Vice-Chair was created
- Cllr Tully nominated Cllr Curtis due to his experience as the Chairman – there were no other nominations
- Cllr Curtis stated that if he was elected to this position, he would undertake it until May 2020.

Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Cavill

Agreed unanimously by all members present

3. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Bartlett

4. Members of the Public:

No members of the public were in attendance

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

None declared

5. Minutes of the last meeting:

July 15th 2019 – Monthly Meeting

Proposed: Cllr Peaster **Seconded:** Cllr Tully

Aug 7th 2019 – Special Planning Meeting

Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Peaster

7. Correspondence:

- **Donation from parishioner** – a local resident wishes to donate £50.00 to the Parish Council for whatever purpose the councillors see fit.

Various suggestions regarding signage were made, however the decision to use this for the Neighbourhood Watch signs was made – see item below

- **Request from Neighbourhood Watch Scheme for purchase by Over Stowey Parish Council of NHW signs for the area**

The NHW co-ordinator requires 15 A4 and 10 A5 signs for the parish with a total cost of £49.35. Cllr Tully suggested that the donation is used for this purpose - see item above

Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Curtis

Agreed unanimously by all members present

- **Report of safety issues at Marsh Mills crossroads**

It was reported that two incidents where drivers were unaware of the crossroads have occurred since the road was re-surfaced and the road markings have not yet been re-painted. Additionally, the signs are often not visible with the foliage growing up around them and the one on the left-hand side is often facing the wrong way due to being hit by high vehicles

The Parish Council would like to request that the stop sign is moved or raised to avoid any further problems. The Clerk will contact the Highways department

- A card has been received thanking the Parish Council for the replacement memorial bench. This was circulated (along with photos of the bench) to all members. Cllr Barrow took this opportunity to thank Cllrs Curtis and Tully for their time in undertaking this work

8. Items for Discussion:

- **Feedback from the Neighbourhood Watch Start Up Meeting and agree Parish Council representative**

The Councillors who attended the meeting agreed that it was very informative and the turnout was also very good. To provide a councillor link to the scheme, it was proposed that Cllr Goddard undertake this role

Proposed: Cllr Curtis **Seconded:** Cllr Tully

- **Feedback regarding roadside verge cutting**

Highways had contacted the Clerk to inform the Parish Council that the request for the Parish Council to undertake verge cutting if possible, had been received and was currently being reviewed. Further details will follow once this has taken place. Cllr Caswell had also requested this at a full council meeting and note of this had been made.

With regards to private landowners and their responsibility to maintain their boundaries, it was asked if letters can be sent to relevant parties. Cllr Peaster stated that he is happy to speak to one of the landowners and asked that the Clerk forward a copy of the letter for his reference.

- **Feedback from Planning Seminars**

Cllrs Tully and Barrow attended this session in July and both agreed it was informative and helpful.

The main issue to come from this was that all applications whether objected to or not should have comments relating to the plans. These should highlight any areas of the application that can be improved upon or changed to ensure that the proposals are suitable for the area and comply with all rules and regulations. Any comments made must be accurate and relevant

- **Update on speed limit for Hack Lane**

This is still being considered and the Clerk will follow this up to feedback at the October meeting

- **Consider request for speed limit from the Cottage Inn through to Marsh Mills Crossroads**
Concerns have been raised by local residents regarding the level of traffic now using this road and the increase in speeds of vehicles. The Clerk will contact traffic management with a request for a speed limit to be implemented
- **Report on condition of leat wall**
The wall has been hit again recently. The Clerk will take photos of the damage on a regular basis for ongoing assessment to be made. When necessary the Clerk will also forward information to the Highways department
- **Consider quotes for levelling of the cemetery grounds**
The three quotes received were reviewed and it was agreed that the contract for the work be awarded to Wood-Land Southwest. The Clerk will inform them of this and supply them with details on who to contact with regards to machinery and access.

This was agreed by all members present.

Cllr Curtis will contact the landowner of the field adjacent to the side of the cemetery to request access for the top soil to be delivered

- **Feedback from landowner re visibility of corner opposite the Cottage Inn**
Cllr Barrow had spoken to the landowner who has no objection in principle. The Clerk will write to the landowner to confirm this and arrange a site visit. Their response and any actions planned will be discussed at the October 2019 meeting

It was queried whether funds from the Small Improvement Scheme might be accessed for this purpose. The Clerk will contact Cllr Caswell

- **Discuss RLT2 and RLT3 funding available for provision for Children's Play and Outdoor Sport**

The Clerk had contacted the Parks and Open Spaces Team Leader who had confirmed that the RLT3 grant could be applied for to upgrade the tennis courts at the Over Stowey recreation ground. The Clerk will contact the secretary of the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee to ascertain what work is required and arrange contractors to visit with a view to providing quotes for the grant application

9. Matters Arising for the Agenda for the October 2019 meeting:

- Cllr Barrow wished to express his thanks, on behalf of Over Stowey Parish Council, to Cllr Curtis for his enormous contribution over the years as the Chair. Much had been accomplished during this time and his hard work was appreciated by all members
- Finance update
- Update on grant application for a projector

10. Planning

- Planning applications – update

The Clerk circulated the outcomes of recent planning applications. If anyone requires this information, please contact the Clerk

11. Financial Matters:

- a. Request from the Clerk to attend SALC VAT training

This was agreed by all members present

Proposed: Cllr Curtis **Seconded:** Cllr Peaster

- b. Clerks Wages £237.34

Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Peaster

- c. Grass cutting – graveyard and cemetery £879.00

Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Curtis

- d. HP Connected – ink (June/July/Aug) £ 19.47

- e. Neighbourhood Watch meeting expenses £ 31.44

Proposed: Cllr Curtis **Seconded:** Cllr Goddard

- 12. **Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 16th October 2019 at 7.30pm at Over Stowey Village Hall

**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