

OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the
20th November 2019 in the Village Hall

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

Present: Parish Councillor K. Barrow
D. Peaster
P. Tully
B. Bartlett
M. Cavill

County/District Councillor M. Caswell

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllr Curtis
Cllr Goddard
District Cllr Pay

2. Members of the Public:

No members of the public were in attendance

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

None declared

4. Minutes of the last meeting – October 16th 2019

Proposed: Cllr Peaster **Seconded:** Cllr Cavill

5. Correspondence:

- **Consider donation requests – Citizens Advice and AGE UK Somerset**

It was agreed that the above organisations receive a donation of £100 each

Citizens Advice Bureau:

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

Age UK Somerset:

Proposed: Cllr Bartlett **Seconded:** Cllr Tully

- **Meeting /training dates and times:**

The Clerk will attend the South West Parish Cluster meeting on November 21st 2019

Cllrs Barrow, Tully, Goddard and the Clerk will attend the Planning Seminar on November 28th 2019

6. Items for Discussion:

- **Feedback on hedges that need cutting back**

A number of hedgerows have been identified. As requested by the Highways department, the Clerk will contact the landowners to inform them that this work is required and when it will take place

- **Update on signage and road markings**

The road markings at Marsh Mills crossroads have been re-painted on the road coming from Over Stowey

The STOP sign is still being hit by traffic. It is recommended that a contractor who has the relevant certificate for working on the Highways is contacted with a view to moving the sign to a more suitable position. This was agreed by all members present.

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

- **Update regarding requests for speed limits within the parish**

This is being reviewed, but no further information is forthcoming from the Highways department at this time. The Clerk will continue to follow this up.

- **Progress on re-levelling of Over Stowey Cemetery**

Due to the recent weather conditions, it has not been possible to start this work. It was recommended that this is postponed until the spring, when the ground is not so wet. The Clerk will inform the contractor.

- **Progress made regarding area opposite The Cottage Inn – to increase visibility at the road junction**

Cllr Barrow will contact the landowner to arrange a site visit, to agree where the fence will run and preferred materials. Once this is decided, the quotes can be requested from the agreed contractors.

- **Feedback from Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee re quotes for refurbishment of the tennis courts**

The committee had not yet had their meeting; therefore, this will be deferred to the December 2019 meeting. Cllr Caswell highlighted the Hinkley Point mitigation fund and the Health and Well-Being Fund, which might be available for the project.

The Clerk will wait to hear from the committee's treasurer/secretary regarding what has been decided.

- **Consider site for signs for Plainsfield (taking account of highways regulations)**

It was agreed after taking into account the Highways regulations to undertake such a project (space required, distance from the highway and installation) and initiatives for the parish as a whole, that this will not be pursued at this time

- **Review and adopt updated Code of Conduct**

The new version does not have any new content, it has been reworded to update it and make it more reader friendly. It was agreed by all members present to adopt it.

Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Bartlett

- **Update on projector/screen acquisition**

The funds have been received and the items have been purchased. The Clerk will arrange for them to be available for the next planning application.

Following the VAT training that the Clerk had attended, it is not possible to reclaim the VAT if the projector were to be hired out to other groups and agencies. It was proposed that it would be more cost effective to reclaim the VAT and not charge for the use of the projector.

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

Agreed unanimously

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

- Clearing of the ditch at Adscombe Lane
- Setting of the Precept for 2020/2021
- Pothole at Plainsfield – this has had barriers up around it for approximately two months and it was queried when work be undertaken. The Clerk will follow this up with the Highways department.

8. Planning:

- There were no planning applications to review

9. Financial Matters:

a. Budget for 2020/2021 – to review

The Clerk had produced a draft budget for the next financial year. This was reviewed and agreed by all members present. This will be formally agreed at the December 2019 meeting and will form the basis for the 2020/2021 precept amount.

b. Clerks Wages **£237.34**

Proposed: Cllr Peaster **Seconded:** Cllr Bartlett

10. Date of Next Meeting – Wednesday 18th December 2019 at 7.00pm at Over Stowey Village Hall

Amanda McMurren
Clerk to Over Stowey Parish Council

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

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