

OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the
19th February 2020 in the Village Hall

*Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the
18th March 2020 meeting*

Present: Parish Councillor K. Barrow
R. Curtis (from 7.15pm)
P. Tully
B. Bartlett
M. Cavill
G. Goddard
D. Peaster

County/District Councillor M. Caswell
District Councillor J. Pay

1. Apologies for Absence:

No absences

2. Members of the Public:

The Treasurer from the charity 'Friends of Over Stowey Church' was in attendance with regards to the payment for the church community room. It was agreed that on production of the invoice following completion of the project, a cheque will be made payable to the above charity

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

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

None declared

4. Minutes of the last meeting – January 15th 2020

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

5. Correspondence:

- **Email received re. the 'Quiet Lanes' initiative**
The Parish Council would like to find out more and how this could be undertaken within some of the lanes/roads in the Quantock Hills. The Clerk will contact Holford Parish Council.

- **Letter received re. headstone request**
The Parish Council approved the proposed headstone
Proposed: Cllr Curtis **Seconded:** Cllr Bartlett
- **Email received re. Community Led Housing presentation**
‘Wessex Community Assets are running a series of free events across Somerset and Dorset during March as part of launching a new Community Housing Hub in the region.
The events are specifically designed to give local strategic partners information on the different models that can be used for community housing, as well as sharing examples of successful community housing projects which are already established.
There will be presentations from our community housing adviser Colin McDonald, WCA Director Elizabeth Maunder, and a community-led housing group, followed by a Q&A and an informal networking session’

The Clerk has booked to attend the presentation which will take place on Wednesday 25th March 2020 at 6-8pm, at Victoria Park Community Centre in Bridgwater.
Cllr Goddard would also like to attend and the Clerk will arrange the booking

6. Items for Discussion:

- **Feedback on responses to letters to landowners regarding hedges that need cutting back and follow up regarding hedge/trees requiring further cutting prior to Highways clearing the road**

The clearing of the road towards the cricket ground by the Highways department cannot take place until the boundary is cut further – it is requested by Highways, that it is cut straight up to a height of 4.5m. Cllr Peaster had been unable to speak to the owners – the Clerk will send them a letter regarding the above

The boundary hedging on Broomyland Hill is still causing some issues to high side vehicles – the Clerk will report online or research the address of the landowner and write to them direct

The hedging running down from Halsey Cross requires cutting back and the Clerk will write to the landowner requesting that this is undertaken prior to the nesting season

A follow up letter is required to the farmer whose boundary starts at the Over Stowey Recreation Ground as no hedge cutting has taken place there as yet. The Clerk will contact those who have maintained their boundaries as requested and thank them for their assistance

The footpath BW26/13 near to the Marsh Mills crossroads, has been reported as being blocked towards the Nether Stowey end. The Clerk will report this online. It was suggested that a local contractor be approached to undertake the work if necessary

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

- **Additional hedge cutting locations identified** - see above
- **Progress made regarding area opposite The Cottage Inn – to increase visibility at the road junction**
As no information regarding the grant has been forthcoming, Cllr Caswell considers that it may not have been successful. The Small Improvements Scheme fund will be made available in the autumn and Cllr Caswell recommended making an application for funds later in the year. It was suggested by the Clerk that they could, in the meantime, research the Avon and Somerset Police Road Safety Grant with a view to applying. This was agreed by all members
Proposed: Cllr Tully **Seconded:** Cllr Peaster
- **Progress on Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee RTL2/3 grant applications**
The RTL2 application was rejected as it focused on sport rather than play. The Clerk will resubmit the details with additional information required for an RTL3 application in conjunction with the Over Stowey Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee Treasurer.
Cllrs Barrow and Tully will ask for suggestions from the committee at the next meeting as to what additional play equipment might be suitable, to ensure that the remaining funds are used before the expiry date in 2021 (for the amount of £2379)
- **Parking issues in Aley**
It has been reported to the Parish Council that sometimes cars are parking in the narrowest part of the road which is restricting access. The concern is that in the event of an emergency, the emergency services may not be able to get through. It was proposed that the Parish Council produce a polite notice for those cars parked unsafely which are to be used as and when necessary.
Proposed: Cllr Goddard **Seconded:** Cllr Peaster

- **Consider requests for dog waste bin/s**

A number of parishioners have requested the above as there are none in Over Stowey. The Clerk has researched costs of supplying bins and the collection of waste. It was agreed that three bins would be provided by the Parish Council and locations decided, with a view to re-siting if necessary (dependent on use).

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

7. Matters Arising for the Agenda for the March 2020 meeting:

8. Planning:

- 1) **40/19/00008** – Castle Meadow, Castle Hill, Over Stowey, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 1ET
Change of use from a dwelling to 2 semi-detached dwellings

It was agreed that as the application is to revert the property to its previous layout there are no objections to the proposals

Proposed: Cllr Peaster **Seconded:** Cllr Goddard

9. Financial Matters:

a. Clerks Wages	£237.34
b. SALC Training – Effectively Managing Documents	£ 37.50
c. Clerk – Travel expenses SALC training	£ 9.95
d. Grounds maintenance/Signage work	£588.00
e. SLCC – Annual Membership Renewal	£ 78.00

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

10. **Date of Next Meeting** – Wednesday 18th March 2020 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