

**OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING**

**Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on the  
21<sup>st</sup> October 2020 at the Village Hall  
(with strict guidelines in place regarding COVID-19)**

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

Present: Parish Councillor K. Barrow  
P. Tully  
R. Curtis  
B. Bartlett  
D. Peaster from 7.40pm

District Councillor J. Pay

**1. Consider protocols for the meeting re COVID-19**

All protocols were followed – risk assessment checked, checklist followed, all cleaning undertaken, hand sanitiser available, seating socially distanced, windows open, and masks available. Everything used was cleaned at the end of the meeting.

**2. Apologies for Absence**

County Cllr M Caswell, Cllr G Goddard

**3. Members of the Public:**

No members of the public were in attendance

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

Cllr Barrow declared an interest under item 9. Planning – planning application 45/20/00019

**5. Minutes of the last meeting – September 16<sup>th</sup> 2020**

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

**Minutes of the Planning Meeting – September 30<sup>th</sup> 2020**

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

## 6. Correspondence:

Several councillors have received comments and concerns about the recent installation of bollards at an entrance to a property on the stretch of road from Halsey Cross to Marsh Mills crossroads. It was requested that the Clerk write to the owners to express these concerns with the hope of reaching an appropriate solution.

## 7. Items for Discussion:

### a. **Update regarding proposed changes for local government reform in Somerset**

Cllr Pay stated that the bids from One Somerset and Stronger Somerset have been submitted. Further details can be found on their websites

### b. **Update regarding the re-levelling at Bincombe Green**

Work is due to be started on this, however a date has not been set. The Clerk will contact the contractor to confirm when work will take place

### c. **Update on grant application for the tennis court refurbishment**

Three quotes had been received and following a review of them, paying particular attention to the surfacing options, it was agreed that the very low maintenance surface with a 7-year guarantee, plus a longer life span compared to the tarmac options, would be the preferred choice of the Parish Council. The Clerk will forward the quote to the Recreation Ground Committee for review and the decision from them can then be communicated to the Clerk.

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

### d. **Update on delivery of dog waste bins**

The Clerk had received a response from the Clean Surroundings department and there were concerns about the possible locations and the type of dog waste bin as the ones chosen are not considered to be in keeping with the area. Three other locations were identified which should be more suitable and it was agreed by all members present that the green waste bins should be purchased. The Clerk will communicate this information back to Clean Surroundings

e. **Consider new email domain and updating of software programs**

The Clerk requested that following on from the work with website accessibility and creating accessible documents, that the Parish Council consider upgrading to Microsoft 365. This will ensure that any content for the website can be more easily made accessible, checked for any issues and software programs will be updated regularly, with new versions being installed automatically. It was agreed by all members present that with the use of technology increasing rapidly, that this should be actioned as soon as possible. This will be at a cost of £7.90 pm (plus VAT).

**Proposed:** Cllr Curtis

**Seconded:** Cllr Tully

f. **Consider Clerks request to split the cost of 'Creating Accessible Documents' training with Old Cleeve Parish Council at £15.00 per Parish Council**

This was agreed by all members present

**Proposed:** Cllr Curtis

**Seconded:** Cllr Bartlett

g. **Update re Councillor Vacancy**

No nominations had been received. The final date for nominations is October 29<sup>th</sup>, 2020. If none are forthcoming by that date, the co-option process will begin

h. **Update re report of damaged 'No Through Road sign at Bincombe**

No work has been undertaken to replace the sign. The Clerk will follow this up

**8. Matters Arising for the Agenda for the November 2020 meeting:**

- a. Finance review and confirm budget for 2021/2022
- b. Confirm timescales for work at Bincombe Green and the cemetery
- c. Bridleways issues
- d. Marsh Mills road markings

## 9. Planning:

### a. 40/20/00011

**Proposal** - Erection of a single storey extension to the North elevation of existing log-store

**Parsonage Farm, Over Stowey, Bridgwater, TA5 1HA**

Following a review of the application, it was agreed by all members present that there are no objections to the plans and that the proposals are very much in keeping with the area.

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

### b. 45/20/00019

**Proposal** - Erection of a dwelling

**Higher Halsey Cross Farm, Radlet Road, Spaxton, Bridgwater, Somerset, TA5 1JA**

The above planning application has been reviewed by Over Stowey Parish Council as a neighbouring parish. Issues and concerns that have been raised were addressed by the applicant at the October 2020 Parish Council meeting. The following information was given:

- i) Although in sight of the AONB, the distance from the boundary is 0.81 miles away
- ii) The ground level of the proposed dwelling is 9.8m below the nearest property
- iii) The proposed dwelling will be 189 metres away from the nearest property
- iv) The proposed location of the garage will be brought forward to allow for the footpath, which will then run around the back of it

It was agreed by those members eligible to vote that there are no objections to the proposals.

**Proposed:** Cllr Peaster

**Seconded:** Cllr Tully

### c. Consider response to planning consultation white paper – Planning for the Future

The Clerk collated the responses to the questions as agreed by the members present for submission before the deadline of the 29<sup>th</sup> October 2020

## 10. Financial Matters:

a. Clerks wages	<b>£251.85</b>
b. Wood-land Southwest Ltd Church and cemetery grass cutting	<b>£456.00</b>

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

## 11. Date of Next Meeting:

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> November 2020 at **7.00pm** at Over Stowey Village Hall (subject to Government guidelines and restrictions in place at the time)

**This has now been cancelled due to the second national lockdown – a meeting is planned for Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> December 2020 (subject to Government guidelines and restrictions in place at the time)**

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To: Members of the Parish Council

Cllr K Barrow, Cllr P Tully, Cllr R Curtis, Cllr B Bartlett,  
Cllr D Peaster, Cllr G Goddard,

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