

OVER STOWEY
PARISH COUNCIL

OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on October 19th 2022

**Please note that these minutes are draft until approved
at the November 16th 2022 meeting**

Present: Parish Councillor

P. Tully
K. Barrow
D. Peaster
(from 19.25/left at 20.25)
G. Goddard
T. Lindley

County/District Councillor

M Caswell (left at 20.10)
B Bolt (left at 20.10)

1. Apologies for Absence:

Cllrs Curtis and Bartlett
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:

Cllrs Tully and Barrow declared an interest in items 6.b. and 6.g.i.

4. Minutes of the Annual Meeting of the Parish Council held on October 3rd 2022

Proposed: Cllr Barrow **Seconded:** Cllr Peaster

5. Correspondence:

a. Warm Spaces Questionnaire

It was agreed that the Clerk respond appropriately for the parish regarding what is or isn't possible at the current time. Parish Council members will also report any concerns they are made aware of for consideration of support from the Parish Council where possible or for signposting to the relevant agencies

Proposed: Cllr Barrow **Seconded:** Cllr Lindley *Resolved unanimously*

b. Wellbeing

A Health and Wellbeing Survey has been circulated to councils. It was proposed that the Clerk respond based on what is available within the parish.

Proposed: Cllr Goddard **Seconded:** Cllr Lindley *Resolved unanimously*

6. Items for Discussion:

a. **Email from Nether Stowey Parish Council re Outdoor Gym Equipment Project**

Nether Stowey Parish Council are considering the above and it was proposed that Over Stowey Parish Council provide a letter of support

Proposed: Cllr Barrow **Seconded:** Cllr Goddard *Resolved unanimously*

b. **RLT funding for Over Stowey Parish Council**

It was proposed that the Clerk apply for the remaining RLT2 funds available to the parish for play equipment to replace the existing pirate ship. There will be a shortfall of approximately £2255 and it was proposed that the Parish Council (with funds from the Downing Legacy – to be spent for the benefit of the parish) pay this amount.

Proposed: Cllr Goddard **Seconded:** Cllr Lindley

Resolved unanimously by those eligible to vote

c. **Missed recycling collections**

Cllr Caswell updated the Parish Council on the situation and the Clerk had received an email explaining why the service has not been as expected and that work has been undertaken to improve the situation. It was stated that:

'Whilst we accept that the quality of the service has not met anyone's expectations, much work and expense has been taken to stabilise the situation and we are now beginning to show improvements'

The Parish Council will continue to monitor this.

d. **Somerset Transport Services - Bus Back Better representative**

No-one has yet come forward to take on this role. Cllrs Barrow and Tully have a contact that might be interested. This will be followed up at the November meeting.

e. **Somerset Council update**

The Clerk attended the conference at the beginning of October. As before as plans are still being formulated, there are few answers as to how the new authority will work and what the impact will be on Town and Parish Councils. For further details, visit the [New Somerset Council](#) website

f. **Highways updates**

i. **Friarn**

The work has been undertaken by Forestry England and this information has been passed on to the Highways Department

ii. **Signage at Plainsfield**

Cllrs Bolt and Caswell will take this up with the relevant department/officer on behalf of the Parish Council

iii. **Quantock Lane traffic calming request**

As item f.ii.

- iv. **Signage (sharp bend) request re long vehicles for road through Over Stowey**
As item f.ii.
- v. **Update from site visit by Highways (undertaken September 2021)**
- vi. As item f.ii
- vii. **Damaged visibility mirror at Marsh Mills crossroads**
As item f.ii

g. Potential projects for the parish

i. **Update re the car park and future plans for it**

An email had been received by the Clerk with a number of points regarding the car park and it was recommended by the Clerk that as much of the information might be considered confidential, that these notes were not minuted.

Proposed: Cllr Barrow **Seconded:** Cllr Peaster *Resolved unanimously*

As one of the relevant parties was unable to attend, it was then agreed that an Extraordinary General Meeting would be appropriate to enable all to attend. A date for this will be confirmed at a future meeting.

ii. **Feedback re grants available for the Village Hall roof repair**

The grant application has been submitted and the decision will be communicated by Sedgemoor District Council at the end of October

7. Matters arising for the Agenda for the October 2022 meeting

- Finance Review and consideration of draft budget
- Highways updates
- Future of the Over Stowey car park
- Feedback re availability of grants for the recreation ground boundary
- Confirm date for December 2022 meeting

8. Planning:

No planning applications had been received

9. Personnel:

a. Hours update

The Clerk had calculated the additional work undertaken from the Grant Application and LGR meetings which totals 12 hours. It was agreed that this be paid (see item 10.c.i.)

10. Financial Matters:

a. Agree following transfers:

- £132 from the Current Account to the Graveyard Account (memorial fees)
- £1161.60 from the Graveyard Account to the Current Account (cemetery re-leveling costs)
- £155.99 from the Graveyard Account to the Current Account (QPJ canopy plaque)
- £453.01 from the Graveyard Account to the General Reserve (remaining funds from QPJ event – to be ringfenced for future events)

Proposed: Cllr Peaster **Seconded:** Cllr Lindley *Resolved unanimously*

b. Consider draft budget

The Clerk has produced a forecast of the remaining spend for 2022/2023 and a draft budget based on this. This was circulated to the members and will be reviewed fully at the November 2022 meeting

c. Payments

i.	Clerks Wages	October 2022 (including 12 hrs. o/t see item 9.a. tbc)	412.40
ii.	Expenses	Stamps	<u>£5.44</u>
			5.44
iii.	Mobile phone contract - D/D	October 2022	<u>22.95</u>
	TOTAL		£440.79

Proposed: Cllr Peaster **Seconded:** Cllr Goddard *Resolved unanimously*

11. Verge/Hedge cutting:

a. Discuss requirements for verge cutting schedule of works to enable contractors to provide quotes

This will now be considered in the new financial year, once the new unitary authority is in place and information is available re devolution of services

b. Hedge cutting – establish which areas need to be cut back and agree to contact landowners where necessary

The Clerk will contact the relevant landowners as in previous years.

c. Discuss proposals for consolidating the above – with a view to the Parish Council managing this service for the parish

Cllr Peaster has worded a letter as a basis for contacting landowners to discuss this fully with all concerned. This will be considered at the November 2022 meeting.

12. Date of next meeting:

Wednesday 16th November 2022 at 7.00pm at Over Stowey Village Hall

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 8.35pm

Amanda McMurren - Clerk to Over Stowey Parish Council

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Signed:

Dated: