

OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL

OVER STOWEY PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on Wednesday 16th September 2026

**Please note that these minutes are draft until approved at the
November 18th 2026 Meeting of the Parish Council**

Present:

Parish Councillors

P. Tully
K. Barrow
R. Curtis
D. Peaster
T. Lindley
N. Bond
B. Bartlett

Somerset Councillors

M. Caswell
B. Bolt

1. Apologies for Absence:

- All in attendance

2. Members of the Public:

- One member of the public was in attendance re the Clerk vacancy

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

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- None were declared

4. Minutes from the Meeting held on July 8th 2026

- **Proposed:** Cllr Curtis **Seconded:** Cllr Bond

5. Correspondence/Information only:

- a. Email received re Worker Protection training
 - The Clerk will ascertain what is required and ensure all actions required are undertaken as soon as practicably possible
- b. Email received re non-resident burial request
 - A meeting has been convened for Monday 21st September 2026 to discuss this matter

6. Items for discussion:

- a. Somerset Council update
 - Cllr Caswell communicated that Airband have gone into administration and new plans are in place with regards to rollout of fast full-fibre broadband. However, details and timescales are not available and likely to be medium to long-term
 - An online meeting with regards to the National Scheme of Delegation and National Planning Framework is scheduled for Thursday 17th September 2026. Cllr Caswell advised that

councillors should attend as it is likely to affect how planning applications are determined

b. Highways updates and new issues to report

- i. Update re request from resident re safety issues at Marsh Mills crossroads
 - The hedging has been cut back following a request from Cllr Peaster to the current owner who agreed to this being undertaken. This is very much appreciated by the Parish Council
 - No response from Traffic Management at Somerset Council has been received as yet – the Clerk will follow this up
- ii. Update re request from Over Stowey resident re parking issues at Aley
 - No response from Traffic Management at Somerset Council has been received as yet – the Clerk will follow this up
- iii. Consider request for actions regarding long vehicles using the road through Over Stowey if coming from Bincombe/Crowcombe Road to avoid any incidents of damage to local residents walls or the Church wall
 - It was agreed that the Clerk contacts Traffic Management to revisit this issue and request a site visit to review the situation

Proposed: Cllr Lindley **Seconded:** Cllr Bartlett
- iv. The Leat wall
 - This will be monitored by the Parish Council
- v. Cattle grids
 - It was proposed that the Clerk contacts the Highways Department for updates on this issue

Proposed: Cllr Bartlett **Seconded:** Cllr Peaster
- vi. Road from Halsey Cross crossroads to the A39 junction
 - This will be monitored by the Parish Council

c. Update re nominations for the Chair's Award for 2026

- Those suggested for nomination declined, it was therefore agreed that as no nomination for 2026 was submitted, others are considered for the 2027 awards

d. Parish projects

- The tennis nets at the MUGA need replacing
- It was suggested that the Village Hall and Recreation Ground Committee might consider this issue
- Cllr Peaster will research options and feedback to Cllr Tully to feedback to the committee

e. Consider next steps for extension of the cemetery

- It was proposed that the Clerk contact the landowners of the land adjacent to the cemetery with an initial enquiry to ascertain what may be possible in the future

Proposed: Cllr Barrow **Seconded:** Cllr Curtis

f. Update re PROW issue in Friarn

- The gate was provided by the PROW team at Somerset Council and collection and installation arranged by Cllr Bartlett
- The Parish Council would like to express their thanks to everyone involved in making this happen

7. Matters arising for the Agenda for the 18th November 2026 meeting (there will not be a meeting in October 2026)

a. Public Rights of Way issues re gates and stiles

- b. Finance update
- c. Draft budget

8. Planning:

- a. Planning application: None submitted
- b. Planning updates: No updates

9. Personnel:

- a. Update re the Clerk vacancy
A number of applications have been received for review by the Parish Council member
- b. Agree confidential session for item 9.c.
Proposed: Cllr Bond **Seconded:** Cllr Bartlett
- c. Review of applications received and actions to be taken
 - Shortlisted applicants will be invited to interview
 - The Clerk will make the necessary arrangements
 - Cllrs Tully, Lindley and Bond will make up the interview panel and the Clerk will take notes
 - Feedback from the interviews will be given at a full council meeting on Thursday 8th October 2026

10. Financial Matters:

- a. Approve adoption of the LGA/NJC pay increase for Clerks for 2026/2027

Proposed: Cllr Barrow **Seconded:** Cllr Curtis

- b. Approve back payment re the above effective from April 1st 2026

Proposed: Cllr Curtis **Seconded:** Cllr Lindley

- c. Payments

i.	Clerks Wages	September 2026 (Inc overtime as agreed under item 10.b.)	299.62
		October 2026	258.54
ii.	Expenses	Stationery	2.00
		Stationery	1.99
		Printer ink	<u>96.61</u>
			100.60
iii.	Fencing work	Cattle grid latching post	249.12
iv.	Mobile phone contract	D/D Sept 2026	13.69
v.	Mobile phone contract	D/D October 2026	<u>13.69</u>
			£935.26

Proposed: Cllr Barrow **Seconded:** Cllr Bond

11. Date of next meeting:

Thursday 8th October 2026 at 6.45pm at Over Stowey Village Hall (interview feedback)
Wednesday 18th November 2026 at 7.00pm at Over Stowey Village Hall

There being no other business the meeting adjourned at 8.15pm

Amanda McMurren - Clerk to Over Stowey Parish Council

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Signed:

Dated