



MINUTES OF STOW ON THE WOLD TOWN COUNCIL'S BURIAL BOARD MEETING HELD AT STOW YOUTH CENTRE, FOSSEWAY, STOW ON THE WOLD, GLOUCESTERSHIRE GL54 1DW ON WEDNESDAY 17th SEPTEMBER 2025 AT 10.30 AM

PRESENT: Cllrs V Davies (Chair), J Scarsbrook & J Davies.

Also in attendance: Miss M Pawley, Clerk/RFO of the Council and Advisor Rev Karen Wellman.

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Cllrs M Stracey (Vice Chair), V Goddard & A Tighe (Chair of Council)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS ON ITEMS ON THE AGENDA

Members were reminded to declare any interests in items on the agenda as the meeting progressed.

3. MINUTES – TO SIGN AS A CORRECT RECORD THE MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6th AUGUST 2025

Signing of the minutes will be deferred until the next meeting, due to there being insufficient members present from the meeting of 6th August 2025.

4. CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

No announcements were made.

5. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC*

None, as no members of the public present.

6. CLERK'S REPORT AND MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 6th AUGUST 2025

Since the last burial board meeting, there has been a break in at the Bier House. It does not appear that anything was stolen, but there was some cosmetic damage to the door. Cllr Eddolls has fixed the broken lock, and it has been secured with a more substantial padlock. The Clerk will be ordering 'caution' stickers for any headstones that show safety concerns.

7. TO CONSIDER A QUOTE OF £267.95 + VAT TO INSTALL A DISABLED PARKING SPACE AT THE CEMETERY AND TO SUPPLY AND INSTALL 2 X POSTS AT THE ENTRANCE TO CEMETERY MEADOW.

RESOLVED to approve quote as stated above. **Motion carried.**

8. TO NOTE THAT MR G GOLBY HAS STEPPED DOWN FROM HIS ROLE AS THE MAUGERSBURY REPRESENTATIVE AT THE BURIAL BOARD, BUT THAT MAUGERSBURY PARISH COUNCIL WOULD STILL LIKE TO RECEIVE AGENDAS AND MINUTES AND HAVE A REPRESENTATIVE ATTEND OCCASIONALLY.

Members noted.

9. TO NOTE THAT CLLRS TIGHE & STRACEY HAVE STARTED 'PUSH TESTING' AT STOW CEMETERY AND RECORDED THEIR FINDINGS.

Members noted and asked for the findings to be declared.

10. ST EDWARD'S CHURCHYARD

i) TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK IN RELATION TO THE CHURCHYARD WALL.

The repair work to the wall has been completed, the integrity will be monitored going forward and assessed by experts every 2 years.

Rev Wellman commented that the wall looks good.

ii) TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK REGARDING THE CLOSURE ORDER FOR CHURCH WALK.

The official closure order expired on 29th August 2025, but that a recommended closure should continue until the yew hedge trimming has been completed, scheduled for 29th September 2025.

iii) ANY OTHER ISSUES THAT MEMBERS WISH TO REPORT.

Rev Wellman reported that R. Barnett has resigned from project work.

A wildlife and biodiversity plan has been suggested by the church, in the form of a wild garden in a lesser used area of the churchyard grounds, and a community bulb planting may be a possibility. To this end it has been requested that mowing here, cease forthwith and the area be left for approximately one year to cultivate and see how it develops, prior to continuing.

11. CEMETERIES

i) TO RECEIVE AN UPDATE FROM THE CLERK REGARDING THE DOG FOULING SIGNAGE.

5 signs have been updated and replaced, with a further 2 being installed during week commencing 22nd September 2025.

ii) ANY OTHER ISSUES THAT MEMBERS WISH TO REPORT.

Members commented that the lichgate at the front of the cemetery may require some maintenance work.

Rev Wellman departed meeting at 10.59am

12. TO DISCUSS ANY BUDGET REQUESTS FOR 2026/27

Members agreed on a culling of the unnecessary nominal codes and an increase to the Cemetery Meadow budget in line with the likely cost of the project.

13. DATE OF NEXT MEETING – 29th October 2025.

14. MEETING CLOSED – 11.22 am.

Signed: _____ Chair Dated: _____