

AWRE PARISH COUNCIL
&
BURIAL AUTHORITY

Report for the Press of Meeting held on 16th February 2015

There were no objections or observations with regard to the following Planning Applications: Discharge of Condition (04) relating to Planning Application P2353/11/OUT.(Erection of an agricultural workers dwelling) at Guy Hall Farm, Northington Lane, Awre; Approval of Reserved Matters for same; For the crown reduction by 50% of a pine tree, a conifer and a Spruce at Coldbrook House, Bridge Street, Blakeney.

Permission has been granted for the following Planning Applications: Land at Hall Farm, Awre. Ground mounted solar array, ancillary infrastructure including fencing & security cameras, etc: Oaklands Farm, Oaklands Park, Newnham. Construction of a tree bog; Old Station Yard, Blakeney. Discharge of Condition 05 (hard & soft landscaping) to a previous planning application.

The meeting received a deputation from residents of Awre who raised a number of concerns about the future of Awre Village Green.

Following a lengthy discussion the Chairman explained that the Working Party, set up to look into the matter, had concluded the need for the Parish Council to officially register the Green with HM Land Registry. The Council has appointed a solicitor to undertake this task and to advise on the Council's legal position regarding the future of the land. The Council is inclined to assume responsibility for its future upkeep and can see no reason why any person's access to their property should be affected.

The Council will keep people informed when further information becomes available.

County Councillor Leppington informed the meeting that he had arranged a meeting for the following day, with Mr Watkins, County Highways and local residents to address the concerns regarding the speed of vehicles in New Road, Blakeney.

It was suggested that the existing 'Keep Clear' lettering in the road should be refreshed as it was being frequently ignored by vehicles and therefore compromising the safety of that stretch of New Road.

The meeting was pleased to hear that the County Council were re-instating a scheme of 'Lengthsmen' for trial in Cllr Leppingtons constituency. These individuals will each be responsible for a certain area of highways and will liaise with Parish Council regarding local problem areas.

A number of the drainage/flooding problems in the Etloe/Gatcombe area, which were raised with County Highways have been addressed and the County Council are intending

to contact local land owners regarding future maintenance of ditches.

It was agreed that the new Police inspector for the Forest of Dean be invited to a future meeting to meet Councillors and explore the Council's future relationship with the Police.

It is extremely disappointing that the District Council appear to have 'washed their hands' of the matter of clearing the debris out of the stream in Blakeney after having clearly promised to finance the work in the past.

The Council conducted a review of its charges for Blakeney Cemetery. In the light of the fact that the cemetery continues to make an annual loss small increases were agreed. The charges still compare favourably with other Burial Authority charges within the District.

The meeting heard that the 'Fish Pass' project in Blakeney has been included in a HLF grant application for Forest projects and that Nature England should soon be in touch with the Council regarding progress with the project.

Concerns have been received regarding the amount of mud on the highway at the entrance to the Old Station Yard housing development in Blakeney. County Highways have been informed and promised to visit the site.

A company called Smiths Gore will be attending the next meeting to make a short presentation regarding their proposal for a solar farm in Awre.

The next meeting of the Awre Parish Council will take place on 16.3.2015 at Awre Village Hall @ 7.00pm. Members of the public are invited to attend and are able to address the meeting at the beginning.