

AWRE PARISH COUNCIL
&
BURIAL AUTHORITY

Report for the Press of Meeting held on 19th October 2015

A Planning Application for Listed Building Consent for a new timber canopy, changes on existing bay window, replacement of existing windows, new railing on garden wall and different internal and external upgrades and repairs at Underdean House Gate House, Newnham Road, Blakeney was discussed and Councillors had no objections or observations.

The following Planning Applications have been granted planning permission: Etloe House Farm, Etloe. Discharge of conditions in relation to previous applications; Little Box Cottages, Awre. Erection of a two storey extension to property; Travellers Rest, New Road, Blakeney. Renovation and extension of existing cottage including conversion of outbuilding to habitable use, new vehicular access, parking, car ports and store; 2, Brook Cottages, Pitching Green, Blakeney. Proposed first floor and two storey extension and porch (revised); 2, Brook Villas, Brook Street, Blakeney. Fell 1 x Leylandi Tree.

An application at The Nurseries, Church Square, Blakeney for Listed building consent to install stud walls to create two reception rooms, an inner hall way and downstairs WC has been withdrawn.

Following an expression of concern by two residents, a discussion took place about speeding in Blakeney on the A48. Apparently there have been three 'near misses' recently concerning children crossing the road near the British Legion. The residents requested that the Parish Council support a 'School Safety Zone'. It was also felt that current speed limits were inadequate. County Councillor Leppington agreed to take forward the request for a 'School Safety Zone' and to approach the Police regarding the speeding through Blakeney Village.

The Parish Council will continue with its campaign to address the danger at the Nibley Cross junction.

Cllr Leppington also agreed to request the new Lengthsman to link up with the Parish Clerk in dealing with drainage/flooding problems on the roads around Hagloe, Etloe and Catcombe.

Discussion took place about the maintenance and watering of the flower tubs in the Parish. A quote from Lydney Town Council to undertake the work was considered to be too costly and it was felt that the money could be better spent in addressing the road safety issues in Blakeney. It was agreed that the planting and maintenance work would continue as it was. Cllr Bullock offered to water the tubs in Awre. It was agreed to request

a quote from Lydney Town Council for watering only of the tubs in Blakeney. Previous attempts to engage local residents in watering have failed.

The annual Risk Assessment of Blakeney Cemetery revealed several loose gravestones. Previous attempts to contact any relatives of people buried in these graves have failed, so it was felt that there was no alternative but to lay the stones down flat, in order to make them safe.

Relatives have been informed about two other stones which are loose, but not immediately dangerous.

These measures are necessary as part of the Council's insurance requirements.

The Council is experiencing difficulties with the toilets in Blakeney, which are being regularly blocked with excesses of toilet tissue and often left in a dirty state.

It would like to apologise for having to close the toilets so often for remedial work, all of which is done on a voluntary basis. If the toilets continue to be abused in this way, it may be necessary to consider their permanent closure.

The annual distribution of grants to local organisations has been deferred to the November meeting of the Council.

It is hoped that the preparation of the Annual Calendar for 2016 will be completed by the end of October, so that it can go to the printers. It can then be delivered earlier than it has been in the past.

The next meeting of the Awre Parish Council will be held on 16.11.2015 at Blakeney Recreation Centre @ 7.00pm. Members of the public are invited to attend and are able to address the meeting at the beginning.