

**AWRE PARISH COUNCIL**

Meeting held on 17.10.2016 at Blakeney Recreation Centre.

Present: Cllr M Marshall – in the Chair

Councillors R Fellows, G Bullock, H Pike, K Stevenson.  
Clerk D Preece.

Also in attendance for part of the meeting, County Councillor R Leppington.

**1. APOLOGIES**

Cllr H Clarke, Cllr K Allen and P Deighton. Accepted by the Meeting.

**2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

**3. PUBLIC FORUM**

Nobody present.

**4. MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON 19.9.16**

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15.9.16 were approved by the meeting as circulated and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting, subject to the addition to Item 9, 'No objections or observations'.

**5. REPORT OF CLERK ON MATTERS ARISING FROM THAT MEETING**

The Clerk reported that he had encountered difficulties in locating and completing the application forms for electronic banking. The signatories need to sign the authorisation.

**6. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Hughes was not present.

**7. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Leppington agreed, in the absence of Cllr Hughes to include District Council matters in his report.

A motion is to be put to the District Council regarding the wild boar situation in the Forest, which is out of hand.

He has reported the problem regarding the manhole cover outside 'Dean Mowers' in Blakeney.

A motion of 'no confidence' in the Council Leader has been tabled, due to failure to declare interests.

County Councillors are talking to school heads in the Forest regarding rolls dropping and children being sent outside the Forest for their education.

With regard to the road works near Kites Nest, on the A48, drainage problems have been identified alongside the stretch of road concerned, and the road surface is being investigated. Traffic lights will remain in place until the works are completed.

There will be a road closure at Furnace Bottom, Blakeney, in January next, for further work on the old railway bridge.

Questions were raised regarding the promised drainage works in the Parish, which had still not taken place. The Chairman agreed to arrange a further meeting with Brian Watkins, County Highways.

## **8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

P1409/16/FUL. Kingsland Farm, Newnham Road, Blakeney. Change of use from dwelling to hotel including alterations and extensions and construction of new vehicular access (renewal of consent P1432/13/FUL). No objections or observations.

## **9. DECISIONS RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

The following applications have been granted permission:-

P1115/16/TCA. Old Police Station, Church Square, Blakeney. Crown lift to 3.2m and thinning of Norway Maple tree.

P1116/16/TCA. Ludlow House, Church Square, Blakeney. Felling of Sycamore tree.

P1170/17/TCA. Jasmine Cottage, Awre. Pollard of one group of Ash trees to 5m.

P1136/16/FUL. The Farmhouse, Oaklands Park. Change of use of redundant building to three self contained studios for disabled residents.

P0975/16/LBC. New House Farm, Awre. Listed building consent for 5 conservation windows to the rear and 3 windows to the front of the property. Refused permission.

## **10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING**

2016-10-01 Glos. County Council – Transport Consultation – Council willing to respond.

2016-10-02 AFODDC – Telephone box consultation – Box in Blakeney to be closed. Council to purchase.

2016-10-03 Glos. County Council – Road Closures on A48, overnight on 11/1/17 and 12/01/17 to facilitate bridge work – Noted, and notice placed on Notice Board in Blakeney.

2016-10-04 FODDC – Rough Sleepers estimate – Nobody aware of any in parish.

2016-10-05 FODDC – Consultation on proposed local council tax support scheme- Reduction in Government funding will make it hard for Parishes not to raise precepts. To be considered at next meeting.

Correspondence received since publication of the Agenda:-

Request from Councillor Brian Robinson to donate £50 to work of FOD Road Safety Group. Declined.

## 11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were proposed by Cllr Stevenson, seconded by Cllr Pike and agreed for payment.

Payee	Amount	For	Authority
Awre Village Hall	£14.00	Hire of hall	1
Highbury Garden & Lawn Centre	£600.00	Cemetery maintenance	2
The Telecottage	£27.80	Newsletter	3

Authority for payment – Local Govt Act 1972 unless otherwise stated. 1 – s.134(4). 2 – s.214. 3 – s142.
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## 12. CONFIRMATION OF ARRANGEMENTS FOR 2017 CALENDAR

Councillor Fellows now has the information and photographs to forward to printers.  
Distribution to be discussed at next meeting.

## 13. EXTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The Council Audit has been agreed. The Clerk pointed out that he was unhappy with the Auditors time scale and comments and had informed them.  
Report proposed by Cllr Pike, seconded by Cllr Stevenson and agreed by meeting.

## 14. ANNUAL DONATIONS

In light of the current financial climate and the notice received that that the Council has received regarding a further reduction in Government funding, it was felt that the Council would need to be cautious, in ensuring that there was not a large increase in its precept request.

It was agreed to make the usual donations to the local organisations that benefit local residents, and small donations to other County and District organisations, who had requested assistance, that provide services that might assist local people.

See full list of donations attached, as proposed by Cllr Fellows, seconded by Cllr Stevenson and agreed by the meeting.

## 15. ANY MATTERS RELATING TO BLAKENEY CEMETERY

Clerk has completed the Annual Risk Assessment. He had received complaints about the side path surface and undertook to scrape it off. It now needs treating to stop moss returning. Cllr Bullock agreed to make enquiries about a suitable weed killer.

Trees and shrubs need to be cut back on bottom path.

Three small headstones were found to be loose, but not dangerous. Clerk will attempt to contact family members.

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Rest of graves, paths, hedges, and Lych gate in satisfactory condition.

As Councillor Deighton no longer feels able to take the lead on the cemetery, a replacement needs to be considered at the next meeting.

## **16. OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING THE COUNCIL**

The Clerk was made aware of a significant work site that has been installed at Little Hagloe. It is apparently a 'Network Rail' initiative, being sub-contracted to R J Griffiths for 6 months. There are considerable earthworks and a huge increase in vehicle movement , including heavy lorries.

On enquiry of the District Council he found that they had no knowledge of the works. The Enforcement Officer will investigate. In view of the disruption being caused to local residents Cllrs Marshall and Bullock will visit the site.

South Western Ambulance have raised some issues about supporting 'defibrillators' which Cllr Marshall will pursue.

Blakeney toilets became seriously blocked, necessitating closure. Councillors are seriously concerned about the viability of continuing to maintain them.

Cllr Bullock will investigate the cost of weed killer to treat fern at Nibley Cross.

Cllr Stevenson requested that an item 'Discussion on Website and Social Media response' be placed on the agenda for the next meeting.

There being no other business the meeting concluded at 8.55pm.

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Donation Request	Amount granted	Date	Donation Request	Amount granted	Date
Blakeney Youth Club	£250.00	16.11.2015	Blakeney Youth Club	£250.00	17.10.2016
St. Andrews Church,Awre	£450.00	16.11.2015	St Andrews Church,Awre	£450.00	"
All Saints Church,Blakeney	£162.50	16.11.2015	All Saints Church,Blakeney	£162.00	"
Cobalt	£50.00	16.11.2015	Cobalt	£25.00	"
Victim Support	£50.00	16.11.2015	Victim Support	£25.00	"
Young Gloucestershire	£50.00	16.11.2015	Young Gloucestershire	£25.00	"
Glos. Chest Fund	£50.00	16.11.2015	Glos. Chest Fund	£25.00	"
Blakeney Duck Race	£50.00		Blakeney Duck Race	£50.00	" *
			Great Western Air Ambulance Charity	£25.00	"
			Forest Sensory Services	£25.00	"
<b>TOTAL AMOUNT</b>	<b>£1112.50</b>			<b>£1062.00</b>	

\*To be paid at a later date, in time for next year's Duck Race.