

DRAFT
AWRE PARISH COUNCIL
and BURIAL AUTHORITY

Meeting held 16.01.2017 at Blakeney Recreation Centre.

Present: Cllr M Marshall – in the Chair

Councillors R Fellows, H Clarke, G Bullock, K Allen, A Blake.
Clerk D Preece. Also in attendance for part of the meeting;- County Councillor R
Leppington and District Councillor G Hughes and Mrs I Graham.

1.APOLOGIES

Cllr H Pike, Cllr Deighton and Cllr K Stevenson accepted by the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Mrs Graham thanked the Council for facilitating the sorting of the problem regarding rubbish dumping in the brook in Blakeney.

She is concerned about the amount of Japanese Knotweed, Bamboo and Monk's Hood in the brook and about the collapsing of the wall of a property, into the brook.

Cllr Marshall agreed to pursue the Drainage Board regarding the invasive species and District Councillor Hughes agreed to contact the District Council's Planning Department regarding the latter.

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 12.12.2016, were approved, as circulated, and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

5. REPORT OF THE CLERK ON MATTERS ARISING SINCE THE LAST MEETING

The Clerk obtained a copy of the Lydney Cemetery rules and regulations. Cllr Allen agreed to draft a set of rules and regulations for Blakeney Cemetery.

It was agreed that the cost of providing gates for the Lych Gate at Blakeney Cemetery was too high. Previous gates had been vandalised.

The Clerk has reported the matters of the sloping pavement outside the Chip Shop in Blakeney and replacement signs for the Car Park and Doctors Surgery in Blakeney to County Highways, who have agreed to look into them.

D & A Electrical have supplied a quote for £250 to inspect and provide a certificate for the electrics in Blakeney toilets (as required by FODDC). This price includes supplying and

installing 3 replacement light sensors and PAT testing the CCTV equipment. This was agreed by the meeting.

Cllr Fellows will arrange an inspection regarding an Asbestos register.

6. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hughes requested feedback on the District Council's proposal for parish council's with a precept less than £100,000 not to be charged for bye elections. Councillors agreed with this.

He has received complaints about the state of the Red Hart at Awre. The Clerk pointed out that the Parish Council had previously raised its concerns with the Planning Department. Cllr Hughes will pursue the matter with The Enforcement Officer, who is dealing with this.

Cllr Hughes informed the meeting about the boundary review conducted by the FODDC, which proposes a reduction from 47 to 39 District Councillors. Concern was expressed about size of some constituents and the extra workloads for some councillors.

7. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Leppington has had a meeting with the Police and Crime Commissioner for Gloucestershire regarding concerns about the rise in crime and lack of Police Officers in the Forest. The Commissioner was particularly concerned about the lack of 'Community Policing'. It remains to be seen if any changes are forthcoming.

The annual 'Budget' discussions are about to commence. He is concerned that less and less funding is being provided by the Government, and the impact this will have on services especially for Adult Social Care.

He is fighting to keep the 'Lengthsman Scheme'. It was agreed that the Council send written proof for its support of this scheme.

He is concerned about some schools in the Forest where parental and pupil expectations of achievement are low. Some schools are suffering from a lack of pupils. He is pursuing this at regional level.

Issues were raised about the quality of pothole repairs in the Parish and about the anti-skid surface on the Pedestrian crossing in Blakeney. There are outstanding drainage problems. It was agreed to arrange a further meeting with Mr Watkins, County Highways.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P0100/16/DISCON. Land at 1, Station Villas, High Street, Blakeney. Discharge of condition (03) foul and surface water drainage of Planning Permission P0206/16/FUL. No observations or objections.

P1618/16/FUL. Brooklyn, Millend, Blakeney. Erection of two storey dwelling. No objections, in principle to a dwelling on the site. Concerns about the quality of the proposed building, given that it is in a Conservation Area and its proximity to a number of Listed Buildings.

There is no landscape plan.

Concern over highway safety due to the current parking configuration. Millend does not have a footway, so pedestrians and vehicles share the carriageway. The primary concern relates to vehicles emerging/reversing from the parking bays, that will have zero visibility to the south due to the gable of the property extending to the back edge of the carriageway.

9. DECISIONS RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P0783/16/FUL. Guy Hall Farm, Awre. Resiting of approved farm dwelling on land adjacent to Farm. Granted.

P1409/16/FUL. Kingsland Farm, Newnham Road, Blakeney. Change of use from dwelling to hotel, including alterations and extension and new vehicular access. Renewal of consent P1432/13/FUL. Granted.

P1484/16/FUL. Little-a-Dene, Etloe. Side and rear alterations and extension to dwelling. Granted.

P1581/16/TCA. Land opposite Byways and Highfield, Brook Street, Blakeney. Removal of 1 Thuja tree and 3 Cypress Trees. Granted.

10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

01-17-01 – M Harper, MP – Xmas Card – Noted.

02-17-02 – Norris & Fisher – Request to quote for insurance cover – Noted.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were proposed by Cllr Clarke, seconded by Cllr Fellows and agreed for payment.

| Payee | Amount | For | Authority |
|-----------------|----------|-----------------------------|-----------|
| The Telecottage | £1387.50 | Printing of Annual Calendar | 1 |

Authority for payment – Local Govt Act 1972 unless otherwise stated.
1 – s142.

12. PRESENTATION REGARDING THE WATERCOURSE MAPPING PROJECT FROM GLOUCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

County Council representative sick, and will contact the Council regarding a future visit. Councillors are very interesting in the Watercourse Mapping Project.

13. SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE PROTOCOL

Deferred to next meeting.

14. DATES AND VENUES FOR 2017

Dates were confirmed for APC Meetings for 2017 as follows; 13/2, 20/3 (at Awre), 17/4, 15/5, 19/6, 17/7, 21/8, 18/9, 16/10 (at Awre), 20/11, and 11/12. All at Blakeney Recreation Centre unless otherwise stated.

AGM on 15/5, and Annual Parish Meeting on 9/5, both at Blakeney.

15. PLANS FOR A SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE IN BLAKENEY

Some discussion took place regarding the plans supplied by Mr Watkins, County Highways. Broad agreement except that the flashing 20 mph sign approaching from the Gloucester direction should be re-located before the Millend turn, as this road is used by a large number of pupils/cars. Clerk to pass to Cllrs Pike and Stevenson for their consultation with local people.

16. CONFIRMATION OF PRECEPT FOR 2017/8

After further investigation by the Clerk, it was agreed to submit the Precept request as £16,660.00, as agreed at meeting on 14.11.16.

17. CONFIRMATION OF THE PENSION ENROLMENT DECLARATION

The Clerk has completed the Pension Enrolment document on line. It was confirmed by the meeting that the Clerk sign the declaration on behalf of the Parish Council.

18. MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEMETERY

Cllr Allen has had difficulty in contacting the Contractor to clear the lower path of encroaching shrubs and apply weed killer to the path alongside the side hedge. He will pursue this.

19. OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING THE COUNCIL

The Clerk informed the meeting that the laptop was being repaired at present, so the Awre Parish Council e mail address was not available.

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