

**DRAFT**  
**AWRE PARISH COUNCIL**  
**and BURIAL AUTHORITY**

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Meeting held 13.02.2017 at Blakeney Recreation Centre.

Present: Cllr M Marshall – in the Chair

Councillors R Fellows, H Clarke, G Bullock, K Allen.  
Clerk D Preece. Also in attendance for part of the meeting;- County Councillor R  
Leppington.

## **1.APOLOGIES**

Cllr Deighton and Cllr K Stevenson accepted by the meeting.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

## **3. PUBLIC FORUM**

Nobody present.

## **4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 16.1.2017 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**

Cllr Allen has studied the Cemetery Regulations for Lydney Cemetery and feels that to have such a complicated set of rules for Blakeney is unnecessary. The Meeting agreed and it was felt that the current instructions, as issued to Undertakers, with some minor additions, are adequate. Cllr Allen to present revised rules at next meeting, when the Council will also review charges.

D & A Electrical have completed the work required at Blakeney toilets, but a number of improvements are required before a Safety certificate can be issued. It was proposed by Cllr Marshall, seconded by Cllr Fellows and agreed by the meeting that D & A Electrical be asked to complete the necessary works.

The Clerk reported that the District Council had still not responded to the enquiry about the possibility of the Parish Council purchasing the toilets from the District Council. It was agreed that Cllr Hughes be asked to follow this up.

A further meeting has been arranged with Mr Watkins, County Highways on 20.2.17 @ 4.30 pm at Blakeney Youth Club, to discuss outstanding highway issues.

The Clerk reported that the District Council had published the Council Tax Requirement figures for 2017/18, which showed Awre Parish Council with a 5.10% increase. The Council

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wish to make it clear to Parishioners that the Parish Council has not increased its Requirement from the 2016/17 figure. The increase reflects the removal of the Rate Support Grant, £1,000.00 from the figures

The Clerk confirmed that he had now completed the Pension Enrolment Declaration. The Chairman signed a letter to the Clerk regarding Pension Schemes, which the Council is required to send. The Clerk supplied a letter confirming that he did not wish to take up the option offered by the Council.

Mr Siret, Flood Risk Management Officer, Gloucestershire County Council has requested to attend the Parish Council Meeting on 15.5.17, to discuss the Watercourse Mapping Project. This was agreed by the meeting.

## **6. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Hughes sent his apologies and a written report on the following issues, raised at the last meeting.

Japanese Knotweed in brook in Blakeney – he is pursuing with FODDC.

Condition of Red Hart, Awre – has contacted Mr Williams, Head of Planning, FODDC and is awaiting an update.

External lighting at La Dolce Vita Restaurant, Blakeney – he has passed on concerns to Mr Williams and again is awaiting feedback.

## **7. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Leppington reported that there had been a budget setting meeting last week and that there was likely to be a general increase in Council Tax.

The promised funding for the Northern Quarter Development, Cinderford has still not been received.

He is concerned that the Visual Speed Limit sign has still not been erected in Blakeney.

He continues to have concerns about the level of policing in the Forest, and with the Police precept likely to rise, does not feel that residents in the Forest get value for money.

Bollards have been installed on the dangerous verge on Blakeney Hill.

## **8. PLANNING APPLICATION**

P0099/17/FUL. Salmonstone, Etloe. Erection of a first floor extension. Councillors acknowledge that there have been representations from neighbours. It would be nice to have more detailed drawings and a section through the two properties opposite, in order to assess the impact of the extension on the community.

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

P1156/16/FUL. Chapel House, Brains Green. Proposed two storey rear and side extension Granted.

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P1618/16/FUL. Brooklyn, Millend, Blakeney. Erection of two storey dwelling. Withdrawn.

## 10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

02-17-01 – T H Haskett – Request to be considered for future plumbing works – Noted.

02-17-02 – GAPTC – Details of training courses – Noted.

## 11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Payee	Amount	For	Authority
Blakeney Rec. Centre	£18.00	Hall hire-16.1.17	1
MJ Fisher	£222.00	Grass cutting - 9/16-12/16	4
The Telecottage	£27.80	Feb. Newsletter	2
Awre Village Hall	£28.00	Hall hire- 20/3 & 16/10/16	1
D & A Electricals	£250.00	Blakeney toilet electrics	3
M Marshall	£14.99	Hosepipe for Blakeney toilets	3
Blakeney Rec. Centre	£18.00	Hall hire-13.2.17	1
Severn Trent Water	£51.27	Blakeney toilet - water bill	3

Authority for payment – Local Govt Act 1972 unless otherwise stated.  
1 – s134(4). 2 - s142. 3 – Public Health Act 1936 s.87. 4 – Open Spaces Act 1906 ss9/10.

## 12. SOCIAL MEDIA AND WEBSITE PROTOCOL

It was proposed by Cllr Marshall, seconded by Cllr Allen and agreed that the Council did not need a document.

The position was thought to be quite clear. No member of the Council or the Clerk had the right to speak on behalf of the Council on the Social Media, or answer questions.

All approaches to the Council should be made by the existing channels, in writing, by hand, by post, by e mail or in person at a Parish Council Meeting.

The Council also has a website, which is regularly updated, and on which there are documents that the Council is required to make public.

## 13. ANNUAL CALENDAR

Discussion took place about the future of the calendar. Costs have risen and will do so again next year. It is always a struggle find original photographs. There are distribution problems.

Even if volunteers could be found to distribute the calendars, someone needs to coordinate matters.

On the positive side, a lot of residents appreciate their calendars and it is a good way for the Parish Council to keep in touch with the community.

It was agreed that Councillor Fellows would make some enquiries about future printing options and costs and that further discussion would take place at the next meeting.

#### **14. PLANS FOR A SCHOOL SAFETY ZONE IN BLAKENEY**

Councillors agreed with the plan put forward by Mr Watkins, County Highways, except for the fact that the sign for vehicles approaching from the Gloucester direction should be located before the Millend turn.

This will be conveyed to Mr Watkins at the meeting with him on 20.2.17.

County Cllr Leppington will be requested to support the plans.

#### **15. ADOPTION OF QUARTERLY FINANCIAL STATEMENT**

Proposed by Cllr Marshall, seconded by Cllr Fellows and agreed by the meeting.

#### **16. MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEMETERY**

Clerk to write to Contractor to seek a meeting to discuss the work needed on the boundary of the lower footpath, to identify the area which needs to be protected, where there are bulbs planted and future contact with Contractor.

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

The Chairman has received a request to consider Christmas lights in Blakeney. Investigations need to be made regarding costs, electrical supply etc.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 9.00 pm.