

**AWRE PARISH COUNCIL
and BURIAL AUTHORITY**

Meeting held 24.04.2017 at Blakeney Recreation Centre.

Present: Cllr M Marshall – in the Chair

Councillors R Fellows, H Pike, G Bullock, P Deighton.

Clerk D Preece. Also in attendance for part of the meeting;- County Councillor R
Leppington, District Councillor G Hughes, J Sargent, A Davis and I Graham.

1.APOLOGIES

Cllr Allen and Cllr Clarke, accepted by the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Irene Graham was concerned about black plastic bags of rubbish that were being dumped by the roadside near where she lived. She was referred to the Street Warden.

Jayne Sargent and Aaron Davis attended to talk about a planning application for dwellings at Cliff Patch, New Road, Blakeney, which has been refused by the Planning Department.

Jayne Sargent presented a number of reasons in support of the application.

Cllr Fellows explained that the District Council had the final say, the Parish Council were consultees. The application was supported in principal by the Parish Council, but the crucial issue was one of visibility. The plans as presented to the Parish Council showed access to be in breach of the statutory visibility requirements laid down by County Highways. If this issue could be resolved the Parish Council would be able to support the application.

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 20.3.2017 were approved, as circulated, and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

5. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

The Chairman requested that this item be brought forward to allow Cllr Leppington to attend another meeting. Agreed by the meeting.

Cllr Leppington reported that business had more or less closed down in the lead up to County Council elections.

He stated that he had enjoyed working with the Parish Council and praised the way in which it operated.

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

The Clerk reported that he had successfully appealed to the District Council regarding the Non-Domestic Rate Demand of £433.38 for Blakeney toilets, which has been withdrawn.

A number of the drainage issues in the Parish have been resolved at last.

The Clerk has contacted Rise & Shine Window Cleaning who have stated that they can clean the three Perspex bus shelters in Blakeney, on a monthly basis, at a cost of £20.00 per month. The meeting was in agreement with this.

There have been no expressions of interest in the vacancy on the Parish Council, so the Clerk was requested to advertise in the local paper and the Parish Pump.

7. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hughes stated that in principle, the District Council was in agreement about selling the toilets in Blakeney to the Parish Council. The final cost would depend upon the proposed use of the toilets. The District Council would need written assurance that the toilet would be kept in use. It was agreed that this would be discussed further under item 13.

He reported that a recent motion proposing that the District Council move away from its existing 'Cabinet' system to a 'Committee' system was dismissed after much heated discussion.

He said that the Orchard Trust were looking for volunteers to assist with walks designed to be accessible to people living with dementia and other disabilities.

He has received a request from a resident in Butlers Mead, Blakeney for more 'Poo Bag' bins in the village. Parish Council to discuss further at a later meeting.

He was still pursuing the issues relating to bright lights outside La Dolce Vita in Blakeney and the condition of the Red Hart in Awre.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P0437/17/TPO. Land at rear of 1-5 Old Station Close, Blakeney. Works to A2 of TPO80 to include removal of x1 Field Maple Tree, cutting back overhanging Hazel branches to provide clearance of 1m from the fence to the rear of numbers 2-5 and remove all the branches from woodland overhanging gardens back to main stems. No observations or objections.

P0468/17/FUL. Severn View Farm, Gatcombe, Blakeney. Proposed two storey extension to dwelling. No observations or objections.

P0492/17/BQ3PA. Guy Hall Farm, Northington Lane, Awre. Prior approval for the change of use of an agricultural building to two dwelling houses (Use Class C3). No observations or objections.

P0493/17/TCA. Ivy Cottage, Millend, Blakeney. Removal of x1 branch from x1 Cypress tree at Ivy Cottage. No observations or objections.

P0562/17/TCA. Highmead House, Butts Lane, Blakeney. 33% crown reduction of x1 Eucalyptus tree. No observations or objections.

P0507/17/FUL. Mead Coach House, High Street, Blakeney. Erection of a single storey front extension. No objections, but Councillors would prefer that the materials used were more in keeping with the existing cottage.

P0312/17/FUL. Prospect Cottage, Brains Green. Erection of a two storey extension and porch with associated alterations. No observations or objections.

9. DECISIONS RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P0099/17/FUL. Salmonstone, Etloe. Erection of a first floor extension. Refused.

P1793/16/OUT. Cliff Patch, New Road, Blakeney. Outline application for the erection of two dwellings. Refused

P0367/17/FUL. Old Barn House, Awre Road, Blakeney. Replacement of flat roof with pitched roof over retained ground floor. Construction of covered patio area, demolition of 1st and 2nd floors on side elevation. Granted.

10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

04-17-01 – Houses of Parliament – UK Parliament week - Noted.

04-17-02 – Local Govt. Boundary Commission – Review of wards – Discuss at a later meeting.

04-17-03 – CPRE – Branch AGM - Noted.

04-17-04 – FODDC – Statement of persons nominated - Noted.

04-17-05 – Zurich Insurance – Request to quote – Noted.

04-17-06 – FODDC – Community Led Housing – Participation Request – Clerk to respond, expressing Council's interest in gaining more information.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Payee	Amount	For	Authority
Highbury Garden Services	£150.00	Cemetery mtce.	1
DJB Cleaning Supplies	£42.53	Toilet supplies	2
Highbury Garden Services	£220.00	Cemetery mtce.	1
Blakeney Rec. Centre	£18.00	Hall hire	3
The Telecottage	£27.80	Newsletter	4

Authority for payment – Local Govt Act 1972 unless otherwise stated.
1 – s214. 2 – Public Health Act 1936 s.87. 3 – s. 134. 4 – s142.

12. FUTURE OF ANNUAL CALENDAR

Cllr Fellows presented a report stating that the minimum quote that he had been able to obtain to produce 750 calendars next year was £1500, which would be a significant proportion of the Council's annual spending. This was at a time when the Council was being urged to keep its Precept increase to a minimum.

There had been increasing problems in recent years in gaining suitable photographs, as well as problems with distribution.

A lot of work is put in on a voluntary basis which is difficult to sustain.

The calendar is valued by some, but negative feedback has also been received.

Information about services, which is accurate at time of compilation, has been changed at a later date and the Council has consequently received criticism. Its value as an information giving resource has been significantly reduced.

It was proposed by Cllr Fellows, seconded by Cllr Marshall and agreed that the Council should cease to produce the annual calendar.

13. FUTURE OF BLAKENEY TOILETS

Discussion took place about the future of the toilets.

The Council was reluctant to be restricted by the District Council regarding future use.

It would be good to retain one toilet, but use the other part as a Parish Council information point, or let it out to another service.

It was agreed that the Clerk write to District Councillor Hughes to ask him to arrange a 'face to face' with District Councillor Boyles, either at a future Parish Council Meeting or with a delegation from the Parish Council in private.

14. MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEMETERY

Cllr Bullock agreed to obtain a quotation for the removal of Japanese Knotweed from the lower boundary of the Cemetery.

Cllr Allen is still awaiting a quotation for the removal of branches and undergrowth along the same boundary.

15. APPOINTMENT OF INTERNAL AUDITOR

It was proposed by Councillor Marshall and seconded by Cllr Pike that Shirley Fowler be appointed as Internal Auditor for Annual Accounts to year ending 31.3.17.

16. ANNUAL REVIEW OF PARISH CLERK

It was agreed that the Clerk's performance during the past twelve months was satisfactory.

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17. OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING THE COUNCIL

The Clerk reminded Councillors about the Annual Parish Meeting on 9.5.17.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.40 pm.