

## **AWRE PARISH COUNCIL and BURIAL AUTHORITY**

Meeting held 19.06.2017 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 Boyles and  
District Councillor G Hughes and Mrs I Graham and Mr E Hale.

### **1.APOLOGIES**

Cllr Deighton and Cllr Pike accepted by the meeting.

### **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr Allen declared a personal interest in item 10 and withdrew from the decision making part of the discussion on this item.

### **3. PUBLIC FORUM**

Mrs Graham stated that she has obtained a commitment from the Environment Agency to clear the section of Bideford Brook in Blakeney, near to her property.

The Chairman thanked her for her efforts in maintaining the flower tubs near to the brook.

Mr Hale requested a copy of the Blakeney Cemetery rules, which the Clerk agreed to supply.

He is still concerned about the sloping pavement outside the film shop as was, in Blakeney. Councillor Bullock stated that County Highways had inspected the pavement, as requested, and state that they cannot do anything about it because this would cause flooding problems to adjoining properties.

He also has concerns about the overhanging tree opposite the British Legion in Blakeney, which is causing an obstruction to pedestrians.

He reminded the Council that he had requested a 'Car Park' sign for the corner of Millend.

This was passed on to Mr Watkins, County Highways.

It was agreed to invite Mr Watkins at the next Parish Council Meeting to discuss outstanding matters.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 15.5.2017, were approved, as circulated, and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

### **5. MINUTES OF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**

The minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 15.5.17 were approved, as circulated, and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

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

The Clerk obtained permission from the District Council to advertise for cooption to fill the current vacancy on the Parish Council. An advert was placed this week in the Review.

The Clerk has received two applicants to date. It was agreed to discuss these and any further applications that might be received, at the next meeting.

The Clerk reported that he has spoken to Mrs Rogerson and that she has replanted the flower tub outside the Post Office in Blakeney.

## **7. REPORT OF THE CLERK ON MATTERS ARISING SINCE THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING**

No matters arising.

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

Cllr Hughes produced a copy of the 'Declaration of result of poll for the Forest of Dean Constituency', for the recent General Election. He thanked the Returning Officer and District Council staff for the professional way in which the count was carried out.

The District Council has re-elected Councillor Jane Horne as its Chairman.

Applications are invited for Community Safety Grants. This is one-off funding aimed at reducing crime and fear of crime in the District.

Cllr Hughes informed the meeting about the boundary review conducted by the FODDC, resulted in no overall agreement being reached on the District Council's submission, so each political group will submit its own proposals. When the Boundary Commission publishes its proposals there will be a public consultation.

He promised to chase up with the District Council, the situation at the Red Hart at Awre.

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

As lead Councillors for Children Services, Cllr Boyles reported that the County Council had received a critical report from Ofsted regarding its services. Social Workers were overrun with cases resulting in children being left longer than necessary in a situation where they could be harmed. A shortage of Social Workers and inadequate supervision and support for Social Workers were blamed. There are not enough Foster Carers to accommodate the number of children coming into care. He has pledged that the matters be addressed with some urgency.

The Council should have been sent a consultation letter on 12/6/17 regarding Highways. Cllr Boyles will re-send this.

Cllr Bullock raised a complaint about the traffic lights at Highnam which are causing congestion. Cllr Boyles will look into this.

Councillor Boyles re-assured the Councillors that the Fire Brigade have visited all the Tower Blocks in the County, following the Kensington fire disaster and assessed their safety.

With regard to Blakeney toilets, he is keen that the transfer of ownership to the Parish take place and at minimal cost. He is waiting for the Legal department to draw up some details. He will chase this up.

## 10. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P0795/17/FUL. Church View, High Street, Blakeney. Erection of two storey extensions. Extended canopy along front of the dwelling. No observations or objections.

## 11. DECISIONS RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P0468/17/FUL. Severn View Farm, Gatcombe. Proposed two storey extension. Granted.

P0302/17/FUL. Prospect Cottage, Brains Green. Erection of a two storey extension and porch. Granted.

P0608/17/FUL. Rose Cottage, Blakeney Hill Road, Blakeney. Erection of a single storey extension and associated works. Refused.

## 12. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

2017-06-01 – GAPTC – Training Courses – Noted.

2017-06-02 – GRCC – Neighbourhood Development Plan Event - Noted.

2017-06-03 – GAPTC – Notice of Local Government Union's pay claim – Noted.

2017-06-04 – Gentle Walks Poster & Dementia Friendly Communities Survey – Noted.

## 13. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Payee	Amount	For	Authority
Blakeney & District Rec. Centre	£36.00	Hall hire 9&5/4/17	1
Blakeney & District Rec. Centre	£18.00	Hall hire 19/6/17	1
The Telecottage	£27.80	June newsletter	2
D Mynett	£341.25	Toilet cleaning	3
Highbury Garden & Lawn Services	£750.00	Cemetery maintenance	4
D Preece	£1099.82	Clerk's wages	5
HMRC(Post Office)	£274.80	Clerk's Tax	5
PATA	£12.50	Payroll services	5
D Preece	£196.16	Clerk's expenses	5

Authority for payment – Local Govt Act 1972 unless otherwise stated.  
1 – s134. 2 – s142. 3 – Public Health Act 1936 s.87. 4 – s.214 5 – s.112.

## 14. TO CONSIDER DATE FOR ANNUAL WALKABOUT

Monday 10/07/2017 @ 6.30pm. Cllrs Bullock, Fellows, Allen and Marshall. Meet at Blakeney Recreation Centre Car Park.

## **15. TO CONSIDER ARRANGEMENTS FOR DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING**

Tuesday 11/07/2017 @ 7.15 pm at Awre Village hall.

## **16. TO CONSIDER PLANS TO RENOVATE RED TELEPHONE BOXES IN THE PARISH**

Cllr Marshall confirmed that he has located a person who can sand blast the boxes on site. Preparations are needed, to remove glass. Cllr Marshall, Fellows, Allen and Bullock agreed to address this matter.

## **17. TO CONSIDER LETTERS RECEIVED FROM THE DISTRICT COUNCIL REGARDING RIPARIAN MAINTENANCE**

Despite the Parish Council's response letter, following discussion at the last meeting, expressing concern about cooperating with their suggestions regarding contacting riparian owners in the Parish, the District Council seems still to be assuming that the Parish Council will participate.

It was agreed by the meeting that the Council further respond by stating that it has neither the resources or expertise to undertake such a large task as they are suggesting.

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

Cllr Allen stated that an alternative space needed to be identified for the burial of ashes. A new contract needs to be arranged for the Contractor, clarifying one or two issues.

He will meet with the Contractor to look at the undergrowth that has grown up again

The Clerk stated that he had been approached by Mr Nick Crocket regarding the purchase of an acre of additional cemetery land. Councillors agreed to look at this when they do the 'Walkabout'. Cllr Bullock to approach Mr Crocket to obtain a price.

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

The Clerk was asked to again contact Mr Watkins regarding overhanging vegetation on Blakeney Hill. Cllr Bullock was pleased with the recent verge cutting in Awre.

Cllr Fellows is aware that a resident at Nibley is intending to apply to divert a footpath.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.45 pm.