

DRAFT
AWRE PARISH COUNCIL
and BURIAL AUTHORITY

Meeting held 20.11.2017 at Blakeney Recreation Centre.

Present: Cllr M Marshall – in the Chair

Councillors R Fellows, K Allen, R Cotton, T Ware, H Clarke.
Clerk D Preece. Also in attendance for part of the meeting;- County Councillor R Boyles and
District Councillor G Hughes.

1.APOLOGIES

Cllrs Deighton and Bullock, accepted by the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public present.

4. MINUTES OF LAST MEETING

The minutes of the meeting held on 16.10.2017, were approved, as circulated, and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting, subject to the correction of a spelling mistake on Page 1510, Item 19, which should read ‘Hitchings’ and not ‘Hitchens’.

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

The Clerk reported that he had forwarded a draft copy of the minutes of the last meeting to Mr Clarke, which indicated that the Parish Council had no objections to his request to remove the street lamp outside his property in Awre.

The Clerk sent a copy of the footpath poster, produced by Cllr Fellows, in support of the campaign to promote the footpaths in the Parish, to the Public Rights of Way Officer. He was suitably impressed. Cllr Fellows is still working on the map.

The Clerk has obtained details of the training programme offered to ‘Footpath Volunteers’ and it was agreed to publicise this in the next newsletter.

The Clerk also reported a complaint about a blocked footpath DAW105.

The Clerk thanked Cllr Boyles for following up the ‘School Safety Zone’ issue and a decision regarding funding should be received early next year.

Cllr Marshall has obtained details regarding the purchase of a bowser and pump to water the proposed ‘hanging baskets’ in Blakeney. He has found someone who is prepared to do the watering at a cost of £30.00 per week for 26 weeks per year. It was agreed that for the first year the baskets would be restricted to 20 along the High Street in Blakeney.

It was agreed that the Clerk pursue the contract for this, pending permission from the County Council which has not yet been forthcoming. Cllr Boyles agree to follow this up. The details to be confirmed at a later meeting.

The Clerk reported the complaints about 'dog fouling' in Blakeney to the Street Warden. He will increase patrols in the short term and speak to any dog walkers that he sees, to check that they are carrying bags. It was agreed to accept his offer to fit more signs in the areas identified.

A meeting has been arranged by S Middleton, District Council on 28.11.17, to discuss the possibility of pursuing the scheme to introduce a salmon ladder into the stream in Blakeney. Chairman and Clerk to attend.

The Clerk pointed out that the knotweed had been cleared from the stream below Church Square in Blakeney, presumably by the Environment Agency. Doubt was expressed as to whether the method used would be successful in the long run.

The Clerk reported a complaint about parking at the Millend/A48 junction in Blakeney. As there are a number of outstanding Highway issues it was agreed to arrange a meeting with Mr Watkins, Area Supervisor..

6. REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hughes gave a political update on the Forest of Dean District Council.

The District Council has approved a number of free car parking days at various locations leading up to Christmas.

Forest of Dean District Council employees have transferred to Publica Group, a newly created public sector company, this month. Other partners include Cheltenham Borough Council, Cotswold District Council and West Oxfordshire District Council. Many of the Council's services will be run by this group, although each Council will retain its independence, and the quality of services should be unaffected. Despite some early confusion, it is hoped to achieve £5.6m per year savings by 2020 and £41m over 10 years.

All the information regarding the future of Blakeney toilets is with the Cabinet, waiting for them to come up with a date for a meeting with the Parish Council.

He has dealt with two queries from local residents regarding planning applications and attended the inaugural meeting of the Blakeney and District History Society. Details of future meetings to follow, via advertisement.

7. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Boyles reported on a scheme to ease transition between junior and senior schools being run by the County.

Ten new 'gritters' have been added to the Council's fleet.

The County has also been running an Alcohol Awareness Campaign.

Fire fighters are being recruited from 18 years upwards.

There have been 7146 Fire Education Safety visits made to premises in the County.

The scheme to improve the A417 at Air Balloon Hill is gaining momentum.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P1666/17/FUL. Underdean House, Newnham Road, Blakeney. Demolition and replacement of rear conservatory. Creation of a raised patio area and steps. Given the comments of the Conservation Officer, the Parish Council does not feel able to support this application.

P1573/17/LBC. Listed Building consent for the above. Comments as above.

P1730/17/FUL. Wych Hazel Cottage, Blakeney Hill, Blakeney. Erection of a two storey dwelling with associated parking and landscaping. Demolition of existing cottage. It is not clear that this is a 'replacement' dwelling. Councillors can see the intent at high quality architecture, but do not feel that this has been achieved. The building will be very prominent from Blakeney village, the A48, local paths and properties. It is unclear how the two properties will interact and where the respective boundaries are. Parking and access to the existing property is unclear. Without more detail the Parish Council is unable to support this application.

9. DECISIONS RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P1793/16/OUT. Cliff Patch, New Road, Blakeney. Erection of two new one and one half storey properties, vehicular access, etc. Appeal dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate.

P1398/17/FUL. Sunningdale, Etloe. Erection of a two storey side extension to provide facilities for a disabled person. Demolition of existing garage. Granted.

P1448/17/FUL. Salmonstone, Etloe. Erection of an additional first floor, providing additional accommodation to existing bungalow. Granted.

10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

2017-11-01 – CPRE – Autumn newsletter - Noted.

2017-11-02 – Dementia Friendly Community Enabler – Awareness - Noted.

2017-11-03 – SARA – Donation request – Deferred to October 2018 meeting.

2017-11-04 – FODDC – Information about conditions to place signs on Highways – Noted.

2017-11-05 - GAPTC – Community Messaging System – Noted.

2017-11-06 – War Memorials Trust Newsletter – Noted.

2017-11-07 – Green Moon Landscapes – Request to be considered for ground works – Noted.

2017-11-07 – GAPTC – Training Info. – Clerk to attend Clerk's Network Mtg. on 6.12.17.

2017-11-08 – Grant Thornton – Annual Audit Return for year ending 31.3.17 - Notice has been received that the Auditors have accepted that they made a mistake in their report. This has now been corrected and the completed Return was proposed by Cllr Marshall, seconded by Cllr Fellows and accepted by the meeting.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Payee	Amount	For	Authority
Highbury Garden & Lawn Services	£370.00	Cemetery Mtce	1
Waterplus	£17.02	Toilet water bill	2
Blakeney & District Rec. Centre	£18.00	Hire of hall	3
Grant Thornton	£120.00	Annual Accounts Audit	4
GAPTC	£150.00	Councillor training	4
GAPTC	£95.00	Councillor training	4
WW Hale	£231.36	Awre notice board repairs	5
Farm & County Agricultural Suppliers	£75.00	Bulbs for Parish	6

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

1 – s214.. 2 – Public Health Act 1936 s.234.3. 3 – s134(4). 4 – s.111. 5 – LGA 1894 s.8(4). 6 - Highways Act 1980 s.96.

12. UPDATE OF LIST OF COUNCILLOR RESPONSIBILITIES

This item was deferred to the next meeting. See attached list.

13. BUDGET AND ANNUAL PRECEPT FOR 2018/9

After consideration of the figures it was agreed that the Precept remain the same as last year i.e. £16,600. It was also agreed to confirm this at the next meeting when the final taxbase calculations for each council will have been received from the District Council.

14. INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT FOR 30.9.17

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

15. MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEMETERY

Cllrs Allen & Fellows have completed a specification for the renewal of the cemetery maintenance contract next year. It was agreed that the Clerk place an advertisement in the Review, inviting tenders.

Cllr Allen reported that the knot weed treatment appears to have been successful. He has asked the contractor's to scrap the moss off of the side path, chemical treatment of same having failed.

16. OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING THE COUNCIL

As the Council overlooked the purchase of a wreath this year the Clerk was asked to investigate the possibility of making a donation.

All Saints Church who have had the Parish Council's projector in safe keeping at the church have asked permission to transfer it to Blakeney Youth Club where it can be used for the family service that they run there.

Cllr Cotton requested that a 'Parish Plan' update be discussed at a future meeting.

Cllr Cotton also requested that 'Standing Orders' changes be discussed at a future meeting.

The Clerk reported that he had received an e mail stating that the issue of overgrown hedges on Blakeney Hill had been addressed by Highways.

Concern was expressed about the hedges and the car parking at the bottom of Cinderford Road, Blakeney, causing obstructions for road traffic and pedestrians. This can be added to the agenda for the meeting with Mr Watkins

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

Number	Description	Task(s) involved	Designated Member Of Council	Comments
1	Blakeney toilets	Inspection of building for damage. Inspection of interior for cleanliness. Monitoring CCTV – as/when.	Cllr R Fellows/Cllr Marshall	
2	Blakeney Cemetery (Inc. Lychgate	Monitoring contractors work-Mthly. Liaising with contractor-ongoing. Inspection of grave safety-Annual.	Cllr K Allen	
3	Bus Shelters(5) A48	Checking safety/graffiti/rubbish.	Cllr R Fellows	
4	Awre Notice Board	Checking condition.	Cllr Bullock	
5	Blakeney Notice Board	Checking condition.	Cllr K Allen	Oiling, leak
6	Seats(7)-Various locations	Checking on condition.	Cllr G Bullock	
7	Red Phone Boxes	Checking condition-ongoing. Liaising with 'adopters'-Ongoing	Cllr M Marshall	In hand
8	Grass Areas;- Nibley, 3 pieces adjoining Blackpool Brook, Blakeney. Land adjoining B'ney Surgery	Checking that grass cutting is satisfactory, rubbish, safety, damage- Ongoing.	Cllr K Allen	Bulbs Nibley-pear tree needs attention
9	A48	Attending A48 meetings.	Cllr T Ware	Clerk to obtain details
10	Emergency Plan	Representing APC.	Cllr M Marshall/R Cotton	Ongoing-RC to liaise with MM
11	Defibrillators	Checking regularly.	Cllr K Allen/Joanne Scott	
12	Council website	Ongoing update.	Cllrs Fellows	
13	Newsletter	Bi-monthly compilation/printing & distribution.	Mr Bob Watters & Clerk	
14	Forestry Commission Mtgs	Attend meetings	Cllr Cotton	
15	Snow Warden	Deal with problems caused by winter weather, liaise with Snow Plough Operators & County Highways.	Cllr P Deighton	
16	Highway Matters.	Liaising with Highways over road damage, drainage & flooding.	Cllrs Marshall, Cllr Bullock, Awre	Regular meetings with BW

Dated ; 20.11.2017

David Preece - Clerk