

DRAFT
AWRE PARISH COUNCIL
and BURIAL AUTHORITY

Meeting held 15.1.2018 at Blakeney Recreation Centre.

Present: Cllr M Marshall – in the Chair

Councillors R Fellows, K Allen, R Cotton, T Ware, G Bullock, A Blake.
Clerk D Preece. Also in attendance for part of the meeting;- County Councillor R Boyles.

1.APOLOGIES

Cllrs Deighton and Clarke, accepted by the meeting.
District Councillor G Hughes.

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 20.11.2017, were approved, as circulated, and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting, subject to the following correction.
Page 1513, Item 5, Paragraph 3, should read ‘S Middleton, Forester’s Forest’.

The meeting scheduled for 11.12.2017 was cancelled due to the bad weather.

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

The Clerk reported that one person has come forward as a ‘Footpath Volunteer’. He will follow this up with the Public Rights of Way Officer.

With regard to the proposed ‘hanging baskets’ in Blakeney, the County Council are insisting that the Parish Council conduct satisfactory structural tests before they will give permission. Plantscape do not feel able to do this but the Clerk has obtained a quotation from a company called Kiwa, recommended by the County Council, which amounts to £1090.00 in total. Councillors are not happy with this and Councillor Boyles agreed to pursue the matter with the Street Lighting Section, County Council.

The Street Warden has responded to the complaints about ‘dog fouling’ in Blakeney by spraying signs on pavements and working with Blakeney School to produce posters. These will be put up soon. Cllr Cotton has agreed, on behalf of the Parish Council, to attend a ‘photo session’ at the school in order that the matter receives press coverage. In addition to the above, he will request that the statutory signs in the village are refreshed.

The Chairman and the Clerk, on behalf of the Council, attended a meeting organised by Sue Middleton, Forester's Forest, regarding the proposed salmon ladder at the weir in Blakeney. On the grounds of cost effectiveness the Environment Agency recommended using the funding available to provide a lamprey ladder. Tenders were therefore requested for this. Councillors are disappointed because of all the work which went into trying to get a salmon ladder.

The Chairman and Clerk to attend a further meeting to finalise details.

The Clerk was asked to report the state of the highway on the corner of Hitchens and Blakeney Hill Road, Blakeney and the loose manhole cover on the A48 near to Birmingham House.

A meeting between Mr Watkins and Councillors took place on 14.12.17 at Blakeney Youth Club. A number of Highway issues were raised, which Mr Watkins agreed to follow up. It was also agreed that the parking issues in New Road and Millend would be referred to the PCSO, and it is understood that he has looked at these and spoken to people about them.

With regard to the problems of pavement parking relating to Highfields, Blakeney, the Clerk wrote to Two Rivers Housing, who appear reluctant to take any action. The Chairman agreed to refer to PCSO.

6. MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING ON 14.12.17

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 14.12.17 were approved as circulated, and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

7. MINUTES OF PLANNING COMMITTEE MEETING ON 3.1.18

The minutes of the Planning Committee Meeting held on 3.1.18 were approved, as circulated, and signed by the Chairman as a true record of the meeting.

8. REPORT OF DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hughes apologies, due to illness, were given to the meeting, but he sent a written report that indicated a smooth transfer of employees to Publica, which will take over a number of the services.

The Managing Director of Publica was very pleased with the staff member's response to the snow and the disruption that it brought.

Forest Linkline is a 24 hour emergency alarm service which provides complete peace of mind to the elderly and vulnerable. Staff are able to arrange free home visits to discuss the service.

9. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Boyles reported that a top up service is available for salt supplies and bins. Clerk to contact Mr Watkins.

The recent consultation regarding the replacement of hospital services in the Forest saw a majority against a new hospital, favouring the development of existing facilities.

All the 'Lengthsmen' in the County are on pothole duty, in response to the damage caused by the recent bad weather. The 'Report my Pothole' Scheme should be used.

He is pleased to announce the appointment of a new Director of Children's Services.

He has dealt with one request from a parishioner for a shield for an LED street light.

The A417 link road scheme has received the approval of the Prime Minister. Funding has been allocated and it should be in place within the next 3-4 years.

He is pleased to see that all the agencies concerned with Children's Services are now working together in one unit.

Mr Watkins has sent a second letter to residents on Blakeney Hill regarding the cutback of overhanging undergrowth. Anyone who does not reply to this letter will be referred to Legal Services.

10. PLANNING APPLICATION

P0006/18/FUL. Chapel House, Brains Green, Blakeney. Erection of a two storey rear and side extension with associated works (Revised scheme). Councillors have no objections but would ask that there is a condition included to ensure that the house goes back to the same form, using the same materials for the facade.

11. DECISIONS RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P0087/17/DISCON. 2, Pollards Lane, Blakeney. Erection of a replacement dwelling. Discharge of conditions, 03(Landscaping), 04(Surface water), and 08(Ground levels). Granted consent.

P0108/17/DISCON. Guy Hall Farm, Northington Lane, Awre. Discharge of condition 09(Sample panel) relating to Planning Application P0783/16/FUL. Granted consent.

P1813/17/FUL. The Cottage, Blakeney Hill, Blakeney. Proposed two storey extension and raising of roof with new vehicular access. Refused permission.

12. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

2018-01-01 – Lloyds Bank – Update of terms & conditions - Noted.

2018-01-02 – Dementia Friendly Community Enabler – Request to attend meeting – Defer until new Emergency Plan Group is up and running..

2018-01-03 – GAPTC – Internal Audit Service - Noted.

2018-01-04 – HMRC – VAT refund to 31.3.17 - £241.01 - Noted.

2018-01-05 - GAPTC – Membership Fees for 2018/19 - Noted.

2018-01-06 – FODDC – Information regarding Rough Sleepers in the FOD - Noted.

2018-01-07 – Glos. Constabulary – Community Alerts system - Circulate.

2018-01-08 – Various Xmas greetings.

2018-01-09 – GAPTC – Queens Garden Party nominations - None.

2018-01-10 – Berkeley Site Stakeholders – Meeting - Noted.

2018-01-11 – D M Payroll Services – New Data Protection Regulations - Noted.

2018-01-12 – Glos. County Council – Chartered Parish Group Meetings – Noted.

2018-01-13 – FODDC – Advice re. Neighbourhood Development Plans – Noted.

20180116 Parish Council Minutes for 15.1.18.doc 1522

2018-01-14 – GRCC – Sustainable Development Commission – Free online tool – Noted.

13. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Payee	Amount	For	Authority
Rise & Shine Window Cleaning	£60.00	Bus shelters	1
Highbury Garden & Lawn Services	£450.00	Cemetery Mtce.	2
Blakeney & District Rec. Centre	£18.00	Hire of hall	3
The Telecottage	£27.80	December newsletter	4
GAPTC	£40.00	Data Protection training	5
GAPTC	£20.00	Clerks networking	5
D Preece	£1099.82	Clerks wages	6
D Preece	£147.96	Clerks expenses	7
HMRC	£274.80	Clerks tax	6
PATA	£12.50	Payroll services	6
D Williams	£341.25	Toilet security/cleaning	8
FOD & Wye Valley Review	£57.60	Cemetery Mtce. tender advertisement	2

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

1 – LG(MP)Act 1953 s4(1). 2 – s214. 3 – s134. 4 – s142. 5 – s111. 6 - s112(2). 7 – LG(FP)AA 1963 s5. 8 - Public Health Act 1936 s.87.

14. CONFIRMATION OF PRECEPT FOR 2018/19

The Clerk has checked the Taxbase for 2018/9. This appears to represent a decrease of 0.295%.

Precept confirmed as £16660. Proposed by Cllr Fellows, seconded by Cllr Allen and agreed by the meeting.

See attached list.

15. FEEDBACK FROM A48 MEETING

Notes from meeting on file.

Cllr Ware has looked into cost of upgrading data collected from the speed sign in Blakeney and it looks to be feasible. This should provide evidence to back up future requests for measures to be implemented. He will seek a detailed explanation of costs.

He has contacted Mr Watkins with a suggestion that the now redundant ‘School Safety’ equipment at Minsterworth could be transferred to Blakeney. He awaits a response.

Concern was expressed that footpaths alongside highways were being neglected. This causes problems for pedestrians. There is also a lack of provision for the safety of cyclists. Cllr Ware to raise these issues at a future meeting.

16. UPDATE OF PARISH PLAN

Councillor Cotton is prepared to lead on this.

It was agreed that the Clerk circulate the electronic copy of the previous plan to all Councillors, in order that further discussion can take place at the next Meeting.

17. UPDATE OF STANDING ORDERS

Clerk to check through the current Orders to see if any updating is needed.

18. MEETING DATES FOR 2018/19

Meetings at Blakeney Recreation Centre :- 19/2, 16/4, Tuesday 15/5 (Annual Parish Meeting), 21/5, 18/6, 19/7, 6/8, 17/9, 19/11 and 10/12.

At Awre;- 19/3 and 15/10.

19. MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEMETERY

On 3.1.18 the Clerk opened the three tenders(from A M Services, Green Moon Landscapes and Highbury Garden and Lawn Services), that were received in relation to the Cemetery Maintenance contract 2018-20. This was in the presence of Cllrs Fellows, Allen and Cotton who considered the respective tenders and propose that the Council accept the lowest tender which is that of Highbury Garden and Lawn Services. Proposed by Cllr fellows, seconded by Cllr Marshall and unanimously agreed by the meeting.

20. OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING THE COUNCIL

The Clerk has had to sign a 'declaration' regarding responsibility for the keys to the Recreation Centre.

Cllr Marshall informed the meeting that the drainage pipe from Blakeney Toilets is still blocked, so the toilets remain closed. He is attempting to find out whose responsibility it is to do the unblocking/repairs. The future of the toilets is still uncertain as the Council has not yet receive a proper response from the District Council.

The Clerk was asked to report to the Public Rights of Way Officer the fact that the footbridge on the footpath that crosses the stream on Crockett farm is in an unsafe condition.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.53 pm.