

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

Meeting held 19.2.2018 at Blakeney Recreation Centre.

Present: Cllr M Marshall – in the Chair

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

## **1.APOLOGIES**

Cllrs Deighton and Blake, accepted by the meeting.

## **2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

None.

## **3. PUBLIC FORUM**

Mrs J Greening spoke in support of their Planning Application to extend their caravan site in Awre. At her request Cllr Hughes agreed to request that the Application go to the District Council's Planning Committee.

She also drew attention to the fact that the road sign for Awre on the A48 junction had been damaged by a lorry. Cllr Bullock stated that Mr Watkins, Highways has agreed to replace it at a more suitable location.

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

The minutes of the meeting held on 15.1.2018, 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**

The Clerk reported that Cllr Ware wished to attend the 'Footpath Volunteer' training and that he had put his name forward.

With regard to the proposed 'hanging baskets' in Blakeney, it was proposed, in light of the lack of co-operation from the County Council, to install six posts on the land belonging to the Council, behind the Post Office and at the bottom of the Cinderford Road. The Chairman has located someone who will install the posts and the Council will accept the offer from Plantscape to install and maintain 12 x half baskets on these posts. The cost for the latter would be £453.60. It was proposed by Cllr Marshall, seconded by Cllr Fellows and agreed by the meeting.

It was felt that if this scheme proved to be successful it could be extended through the village in future years.

It has been agreed to install a Lamprey/Eel Ladder near the weir in Blakeney. A public meeting has been arranged at Blakeney Recreation Centre on Thursday 1.3.18 at 7.00pm. The Chairman urged Councillors to attend. Blakeney School has signed up to the scheme and a presentation will take place at the school prior to the meeting on 1.3.18.

The PCSO has contacted residents of Highfields regarding the pavement parking on the Cinderford Road. There is still a problem about the cars parked in the adjacent layby which is not wide enough, causing a blockage to the pavement. It was agreed that the Clerk write to Two Rivers again and request that they consider widening the layby by cutting into the bank.

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

Cllr Hughes stated that the District Council will be meeting on Thursday next to set the budget for 2018/19.

He mentioned the Blue Badge Scheme Consultation, which is open until 18.3.18 and the proposal to extend the Scheme to include relatives of people suffering from dementia and autism.

The rollout of Phase Two of Fastershire should mean that everyone in the County can expect to receive speeds of 30 megabites by 2020.

The final settlement of the Boundary Changes has been agreed. Awre will become part of a ward named 'Newnham'. Councillors expressed dissatisfaction about this.

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

Cllr Boyles reported that hospitals in the County had the third best transfer rate in England and a much better track record with regard to operation times than most.

The County Council Budget has been set and represents a 4.49% rise. This includes an Elderly Persons levy and an increase in funding for Children and Young Persons.

The budget for the 'Lengthsman ' scheme has been increased, and future bids can go through him.

He drew attention to 'Gloucestershire 2050', a document produced by the University of Gloucestershire and available on line. It predicts trends towards young people leaving the County and an increase in the elderly. Lots of job vacancies are predicted. The County is seeking to increase links with Bristol which is seen as a major growth area.

He agreed to support the putting through of the clearing of roadside hedges on the Cinderford Road for the Lengthsmen to tackle.

There is some concern about the state of a footpath in Furnace Valley following drainage work undertaken by the contractors Amey. He will follow this up.

The A417 link road scheme consultation is out. Two routes are suggested.

## **8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS**

P2009/18/FUL. Martins Field, Awre. Change of use of agricultural land to eight pitch caravan site. Councillors support the application.

P0107/18/FUL. 1, Brook Villas, Bridge Street, Blakeney. Erection of a rear conservatory. Demolition of existing sun room. No observation or objections.

P0108/18/LBC. Listed Building Application for the above. No observations or objections.

P0085/18/LD1. Land South of New Road, Blakeney. Application under Section 191 to establish whether access, vehicular parking and garage area on existing land is lawful. From what they know, Councillors are clear that a garage did exist on the site.

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

P1730/17/FUL. Wych Hazel Cottage, Blakeney Hill, Blakeney. Erection of a two storey dwelling with associated parking and landscaping. Demolition of existing garage. Refused permission.

P1921/17/PQ3PA. The Milking Parlour, Etloe House Farm, Etloe. Prior approval for the change of use of an agricultural building to dwelling house. Prior approval refused.

## **10. TO CONSIDER THE FUTURE OF BLAKENEY TOILETS**

The Chairman proposed, Cllr Fellows seconded and it was agreed by the meeting to bring this item forward to include Cllr Hughes in the discussion.

It has been 12 months since the Council requested a meeting with the District Council to discuss the possible hand over of the toilets.

Costs of running the toilets increase by the year.

The drains continue to block. Cllrs Marshall and Fellows have spent a lot of time fulfilling the unpleasant job of clearing the drains, but a serious recent blockage required expert help which cost £402.00. The subsequent report from the contractor suggested that further costly work needed to be done to prevent further trouble.

It has been difficult to recruit people to do the routine cleaning and opening/closing of the toilets and our current cleaner is leaving the area shortly.

Councillors are convinced that the majority of users are people passing through, and not parishioners.

Cllr Marshall proposed, Cllr Allen seconded agreed that the toilets remain closed.

District Councillor Hughes agreed to arrange a meeting with the District Council to discuss the termination of the lease.

## **11. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING**

2018-02-01 – FODDC – Final recommendations of electoral review - Noted.

2018-02-02 – MK Illuminations – Decorations - Noted.

2018-02-03 – Cobalt – Annual Review and invite - Noted.

2018-02-04 – Wye Valley and FOD Tourism Association – Annual Forum – Noted.

2018-02-05 – NHS – NHS Crises event notification – Noted

2018-02-06 – GAPTC – General Data Protection – More information to follow.

2018-02-07 – GRCC – Water Management - Noted

## **12. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

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

<b>Payee</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>For</b>	<b>Authority</b>
MJ Fisher	£222.00	Grass cutting	1
The Telecottage	£27.80	February newsletter	2
Waterplus	£25.33	Toilet water bill	3
GAPTC	£46.00	Parish mapping training	4
Rise & Shine Window Cleaning	£40.00	Bus shelter cleaning	5
Doctor Drain	£402.00	Toilet drain clearance	3

Authority for payment – Local Govt Act 1972 unless otherwise stated.  
 1 – Open Spaces Act 1906 s9&s10. 2 – s142. 3 –Public Health Act 1936 s87. 4 – s111. 5 – LG(MP)Act 1953 s4(1).

The Quarterly Accounts at 31.12.2017, checked by Cllr Clarke, were accepted by the meeting.

### **13 UPDATE OF PARISH PLAN**

Deferred to next meeting, when B Watters, who compiled the previous Plan, will attend.

### **14. UPDATE OF STANDING ORDERS**

The Clerk has checked through these and there are a number of minor amendments which he will address in time for the review at the Annual Meeting.

### **15. PUBLIC FOOTPATH PUBLICITY/POSTERS/MAP**

Cllr Fellows will complete the footpath map for the Parish. Councillor Marshall will obtain a price for printing of maps and posters, in time for the next meeting.

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

Cllr Allen reported that there was still an outstanding area of undergrowth that needed clearing. When this is done a line can be defined, up to which the extent of the contractors regular cleaning will take place. This can then be incorporated into his contracted work. It was proposed by Cllr Marshall, seconded by Cllr Fellows and agreed that this go ahead.

Cllr Allen also pointed out that a vehicle used for a recent burial had caused considerable damage to the path surrounds, grass and even an existing grave. They had also dumped waste and left plastic. Clerk/ Cllr Allen to write to undertaker requesting that the damage be repaired.

### **17. PROBLEMS ON PUBLIC FOOTPATHS DAW 44 & DAW 119.**

There is a tree growing out of and damaging the wall along the side of DAW44. The PROW Inspector states that it is not their responsibility. It was suggested that Blakeney Recreation Centre be asked to deal with it.

With regard to DAW119 the Clerk has asked the PROW to deal with the muddy surface at the bottom of the path adjoining Blakeney Recreation field.

## **18. PARISH ON LINE**

Cllr Cotton attended a training session regarding the comprehensive mapping system now available to parish councils. The cost is £150. It was proposed by Cllr Cotton, seconded by Cllr Fellows and agreed that the Council should purchase this scheme. Cllr Fellows will follow this up.

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

The Clerk pointed out that the Street Warden has put up 'Dog Fouling' posters, designed by pupils from Blakeney School and Cllr Cotton has taken part in a photographic session at the school to publicise the problem in the local Press.

The Street Warden has also addressed a dog fouling issue in Etloe.

Cllr Ware has ascertained that it will cost £550.00 to get the 30 mph speeding sign in Blakeney upgraded to collect additional traffic detail. To be discussed further at the next meeting.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 9.20 pm.