

**AWRE PARISH COUNCIL
and BURIAL AUTHORITY**

Meeting held on 18.12.2018 at Blakeney Youth Club

Present: Cllr R Fellows – in the Chair

Councillors R Cotton, G Bullock, A Blake, K Allen, T Ware, H Clarke. Clerk D Preece.
Also in attendance County Councillor R Boyles, District Councillor G Hughes, U Deighton
and S Preece.

1.APOLOGIES

Cllr Marshall, Cllr Greening, accepted by the meeting.

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

3. PUBLIC FORUM

Nobody present.

4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING

The minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20.11.18, 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 arrangements for the handover to U Deighton on 31.12.18 are in hand.

6. REPORT OF THE DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Cllr Hughes outlined a number of political changes at the District Council.

It is estimated that there is only one ‘rough sleeper’ in the Forest district, who is being offered support.

He reminded Councillors of the Christmas tree recycling scheme.

He explained that ‘Publica’ involved four councils sharing resources and was intended to save money and be more efficient. The FODDC, part of Cheltenham, West Oxford and Cotswolds District Council’s are involved.

He was asked to check whether the powers of the Street Wardens were affected by the move.

7. REPORT OF THE COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Boyles reported on the recent allegations of persecution by Social Workers in the County.

The Council disputes all but one of the cases, as the others are refusing to make themselves known, having made the allegations to Radio Gloucester. He stated that the County had tightened up on practise and on training for Social Workers. He therefore felt that practise had greatly improved.

The County Council Budget is due to be set tomorrow. There will be an increase in Council Tax to meet rising costs, but Gloucestershire costs are in the bottom 25% for Council's in the Country.

Gloucestershire fared well in the recent 'Homelessness' survey.

The Council is working with a local charity to assist people 'begging' in the County.

There will be a rise in street parking charges and additional monies raised will be ring fenced for road improvements, bus subsidies and bus fare subsidies.

He was asked to make enquiries into whether owners of off street parking sites contribute taxes to the County Council.

Cllr Fellows stated that progress had been made in regard to the overhanging hedges on Blakeney Hill. Cllr Boyles agreed to follow up, with Mr Watkins, one hedge that had now collapsed into the road.

Awre drainage has been completed satisfactorily.

The School Safety Scheme for Blakeney was signed off today and will be included in next year's budget.

8. PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P1768/18/TPO. Old Station Close, Blakeney. Works to trees covered by A1 and A2 of TPO80 as detailed in application form and agents e mail of 7.11.18. Councillors had no objections, as long as the plans for the trees are in line with the original planning applications.

P1677/18/FUL. Swiss Cottage, The Haie, Newnham. Erection of a two storey side extension and a double garage incorporating two car port bays with associated works. This is adjoining the Parish boundary. Noted

P1884/18/TCA. Highmead House, High Stret, Blakeney. Crown lift x 1 Yew tree to 4m.above ground level. No observations or objections.

9. DECISIONS RELATING TO PLANNING APPLICATIONS

P1388/18/FUL. Wych Hazel Cottage, Blakeney Hill. Change of use of building to an independent residential dwelling and erection of single storey rear and side extension, patio area to front and associated works. Granted 6.12.18.

P1622/18/FUL. Chapel House, Brains Green. Erection of a replacement dwelling with associated works. Demolition of existing dwelling (Resubmission). Revised scheme. Granted 5.12.18.

10. CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED SINCE LAST MEETING

2018-12-01 – BBC Radio Glos. – Request for information – Clerk to refer them to the Council's website.

2018-12-02 – Forest Community Transport – Request for support – Deferred to October 2019 Meeting.

2018-12-03 – Severn Cider – Payment for Blakeney Red Pears – Received with thanks.

2018-12-04 – CAB – Merger information – Noted.

2018-12-05 – Letter from G Wicks regarding hanging baskets – Clerk to acknowledge. It will be discussed further when plans are confirmed for Summer 2019.

11. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

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

Payee	Amount	For	Authority
The Telecottage	£27.80	Newsletter	1
Plantscape	£636.00	Xmas tree installation	2
D Preece	£1132.86	Clerks wages	3
D Preece	£177.15	Clerks expenses	3
HMRC	£283.20	Clerks tax	3
PATA	£12.50	Payroll services	3

Authority for payment – Local Govt Act 1972 unless otherwise stated.
1 – s.142. 2 – s145. 3 – s112(2).

12. QUARTERLY ACCOUNTS

The Quarterly Accounts to 30.9.18 have been audited by Cllr Clarke and were accepted by the meeting. Proposed by Cllr Cotton and seconded by Cllr Allen.

13. BUDGET AND ANNUAL PRECEPT REQUEST FOR 2019/20

After some discussion of the figures provided by the Clerk, it was agreed by the meeting that the precept request would remain at last year's figure of £16,660. Proposed by Cllr Cotton and seconded by Cllr Allen.

14. TIMING AND DATES FOR MEETINGS IN 2019.

It was agreed that all monthly meetings should be scheduled for the third Monday of each month, as Monday was the most convenient night. As Monday is Blakeney Youth Club night it was agreed that meetings be held at Awre Village Hall, except during school holidays when the Youth Club would be available. Proposed by Cllr Fellows and Seconded by Cllr Cotton.

15. FOD DEMENTIA ALLIANCE

It was agreed that the Council join in the FOD Dementia Alliance and that they be asked to arrange a meeting with Councillors and the heads of relevant local organisations to raise awareness. This to be followed by a meeting involving the public.

16. FUTURE ARRANGEMENTS FOR PARISH PUMP

Cllr Fellows has had a template made, so that the Parish Council can produce and print its own newsletter, given that Mr Watters can no longer do this. The Clerk was requested to supply a list of distribution points in the Parish and the Chairman will arrange this. The Clerk was asked to write to Mr Watters to thank him for his work in producing and distributing the newsletter for a number of years.

17. MATTERS RELATING TO THE CEMETERY

A meeting was arranged for the New Year for Cllr's to visit the cemetery to look at the possibility of providing a designated area for the dumping of spoil and assessing the degree of risk on the bank, as identified in the annual Risk Assessment.

18. OTHER MATTERS CONCERNING THE COUNCIL

Cllr. Cotton informed the meeting that he had attended the 'Our Shared Forest – creating a new future for the Forest Of Dean Meeting' on behalf of the Council. This was led by Kevin Stannard, Deputy Surveyor of the Forest of Dean.

Cllr Bullock informed the meeting that the Eel Pass in Blakeney had been delayed because it had to be redesigned.

The Clerk was asked to thank the residents who put Christmas lights on the two flower tubs in Blakeney High Street.

He was asked also to write to Mr Steve Burr and Mr Phil Burton, Blakeney British Legion, who had undertaken the task of clearing the weeds from the pavements in Blakeney.

Cllr Fellows made a presentation to the outgoing Clerk and thanked him for his years of service to the Parish Council.

There being no further business the meeting concluded at 8.30 pm.