

## Awre Parish Council

### Notes from the Meeting held on Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> February, 2019 in the Youth Club, Blakeney

**Every Four Years** Local Council Elections are held and 2019 is THE year. If you are interested in working with and helping your community as a local Councillor, then please get in touch with any of the current Councillors or the Clerk for more information. Also, the Forest of Dean District Council (FoDDC) is holding an information event on Tuesday, 5<sup>th</sup> March between 4.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. in the Council Chamber at the District Council's offices in Coleford. The key dates for this election are as follows:

- \* W/c 25<sup>th</sup> February – nomination packs will be sent to the Clerk and these will be available at the next Parish Council (PC) meeting on 18<sup>th</sup> March or from the FoDDC offices or at the event mentioned above.
- \* The Notice of Election will be displayed on the PC notice boards by Tuesday, 19<sup>th</sup> March at the latest.
- \* Nomination papers must be delivered in person (or by a trusted person) no later than 4.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 3<sup>rd</sup> April, 2019 to the District Council offices in Coleford.
- \* Statement of Persons Nominated – published on the PC notice boards by 4<sup>th</sup> April.
- \* Uncontested Election – elected candidates will be notified by the Returning Officer.
- \* Contested Election – Notice of Poll will be displayed on the PC notice Boards by 24<sup>th</sup> April.
- \* Polling Day – 2<sup>nd</sup> May, 7.00 a.m. – 10.00 p.m. Results ASAP on 3<sup>rd</sup> May.

**School Safety Zone** – work was supposed to be carried out mid-February, but due to a shortage of available resources, this has been re-scheduled for early in the new financial year; hopefully April.

The long-awaited **Eel and Lamprey Pass** has now been installed alongside the weir to help River Lamprey and European Eel travel over it and access further spawning grounds. Blackpool Brook which runs through the Village is an important habitat for migrating fish and eel, but there are no recent records of lamprey, an ancient and protected fish species, being seen upstream of Blakeney Weir. The pass is part of the Foresters' Forest Waterways and Ponds project which aims to help restore ecological connectivity across the Forest and encourage the recovery of species that rely on water.

Following the success of the planters to brighten up the Village last year, **additional planters** have been ordered for Blakeney, plus two for Awre. So, keep a lookout for these as they are planted up and flower throughout the Summer.

**Vehicle Activated Speed Sign Data** was presented to the meeting for a three-month period, although there were 31 days in total when no data was recorded; possibly when the battery wasn't being charged adequately by the solar panel. In summary, 38.1% (91,469) of vehicles were travelling at less than 30 mph, 37.5% (89,972) at 30-35 and 18% (43,251) at 35-40. 6.2% of cars (14,885) were recorded at 40-50 mph. Although a small percentage of the total, 468 cars were recorded at 50-55 and 96 cars at 55-60. 24 vehicles sped through the village between 60-70 and it is not known whether these were emergency vehicles rushing to help someone.

**Next meeting** – Monday, 18<sup>th</sup> March, 2019 at 7.00 p.m. in the Village Hall at Awre, with planning applications available to view from 6.30 p.m. and Councillors available for you to raise any issues you feel the PC may be able to resolve. Full minutes are available on the Parish Council website.

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