

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th May, 2019
at the Village Hall, Awre at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Fellows (Chairman), Allen, Bullock, Cotton, Greening and Ware.

IN ATTENDANCE: District Cllr. Packer, 4 members of the public and the Clerk.

Before starting the meeting, a minute's silence was observed in memory of Cllr. Mark Marshall who passed away on 19th April, 2019.

13. APOLOGIES

None received.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None declared.

15. DISPENSATIONS

None requested.

20. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

The Chairman moved this item forward to enable Cllr. Packer to address the meeting before having to leave to attend another Council meeting due to a clash of dates.

Cllr. Packer informed the meeting that she had lived in the area since 1999 and in Ruspidge since 2009. She is hoping to focus on forward planning and getting communities involved at an early stage. But for the moment, she would be familiarising herself with the working of Forest of Dean District Council and getting to know her Ward.

16. PUBLIC FORUM

A member of the public addressed the Council regarding the increasing concerns of local residents in relation to the lawful development application for the business located at Severn View Farm, Gatcombe. Complaints included disruption by large vehicles from 7.00 a.m. until late in the evening and inconsiderate driving, seven days a week. There was also felt to be a lack of evidence to support the claim that the business had been in operation for more than 10 years.

The Chairman thanked the public for their representation.

17. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was resolved to adopt, as a true record, the minutes of the last Parish Council meeting held on 15th April, 2019.

18. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk reported on the following matters:

18.1 Cemetery – a meeting will be organised to agree a budget for this.

- 18.2 Damage to Cemetery Hedge – meeting to be organised in June.
- 18.3 Planning Decisions:
 - P0278/19/FUL – 15, Butlers Mead, Blakeney** – pending decision.
 - P0475/19/FUL – The Cottage, Blakeney Hill, Blakeney** – permission granted.
 - P0438/19/FUL – Hickman’s Court, Chicknalls Lane, Blakeney** – pending decision.
 - P0434/19/COU – Sunningdale, Etloe, Blakeney** – permission granted.
 - P0136/19/FUL – Stags Horn Cottage, Blakeney Hill, Blakeney** – decision pending.
 - P0516/19/TCA – River Court, Awre** – permission granted.
 - P1371/18/FUL – Greenfields, Awre** – appeal process started 29/03/2019 – check regularly for update.
- 18.4 Highways – set priorities at the June meeting.
- 18.5 Electricity supply for the toilets – no invoice has been received to date. Clerk to raise a formal complaint regarding the account being handed over to a collection agency.
- 18.6 Calor Community Grants – Clerk to check whether the grants applied to communities with a mix of piped and cylinder gas.

19. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Not present.

20. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

Dealt with earlier in the meeting.

21. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

To consider the following Planning Applications received:

- 21.1 **P0523/19/FUL – Sunnybank, Millend, Blakeney**
Erection of first floor extension with associated works including alterations to existing sheds. No objections.
- 21.2 **P0626/19/FUL – Nibley Cottage, Nibley Hill, Blakeney**
Erection of a two-storey detached double garage and study/hobby room incorporating a workshop and first floor accommodation with associated works. Demolition of existing garage and shed. (Revised scheme.) No objections.
- 21.3 **P0624/19/FUL – Underhill, New Road, Blakeney**
Erection of a two storey rear extension and a single storey side extension with balcony over and associated works. No objections.
- 21.4 **P0662/19/TCA – Ludlow House, Church Square, Blakeney**
Removal of x 3 stems from x 1 Ash tree. No objections.
- 21.5 **P663/19/TCA – The Nurseries, Church Square, Blakeney**
Prune back x 1 Holm Oak tree at The Nurseries by 2m where it overhangs neighbouring property. No objections.
- 21.6 **P0553/19/LD1 – Severn View Farm, Gatcombe, Blakeney**
Application under section 191 to establish whether the use of land as a builders yard for storage and distribution of associated building equipment and machinery is lawful. Following discussion it was agreed that there was not enough information in the application for the Council to judge whether or

not the business had been in existence for long enough to be deemed lawful. Therefore, in its present format it cannot be supported.

Proposed: Cllr. Fellows, seconded by Cllr. Allen and supported unanimously.

21.7 P0641/19/FUL – Sandy Mount, Viney Hill, Lydney

Erection of a replacement dwelling with associated landscaping, parking and improved vehicular access. Conversion of part of existing dwelling to outbuilding including part demolition. No objections.

21.8 P0519/19/FUL – High Trees, Millend, Blakeney

Erection of a single storey garage with associated works. No objections.

22. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

22.1 The footpath work completed by Jeff Wheeler and his team during March was noted. Cllr. Fellows said that he would e-mail the link for footpaths, which included their numbers.

22.2 The notes from the Blakeney Weir Eel Pass Site Meeting (16/04/19) were noted.

22.3 To note that the summer floral display was installed on 18th May, 2019.

22.4 GAPTC – Service Level Agreement – noted.

22.5 West Dean PC – request for help with their work in investigating speed cameras and other devices. Cllr. Ware to complete and return to West Dean Parish Council.

22.6 Tree Surveying Services for Town and Parish Councils – to be kept on file for future reference.

22.7 Play Rangers in Blakeney – forward to Blakeney Youth Club and Joanna Scott at Awre and ask them to let the Council know what they are planning.

23. FINANCE

23.1 **It was resolved** to approve the following accounts for payment – proposed by Cllr. Allen, seconded by Cllr. Cotton and supported unanimously.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
19/06	BACS	Highbury Garden & Lawn Care Services	Grass Cutting at the Cemetery (April)	LGA 1972 s.214	£420.00
19/07		Blakeney Youth Club	Room Hire	LGA 1972 s. 134	£15.00
19/08	BACS	Rise & Shine Window Cleaning	February - April	LG(MP)A 1953 s.4(1)	£60.00
19/09	BACS	Came & Company	Annual Insurance	LGA 1972 s.111	£854.07
19/10	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Re-imburement for payment of website hosting fee (Freeola)	LG(FP) 1963 s.5	£13.98
19/11	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk's pay for April, 2019	LGA 1972 s.112	£484.33
19/12	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Re-imburement for purchase of hamper.	LG(FP) 1963 s.5	£66.43
				TOTAL:	£1,913.81

23.2 Final Accounts – 2018/2019

It was resolved to approve the final accounts for the year ending 31st March, 2019. Proposed by Cllr. Cotton; seconded by Cllr. Bullock and supported unanimously.

23.4 Budget for 2019/2020

The Clerk said that she would provide a quarterly breakdown of the receipts and payments for all Councillors, commencing with the July meeting for the first quarter of the financial year. Applying for grants was discussed and it was agreed that it would be a good idea to have brainstorming session at some point in the future to identify projects requiring funding.

24. CEMETERY MATTERS

24.1 Clerk to e-mail dates to all Councillors regarding a separate meeting to consider the on-going financial requirements to maintain the cemetery to the current standard.

24.2 Clerk to organise a meeting regarding the track above the cemetery.

24.3 It was noted that the paths had been treated to clear the moss.

24.4 Japanese Knotweed – this year's growth would be checked at the appropriate time.

24.5 Damage to Gravestone – Cllr. Allen said that he would talk to Contractor regarding the damage and ask him to contact the owner.

25. GRASS CUTTING

Following discussion Cllr. Bullock said that he would make some enquiries regarding someone local to cut the grass behind the Post Office and Colin's Garden. Cllr. Greening suggested Complete Landscape Gardeners as this company did the grass cutting for the cemetery in Awre. The Clerk mentioned that they also had the grass cutting contract for St. Briavels.

26. DIGITAL CONNECTIVITY

To consider the following question raised by Cllr. Cotton:

"We are a stakeholder of the Forest Enterprise Partnership (FEP) which is supported by the District Council. In the area of Digital Connectivity, the FEP are seeking our help to ask residents and local businesses what they need now and in the near future on this subject. As the Parish Council can we ask local businesses for their input?"

It was agreed that Cllr. Cotton should proceed to create a questionnaire for this purpose.

27. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

27.1 Cllr. Bullock to speak to Brian Watkins regarding the need for verges and hedges to be cut back.

27.2 Clerk to write to Gareth Hughes to thank him for his time as District Councillor to the Parish Council.

27.3 The Chairman reminded Councillors that there were currently two vacancies on the Parish Council following the election. The casual vacancy caused by

Cllr. Marshall's death was advertised on the Parish notice boards and FoDDC had been notified. Once the required amount of time had elapsed without a call for an election, the Council would be able to co-opt to fill this vacancy.

28. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

28.1 **It was agreed** to have the annual 'Parish Walkabout' on 12th June, 2019; meet at Blakeney Village Hall at 6.00 p.m.

29. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates 2019	Meeting	Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.	Agenda items & Dispensation requests by:
17 th June	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	7 th June
15 th July	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	5 th July
19 th August	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Club	9 th August
16 th September	Parish Council	T.B.C.	6 th September
21 st October	Parish Council	T.B.C.	11 th October
18 th November	Parish Council	T.B.C.	8 th November
16 th December	Parish Council	T.B.C.	6 th December

Meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.