

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 16th September, 2019
at Awre Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: County/District Cllr. Boyles, District Cllr. Packer, two members of the public and the Clerk.

84. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was resolved to accept apologies from Cllr. Allen.

85. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Cotton – item 93.4.

86. DISPENSATIONS

Dispensation granted to Cllr. Cotton for item 93.4 to answer any questions/provide information if required.

87. PUBLIC FORUM

Sarah Smith introduced herself as the Co-ordinator for the residents of Furnace Valley who were concerned about the speed of traffic along New Road, particularly from the direction of Blakeney. The exit from Furnace Valley was a blind spot and following several incidents, the residents wanted measures to slow traffic down. She outlined the results, so far, of a two-week traffic survey. The Chairman thanked the residents for their efforts to date and said that the Council would consider this matter at the October meeting. He requested that relevant information be passed to the Clerk by 11th October, 2019.

88. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was resolved to adopt, as a true record, the minutes of the meeting held on 19th August, 2019.

89. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk had circulated a report prior to the meeting on the following matters which were noted.

89.1 Planning Application Decisions

P0648/19/FUL – Nibley Mill Farm – Conservation Officer now involved.

P1041/19/TCA – Car Park - consent

P1047/19/FUL – The Coach House, Newnham Road – consent (9 conditions applied)

P1133/19/FUL – Mount Pleasant, Viney Woodside – consent

P1218/19/FUL – Oakdene Cottage, Brains Green – consent

P1130/19/TCA – 3, Newnham Road – consent

P1141/19/TCA – 1, Brook Villas, Brook Street - consent

P1238/19/TCA – Brays Court, Woodend Lane, Awre – consent

P1240/19/TCA – Mead Coach House, High Street – consent

P1241/19/TCA – 1, Awre Road – consent.

89.2 Telephone box behind the Post Office - FoDDC has been contacted to express the Council's wish to adopt this telephone box.

89.3 **Damage to Grave Surround** – the Parish Council were thanked for the contribution towards the work that is to be carried out.

89.4. **Electricity Supply to the Toilets** – A formal complaint was raised on 23rd August, 2019. The Clerk is waiting for a letter from npower detailing the response from the Back-Billing Team. Cllr. Cotton said that he would assist the Clerk with this issue when this letter has been received.

89.5 Clerk to circulate an updated version of the Standing Orders and the new Financial Regulations w/c 16th September; to be considered/adopted at the October meeting.

90. **REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

County Cllr. Boyles reported on the following:

- The Highways pothole reporting app. is currently undergoing a trial period.
- Public consultation on the A417 road scheme (Birdlip) is due to begin at the end of September, 2019.
- Climate Emergency – around 50 young people have applied to be part of the Gloucestershire Youth Climate Panel.
- Energy from Waste – energy has been transferred to the grid from the new incinerator.
- Trevone House, providing semi-independent accommodation for young people in care, is expected to be ready by April, 2020.
- The final Ofsted inspection is scheduled for the end of 2019.

91. **REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS**

District Cllr. Packer reported on the following items:

- Local Plan – the consultation period starts on 17th September, 2019.
- A shortfall of £1.2m is forecast for the next financial year and so the FoDDC is considering several options including investing in projects.
- Wild Boar – the target is a reduction down to 400 animals in two years' time.
- The Five Acres site enquiry has been postponed whilst Homes England find out whether they may sell the site to the District Council for £1.00.

District Cllr. Boyles reported on the following additional items:

- A new software package, Salesforce, has been running for six months and it is expected that it will be operational before Christmas 2019. The aim is to provide a better consumer feedback service and improve satisfaction.
- Serious concerns are being raised regarding African Swine Fever which has spread to Europe and could pose a huge threat to pigs in the UK.

92. **PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The following planning applications were considered:

92.1 **P1319/19/OUT – Land South of New Road, Blakeney**

Outline application for the erection of a detached bungalow. (Some matters reserved.) Following discussion, it was agreed that Highways would need to be satisfied with the access to this development for the Council to be happy with it.

92.2 **P1377/19/TPO – 1, Old Station Close, Blakeney**

Works to trees covered by A2 of TP080 as detailed in the submitted application. No observations or objections.

- 92.3 **P1133/19/FUL – Mount Pleasant, Viney Woodside, Blakeney**
 AMENDED DESCRIPTION - Erection of a storage building for the use of a tractor shed and general agricultural machinery and associated works (revised description). No observations or objections.
- 92.4 **P1427/19/FUL – Kingsland Farm, Newnham Road, Blakeney**
 Change of use from dwelling to hotel including alterations and extensions and construction of new vehicular access (renewal of consent P1409/16/FUL).
 No objections.

93. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

- 93.1 Historical Flood Records – a request had been received from Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust as to whether the Parish Council kept such records. A number of areas that have been flooded and the causes were mentioned, but no records exist to confirm dates etc.
- 93.2 New Hospital in the Forest of Dean – information to be placed on the notice boards including the website link to provide feedback.
- 93.3 Blakeney Lime Kiln – it was confirmed that this was owned by Forestry England.
- 93.4 Election for two members for the Executive Committee (GAPTC) – of the three candidates that submitted their reasons for wanting to join the Executive Committee, the Council agreed to support Cllrs. Cotton and Penny.
- 93.5 Tree Planting Opportunity and Riparian Maintenance. Clerk to request hard copies of the GCC’s Waterside Living document.

94. FINANCE

- 94.1 **It was resolved** to accept the following accounts for payment.
 Proposed: Cllr. Cotton and seconded: Cllr. Greening and supported unanimously.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
19/30	BACS	Highbury Garden & Lawn Care Services	Grass Cutting at the Cemetery (August)	LGA 1972 s.214	£510.00
19/31	BACS	WW Hale	Watering Hanging Baskets and supplying materials	Highways Act 1980 s.96	£182.00
19/32	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk’s pay for August, ‘19	LGA 1972 s.112	£484.33
19/33	BACS	Alan Martin	Treatment of Japanese Knotweed	LGA 1972 s.214	£256.56
				TOTAL:	£1,432.89

- 94.2 Daffodils
 It was resolved to purchase 2 x 25kg sacks of King Alfred bulbs for planting this Autumn.

95. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

- 95.1 Highways – Cllr. Bullock reported on progress with the drainage at Penn’s Corner. It was noted that an old aluminium sign had been damaged and that many posts seemed to be rotten which should all be reported to Brian Watkins (BW). In addition, there was some discussion about the number of unwanted road signs, and it was agreed to compile a list of these to send to BW too.
- 95.2 Footpaths – Cllr. Ware – no report.
- 95.3 Cemetery & Grass Cutting – it was noted that there was some regrowth of moss.
- 95.4 Assets & Maintenance – Cllr. Greening informed the meeting that her husband had volunteered to have a go at renovating the telephone box in Awre.
- 95.5 Snow Warden – Cllr. Cotton – no report.
- 95.6 Amenities (incl. toilets and defibrillators) – Cllrs. Fellows and Allen, no report.
- 95.7 Planning – Cllr. Fellows – no report, but he asked members to look at the Local Plan.
- 95.8 Finance – Cllr. Greening reported that the balance in the Council’s accounts was £25, 715.85 and the precept of £8,330 is due to be paid in September.
- 95.9 Emergency Plan – Cllr. Cotton reported that this was in progress.

96. SPEED SURVEYS

- 96.1 Traffic Speed Survey – Furnace Valley – dealt with earlier in the meeting.
- 96.2 Speed Survey Results for A48, Blakeney – Cllr. Ware reported that he had been unable to download data as it had started raining and generally it took 15 minutes to do this.

97. GRASS CUTTING

Cllr. Bullock reported that he had been chasing quotes for the grass cutting at Collins Garden and Brook Street, but with no results so far.

98. MEMORIAL FOR MARK MARSHALL

Cllr. Fellows reported that the Council had £600 in the fund to create a memorial and suggested the following:

- i) In Blakeney – a 6ft bench (behind the Post Office), a plaque and kerb stones; cost £200 + installation.
- ii) In Awre – renovate the existing bench on the Green (Cllr. Greening volunteered her husband for this task) and place a half oak barrel on either side with a plaque on one of the barrels; cost around £170 including the planting.

He suggested that the balance of the fund could be used to plant up the barrels each year and that he would bring a final proposal to the next meeting.

99. CO-OPTION TO THE COUNCIL

Councillors were reminded of the three vacancies on the Council and encouraged to approach anyone they thought might be interested.

100. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

None received.

101. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – Furnace Valley; Grants

102. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates 2019	Meeting	Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.	Agenda items & Dispensation requests by:
21 st October	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	11 th October
18 th November	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	8 th November
16 th December	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	6 th December

Meeting closed at 8.40 p.m.