

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 21st October, 2019
at Awre Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

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

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

103. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was resolved to accept apologies from District Cllr. Packer.

104. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Bullock – item 111.5.

105. DISPENSATIONS

None.

106. PUBLIC FORUM

A local resident of Awre, Mr. Peter Muldrew, addressed the meeting and explained why he would like to get involved and become a Councillor. It was agreed to place his co-option on the agenda for the next meeting.

As Mrs. Sarah Smith was in attendance, it was resolved to bring item 116, Furnace Valley Speed Survey, forward to be considered following item 110, District Councillor Reports.

107. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was resolved to adopt, as a true record, the minutes of the meeting held on 16th September, 2019.

108. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk reported on the following items:

108.1 Planning Application Decisions

P1319/19/OUT – Land South of New Road, Blakeney – application withdrawn.

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

P1427/19/FUL – Kingsland Farm, Newnham Road, Blakeney – withdrawn.

P0648/19/FUL – Nibley Mill Farm, Blakeney – application withdrawn.

108.2 Electricity Supply

This matter is ongoing. Clerk to provide another meeting reading as npower continue to send estimated bills.

108.3 GCC's Waterside Living document – hard copies requested but no response. To be followed up.

108.4 Daffodil bulbs – these had been ordered and then collected by Cllr. Bullock.

109. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Cllr. Boyles reported on the following:

- Foster Care Campaign – 19th October, 2019 at the Guildhall, Gloucester for any residents interested in becoming foster carers.
- World Mental Health Day was held on 10th October, 2019, with NHS and GCC to raise awareness of suicide prevention.

- Getting Online – 14th – 20th October, 2019 at Coleford Library to up-skill residents on computer access, internet skills and e-mail.
- A new £7.5m special school has been approved to be build in Brockworth. There will be 75 places for children aged 11-16 who currently travel out of county for this provision. This project will ultimately save around £2m/year.
- Homeless shelters in Cheltenham and Gloucester have supported 133 people. All were assessed within 72 hours and multi-agency support programmes set up.
- Proud to Care Campaign – GCC working with Department of Work & Pensions to promote career opportunities in the care sector to 18 to 24 year olds.
- GCC to invest £9m in cycle paths around the County to encourage people to use this method of commuting to work where possible; including linking with electric bike developments so that all ages can benefit.
- It is estimated that Ash die-back will cost GCC £14m over the next 10 years for highways hedgerow management.

110. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

District Cllr. Boyles reported on the following items:

- Crime across Gloucestershire has risen by 17%. Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC) found that Gloucestershire Police had been under recording crimes in the County.
- FoDDC is working with local businesses to ensure they have the correct procedures in place to dispose of commercial waste.
- Community grant funding round 2 is currently open; details on FoDDC website.
- The GigaClear link, under the River Severn, to join Gloucester to Minsterworth, Westbury-on-Severn and Littledean is now complete.
- FoDDC potential investment in property to create income was highlighted.

116. FURNACE VALLEY SPEED SURVEY

Councillors had been circulated with the results of the speed survey carried out by residents of Furnace Valley over a two-week period for an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon. Out of a total of 4,531 recorded vehicles, 2,716 were travelling less than 30mph and 1,815 in excess of the speed limit. Mrs. Smith reported that all the data had been passed to the Police three weeks ago but that she had not heard back from them. Following discussion, it was agreed that the Clerk should draft a letter to Sue Pritchard regarding this issue.

111. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

The following planning applications were considered:

- 111.1 **P1482/19/FUL – 2, The Rudge, Blakeney Hill Road, Blakeney**
Excavation of existing wall and erection of a single storey extension with associated works. Demolition of boiler house. No observations or objections.
- 111.2 **P1377/19/TPO – 1, Old station Close, Blakeney**
Revised, more detailed plans received. As previously agreed, no objections.
- 111.3 **P1531/19/FUL – Pitching Green Cottage, Pitching Green, Blakeney**
Change of use of land for the stationing of a shepherd hut for holiday letting and for the provision of car parking, waste plant and bin storage.

It was agreed that more information was needed regarding drainage and there was some concern that the existing parking space was being used for the existing holiday let.

111.4 P1542/19/LD1 – Lower Viney Farm Cottage, Viney Hill, Lydney

Application under section 191 to establish whether a lawful commencement of planning permission DF12052 for the construction of link between existing house and barn to provide additional accommodation has occurred.

No comment.

111.5 P1541/19/FUL – Ivery Court, Woodend Lane, Awre, Newnham

Erection of a single storey extension and sunroom extension with associated works. The following observations were made:

- i) The Council was concerned that the window would look directly into a principal window of the neighbouring property.
- ii) Whether the roof lantern is for daylight only and there is no access for day-to-day purposes.

112. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

112.1 Decreasing Speed: increasing Road Safety Event – 14th November, 2019 from 6pm to 8pm at the Westwoods Centre in Northleach. Mrs. Smith expressed an interest in attending this event. Clerk to check whether the event is for Parish Councils only.

112.2 First Aid Courses

- (i) Medipatrol – cost with certification £20/person; without certification £15/person. Information requested regarding content and whether it includes use of a defibrillator.
- (ii) Primary Care Supplies – half day defibrillator course – cost £299 + VAT for 12 people.

It was agreed that the Clerk should approach Community Heartbeat with a view to organising defibrillator training.

112.3 Complimentary Neighbourhood Planning Services for Parish Councils.

It was agreed that this would be of limited use to this Parish and could be a costly, time-consuming exercise. Cllr. Cotton informed the meeting that he was looking at the old plan and would continue to do so and flag up any areas that potentially may require attention.

112.4 Neighbourhood Watch (NW) – request to include information in Parish newsletter. The Clerk said that she would be re-instating the Parish Council newsletter and it was agreed that information from NW would be included.

112.5 Grass Cutting Blakeney Hill – e-mail from resident.

It was noted that although some issues had been resolved, it would be helpful to have a meeting with Brian Watkins as the hedges were seriously overgrown and affecting deliveries, traffic flow and the safety of pedestrians. Clerk to contact him and organise this.

112.6 Defibrillator failure – an e-mail received from a parishioner detailed an incident in which a local resident had called the emergency services and was advised to go and fetch the defibrillator from the centre of the village. When following the instructions on the box and providing the person's address, the call centre advised that the box was not in service. Fortunately, the ambulance had arrived at that time.

Cllr. Allen explained that he had made enquiries and it transpired that there is a 200m radius within which the defibrillator can be used. As the house in question was outside this 200m radius, the defibrillator was shown as not being available. A list of error codes is awaited. He had received a detailed e-mail regarding this incident, and the Clerk said that she would try to summarise it and circulate to everyone. It was noted that the management of the defibrillator sited in Awre had been taken over by the Awre Village Hall Committee in 2016.

112.7 **On-line consultations – it was agreed** to reply, to the consultations detailed below, individually as it would be too complicated to compile responses on behalf of the Parish Council:

- (i) Forest of Dean Local Plan 2021-2041 – Issues and Options Consultation – deadline 31/10/2019.
- (ii) FoDDC Draft Corporate Plan
- (iii) GCC – SCI 2nd Review – deadline 06/12/2019.

113. FINANCE

113.1 **It was resolved** to accept the following accounts for payment.

Proposed: Cllr. Greening and seconded: Cllr. Cotton and supported unanimously.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
19/34	BACS	Highbury Garden & Lawn Care Services	Grass Cutting at the Cemetery (September)	LGA 1972 s.214	£490.00
19/35	BACS	FoDDC	Recharge of Uncontested Election Costs	LGA 1972 s.112	£147.00
19/36	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk's pay for September 2019	LGA 1972 s.112	£484.33
19/37	BACS	Community Heartbeat Trust	Defibrillator Battery (incl. carriage and VAT)	Public Health Act 1936 s234	£204.00
19/38	BACS	Community Heartbeat Trust	Defibrillator Pads (incl. carriage and VAT)	Public Health Act 1936 s234	£51.60
19/39	BACS	Farm & Country Store	2 x 25kg King Alfred Daffodil bulbs	Highways Act 1980 s.96	£69.54
19/40	BACS	Water Plus	Charges for Water Supply Services to Public Toilets	Public Health Act 1936 s87.3 - s142	£26.36
19/41	BACS	Awre Village Hall	Room Hire (Sept – Dec)	LGA 1972 s.134.4	£56.00
TOTAL:					£1,528.83

113.2 **Financial Checks** – Cllrs. Greening and Cotton reported that they had selected three random transactions and confirmed that the audit trail was correct.

113.3 **Financial Position – End of 2nd Quarter**

It was resolved to accept the bank reconciliation and receipts & payments information as at 30th September, 2019.

113.4 **Financial Regulations**

The updated Financial Regulations, as amended, were **approved for adoption** by the Council. Clerk to circulate final version to Councillors.

113.5 Remembrance Sunday

Cllr. Cotton said that he would check his availability to place a poppy wreath on behalf of the Parish Council. If available, **it was resolved** that the Clerk should order a wreath at a cost of around £20.

113.6 Annual Donations

Following consideration, **it was resolved** to approve the following requests for annual donations. Proposed: Cllr. Allen, seconded: Cllr. Cotton and supported unanimously.

Donation Request 2019	Amount Requested/Granted
All Saints' Church, Blakeney	£180.00
St. Andrew's Church, Awre	£475.00
Blakeney Duck Race	£50.00
Cobalt	£50.00
Blakeney Youth Club	£275.00
Lydney Dial-a-Ride	£50.00
Lydcare	Nil
	£1,080.00

114. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS (if any)

- 114.1 Highways – It was noted that there seemed to be no real change in speeds recorded by the speed sign following the introduction of the School Safety Zone.
- 114.2 Footpaths – Cllr. Ware – no report.
- 114.3 Cemetery & Grass Cutting – Cllr. Allen to get a price for treating the moss on the pathways. Clerk to find out what is happening regarding the track above the Cemetery. It was noted that Nibley Green had been cut. Collins Garden and the Post Office green still needed to be tidied up.
- 114.4 Assets & Maintenance – Cllrs. Greening and Ware – it was noted that someone had removed some of the reflectors from the posts behind the Post Office. These would be replaced just once.
- 114.5 Snow Warden – Cllr. Cotton – no report.
- 114.6 Amenities (including Toilets – Cllr. Fellows and Defibrillators – Cllr. Allen)
- 114.7 Planning – Cllr. Fellows informed members that the energy part of building regulations has been updated which means that the energy performance of new houses will be a key focus.
- 114.8 Finance – Cllr. Greening – nothing additional to note.
- 114.9 Emergency Plan – Cllr. Cotton – ongoing.

115. STANDING ORDERS

It was resolved to accept the amendments to the revised Standing Orders as circulated. Clerk to make the changes and send around to Councillors.

116. FURNACE VALLEY SPEED SURVEY

Already dealt with earlier in the meeting.

117. EEL PASS - STORAGE OF EQUIPMENT

Councillors considered the proposal made by Cllrs. Bullock and Ware to store equipment, required for the checking and maintenance of the eel pass, in the unused toilets. It was agreed that the equipment could be stored in the front area and that the Clerk would arrange to have 4 keys cut.

118. MEMORIAL FOR MARK MARSHALL

Cllr. Fellows proposed that a 6ft bench be placed on the grassed area behind the Post Office together with 2 planters. The bench would be attached to two concrete kerb stones for installation and the planters would need to sit on slabs. In all, including a plaque for the bench, the total cost would be in the region of £350. The balance of the fund, £250 would be used for maintenance and planting. The Clerk was asked to find out the cost of x 2 self-watering planters.

119. CO-OPTION TO THE COUNCIL

Mr. Peter Muldrew's co-option to the Council would be placed on the November agenda. (PMN – this will be placed on December's agenda as Mr. Muldrew is unable to attend the next meeting.) Mrs. Sarah Smith said that she would also consider joining the Council.

120. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

119.1 The draft decision by the FoDDC regarding the BT public call boxes was noted.

119.2 The recent e-mail from a resident regarding LEL Scaffolding was noted.

119.3 The second session of Play Rangers funded by Cllr. Boyles would be taking place on Monday, 28th October, 2019.

121. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – Budget/Precept for 2020/21, Newsletter, Declaration re. Climate Change, Streetlighting, Public toilets, Grass Cutting (January).

122. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS – Clerk to book the following dates/venues.

Dates 2019/2020	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
20 th January	Parish Council	AVH – t.b.c.	10 th January
17 th February	Parish Council	BYC – t.b.c.	7 th February
16 th March	Parish Council	AVH – t.b.c.	6 th March
20 th April	Parish Council	AVH – t.b.c.	10 th April
April	Annual Parish Meeting	t.b.c	n/a
18 th May	Annual Parish Council	AVH – t.b.c.	8 th May
15 th June	Parish Council	AVH – t.b.c	5 th June
20 th July	Parish Council	AVH – t.b.c	10 th July
17 th August	Parish Council	BYC – t.b.c	7 th August

Meeting concluded at 8.53 p.m.