

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17th February, 2020
at Blakeney Youth Club at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Fellows (Chairman), Allen, Bullock, Cotton, Greening, Johnson (after her co-option), Smith and Ware.

IN ATTENDANCE: The Clerk.

181. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

It was resolved to accept apologies for absence from Cllr. Muldrew and County/District Cllr. Boyles and District Cllr. Packer.

182. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

183. CO-OPTION TO FILL PARISH COUNCIL VACANCY

It was resolved to co-opt Miss Jessica Johnson to the Council. She signed the Declaration of Acceptance of Office and was given a Register of Interests form to complete and return by the next meeting.

184. DISPENSATIONS

None.

185. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public present.

186. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETINGS

It was resolved to adopt, as a true record, the minutes of the meeting held on 20th January, 2020.

187. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk's report which was circulated prior to the meeting contained the following points:

187.1 Planning Decisions

P1531/19/FUL – Pitching Green Cottage, Pitching Green – granted permission.

P1788/19/LBC – 2, Furnace Valley, Blakeney – granted permission.

P1893/19/FUL & P1894/19/LBC – High Trees, Millend, Blakeney – refused.

P1854/19/FUL – Martins Field, Awre – refused.

187.2 Footpath Repairs – parishioner contacted to explain the work that is planned by the PROW Officer.

187.3 Parish Newsletter – Cllr. Muldrew obtained a quotation very promptly for the printing of 265 copies of the newsletter. The price for full colour copies was cheaper than the cost of mono printed ones in the past and so the printing was authorised to go ahead as time was of the essence.

187.4 Verge side damage – the reply from Mr. Hunt which was circulated to Councillors was noted. The Clerk was asked to follow up this matter with County Cllr. Boyles/Brian Watkins. The road noise created by the vehicles travelling back and forth throughout the day was also commented upon.

187.5 Unwanted Tree (Cemetery) – the relative concerned had been contacted and she is happy with the Council's proposed approach.

187.6 Documents received from GAPTC have been circulated – namely, 'Transport Planning for Councillors' and 'Reaching Out – Loneliness in the Community'.

187.7 Being a Better Councillor – **It was agreed** that the Clerk should book Cllr. Johnson onto this course on 29th April that Cllrs. Smith and Muldrew were also attending. Cost is 3 x £85.

188. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr. Boyles was not present, but his County and District reports sent to the Clerk had been circulated prior to the meeting.

The Clerk was asked to contact Cllrs. Boyle and Packer regarding the enforcement issue relating to LEL Scaffolding to find out when is the cut-off date for this.

189. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

Cllr. Packer was not present, but a brief report sent to the Clerk had been circulated to Councillors.

190. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

The following planning applications were considered:

190.1 P0130/20/TCA – Manchester House, Church Square, Blakeney

Remove x3 Beech trees at Manchester House – no observations/objections.

191. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

191.1 Memorial Plaque

The Council considered and **approved** a request to place a memorial plaque on the bench by the brook in Blakeney in recognition of the care and attention in looking after the flower tubs and the bench for nearly five years. There would be no cost to the Council. The Clerk was asked to write and express the Council's appreciation for all that the parishioner did with the upkeep of the tubs/bench and the installation of Christmas lights.

191.2 Parish & Town Council Meeting (FoDDC) – Wednesday, 11th March, 2020

- (i) Suggested agenda item – A request for an explanation of the criteria to trigger an enforcement action.
- (ii) Cllr. Cotton said that he would attend, Cllr. Greening may also attend.

191.3. Camphill Village Trust

It was agreed to invite representatives from Oaklands Park to a future meeting to see whether there are any opportunities to work with them on a number of projects that they have identified.

191.4 Great British Spring Clean – 20th March – 13th April, 2020

It was noted that Awre Village Hall Committee has organised an event for 21st March, 2020.

191.5 Free Trees for Schools and Communities

The Woodland Trust's offer of free trees for planting on public land in November 2020 was considered and it was agreed to pass on the information to the School and the Village Hall.

192. FINANCE

192.1 It was resolved to approve the following accounts for payment.

Proposed: Cllr. Allen; seconded: Cllr. Grrening and supported unanimously.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
19/53	BACS	Alpha Colour Printers	Newsletter – 265 copies	LGA 1972 s.112	£25.00
19/54	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk's pay December	LGA 1972 s.112	£484.33
19/55	BACS	Waterplus	Charges for Water Supply Services to Public Toilets	Public Health Act 1936 s.73 - s.142	£26.36
19/56	BACS	Nature Conservation Services	Spraying of moss on paths Blakeney Cemetery	LGA 1972 s.214	£72.00
			TOTAL:		£607.69

192.2 Plantscape – to receive a quotation for the provision of planters for the flower display in Blakeney as follows:
 20 x half planters @ £33.50 (£32.50 last year)
 1 x carriage charge – deliver and collect @ £100 (not charged last year)
 Total price of quotation - £770.00 + VAT = £924.00.
 It was noted that Lydney would not be using Plantscape for their flower displays in 2020 and this is the reason for the £100 charge this year. Clerk to contact Lydney Town Council to find out which company they will be using and report back.

193. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

193.1 Highways – Councillors were informed that a bank had collapsed on Blakeney Hill Road and traffic lights had been installed on New Road in case of further land slips at the excavation site behind the cottage.

193.2 Assets & Maintenance – Cllr. Ware reported that there was due to be a meeting in March regarding the eel pass. Cllr. Fellows said that he would contact Alisa Swanson again as he had not received a reply to the e-mail that he sent in December, 2019.

193.3 Emergency Plan – Cllr. Cotton reported that he is waiting for a formatted plan from FoDDC as they wish to be first responders. Also, he attended the 'Meet the Police' event and spoke to the new local Inspector who seems more receptive and so he will pass on an invitation to attend a future meeting.

194. TELEPHONE BOXES

The Council owns five telephone boxes, namely – Brains Green, Blakeney Hill, New Road, Awre (listed) and Blakeney Green (in a conservation area and in the process of being adopted). Following discussion, **it was agreed:**

- that, subject to planning permission, the telephone box at Awre would be renovated. Mr. Robin Greening had kindly volunteered to do this. £500 has been allocated in the 2020/21 budget for this purpose.
- that the telephone box behind the Post Office to be painted; renovation costs to be identified.
- that the Clerk would find out whether it is possible for the Council to sell two of its telephone boxes to offset the cost of renovating the other three.

195. CEMETERY

The Council considered the way forward for 2020/21 regarding the maintenance of the cemetery. **It was agreed** that the paths and banks should be cut once a month and that Cllr. Allen should consult with Tim regarding how best to proceed regarding the hedges in order to ensure that the cost of maintenance is kept as tight as possible. The Clerk was asked to get in touch with Mr. Morgan regarding the track above the cemetery.

196. FURNACE VALLEY SPEED CHECK/FOLLOW UP

196.1 Furnace Valley – Cllr. Smith reported that she had spoken to PCSO Jones and found out that the installation of the black box was number 21 on the list. He had suggested that the Council buy its own equipment at an approximate cost of £2,000 and investigate mobile speed signs. Following discussion, **it was noted** that unless the speed gun is calibrated on the day it may not give accurate readings and that the police prefer the information collected by the black boxes. Clerk to contact West Dean PC to request feedback from the questionnaire that Cllr. Ware submitted.

196.2 New Road/Clarks Lane Junction - the e-mail received from a parishioner regarding this junction was considered. It was acknowledged that, although the Council had been requesting the installation of a mirror at this site for several years, this will never happen. GCC Highways Department continue to refuse to install a mirror.

197. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK - None

198. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS – dates for Defibrillator Training.

199. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates 2020	Meeting	Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.	Agenda items & Dispensation requests by:
16 th March	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	6 th March
20 th April	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	10 th April
April	Annual Parish Meeting	t.b.c	n/a
18 th May	Annual Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	8 th May
15 th June	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	5 th June
20 th July	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	10 th July
17 th August	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Club	7 th August

Meeting closed at 8.35 p.m.