

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the virtual Parish Council Meeting held on 17th August, 2020
at 7.00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: District Cllr. Packer and the Clerk.

56. APOLOGIES

It was resolved to accept apologies from Cllr. Muldrew.

57. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

58. DISPENSATIONS

None.

59. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public had requested to attend the meeting.

60. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was resolved to adopt, as a true record, the minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 20th July, 2020.

61. MATTERS ARISING

The Clerk's report circulated to all Councillors prior to the meeting was noted.

62. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

None received.

63. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

A report from District Councillor Packer, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, detailed information regarding the following:

63.1 Leisure Centre Re-opening.

63.2 Tax Support Scheme.

63.3 Major planning shake-up announced – Cllr. Cotton asked for the FoDDC's intended response to NALC to be shared with the Parish Council.

63.4 Unitary Council.

Cllr. Fellows commented on the Forest of Dean Active Travel Priorities 202/2021 and the fact that it focussed on tourists rather than residents. Cllr. Packer explained that the District Council only had 5 days in which to apply for funding and that the chances of getting money, allocated to GCC, was slight.

64. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

The following planning applications were considered:

- 64.1 P1147/20/FUL – Sandy Mount, Viney Hill, Lydney**
Variation of condition 02 (Approved plans) to allow for minor alterations to elevations and windows and discharge of condition 11 (full surface drainage scheme) of planning permission P0641/19/FUL.
No observations or objections.
- 64.2 P1182/20/TPO – 23, Butlers Mead, Blakeney**
Full removal of x1 Ash tree at Butlers Mead. Re-plant x1 Hawthorn.
Following lengthy discussion, no observations made, or objections raised.

65. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

- 65.1 Forest of Dean District Council - Council Tax Support Scheme consultation.**
Deadline of 18th October, 2020 noted; Councillors to respond personally.
- 65.2 NALC – Changes to the Current Planning System.** Cllr. Fellows outlined the potential, far-reaching proposed changes to the current planning system and suggested members have a look at documents available online regarding this subject. Noted the deadline for comment was 17th September, 2020 if Councillors wished to do so.

66. FINANCE

- 66.1 It was resolved** to authorise the following accounts for payment.
Proposed: Cllr. Allen, seconded: Cllr. Cotton and supported unanimously.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
20/24	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk's Pay July	LGA 1972 s.112	£484.33
20/25	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Zoom Subscription	LGA 1972 s.112	£14.39
20/26	BACS	Highbury Garden and Lawn Care Services	Cutting grass at the Cemetery	LGA 1972 s.214	£560.00
20/27	BACS	The Community Heartbeat Trust	Defibrillator Supplies	Public Health Act 1936 s234	£63.00
				TOTAL:	£1,121.72

67. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

- 67.1 Highways**
- a) Nibley Green – it was noted that the banks had been cut and that the remainder would be mown by the contractor at a later date.
- b) Daffodils – following discussion it was agreed that the Clerk should order x2 bags of King Alfred daffodils. In response to a question regarding planting daffodils on Nibley Green, it was noted that there were primroses planted there.
- With regards to the state of the highways, hedges and verges, it was agreed to ask Cllr. Boyles to attend the September meeting with a view to resolving these long-standing problem areas; some of which were becoming impassable.
- 67.2 Footpaths** – Cllr. Fellows to provide the Clerk with details of maintenance work required to be passed on to the PROW Officer.
- 67.3 Cemetery & Grass Cutting** – Cllr. Allen reported that he was waiting to speak to the contractor regarding the items discussed during the Parish Walkabout.

Cllr. Bullock raised the issue of trimming the top hedge to reduce the height and width which would make future maintenance easier. Following discussion, it was agreed that Cllr. Bullock would join Cllr. Allen when he met with the contractor to discuss the work that the Council planned to carry out. Clerk to check the end date for the current grass cutting contract.

67.4 Assets & Maintenance – it was agreed that tenders should be sought for the harvesting of the Blakeney Red pears on Nibley Green. Clerk to discuss with Cllr. Fellows.

67.6 Amenities – Cllr. Ware to contact the eel pass volunteers to clarify their requirements for the storage of equipment in the toilet block.

68. DOG WASTE BIN

The Council considered the installation of a dog waste bin on the opposite side of the road to the British Legion, Blakeney. **It was agreed** that the Clerk should contact the Street Warden to seek advice.

69. PARISH WALKABOUT

Cllr. Fellows briefly outlined the main points highlighted by the recent Parish Walkabout which took place on 6th August, 2020. Clerk to issue the notes .

It was agreed that both the half oak barrels sited by the bench which has been maintained by a parishioner were in need of replacement at a cost of £35.00/barrel (including VAT) and approx. £12.00 (inc. VAT) for the compost/topsoil. Clerk to obtain quotes.

70. HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

Cllr. Fellows informed the meeting that Blakeney had been highlighted by the FoDDC as requiring a 'housing needs survey'. The survey would be carried out by GRCC (Gloucestershire Rural Community Council). Clerk to invite Martin Hutchins (GRCC) to the September meeting.

71. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING ITEMS RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

71.1 Parish Council Website – Cllr. Fellows reported that the Council needed to provide an accessibility statement for its website. An update to the latest version was also planned. As part of this process he requested up-to-date contact details for all Councillors. Clerk to e-mail Councillors re. this.

71.2 Litter Picking Group – Cllr. Smith said that she had passed on the Clerk's details to the two organisers of this Group for them to get in touch.

72. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

NALC – White Paper: Planning for the Future – consultation deadline 15th October, 2020

NALC – Transparency and Competition: Data and Land Control – consultation deadline 16th October, 2020.

Red Telephone Box Working Group – Cllr. Cottom said that would organise a Zoom meeting of this Group.

New Road Update – Cllr. Boyles.

73. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

The Chairman's suggestion to move the December meeting forward a week, from 21st December to 14th December **was accepted**.

Dates 2020	Meeting	Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.	Agenda items & Dispensation requests by:
21 st September	Parish Council	t.b.a	11 th September
19 th October	Parish Council	t.b.a	9 th October
16 th November	Parish Council	t.b.a	6 th November
14 th December	Parish Council	t.b.a	4 th December

Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.