

# Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the virtual Parish Council Meeting held on 18<sup>th</sup> January, 2021  
at 7.00 p.m.

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** County/District Cllr. Boyles, District Cllr. Packer, Mr. Watkins (Local Highways Manager), 2 members of the public and the Clerk.

## 138. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from Cllr. Muldrew were accepted.

## 139. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr. Greening – item 146.5.

## 140. DISPENSATIONS

None requested.

## 141. PUBLIC FORUM

The Chairman welcomed two members of the public to the meeting who were in attendance to raise concerns regarding the increased use of a public highway, namely Furnace Valley through to Pitching Green, since the closure of New Road. The following concerns were raised:

- the increase in volume of traffic,
- the speed of vehicles,
- inadequate signage; diversional/directional/advisory,
- signage being moved,
- no footpaths,
- road erosion/potholes,
- damaged vehicles,
- near misses between vehicles and pedestrians.

A number of suggestions were put forward, including:

- closure of the road/change of the legal designation so that restrictions could be enforced.

*Either of these options would require undergoing a legal process to obtain a Traffic Regulation Order (TRO) which would be subject to consultation and would take time to process. Mr. Watkins would need to take a number of considerations into account, such as, where to turn traffic around safely in the carriageway if the road was closed; where will the traffic go? Mr. Watkins said that he currently receives a similar number of complaints for both routes – that detailed above and Blakeney Hill. Also, since the road is a public highway, Mr. Watkins would have to provide a good reason to close the road or prohibit driving and he did not think that either were justified.*

- opening one half of New Road under traffic lights.  
*It is not safe to do so at the moment but will be reviewed when more data is collected.*
- improvement of the signage to Parkend.  
*Mr. Watkins to check this and ensure that it is clear.*

- monitoring traffic by using an ANPR camera/car to analyse people's journeys or involving the local PCSO's to help.  
*Cllr. Boyles/Mr. Watkins to find out if either of these suggestions is workable.*

Mr. Watkins provided an update regarding New Road and informed the meeting that assessment work would continue into the summer months, as visually, there was still some movement. He predicted it could be late 2021 before works started on site. Also, with regards to Upper Soudley Bridge, he expected work on site to start the week commencing 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2021.

The Chairman thanked the members of the public for their time and said that the Parish Council would provide feedback when it was available.

#### **142. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was resolved to adopt, as a true record, the minutes for the Parish Council meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> December, 2020.

#### **143. MATTERS ARISING**

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

#### **144. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

The report from Cllr. Boyles had been circulated prior to the meeting and was noted.

#### **145. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

A report from District Councillor Packer, which had been circulated prior to the meeting, was noted.

#### **149.1 HIGHWAYS**

Councillors agreed to move this item forward so that Mr. Watkins could discuss the issues surrounding a complaint made by a resident regarding parking in the bus stop outside the shop and elsewhere in the vicinity of the entrance to Butts Lane.

Councillors explained that shoppers tended to park in an inconsiderate manner at the bus stop, on the visibility splay to the A48 and blocking vision for traffic exiting Butts Lane. During discussion it was agreed that yellow lines may be ignored or force traffic to park on the main road which would cause more problems.

Mr. Watkins said that since the 'Keep Clear' road marking was still to be painted, he could try to ensure that it is made as big as possible. However, it would be difficult to enforce and he wondered whether the PCSO's could help with this issue.

#### **146. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

The following planning applications were considered:

##### **146.1 P2026/20/FUL – Jarretts, Newnham Road, Blakeney**

First floor extension to garage and conversion into annexed accommodation. Following consideration, Councillors agreed with the Conservation Officer that this development is not in keeping and would have a negative impact given its situation in a conservation area. The Council also questioned whether there would be sufficient parking on site for this accommodation?

**146.2 P0122/20/DISCON – Wych Hazel Cottage, Blakeney Hill, Blakeney**

Discharge of condition 04 (window/door details as well as stonework repair details), condition 06 (biodiversity enhancement scheme), and condition 07 (lighting scheme). No observations or objections.

**146.3 P2067/20/FUL – 2, The Rocks, Brains Green, Blakeney**

Rebuilding of a shed with a new deck and balustrade above and the addition of a third bedroom within the shed. No observations or objections.

**146.4 P2023/20/FUL – Millend House, Millend Blakeney**

Erection of part two storey, part single storey rear extension and associated works.

Following consideration, the Council concluded that the roof of the extension should be subservient to the existing dwelling. It was also noted that the information provided was incorrect and had omitted the existence of a watercourse.

**146.5 P2156/20/PQ3PA – Guy Hall Farm, Northington Lane, Awre**

Prior Approval for the change of use of agricultural buildings to No. 5 dwellings and for building operations reasonably necessary for the conversion.

Following discussion, it was agreed that not enough detail was provided in the application. The Council therefore required more information in order to reach a measured decision.

**146.6 P2011/20/FUL – Brownings, Awre**

Erection of a two-storey side extension and revision to highway access. The Council supported this application.

**146.7 P2178/20/FUL – Lower Viney Farm Cottage, Viney Hill, Lydney**

Erection of stables. No observations or objections.

**147. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION**

**147.1 Ash Dieback Project, replanting scheme**

The Council considered whether to submit a request to Gloucestershire Highways for trees to be planted in the Parish. It was agreed that all Parish Council owned land was already well planted with trees. Cllr. Fellows said that he would circulate a map(s) to all Councillors detailing Parish Council land.

**147.2 Volunteering Survey**

A request from GAPTC to help with a survey regarding 'volunteering' in the Parish was received. It was agreed that the Chairman and Clerk would put together a response.

**147.3 Options for Sandbags**

Correspondence from FoDDC regarding a number of options for creating areas where sandbags could be filled by residents. It was acknowledged that the Council did not have a suitable area for storing sand but would be happy to store sandbags if supplied.

## 148. FINANCE

**148.1** It was resolved to authorise the following accounts for payment. Proposed by Cllr. Allen, seconded by Cllr. Smith and supported unanimously.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
20/50	DD	Freeola	Web Hosting Quarterly Charge	LGA 1972 s.112	£21.06
20/51	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk's Pay December	LGA 1972 s.112	£497.62
20/52	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Zoom monthly subscription	LGA 1972 s.112	£14.39
				<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£533.07</b>

### 148.2 Financial Position – End of 3rd Quarter

It was resolved to accept the bank reconciliation and receipts & payments information as at 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2020.

**148.3 Financial Checks** – Cllrs. Greening and Cotton reported that all was in order having checked two transactions representing 10% of the 16 transactions during the quarter.

## 149. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

**149.1 Highways** – Parking around entrance to Butts Lane dealt with earlier in the meeting. It was noted that nothing had happened regarding dog waste bins since the discussion regarding next year's budget. To be actioned and a proposal brought back to the Council.

**149.2 Cemetery & Grass Cutting** – Cllr. Allen reported that there had been a landslip in the cemetery which needed to be investigated and a decision made regarding a course of action. It was agreed that Cllrs. Allen, Bullock and Fellows should take a look and report back to Council.

**149.3 Snow Warden** – Cllr. Cotton reported that the grit bins reported by a resident as being empty, had been topped up. Also, for future action, was the creation of a map to show the location of the Parish grit bins.

## 150. RED HART, AWRE

**It was agreed** that the Council should make a representation to FoDDC regarding the condition and use of this listed building. Cllr. Fellows said that he would draft a letter to send to FoDDC Enforcement Team, copies to Mr. Clive Reynolds and District Cllrs. Boyles and Packer.

## 151. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING ITEMS RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

Gloucestershire Community Rail Partnership Survey circulated to Councillors for completion on an individual basis.

## 152. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Quote for replacement locks for toilet block.

### 153. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

<b>Dates 2020/2021</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.</b>	<b>Agenda items &amp; Dispensation requests by:</b>
15 <sup>th</sup> February	Parish Council	Via Zoom	5 <sup>th</sup> February
15 <sup>th</sup> March	Parish Council	Via Zoom	5 <sup>th</sup> March
19 <sup>th</sup> April	Parish Council	Via Zoom	9 <sup>th</sup> April
17 <sup>th</sup> May	Annual Parish Council	t.b.a.	7 <sup>th</sup> May

Meeting closed as 8.50 p.m.