

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 12th December, 2022
at the Youth Centre, Blakeney at 7.00 p.m.

PRESENT: Cllrs. Cotton (Chairman), Bullock, Fellows, Greening, Harley, Hoyland, Johnson and Scott.

IN ATTENDANCE: Clerk.

140. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence received from District Cllr. Packer were accepted.

141. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllrs. Greening and Scott declared an interest in item 149.3 – Motorcross at Guy Hall Farm.

142. DISPENSATIONS

Cllrs. Greening and Scott were both granted a dispensation to speak, if required, in order to provide any pertinent background information to item 149.3.

143. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public present.

144. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 14th November, 2022 as an accurate record subject to the following amendment:
Agenda item 134 – Streetlighting – change 30% to 70%.

145. MATTERS ARISING

Information from the Clerk relating to matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting was noted. The following points were highlighted:

- (a) Minute - 126(f) - Active Communities.** It was noted that District Cllr. Packer had contacted Freedom Leisure regarding secure storage for bicycles at Lydney. This was not something that had been considered but would be looked into.

146. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Hoyland highlighted the following points from her report.

- a) New Road** – due to open on 23rd December, 2022. Cllr. Harley mentioned that the pavements along this road were in a poor state of repair.
- b) Gigaclear** – various road closures were noted. There was no indication that Gigaclear would be in Awre within the next three months.
- c) Pavement – Blakeney to Newnham** – Cllr. Bullock commented that the Highways team had done a really job of the clearing the pavement between the two villages.

147. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

District Cllr. Packer's report which was circulated prior to the meeting was noted. Cllr. Harley asked what energy standard the Five Acres site was designed to be? Clerk to pass this question to Cllr. Packer.

148. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

The following Planning Applications were considered:

148.1 P1479/22/FUL – 37 & 40 All Saints Road, Blakeney

Proposed external wall insulation with changes to external wall finishes and some details to the existing properties. No observations or objections.

148.2 P1546/22/FUL – Brays Court, Woodend Lane, Awre

Erection of extension to pool housing building. No observations or objections.

148.3 P1372/22/FUL – 23, Church Way, Blakeney

Erection of garage, roof terrace and raised decking.
(Retrospective) (Resubmission)

Following consideration, Councillors agreed that the railing, which is not shown on the drawing, should be removed to discourage use which would cause an issue of overlooking. The comment was also made that a sedum roof would be an enhancement.

148.4 Public Path Diversion Order - footpath DAW 46 at Langet, Blakeney

It was noted that this order corrects a drafting error on the order made on 7th July 2022 which as a result has been formally abandoned.

149. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

149.1 Community Speed Watch Fund

Councillors noted the criteria and guidance from GCC and considered whether to submit an application. It was agreed that it would be useful to carry out speed surveys around the Viney Hill junction. It was agreed that Cllrs. Harley and Hoyland would work together on an application to be signed off at the January meeting.

149.2 GAPTC Subscription Rates 2023/24

It was noted that the subscription rate per elector will increase from 33.74 pence to 34.74 pence.

149.3 Motorcross at Guy Hall Farm

The complaints received regarding the recent events and the response from ERS received by District Cllr. Packer were noted. Councillors were also informed that Cllr. Packer had put a proposal to the District Council's Full December meeting for the adoption of guidelines for motor sport events similar to Stroud District Council. Following discussion, it was agreed that there was nothing further that the Parish Council could do regarding this matter other than provide feedback to residents.

150. FINANCE

150.1 The invoices detailed below **were approved** for payment.

Proposed: Cllr. Fellows, seconded: Cllr. Scott and supported unanimously.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
22/56	BACS	Merlin Waste	Fortnightly collection from dog waste bins.	Litter Act 1983, ss. 5,6	£39.00
22/57	BACS	Highbury Garden	Grass cutting 24/10 & 16/11 – Cemetery, bus stops, Post Office Green	LGA 1972 s.214	£588.00
22/58	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk's Pay November Backdated Increase	LGA 1972 s.112	£543.29 £257.83
22/59	BACS	W&N Adams	Removal of hanging basket posts	LGA 1972 s.214	£546.00
22/60	BACS	GAPTC	Being a Better Cllr. P1 Cllr. Scott	LGA 1972 s.111	£25.00
22/61	BACS	Farm & Country Agric. Suppliers	Daffodil bulbs (£85), carriage (£5.95), bench (£177.50), oak barrel (£35), VAT (£60.69)	LGA 1972 s.214 PCA1957 s.1	£364.14
22/62	BACS	Community Heartbeat	Replacement pads for Blakeney defibrillator.	Public Health Act 1963 s.234	£52.80
22/63	BACS	WaterPlus	Water supply to toilets 04/11 – 04/12/22	Public Health Act 1963 s.73 s.142	£10.78
				TOTAL:	£2,426.84

151. DRAFT BUDGET – 2023/2024

The financial position to date, the predicted outcome at year end and a draft budget for 2023/2024 were received and noted. Councillors were asked to let the Clerk have costed details of any projects/items that required inclusion in the 2023/2024 budget in advance of the January meeting when the precept would be set.

152. BLAKENEY NOTICE BOARD

The following options were considered:

Option A – Keep existing and make good - £2,200 - £2,400 plus £300-£400 revised estimate based on poor state of repair, so total of maximum £2,800.

Option B – replace existing – maximum of £928.21 + VAT (specification circulated with the agenda) plus original price quoted for legs, frame, roof etc., so a total of £3,133.21 - £3,333.21.

Cllr. Cotton proposed that Option B be accepted. This was seconded by Cllr. Fellows and supported unanimously.

Cllrs. Fellows and Bullock volunteered to make good the wall once the weather became suitable for the work to be carried out.

153. MEETING LOCATIONS

Cllr. Cotton raised the issue of locations used by the Parish Council for meetings and the frequency at each location. Following consideration, it was agreed to maintain the current arrangement, i.e., to alternate meetings at each venue unless there was a large event, in which case Awre Village Hall would be used. Proposed: Cllr. Hoyland, seconded: Cllr. Scott.

154. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

154.1 Highways & Parish Council Land – noted that:

- a) the drains are a lot better following the input of funds from the County Cllr.
- b) a large pothole reported on Clarks Lane had been deemed not big enough to repair!
- c) Pitching Green and Blakeney Hill Road would be assessed for repairs once New Road has been opened to traffic.
- d) an engineer is required to investigate the huge hole opposite Rose Cottage, as a matter of urgency.

154.2 Footpaths – Cllr. Hoyland reported that she would liaise with the PROW Officer regarding the feeding of cattle in a particular area which meant that a footpath was impassable due to the muddy conditions.

154.3 Cemetery & Grass Cutting – Cllr. Johnson reported two outstanding matters, namely, the replacement sign and the specification for the new fence.

154.4 Snow Warden & Flooding – it was noted that the grit bin at the bottom of Pollards Lane was missing and also that no salt had been delivered from GCC as yet. Clerk to chase again.

155. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

155.1 An enquiry regarding land for allotments has been signposted to Blakeney Hill Growers.

156. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Tender specification for removal of hedging/damaged fencing and replacement. Proposal to improve the appearance of the area around the war memorial at Awre.

157. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates 2022/2023	Meeting	Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.	Agenda items & Dispensation requests by:
16 th January	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	6 th January
20 th February	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	10 th February
20 th March	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	10 th March
17 th April	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	7 th April
15 th May	Annual PC Mtg. following Election	Awre Village Hall	5 th May

Meeting closed at 8.05 p.m.