

# Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 17<sup>th</sup> April, 2023  
at Blakeney Youth Centre at 7.00 p.m.

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

**IN ATTENDANCE:** District Cllr. Packer, Clerk.

**214. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs. Harley and Johnson were accepted.

**215. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

Cllr. Greening – agenda item 222.3 – Land at Severn Valley Touring, Awre.

**216. DISPENSATIONS**

None requested.

**217. PUBLIC FORUM**

No members of the public present.

**218. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 20<sup>th</sup> March, 2023 as an accurate record.

**219. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR**

District Councillor Packer's report, circulated prior to the meeting, was noted. As this was Cllr. Packer's last meeting, Councillors thanked her for everything she had done during her time in office.

**220. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

County Councillor Hoyland highlighted the main points from her report which had been circulated to Councillors prior to the meeting.

**Roads** - A number of issues were raised including the road closures that were causing serious problems for residents. Also, discussed was the terrible state of repair of Mourning Lane (? Morning Lane) which was declassified some years ago. Cllr. Hoyland said that this might be a question that she could raise with Full Council.

**Local Bus Services** - Cllrs. agreed to support Cllr. Hoyland with the project to help residents of Soudley form a small group to keep working on the issue of the No. 24 bus. Discussion also took place regarding the 'Robin' bus service which was not working as it should. Cllr. Hoyland said that she would talk to the person responsible for running this service.

**221. MATTERS ARISING**

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

- (a) Land around the New Road telephone box – ongoing.
- (b) Parish Council owned telephone boxes – it was agreed to add this as an agenda item for the next meeting.

- (c) Telephone Box Paint – **it was agreed** that the Clerk should re-imburse herself for the cost of the paint, as approved at the March meeting, if payment is required when ordering. Also, to check whether there is any saving to be made with carriage if more paint is ordered at the same time.
- (d) Blakeney Notice Board – Councillors asked the Clerk to confirm that (i) the wood for the notice board frame has been treated and if so, it should be left natural rather than stained and that (ii) the roof will comprise natural slate tiles.
- (e) Chip Shop Wall – Mr. Watkins quoted approximately £200 to make good the wall following removal of the Council’s notice board. **It was agreed** to accept this quote which included preparation and application of two coats of Weathershield.
- (f) Advertising Board – **it was agreed** that the Clerk should remove this board from the railings surrounding Collins Garden.

**222. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL**

To consider the following Planning Applications received:

**222.1 P0349/23/AG – Poulton Court Farm, Awre**

Prior notification for the erection of a concrete hardstanding with associated works. Consulted via e-mail – no observations or objections.

**222.2 P1727/22/FUL – Daniels Farm, Chicknalls Lane, Blakeney**

Change of use of land to tourism and erection of 6no. units with a service hut, a sauna, secure cycle storage, a parking/turning area with one parking bay per pod and communal refuse and recycling point. Construction of small flagstone patio to the front of pods and associated footpaths, landscaping of the site and a drainage treatment plant with associated soakaway and groundworks for the drainage of units. **It was noted** that the proposal had improved as many changes had been made.

**222.3 P1536/22/FUL – Land at Severn Valley Touring, Awre**

**It was noted** that this application is to be placed before full Council on 20<sup>th</sup> April, 2023.

**223. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION**

**223.1 Millend Floods** – an e-mail received from a resident regarding flooding outside their property was discussed and it was noted that this issue had been looked into previously. Cllr. Hoyland said that she would contact Highways again regarding this.

**223.2 Consultation on Division Boundaries for Gloucestershire** – noted that this does not affect the Forest of Dean.

**223.3 GCC Training – Wellbeing, Yoga and First Aid** – following discussion, it was agreed that this may be of interest to members of the community. How to progress this matter to be agreed at the next meeting.

**223.4 ‘What’s On’ Website** – a request from Wyldwood Arts to place a banner in the Parish to advertise this new website was considered. **It was agreed** that a banner could be placed on the Collins Garden railings for a month.

## 224. FINANCE

**224.1** The following accounts were approved for payment. Proposed: Cllr.Greening, seconded: Cllr. Fellows and supported unanimously.

Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
23/01	BACS	Merlin Waste	Fortnightly collection from dog waste bins.	Litter Act 1983, ss. 5,6	£42.25
23/02	BACS	Rise & Shine Window Cleaning	Bus Shelter Cleaning	LGA 1972 s.214	£100.00
22/03	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk's Pay March	LGA 1972 s.112	£543.29
23/04	BACS	WaterPlus	Water supply to toilets 04/03 – 04/04/23	Public Health Act 1963 s.73 s.142	£11.48
23/05	DD	Freeola	Web hosting quarterly charge	LGA 1972 s.112	£21.06
23/06	BACS	Highbury Garden & Lawn Care Services	Cemetery grass cutting Incl. Post Office Green, 25/03 & 06/04	LGA 1972 s.124	£532.00
23/07	BACS	C M Packham	Payroll Services	LGA 1972 s.112	£60.00
23/08	BACS	GAPTC	Annual Membership Subs	LGA 1972 s.143	£461.50
23/09	BACS	FoDDC	Garden Waste Licence	LGA 1972 s.112	£50.00
				<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b>£1,821.58</b>

**224.2 Financial Checks for Q4** – Cllrs. Greening and Cotton confirmed that they had carried out these checks and found everything to be satisfactory.

### 224.3 End of Financial Year 2022 - 2023

The following end of year figures **were approved**:

- i) Bank reconciliation as at 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2023.
- ii) Receipts & Payments
- iii) Analysis of budget vs. spend which indicated 94% spent.

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

### 224.4 Final Accounts 2022 - 2023

To be approved at the May meeting.

### 224.5 Internal Auditor

The appointment of Mrs. Fowler as Internal Auditor, as in previous years, to carry out the audit of the Parish Council's financial procedures and controls, **was approved.**

## **225. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS**

### **225.1 Highways & Parish Council Land** – Cllrs. Bullock & Hoyland

A number of issues were raised to be followed up:

- a) damage to footways caused by contractors employed by Gigaclear for the delivery of site materials. It was noted that any areas damaged would need to be reinstated.
- b) site meeting to be organised to identify drains that require jetting and to consider how to improve the war memorial in Awre.

### **225.2 Footpaths** – Cllrs. Fellows & Hoyland

Regarding the footpath from New Road to Pitching Green, an adjacent landowner has volunteered to use a mini digger to back-fill and create a ramp. Cllr. Hoyland and Harvey had volunteered to help.

### **225.3 Cemetery & Grass Cutting** – Cllr. Johnson

Still to be arranged, a site visit to create a specification for the work to the top hedge.

### **225.4 Assets, Amenities & Maintenance** – Cllrs. Fellows & Greening

The plan to replace the seat between the two barrels would not be possible as the existing bench is set into the pavement. The wooden bench purchased could be used elsewhere.

It was noted that dog mess is still an issue in Millend and it was suggested that the Dog Warden be contacted to apply fluorescent paint to the mess left behind.

There was some discussion about trees by the GP Surgery that need to be cut back, but as the ownership of the land is unknown, no decision or proposal was made regarding this matter.

## **226. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK**

None Received.

## **227. 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.

Bench and flower tubs.

Chip shop wall to be made good; Clerk to speak to the owner.

Bus Stops – future plans.

Tree inspections and maintenance.

Cemetery Lychgate – cost of repair.

Nibley Green Wildflowers.

Telephone Box Working Group.

**228. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS**

<b>Dates 2023</b>	<b>Meeting</b>	<b>Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.</b>	<b>Agenda items &amp; Dispensation requests by:</b>
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Local Council Elections	n/a	n/a
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Annual Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	5 <sup>th</sup> May
T.B.C.	Annual Parish Meeting	Awre Village Hall	
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	9 <sup>th</sup> June
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	7 <sup>th</sup> July
21 <sup>st</sup> August	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	11 <sup>th</sup> August
18 <sup>th</sup> September	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	8 <sup>th</sup> September
16 <sup>th</sup> October	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	6 <sup>th</sup> October
20 <sup>th</sup> November	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	10 <sup>th</sup> November
11 <sup>th</sup> or 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	1 <sup>st</sup> or 8 <sup>th</sup> Dec

Meeting closed at 8.25 p.m.