

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 15th May, 2023
at the Village Hall, Awre at 7.00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: A member of the public, District Cllr. Burton (7.15 p.m.) and the Clerk.

13. APOLOGIES

District Cllr. Moore's apology for absence was noted.

14. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

15. DISPENSATIONS

None requested.

16. PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Beddis had attended a meeting previously to complain about flooding on Awre Road. Cllr. Hoyland said that she would speak to GCC Highways again to ensure this matter was added to the 'to do list'.

17. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 17th April, 2023 as an accurate record.

18. 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) **GCC Training** – Wellbeing, Yoga and First Aid – information to be added to the Council's Facebook page.
- (b) **Internal Audit** – audit file to be delivered to the Auditor on 22nd May.
- (c) **Trees by GP Surgery** – noted that they are suckers not trees. To be checked on during annual walkabout.
- (d) **Contractor Reference Request** – Clerk to liaise with Cllr. Johnson.
- (e) **Eel Pass** – to be cleaned 16th May, 2023.

19. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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

20. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

The Chairman welcomed District Cllr. Richard Burton to his first Awre Parish Council meeting. Cllr. Burton reported on the following:

- (a) **Motocross Event at Awre** scheduled for 20th and 21st May – he had not been able to get hold of the organisers but had arranged for noise monitoring equipment to be set up.

He hoped to resubmit Cllr. Packer’s motion for more regulation of such events but could not do so until 6 months had elapsed.

- (b) **Active Travel** – Cllr. Burton explained that he was interested in transport and especially cycling. He would be pushing for cycle parking at all destinations and investigating opening up the old railway route from Blakeney to Mallards Pike.

21. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

The following Planning Application was considered:

- 21.1 P0484/23/FUL – Flower Patch Cottage, Brains Green, Blakeney**
Erection of single storey extension with balcony at first floor level.

No observations or objections.

- 21.2 Enforcement Issues**

Cllr. Fellows reported that he was compiling a list of issues for submission to the Enforcement Team.

22. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

- 22.1 Heritage Funding Scheme** – information received from FoDDC regarding a source of potential funding for heritage schemes **was noted**.

- 22.2 Village Wall** – an e-mail regarding a stone wall, part of which had been removed to create a driveway, was discussed. **It was noted** that planning permission had been obtained for this work, but since the stonework had not been finished/sealed this could lead to damage over time. Cllr. Fellows said that he would add this to his list of issues for submission to the Enforcement Team.

- 22.3 Motorcross Event at Awre** – already discussed at item 20(a). Clerk to reply to the resident concerned.

23. FINANCE

- 23.1** The accounts detailed below **were approved** for payment. Proposed by Cllr. Scott, seconded by Cllr. Greening and supported unanimously.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
23/10	DD	Freeola quarterly charge	EmailPro x 1 domain 26/04 – 25/07.2023	LGA 1972 s.112	£7.20
23/11	BACS	Merlin Waste	Fortnightly collection from dog waste bins.	Litter Act 1983, ss. 5,6	£42.25
23/12	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk’s pay for April	LGA 1972 s.112	£543.29
23/13	BACS	WaterPlus	Water supply to toilets 04/04 – 04/05/23	Public Health Act 1963 s.73 s.142	£14.13
23/14	BACS	Highbury Garden & Lawn Care Services	Cemetery grass cutting Incl. Post Office Green, 18/04 & 04/05	LGA 1972 s.124	£588.00
22/15	BACS	Abletex Building Services	Construction of frame, roof and installation of notice board, Blakeney	LGA 1982 s.8 (1) (i)	£1,860.00

22/16	BACS	Abletex Building Services	Preparation and painting of Blakeney Chip Shop wall	LGA 1982 s.8 (1) (i)	£235.00
				TOTAL:	£3,289.87

23.2 Final Accounts 2022 - 2023

The final accounts for 2022 – 2023 were received and **approved**.
Proposed by Cllr. Fellows, seconded by Cllr. Greening and supported unanimously.

24. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

24.1 Highways & Parish Council Land – it was noted that the recent rainstorms had highlighted a number of issues regarding the drains across the Parish. An incident of fly tipping on Moorhen Lane has been reported twice.

24.2 Cemetery & Grass Cutting – the following points were noted:

- (a) specification for the work to the top hedge; meeting to be organised.
- (b) it was suggested that a strip of grass should be mown around the edge of Collins Garden and install signs to explain that it is a wildflower area.
- (c) Cemetery sign – Cllr. Fellows to help Cllr. Johnson with the technical side of producing the artwork for print.

24.3 Assets, Amenities & Maintenance – reported that the defibrillator at Awre is working fine. The one at Blakeney had been deployed and was now reset. Cllr. Fellows has carried out some maintenance on the casing and will try to sort out the light which is currently not working. It was noted that the chip shop wall which had been renovated after removal of the notice board was looking good.

25. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

25.1 Arrangements for Annual Parish Meeting – it was agreed to provide tea/coffee and Cllrs. Johnson and Hoyland volunteered to make cakes.

25.2 GAPTC AGM – noted as being held on Saturday, 22nd July – any motions for the AGM to be submitted to GAPTC by 21st June. This means that it/they would need to be considered at the June Parish Council meeting.

25.3 Awre Telephone Box – Cllr. Scott said that she would forward revised costings to the Clerk and suggested that they could co-ordinate with the New Road group and share information.

25.4 Overgrown Verges – Cllr. Hoyland said that she would raise this with Highways.

25.5 Queen's Jubilee Tree (Awre) – it was noted that the tree donated to the Parish had died and that Cllr. Greening had provided a replacement.

25.6 Annual Walkabout – it was suggested that the Clerk send around a Doodle Poll to find a date for this meeting.

25.7 New Road to Furnace Valley – footpath. After an update and some discussion regarding this issue, it was agreed to remove it from the agenda as it was deemed to be a community matter.

26. 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.
Bus Stops – future plans.
Tree inspections and maintenance.
Cemetery Lychgate – cost of repair.
Nibley Green Wildflowers.
Telephone Box Working Group.

27. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Dates 2023	Meeting	Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.	Agenda items & Dispensation requests by:
19 th June	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	9 th June
17 th July	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	7 th July
21 st August	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	11 th August
18 th September	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	8 th September
16 th October	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	6 th October
20 th November	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	10 th November
11 th or 18 th Dec	Parish Council	Blakeney Youth Centre	1 st or 8 th Dec

Meeting closed at 8.20 p.m.