

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 20th November, 2023
at Awre Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: Cara Loukes, Affordable Rural Housing Manager (GRCC), District Cllr. Burton, one member of the public and the Clerk.

119. APOLOGIES

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

120. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None.

121. DISPENSATIONS

None requested.

122. PUBLIC FORUM

The member of the public present informed Councillors that he did not wish to raise anything and was attending the meeting to observe.

123. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 16th October, 2023 as an accurate record.

124. MATTERS ARISING

Information from the Clerk relating to matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting and other items was noted.

125. HOUSING NEEDS SURVEY

Cara Loukes, summarised the findings from the housing needs survey carried out in 2021 which found that there were 27 households with a connection to the Parish that required affordable rented housing, of which, 20 were registered with Homeseeker Plus. Following a recent walkabout, 4 sites had been identified as having potential to provide some affordable housing. However, it was recognised that there was limited availability of land within the Parish and that the sites identified were theories on paper and that the process would be a lengthy one, possibly taking several years. It was agreed that a consultation event should be organised for 23rd and 24th February at Blakeney Village Hall to explain the back story, the process and obtain the views of residents. Cllr. Fellows to provide an update at the December meeting.

126. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

County Councillor Hoyland's report circulated prior to the meeting was noted.

127. REPORTS FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLORS

District Cllr. Burton’s report circulated prior to the meeting **was noted.**

128. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

128.1 P1297/23/FUL - Claremont, Clarks Lane, Blakeney (Extension of existing timber summer house/outbuilding to create a residential annexe.)

Response issued to FoDDC as follows:

“Councillors have considered this application and agree there is no objection in principle, but there were a couple of observations made as follows:

a) an existing and proposed site layout/block plan has not been provided therefore it is difficult to assess the impact on the existing dwelling.

b) likewise, it is difficult to ascertain if there is sufficient parking to support the additional accommodation.

c) condition 47 which is offered within the application is welcomed, i.e., that the updated building will only be used as an annex of the existing property.”

The decision taken by e-mail for this application **was confirmed.**

128.2 P1056/23/FUL - Brooklyn, Millend, Blakeney

Erection of a single storey timber clad pitched roof outbuilding/workshop with associated works.

Following a contribution by the applicant present, whilst no objections were raised, it was acknowledged that the outbuilding is in association with the residential property.

128.3 P1301/23/FUL – 2, Fieldhouse Cottage, Awre

Erection of a glazed veranda to side/rear of property.

It was observed that the description was incorrect as this was a retrospective application. No objections.

129. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

129.1 Canopy

Correspondence received from Canopy regarding potential funding for bringing an ‘Arts’ element to the Duck Race Festival in Blakeney in August 2024 was considered. It was noted that no amount had been specified. Canopy to be notified that funding applications are considered in October each year.

129.2 New Road Telephone Box

It was noted that fundraising was taking place to purchase a defibrillator to be installed at this site. A reply was awaited regarding siting, power and maintenance. It was agreed to bring this to the next meeting to set up a working group to agree the way forward for the Council owned telephone boxes.

130. FINANCE

130.1 The following accounts **were approved** for payment.

Proposed: Cllr. Fellows; seconded: Cllr. Scott and supported by all.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
23/57	BACS	M E Services	Fortnightly collection from dog waste bins.	Litter Act 1983, ss. 5,6	£42.25

23/58	BACS	Ursula Deighton	Clerk's pay for October	LGA 1972 s.112	£543.29
23/59	BACS	Waterplus	Water supply 04/10-04/11	Public Health Act 1963 s.73 s.142	£14.60
23/60	BACS	Royal British Legion	Poppy wreath x 2 (t.b.c.)	LGA 1972 s.137	£50.00
23/61	DD	Freeola	Quarterly charge – e-mail	LGA 1972 s.112	£7.92
23/62	BACS	Highbury Garden & Lawn Care Services	Grass cutting	LGA 1972 s.214	£356.00
				TOTAL:	£1,014.06

130.2 Financial Checks – Cllrs. Greening and Cotton confirmed that they had carried out the quarterly checks and all was in order.

130.3 Cemetery – Final Tidy-up of the Year

Consideration was given to the following suggestions/costings by the Contractor for a tidy-up of the cemetery before winter and **approved** as being only £116 over the budgeted figure for cemetery maintenance.

- a) **Cost £230** for trimming back a hazel, cutting up dead branches from a tree that's fallen over onto the cemetery side from the other side of the brook and raising up a holly tree. If acceptable, he would also like to know if he could burn the waste wood from the dead tree at the cemetery.
- b) **Cost £270** to tidy up both hedges.
Proposed: Cllr Fellows; seconded: Cllr. Cotton and supported by all apart from 1 abstention.

131. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

131.1 Highways & Parish Council Land

The ongoing list of highways issues was noted. Cllr. Bullock reported that 4 drains had been cleaned, with 2 left to do; he was due to meet with Clive Saunders. A number of other issues were mentioned – standing water in 3 areas on Blakeney straights; standing water in the area past the turning to Bullo and grass overgrowth in the Haie Lodge area. Cllr. Fellows said that he would forward maps to Cllr. Hoyland for Nathan Choat.

131.2 Footpaths

The update received from the PROW Officer, regarding works carried out, was noted.

131.3 Cemetery & Grass Cutting

Noted that the tender advert had been published with a deadline for return of Friday, 22nd December.

131.4 Snow Warden & Flooding

It was noted that the bags of salt had been delivered to the Clerk's workplace.

132. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

None.

133. ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

Proposal to improve the appearance of the area around the war memorial at Awre. Bench and flower tubs.

Tree inspections and maintenance.
 Nibley Green Wildflowers.
 Telephone Box Working Group – December meeting.
 Rubble left on Awre Village Green.

134. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

To note the change of venue for the December meeting due to a double booking at Blakeney Youth Centre. Also, to agree the preferred venue(s) for the 2024 meetings.

Dates 2023	Meeting	Venue Time: 7.00 p.m.	Agenda items & Dispensation requests by:
18 th December	Parish Council	Awre Village Hall	8 th December
2024			
15 th January	Parish Council	T.B.C.	5 th January
19 th February	Parish Council	“	9 th February
18 th March	Parish Council	“	8 th March
15 th April	Parish Council	“	5 th April
T.B.C.	Annual Parish	“	
20 th May	Annual PC	“	10 th May
17 th June	Parish Council	“	7 th June
15 th July	Parish Council	“	5 th July
19 th August	Parish Council	“	9 th August
16 th September	Parish Council	“	6 th September
21 st October	Parish Council	“	11 th October
18 th November	Parish Council	“	8 th November
16 th December	Parish Council	“	6 th December

Meeting closed at 8.30 p.m.