

Awre Parish Council & Burial Authority

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting held on 19th February, 2024
at Awre Village Hall at 7.00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE: District Cllr. Moore, PCSO Martin and the Clerk.

171. APOLOGIES

None received.

172. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None

173. DISPENSATIONS

None.

174. PUBLIC FORUM

No members of the public in attendance but PCSO Tracy Martin came along to introduce herself to the Councillors. She informed the meeting that she had started in January 2024 and was focussed on antisocial behaviour and general crime. She read out the crime figures to date as compared to the same period in 2023. Clerk to scan and circulate. PCSO Martin said that she was prepared to be flexible and change her shifts if the Council wished her to attend a meeting.

175. MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

It was resolved to adopt the minutes of the meeting held on 15th January, 2024 as an accurate record.

176. 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 also considered:

- a) Dog Waste Bins – it was confirmed that, currently, the bins were half to three quarters full on collection. The usage was expected to increase as the weather improved.
- b) Grass cutting – Collins Garden would be mown and the cuttings collected as soon as possible, depending on the weather.
- c) Exclusive Right of Burial (ERB) – a query regarding the transfer of an ERB was discussed and it was agreed that as there was no record of this, a new one should be purchased if the family wished.

177. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

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

178. REPORT FROM DISTRICT COUNCILLOR

District Cllr. Burton's report circulated prior to the meeting **was noted**. In addition, the following was discussed:

- a) the issue of the motocross at Awre and the lack of communication by the organisers was discussed. It was noted that FoDDC Democratic Services still had not added the Code of Conduct for such events to the website. District Cllr. Burton said that he would try to set up a meeting with the organisers and the Parish Council to try to resolve this matter.
- b) planning site notices – Cllr. Bullock asked for clarification regarding who should remove the site notices that were put in place by District Council officers.

179. PLANNING – FOREST OF DEAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

179.1 P0085/24/FUL – Orchard Bungalow, New Road, Blakeney

Variation of Condition 1 (in accordance with approved plans) to allow reduction in size and design of the bungalow extension and pitched roof changed to flat roof relating to planning permission P0065/23/FUL.
No observations or objections.

179.2 P0239/23/TCA - Doctors Surgery, Millend, Blakeney

Row of overgrown beech and magnolia hedging along the rear of the surgery - reduce to 3m and reduce side away from building to give a 2-2.5m clearance, in accordance with BS3998:2010.
This application arrived too late to be included on the agenda for this meeting and so **it was agreed** to consult via e-mail.

180. CORRESPONDENCE REQUIRING ACTION

180.1 Heritage Open Days 30th Anniversary – a request was received for recommendations of places or subjects that could become part of the 2024 programme, the theme of which is Routes, Networks and Connections. The upgraded footpath from Purton to the Awre Peninsula was suggested. Clerk to reply to this correspondence.

180.2 Church Clock – a request was received for a donation towards the maintenance of this clock located on All Saints church. This request would be considered in October.

180.3 GAPTC Training – a reminder to check the newsletters from GAPTC and inform the Clerk of any training requirements.

180.4 Village Lane Flooding – correspondence from a resident regarding this matter was received. It was noted that the large tractors and tankers that used the road between Branches Corner and Blakeney had caused huge amount of damage to the edges of the roads. County Cllr. Hoyland said that she would get in touch with the farmer concerned. Resolution of the flooding issue was in progress pending meetings to consider a solution(s).

180.5 FOD Fringe 24 – correspondence had been circulated prior to the meeting and it was agreed to publicise this via the Council's Facebook page and notice boards.

180.6 Publicity, Advertisement and Consultation for Planning Applications – the changes due to implemented from 1st March, 2024 were noted and would mean that neighbours would no longer be informed by letter of a planning application. In exceptional circumstances, a flyer may be put through the

letterbox. It is suggested that residents register with FoDDC to receive updates of planning applications in their area.

180.7 Forest of Dean - Active Travel Strategy - Stakeholder Introduction – information regarding this strategy and the request to complete an on-line form to help identify infrastructure needs, etc. was noted. Councillors to send any suggestions to the Clerk.

180.8 Royal Garden Party Nominee – correspondence was received from GAPTC and it was agreed to nominate the Clerk for entry into the ballot for the place available to GAPTC members.

181. FINANCE

181.1 The following accounts were approved for payment. Proposed: Cllr. Greening; seconded: Cllr. Trimble and supported unanimously.

Inv. Ref.	Chq. No./ BACS	Payee	Purpose	Auth	Amount
23/77	BACS	M E Services	Fortnightly collection from dog waste bins.	Litter Act 1983, ss. 5,6	£42.25
23/78	BACS	Ursula Deighton	January pay	LGA 1972 s.112	£580.15
23/79	DD	Freeola	E-mail provision	LGA 1972 s.112	£7.92
				TOTAL:	£630.32

181.2 Financial Checks – Cllrs. Greening and Cotton had carried out the checks for the third quarter of the financial and confirmed that all was found to be in order.

181.3 Electricity Contract

To note that the Council's 3-year contract is up for renewal in August and that notice to change supplier, if required, should be submitted in July. Clerk to bring details of new contract prices to the June meeting.

182. BIODIVERSITY POLICY – Cllr. Hoyland

182.1 The Biodiversity Policy as circulated prior to the meeting was accepted and agreed to be reviewed annually. Clerk to forward to Cllr. Fellows for the website.

182.2 It was agreed to set up a working group that would bring the action plan back to Council for approval and then report on actions. Cllrs. Johnson, Hoyland and Greening volunteered for this working group.

183. AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Cllr. Fellows reported that he had attended a meeting at GRCC with Cara Loukes to draw up the information/drawings for the consultation event which was being held on 23rd and 24th February in the Village Hall. He suggested that it would be a good idea for Councillors to be present during the event to support Cara.

184. LEAD COUNCILLOR REPORTS

184.1 Highways & Parish Council Land – it was noted that Cllrs. Bullock & Hoyland were waiting for a date and time to meet with Clive Saunders to go through the outstanding issues that were reported time and time again.

184.2 Footpaths – Cllrs. Fellows

a) The update report received from the PROW Officer was noted.

184.3 Cemetery & Grass Cutting – Cllr. Johnson and Clerk to organise a date to carry out a ‘topple test’ at the cemetery. Clerk to ask FoDDC to collect/empty the bins at the cemetery.

184.4 Assets, Amenities & Maintenance – Cllrs. Fellows reported that the defibrillator in Blakeney had been deployed during the day.

185. MINOR MATTERS INCLUDING INFORMATION RECEIVED BY THE CLERK

185.1 Tree Services – receipt of information detailing the services provided by Chris Arnold Tree Surgery was noted. It was agreed that the Clerk should approach this company and Nick Wilton for a quote to lift the crown on the walnut tree at Awre, remove the Blakeney Red pear trees affected by Fireblight on Nibley Green and trim the cherry tree on the green behind the Post Office. It was noted that planning permission would need to be sought as the cherry tree was in the conservation area.

186. 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.

Rubble left on Awre Village Green.

187. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

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

Meeting closed at 8.32 p.m.