**Bere Ferrers Parish Council**

At a meeting of the Bere Ferrers Parish Council held in Council Chambers, Bere Alston on Tuesday 30th January 2018.

Present

Cllr. R. Leithall Chairman of Council

Cllr. H. Boot-Handford Cllr. B. Lamb

Cllr. D.M.A. Chapman Cllr. R. Maycock

Cllr. P. Dennis Cllr. H. Rogers

Cllr. S. Hanson Cllr. G.R. Reed

1550. **Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Wager due to a prior engagement, Cllr. Pengelly due to illness and Cllr. Page-Bailey.

1551. **Chairman’s Report.**

**Neighbourhood Plan**

Once again I would like to thank the Neighbourhood Plan Group who have worked hard to analyse understand and respond to comments raised at the last public consultation and who accordingly have now updated and finalised the Bere Peninsula Neighbourhood Plan and supporting documents.

Therefore, last week Mrs Mary Taylor on behalf of the Parish Council sent these documents on to West Devon Borough Council for further six week consultation and official examination, and if The Plan passes this test then the next step will a public referendum.

**Community Wellbeing Event held in Parish Hall.**

West Devon Community and Voluntary Service, in conjunction with Wiser Money's Transitions Project and Beregen, arranged a Community Wellbeing event that was held in the Bere Alston Parish Hall last week on Tuesday afternoon. BFPC had a table and our representatives included Councillors Mark Page Bailey, Brian Lamb, Graham Reed and Peter Dennis. The event was well attended.

**Youth Football Team**

It is covered in more detail in the Open Spaces minutes, but I am pleased to note that new volunteers have come forward who are keen to start a Bere Alston Youth football team.

**Councillor Training Courses**

The Town & Parish “Code of Conduct” training course planned for 17th January unfortunately had to be cancelled at short notice, but it is understood this will be re-scheduled for another day.

Meanwhile, we now have a date of Monday 19th February at 7-00pm in the evening for a training course on Planning to Pat Whymer from West Devon Borough Council planning department to be hosted here at the Council Chambers in Bere Alston. Councillors from the parishes of Gulworthy and Buckland Monachorum have also been invited. I would like to encourage all of our BFPC Councillors to attend if possible.

**Footpaths Booklet**

Cllr Helena Roberts has produced a first-draft copy of the Footpaths Booklet which is available for Councillors to review.

1552. **Notification of items for information at the discretion of the Chairman. No action can be taken**

**on these items.**

1. Cllr. Reed – will not be able to attend the Port of Plymouth Marine Liaison meeting next week. Cllr.

Leithall hopes to attend in his place.

2. Cllr. Lamb – in November I asked that Open Spaces relook at the grass and hedge cutting contracts.

Agenda item for February.

1553. **To approve the minutes of Full Council held on 12th December as a true record and taken as**

**read.**

Cllr. Leithall proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Boot-Handford.

Matters Arising

Minute 1507(1485) – Cllr. Lamb – felt this should be looked at again at planning.

Minute 1508(1501) – The Clerk has traced a contact for the East Cornwall League and sent a letter to him,

we await a reply.

Minute 1508(1471) Cllr. Lamb – asked about Defibrillator training as there had been mention of it.

Discussions took place, refer to F&GP.

**SO RESOLVED**

1554. **To approve and adopt the Plans minutes held on Tuesday 9th January and taken as read, to**

**deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Reed proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

Matters Arising.

Minute 1503 – Application for 2 three bedroom houses at Drakes Park. Cllr. Reed could not get any

information on the roads on WDBC website, nothing on these sites is any help for this

planning committee. Cllr. Dennis asked why it is not taken into account the landownership.

Cllr. Reed gave an explanation. Cllr. Lamb is no longer allowed as Ward Member to ask for a

site visit. Cllr. Lamb also pointed out that there were items omitted out of our reply to this

application.

Cllr. Lamb informed Council that he has asked that this planning committee visit the Liphill Quay application. The Clerk has arranged it for Saturday 3rd February at 2pm for a fact finding mission.

Cllr. Lamb proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Reed.

**SO RESOLVED**

1555. **To approve and adopt the Open Spaces minutes held on Tuesday 16th January and taken as**

**read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Dennis proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Hanson.

Matters Arising

Cllr. Lamb pointed out that Cllr. Wager was omitted as being in attendance.

Minute 1529 (2) Sarah Park – The Clerk has the following costings to replace the chain and seat on the zip

wire. £201 including VAT and delivery. Cllr. Dennis proposed that the Clerk go ahead and purchase the chain and seat, seconded by Cllr. Chapman.

Minute 1529 – fence at the rear of the car park Bere Ferrers, Cllr. Lamb reported that it belongs to Council.

Clerk to look into repairs.

Minute 1530- Bere Ferrers Allotments – The Clerk confirmed that Allotment plot 2 is to be the memorial

garden for Maggie Cartwright, plot 1 has been let and plot 14 is paid for by Allotment Association to put their manure on.

Minute 1532(2) – Storage for Belinda O’Flynn Theatre Group; the Clerk has confirmed with Tricia Kent

that they have permission to rent the room in the barn at Bere Ferrers Recreation ground

for storage of props etc. The Clerk did inform them that although Council insures the

building the group will have to take responsibility for the contents.

Cllr. Dennis proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Hanson.

**SO RESOLVED**

1556. **To approve and adopt the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes meeting held on**

**Tuesday 23rd January and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

Matters Arising

Minute 1536(1447) – Cllr. Dennis and the Clerk will be getting together on Monday to look at the

accounting system.

Minute 1541 – To set the Precept – the Clerk explained the paperwork and how Council came to a precept

of £63532 less (CTSG) £4018 equals £59514. All were in agreement.

Minute 1546 – Cllr. Leithall confirmed he would have the alterations to item 11.1 regarding contracts ready

for February’s F&GP.

Minute 1547 – Beregen seeking financial assistance to repair damage to hall roof and Council Chamber

window. The Clerk reported that there is an excess of £250 on each claim. Cllr. Leithall

proposed that as landlords we must get damage fixed so we go ahead and pursue an insurance

claim, seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

Cllr. Boot-Handford asked that these minutes be finalised at the end of the meeting to enable clarification of minute 1542.

1557. **Internal Audit carried out by Cllr. Boot-Handford and Cllr. Chapman.**

Cllr. Chapman stated that they had looked at payroll and incoming payment as per B and D. Not straight forward finding bank payments in, but all was satisfactory.

1558. **Report by Cllr. Lamb on South West Rail Development.**

The present franchise expires 2nd February 2019 and Government is minded to extend it to March 2022 because of the complexities involved with replacement rolling stock and new timetables and also other possible major changes.

**Main Points of Consultation.**

**1.** Splitting franchise into Thames Valley with South Wales and services to West Country.

**2.** Integration of track and train

**3.** Priorities for passengers

Great Western Railway is divided into the Thames Valley, High Speed to Wales and services to West and branch service in Devon and Cornwall 1580 services each day with 228 train sets carrying 104 million passengers per year with total revenue £925 million.

New fleet of trains and movement downwards of existing trains; hourly service to Plymouth and two hourly to Penzance from London. Half hourly service Plymouth Penzance.

Cllr. Lamb to draw up a draft letter in reply to the Consultation Question’s promoting the idea of the line to Tavistock also Support the Okehampton line.

Cllr. Hanson would like to see the draft letter.

1559. **Report by Cllr. Lamb on West Devon Borough Council.**

* Universal Credit coming into operation in West Devon – nearest office Job Centre, Old Tree Court, Plymouth. Six benefits and three organisations rolled into one. Only exception is local tax reductions for rates via WDBC.
* Recycling “Box it – Don’t Bag it!” Food waste in black bags costs WDBC approximately three quarters of a million a year because the bags are charged by weight by the disposal authority (DCC,) but we ‘sell’ the food waste.
* Council Tax increase of 2.99% is proposed (an increase of £6.52 a year for Band D). There should be no budget deficiency 2018/2019. Rate support grant withdrawn two years early
* Still forecasting a £931, 676 budget gap by 2020/21 and similar gaps in previous year.
* Work on more income and cuts to expenditure in hand
* Proposed cost savings could include: close Okehampton Office, review car parking income, cessation of acceptance of cash & cheques, reduction in partnership levels, charges for duty planning services, increase in planning charges, charging for food advice, reduction in size of Hub Committee 9 to six, paperless agendas, savings on insurance contract.
* Cyber-attacks, a recent talk has illustrated to me how vulnerable we all are and I suggest F & GP should consider whether the PC needs to take any further steps, particularly on password protection.

1560. **Correspondence.**

1) EDF – Clerk sought permission to pay the electricity A/C for Cemetery.

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed payment, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

2) West Devon Borough Council- It’s not what you know.

**It's Not What You Know...**

These days the majority of us now have access to a mobile phone or computer tablet, so South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council have launched two cartoon characters to remind us all that nearly everything you need to contact the council about can be done on a mobile phone or tablet using their websites.  
It's not what you know, but who you know and we all have a Mike in our back pocket or a Tina in our bag.  
Cllr Simon Wright, Deputy Leader of South Hams District Council said: "Let me introduce Mike the Mobile and Tina the Tablet.  
We have been saying to our customers for years that they can do it online but I am not sure how many of them realise that this means on a mobile phone or tablet as well. Our customers can now apply for benefits, pay their council tax, and even send us pictures of their key documents as evidence, all with their phones. They no longer need to scan documents in or bring them to us at the council. Just take a picture and load them onto the forms, just like they would upload a picture to Facebook or Instagram."  
Cllr Lois Samuel, Deputy Leader of West Devon Borough Council said: "We want to make it as simple as possible for our customers to be able to send us information from the devices that they use everyday. Mike and Tina are here to remind customers that they do not need to phone or visit the council, just go on the internet on their mobile phones or tablets and use the council's websites."  
So next time you want to contact the council, don't call the council, mention it to Mike or tell Tina. It will be like having the council in your pocket.

3) West Devon.

**Who is your West Devon Champion?**

Nominations are now open for this year’s popular Mayoral Awards for outstanding individuals, firms or organisations,who deserve public recognition for their unpaid work or contribution.

West Devon Borough Council’s Mayoral Awards have been running since 2002, and are aimed at those who have done something significant within the Borough, enhanced the reputation of the Borough nationally, or who have contributed significantly to the conservation and protection of the natural environment of West Devon.

If you would like to nominate someone, then please give details of why you think they should receive an award. Nominations must be provided no later than 28 February 2018.

**Cllr Jeffrey Moody, Mayor of West Devon said: “**Many people and organisations quietly go about projects that benefit our Borough and the environment, without ever receiving or expecting recognition. The Mayor’s Award is an opportunity for friends, family, teachers or colleagues, to let these unsung heroes know that we are proud of them and appreciate everything they do.

“Last year’s worthy winners included an enthusiastic retired couple who litter pick in all weathers to keep the environment in which they live clean and tidy, a youth worker giving over and beyond of her time to help young people achieve the very best then can, and a young dairy farmer who has won many events as a Champion Young Handler with her cattle and put West Devon on the map both nationally and internationally.

“We are encouraged by the number of nominations and the positive responses that we receive every year and we hope to see even more for this year’s awards.”

There are three categories of award which are: The Mayor’s Green Award, The West Devon Mayoral Award (Under 18) and The West Devon Mayoral Award (Over 18/Organisation), with nominators allowed to put forward as many nominations as they wish in each category.

The judges, who will include the Mayor and Deputy Mayor, will have a tough job of judging the nominations. The winners will receive their awards at a ceremony on 27 March 2018.

4) PCSO Greenwood – monthly report.

Crime Stats as follows from 1st December 2017 to 24th January 2018

1 x Common Assault – Domestic Related

2 x Malicious Comments – Facebook Related which the victims have been told to get in contact with Facebook and report the offenders

2 x Criminal Damage to building

1 x Dog not under control

2 x Criminal Damage to cars

2 x ABH Domestic related

1 x Theft of front number plate

1 x Theft of Play Park equipment

Hopefully you are not disappointed by the results but as it is for 2 months, not too bad a result compared to many other places with approximately the same number of residents.

5) Alison Hernandez – monthly report.

Continuation of minute 1556.

To approve & Adopt the minutes of the Finance & General Purposes meeting held on 23rd January and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed the following amendment to minute 1542 and the adoption of the Finance & General Purposes minutes.

BARP are paying for both estimates invoice 2799 and 2818, Council will order 2799 once Council have received BARP’s contribution, seconded by Cllr. Leithall.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked members and members of the public for attending declared the meeting closed at 9.15pm

Signed this 27th day of February 2018.

Chairman………………………………..