

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes meeting held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 19th April 2022.

Present:

Cllr. R. Leithall	Chairman
Cllr. P. Crozier	Chairman of Council
Cllr. B. Lamb	

In Attendance: Cllr. C. Shaw and Mr. Graham Reed, Trustee of the Bere Alston Regeneration Partnership.

471. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Dennis, Maycock and Pengelly. The Council accepted their apologies.

472. Declaration of Interest

No interests were declared.

473. Notification of items for information at the discretion of the Chair. No action can be taken on these items.

Cllr. P. Graeme-Drury has requested a copy of the Voting Tree picture, which is hanging in the Council Chambers. Cllr. Lamb confirmed the picture was owned by the Council and the Council should allow Cllr. Graeme-Drury to make a copy.

474. Matters arising from the meeting held on 22nd March 2022

Matters Arising

Minute 422

The issue of trying to obtain a direct card from NatWest for the Clerk has still not been resolved. Another business mandate form has been sent to the Clerk for the Council to complete. Cllr. Crozier to write a formal letter of complaint to NatWest with regards to this and other issues the Council has had with NatWest in the last few months. Cllr. Lamb will look into alternative bank providers.

With regards to the installation of the cycle stands, all permissions, except West Devon Borough Council have been received. The Council are also waiting on the delivery of the stands.

Cllr. Crozier to double check whether the car charging point being installed at Pilgrim Drive, is dual or single.

Minute 430

The Clerk confirmed that the Platinum Jubilee Committee had not been successful with their grant application to the National Lottery.

Minute 431

The water pipe at the Bere Alston recreational field has been completed and the Committee commented on the good job the workman had done.

Cllr. Lamb proposed going into Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Leithall.

Cllr. Lamb proposed coming out of Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

There was a recommendation from the F & G.P Committee which will be discussed at the Council meeting on 26th April 2022.

The realignment of the dog field that been done but the visibility as you come out on the right, is still not good. The Clerk to look into asking BT if the old GPO box and cables can be removed. The wooden gates for dog field have been purchased.

Minute 433

Meetings are now being recorded but the Council need to ensure that discussions under Part 2 are not recorded.

475. To accept the April 2022 accounts for payment

Discussions took place with regards to a payment to be made to Chubb Fire & Security Ltd, for an emergency call out at the end of March, to replace a part on the fire alarm panel. On 12th April, whilst the Chubb engineer was servicing the Fire alarm service in the Parish Hall, it broke down. The Council were advised that a new panel was required and a quote to install a replacement has been received.

Mr Graham Reed, a Trustee of the Bere Alston Regeneration Partnership attending the meeting, questioned why the Council were paying for the fire safety service contract and then charging back approx. 80% of the cost back onto Beregen. He and the fellow Trustees feel the fire service contact and all invoices should now be addressed and paid for by Beregen and approx. 15%, as stated in the agreement between Beregen and the Council, be charged back to the Council.

After further discussions, it was agreed that the order to replacement fire alarm panel be cancelled by the Council and alternative suppliers' quotes obtained and this matter will be discussed further at a meeting of Beregen on the morning of Tuesday 26th April. An update to be given at the Council meeting in the evening of 26th April.

In the meantime, until the fire alarm is operational again and on the advice from a retired Fire Inspector Consultant, when the Parish Hall is used by the public, there should be a person nominated to do walking rounds of the premises to be alert of any sign of fire or smoke and then raise the alarm verbally.

Cllr. Lamb proposed holding off paying the Chubb invoice until the Council can clarify it is a legitimate invoice, seconded by Cllr. Crozier. All in favour.

Cllr. Lamb proposed all payments, except the payment to Chubb, be authorised for payment, seconded by Cllr. Leithall.

475. To accept the F & G.P Detailed Receipt and Payment Report ending 31st March 2022

Cllr. Lamb proposed acceptance of the report, seconded by Cllr. Leithall.

476. To accept the reconciled bank statement and petty cash ending 31st March 2022

Cllr. Leithall proposed acceptance of the reconciled bank statement and petty cash statement seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

477. Approve the Council's 2021-22 Asset Register

Cllr. Lamb proposed approving the Council's 2021-22 asset register, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

478. Approve the disposal of the Clerk's old computer

All relevant files and folders required have been removed from the old computer. Cllr. Crozier proposed the hard drive of the computer be removed and the computer disposed of. Seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

479. Review the 2022-23 wayleave fees

Discussions took place whether the wayleave fees should be increase. It was decided to review the fees, later in the year.

480. Opening hours of the toilets

Due to recent vandalism issues in the toilets, they were being closed at 3 pm, which has decreased the incidents.

Cllr. Lamb proposed going back to the normal opening hours of the toilets, but that the Chair of the Council and Clerk advise the Toilet Cleaner to close early, if there are any further incidents of vandalism. A notice is also to be placed on the toilet entrance to say the toilets are closed and why. Seconded by Cllr. Leithall.

481. Agenda items for the next meeting

1. Review of rolling programme
2. Annual inspections of bus shelters
3. Insurance review

4. Clarification of the roles of the Council and Beregen.

482. Questions from the public, at the discretion of the Chair

Questions from the public was brought up and discussed earlier in the meeting, under the item Accounts for payment.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked members for attending the meeting and declared the meeting closed at 9.30 pm.

Signed by the Chairman

Dated 26th April 2022