

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 14th June 2022.

Present:

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| Cllr. D Pengelly | Chairman |
| Cllr. P. Crozier | Chair of the Council |
| Cllr. P. Graeme-Drury | Cllr. R. Leithall |
| Cllr. C. Shaw | |

67. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. King. The Committee accepted her apology.

68. Declaration of Interest.

No interests were declared.

69. Questions from the public present, at the meeting, at the discretion of the Chair

All members of the Committee agreed to move this item to the start of the meeting.

Members of the Bere Alston in Bloom group present at the meeting, asked the Committee questions regarding the Bere Alston Allotments.

1. What is the inspections criteria for the allotments and who inspects them?

Cllr. Pengelly confirmed that the Council conduct a monthly inspection of all allotments and plots, which look like they are not being cultivated, letters are sent to the tenants requesting the plot be tidied up. Each issue is dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

Full allotments that now become available are being split into two, in order to allow more residents to have an allotment. If anyone allotment holders have any issues to report, they are to contact the Clerk.

The Council though will step up their efforts more on inspecting the allotments.

2. If there is an accident on the allotments, who should tenant contact?

It was discussed that in the event of an accident, the emergency services should be contacted and they would contact the next of kin. The Chair of the Allotment Association has requested a noticeboard be placed on site and if erected, information on what to do in case of accidents/emergencies, could be placed on the board. Due to GDPR, the Council cannot share the allotment holders' information.

3. Can all allotment holders on the Bere Alston site be asked to contribute to the cost of a hiring a skip?

It was discussed that if the Allotment association wish to get together and hire a skip, the Council would have no objectives.

70. Correspondence.

All members of the Committee agreed to move up this item up.

1. The Clerk read out an email from the Chair of the Bere Alston Allotment Association:

I have been asked by several members about applying for some fruit and nut trees from the Woodland Trust "plant a tree" programme. Before I apply on their behalf, I will need authority from the Open Spaces Committee. Besides the fruit and nut trees there is a variety of packs dealing with hedges too which would be beneficial down there.

A Member of the Association was also present at the meeting and elaborated to the Committee that if the application was successful, one tree or hedging could be offered to those allotment holders if they wish. The trees would be smaller trees and hedging, that could be incorporated into a plot.

Discussions took place.

It was agreed that in principle that the Council give permission for the Association to submit an application form and it was agreed to put on the agenda for the next meeting to discuss further.

2. The Clerk read out an email from the Chair of the Bere Alston Allotment Association:

As Chairman of the Association, I am requesting that a double, waterproof, lockable notice board be purchased and installed at a convenient location on the allotment site.

This would be used to display rules for the site, any DEFRA notices such as Avian Flu, upcoming events such as St Luke's Open Gardens, The Plant and Produce Show, Bere Alston in Bloom, Garden Club Talks and Trips. The keys would be held by the Council, BAIB rep and me. I expect that all organisations could donate towards the overall cost.

This would be a much better solution than the current practice of tying laminated pages to the gate, and I consider this to be an asset for all concerned.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Discussions took place. The Council agreed in principle for a noticeboard to be purchased and installed, yet asked the Clerk to reply back to the Chair of the Allotment Association requesting some more information. This item will be added to the agenda for the next meeting.

3. The Clerk read out an email from a resident requesting to rent the right-hand bottom part of the allotment field to grow globe artichokes.

The Committee discussed and agreed that this sounded like a business, therefore it could not be granted. The Clerk to inform the resident.

4. The Clerk read out an email from a resident asking if they could, at their own expense and time, create better jumps on the BMX track.

Discussions took place. The Committee agreed that the area does need improvement. The idea of installing a multi-use track was also discussed. The Committee asked the Clerk to ask whether the resident could attend a meeting on another date, to discuss his proposal further.

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

Cllr. Shaw asked when the Jubilee mugs purchased for the primary school children will be handed out. The Clerk confirmed that a date had been confirmed for 24th June at 9 am.

Cllr. Pengelly proposed going into Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Shaw.

Cllr. Leithall proposed coming out of Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Graeme-Drury.

Cllr. Graeme-Drury commented that certain posters on the noticeboard were out of date and should now be removed. The Clerk to action. Cllr. Graeme-Drury also enquired regarding whether there was a food truck trading in the Parish Hall carpark on Friday nights. The Clerk commented that information given passed onto the Council was people's takeaway order were being delivered to the car park for pick up, but will confirm this and update the Committee.

72. Matters Arising from the minutes from the meeting held on 12th April 2022

Matters Arising

- Minute 460 A link for residents to report pot holes to West Devon Borough Council is now on the Parish council's website.
- Minute 461 The BT phone box paint kit has been received and the work has now been completed by Bere Alston in Bloom.
- Minute 470 (2) The Community Wellbeing event held in the Bere Alston Parish Hall on Tuesday 17 May, went very well. Useful conversations and contacts were made.

73. Rospa Play Safety Inspection Reports

The majority of issues highlighted on the reports were advisory and there were no urgent matters to deal with.

The Clerk has put a list together of all fixes required and Cllrs. Crozier, Pengelly and the Workman are to inspect the list.

74. Review of the Open Spaces Rolling programme

The Committee reviewed the rolling programme. The Clerk to ensure items are added to the agenda going forward.

75. Parish Hall Garden litter bin

Due to vandalism the litter bin has been damaged beyond repair and has been removed. The Council do have CCTV footage of individuals vandalising the bin and have passed it onto the Police.

76. To appoint Councillors to carry out the inspections the play areas and allotments

Cllr. Shaw is happy to continue inspecting the Bere Alston playparks. The Clerk to ask whether Cllr. King is happy to continue inspecting the Bere Ferrers play park and Bere Ferrers allotments. Cllr. Crozier to continue inspecting the Bere Alston allotments.

77. Routine safety inspection reports for the parish Recreational and Play areas

The safety reports had been sent to the Clerk prior to the meeting. There were no major issues to report.

78. Inspection of allotments at Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers

Bere Alston - Cllr. Crozier reported that an inspection of the allotments had been carried out and letters will be sent out to those plots considered not being cultivated.

Bere Ferrers – the person who took over Plot 13, is to be congratulated for all his hard work they have done on it.

The vacant plot at Bere Ferrers has now been taken on.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.37 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Dated this date 28th June 2022