

## **BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL**

**At a meeting of the Council held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> September 2022.**

### **Present**

Cllr P Crozier	Chair of Council
Cllr. P. Graeme-Drury	Cllr. B. Lamb
Cllr. R. Leithall	Cllr J Maciejowska
Cllr. R. Maycock	Cllr. H. Peace
Cllr. Pengelly	Cllr. C. Shaw

In Attendance: Cllr. A Blackman

As this is the first meeting since the passing of Her Majesty the Queen, Cllr. Crozier requested the Council observe a minute silence.

### **184. Apologies**

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Dennis, King and Russell. The Council accepted their apologies.

### **185. Declaration of Interests**

No declaration of interests were declared.

### **186. Notifications of items of interest as the discretion of the chair. No action can be taken on these items.**

Cllr. Graeme-Drury informed the Council that the local Police Community Support Officer had been undertaking daytime meetings with Parishioners at the Voting Tree restaurant, but thinks evening meetings should also be arranged. Would the Council be prepared to pay the fee to hire the small meeting room in the Council Offices and schedule meetings in hours that would suit Parishioners and the PCSO better? It was agreed to discuss this further at the next F & G.P meeting.

### **187. Interview for the Council Vacancy**

Cllr. Crozier introduced Mrs. Virginia Grose as the candidate for the vacant Councillor position. Mrs Grose provided the Council information on her background and reasons why she wished to be elected a Councillor.

The Councillors asked Mrs Grose various questions, which were answered.

Cllr. Crozier thanked Mrs Grose for attending the meeting and stated that the Clerk will inform her of the Council's decision tomorrow.

Cllr. Crozier proposed going into Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

Cllr. Maycock proposed coming out of Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

The Council unanimously voted in Mrs. Virginia Grose as a Councillor for the Parish Council.

### **188. Chair's Report**

Cllr Crozier gave his report:

1. There have been two recent acts of vandalism; one at the storage shed at the recreation field, where the door was smashed through, the sink was blocked and the taps left running over night. The second was at the Parish Hall Garden, where the wooden panels on the picnic table were deliberately removed.

The Clerk also informed the Council of CCTV footage showing youths setting fire to clothing in the Parish Hall Garden. All incidents and CCTV footage are to be reported/sent to the Police. Cllr. Peace reported that various cars at the garage at the Station, Bere Alston, had also been vandalised recently.

Cllr. Crozier stated that it was very regrettable that the villages are getting this continual situation. It was discussed putting up posters, notices, to highlight these acts of vandalism around the villages.

At the recent Youth2Youth annual general meeting it was suggested that some of the children may want to attend a Parish Council meeting and discuss what the Council can do to improve the facilities. Cllr. Crozier will follow up on this suggestion.

2. The Woolacombe Road Housing Estate appeal has been dismissed and the Developers will now need to make a new application.
3. The Co-op have now submitted an application to move their store from Fore Street to just outside the village and this will be discussed in the next Plans & Highways Committee meeting. A public meeting will be arranged by the Council to further discuss the application.

#### **189. To receive reports from the District and County Councillors**

Cllr. Angela Blackman, West Devon Borough Councillor gave her report:

As a result of the climate emergency there are now several JLP (Joint Local Plan) energy efficiency amendments and Developers will now need to compile, to ensure that there are more energy efficient properties within the Borough. Within the approved documents are regulations on ventilation, energy efficiency, overheating and certain type of solar panels. These will come into force from 15 June 2023. The amendments have been passed by West Devon Borough Council and South Hams. Plymouth City Council is expected to pass the amendments by the end of October. Cllr. Maycock confirmed that are planning on incorporating these amendments into updated Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr. Blackman stated she is also dealing with environmental health enquires about the state and condition of social housing. There are two grants available for installation and heating and this information needs to advertised more.

There is some funds left from Cllr. Blackman's Community Fund. So far money has been donated to the local food bank, the Football Club and Bere Alston in Bloom. Is there any other organisations/groups, the Council think would benefit from a donation, to please let Cllr. Blackman know. A suggestion was given to provide funds to provide activities for the youth, particular during the holidays.

#### **190. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Council meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> July 2022 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Crozier proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowska.

#### **Matters Arising**

**Minute 153** Cllr. Lamb requested that the Clerk contact the Police to formally request their crime figures for the area.

**Minute 157** Cllr. Lamb updated the Council that the informal Council workshop has had to be postponed. It will now be scheduled for January 2023.

Cllr. Pengelly proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

#### **SO, RESOLVED**

#### **191. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Plans & Highways meeting held on 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2022 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Maycock proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

#### **Matters Arising**

**Minute 168** Cllr. Maycock asked whether a decision on planning application 2388/22/FUL had been made yet. No decision has been sent to the Council yet.

Cllr. Crozier confirmed that 0137/22/FUL, Zip World Ltd had been withdrawn and 2339/22/TPO, reduce beech tree at 37 Fore Street, had been refused.

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

**SO, RESOLVED**

**192. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Plans & Highways meeting held on 6<sup>th</sup> September as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Maycock approved approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

Matters Arising

Minute 178 Cllr. Maycock enquired whether a decision had been made on 1469/22/HHO with conditions. The Clerk to enquire and report back at the next Plans & Highways Committee meeting.

Minute 181 There has been no response from the Traffic Orders, Policy & Programme Team at Devon County Council regarding the Councils and Cllr. Philip Sanders objection to the loading bay on Fore Street, not been allowed to be made a dual use bay.

Minute 182 Cllr. Lamb commented that the email from Devon Highways regarding installing a slow sign had not been added to the minutes. The Clerk to follow up.

Cllr. Maycock proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowska.

**SO, RESOLVED**

**193. Vandalism at the storage shed at the recreational field and Parish Hall green**

The recent issues of vandalism had been discussed under the item, Chairman's report. The Clerk has received a quote to install motion sensor lights around the Parish Hall. The Clerk was asked to obtain a second quote before the Council would proceed.

**194. Replacement of Pavilion at Bere Alston recreational field.**

Cllr. Lamb brought up the Council's long term wish to replace the Pavilion. Funds could now be available to finance this project. A Rural Fund will shortly become available through the District Council. Eventually Burrington Homes will come back with a revised planning application for the Woolacombe Road estate and the 106 Planning money given to the Council can be used to also fund this project. Plus, the Sport Council also have grants available, in particular in support for women's football. The Council should therefore now start consider having a new Pavilion which gives access for all, including a women's' team and women's changing room. The Council though will need to get the Football Club actively involved in this scheme and the Council has to make it clear that they are only going to renew the Football team's lease, if they work with the Council with this aim.

Discussions took place and agreed that if a new Pavilion was built, it should be for the use of all sports.

Cllr. Lamb proposed that the Council should investigate available finances for the replacement Pavilion. The Council should meet the two Football Clubs with minimum representative as suggested by the Chair, to assess their position regarding the composition of teams of the future and that any extension of their lease for a period of six months to allow the teams to demonstrate their new cross community engagement. Seconded by Cllr. Pengelly.

**195. Installation of noticeboard at the Bere Alston allotments.**

The Clerk confirmed that the Bere Alston Allotment Association, the Garden Club and Bere Alston in Bloom were able to donate money to the Council, in order a noticeboard could be purchased and displayed at the entrance of the allotment field. All members were in favour and instructed the Clerk to make the purchase.

#### **196. Review of the Bere Alston football Club and Junior Bere Alston Football Clubs agreements**

Following discussions made under Minute 194, it was proposed and agreed that the Council will arrange a meeting with the two Football Clubs to discuss their agreements and extension of their leases should be for a period of six months.

#### **197. Discuss rate issue at Bere Alston allotments**

A couple of quotes have been obtained to deal with the issue of rats at the allotment site. It was discussed that as long as their chickens on allotments, it will attract rats. Cllr. Graeme-Drury commented that scattering food over the ground will attract fat and hopefully the noticeboard to be installed can you be used to advise people how best to feed their poultry.

Cllr. Lamb proposed that the Council's Workman be trained and licenced to use rate poison to allow the use of it in a safe and proper manner. Seconded by Cllr. Peace. A vote was taken, 9 were for, 3 were against. Motion carried.

When rat poison is to be used at the allotments, the allotment holders will be notified.

#### **198. NatWest update**

The Clerk updated the Council on the ongoing issue of updating the Council's business mandate. The Clerk has been assured by NatWest that the Council will not need to open new bank accounts and if the Council submit another business mandate with the correct authorised signatories, the mandate will be updated.

#### **199. Council's website upgrade**

The Council stated they were happy for the Clerk to make the necessary changes to update the Council's website.

#### **200. Payment authorisation to increase Council's One Drive storage space.**

Cllr. Maycock proposed payment authorisation to increase the Council's One Drive storage space to 100B at a cost of £1.99 per month, seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

#### **201. To accept the Council's Detailed Receipt and Payment Report ending 31<sup>st</sup> August 2022**

The report detailed the receipts and payments made for the first 5 months of the financial year. It was noted the increase cost of petrol. All members proposed acceptance of the report.

#### **202. To accept the bank reconciliation for June, July and August 2022**

Cllr. Lamb proposed acceptance of the bank reconciliations, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowksa.

#### **203. HR Matters. To be taken into Part 2.**

Cllr. Maycock proposed going into Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowska.

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

Cllr. Lamb proposed that the freedom of the Parish be given to three individuals. Seconded by Cllr. Peace.

#### **205. Correspondence**

1. Jane Poulton requested permission from the Council to buy and donate a bench in memory of her late father and place in the cemetery. All Councils members were in favour.

2. The Clerk informed the Council that the Council had received their External Auditor Report and Certificate and it will be presented for approval to the Council at the 25<sup>th</sup> October 2022 meeting. The Clerk requested payment authorisation of the PKF Littlejohn LLLP invoice at a cost of £480.
3. The Clerk read out an email from DALC regarding their AGM taking place on 5<sup>th</sup> October and all Council members were welcome to attend.
4. The Clerk read an email received from AONB regarding ownership of a bench at Weir Quay. After discussion, it was confirmed that the AONB owned the bench in question and the Clerk to pass the information back onto to them.
5. The Apple Festival at Bere Ferrers has been postponed from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 8<sup>th</sup> October.

**206. Questions from any members of the public present, at the discretion of the Chairman.**

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.38 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Signed this date 25th October 2022