

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 11th October 2022.

Present:

Cllr. D Pengelly	Chairman
Cllr. D. King	Cllr. Leithall

In Attendance: Cllr. B. Lamb

229. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs Crozier, Graeme-Drury and Shaw. The Committee accepted their apologies.

230. Declaration of Interest.

No interests were declared.

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

Cllr. Leithall enquired whether information on how to purchase a plot at the High Cross Cemetery was on the Council's website. The Clerk to follow up and check that it is.

232. Matters Arising from the minutes from the meeting held on 14th July 2022

Matters Arising

- Minute 129 Cllr. Pengelly requested that the cost of rubber pads/ropes for the playparks and cableway repairs be added to the next Committee's agenda.
- Minute 130 An email from the Bere Alston Allotment Association has been sent to all allotment holders the Council have an email address for, to gauge their interest in obtaining a free pack of trees and/or hedging.
- Minute 132 Bere Alston in Bloom should hear the outcome of the RHS Britain in Bloom competition on Thursday 13th October.

233. Wildflower Meadow Creation

Several members of the public, including Samantha Fraser, Community & Volunteering Office from AONB, were present at the meeting to discuss creating a wildflower meadow in Bere Alston, similar to the one that has been created in the Bere Ferrers recreational field.

Ms. Fraser talked through the recent Buckland Monachorum Nature Group's community nature project, who worked along with their Parish Council, to create such a meadow and how a similar scheme could be achieved in and benefit Bere Alston.

Discussions took place on potential sites, including areas within the Bere Alston recreational field, a unused allotment in the Bere Aston site and Woolacombe Cross, an area of land owned by Devon County Council. It was discussed that some areas of the recreational field might not be ideal, as there are plans to develop the area for further sports usage.

The group provided a breakdown of the potential costs and discussed that funding could be available to fund the entire project. If the project is approved and a suitable site located, the group would like to start as soon as possible, in order to have visual impact for next year.

The Clerk to arrange a site visit between the group and members of the Council to discuss further potential sites for the meadow.

234. Review of Interment Charges

The Clerk was asked to review what other cemeteries in the area charge and report back at the next Committee meeting.

235. Routine safety inspection reports for the Parish recreation and play areas

There were no issues to report at the Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers play areas.

236. Inspection of allotments at Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers

Discussions took place on the ongoing rat issue at the Bere Alston allotments. Cllr. Leithall proposed that the Workman undertake an online Introduction to Rodent Management Course, to allow him to purchase professional rodenticide products. Seconded by Cllr. King. Before any products are to be placed at the sites, the Council to advise the Allotment Association and allotment holders.

237. Correspondence

The Clerk read out an email from the Natural Environment Team from Devon County Council, regarding their tree planting Initiative, asking if the Council were still interested in planting trees in the parish.

After discussions, the Clerk to request 15 trees to plant within the Parish.

238. Agenda items for the next meeting

1. Internment Charges
2. Rubber pads/ropes for playparks and repair of Cableway costs.

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

There being no other business, the Chair thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.42 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Dated this date 25th October 2022