

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 17th January 2023.

Present:

Cllr. D Pengelly	Chair of the Committee
Cllr. P. Crozier	Chair of the Council
Cllr. Graeme-Drury	Cllr. V. Grose
Cllr. D. King	Cllr. Leithall
Cllr. C. Shaw	

In Attendance: Cllr. B. Lamb

409. Apologies

No apologies were received.

410. Declaration of Interest.

No interests were declared.

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

Cllr. Lamb stated that the Bere Ferrers Villagers Group will be placing an order with the Council, for a new piece of equipment at the playpark. The funds have been sent to the Council and the Clerk to place the order by the end of the month.

Cllr. Lamb requested the Clerk ask the Workman to fix the bench located in Fore Street, Bere Ferrers.

The flooding on Broad Park Road is being dealt with by Devon Highways.

Cllr. Graeme-Drury discussed that the Voting Tree's litter picking group has now come to the end. He is happy to either keep hold of the equipment, or pass it to the Council to store. After discussions it was agreed that Cllr. Graeme-Drury keep hold of the equipment and lend out as and when needed.

Cllr. Graeme-Drury has also met with the new Head of the Bere Alston Primary school, Mr Bemister, who is keen to engage with the Council and the Community. The Clerk has invited Mr Bemister to the Council meeting on 31st January 2023.

Cllr. Shaw discussed that the Leaders of Scouts and Cubs have designed road safety posters and would it be possible to put the posters up around the school? As it is school property, they will have to ask the school for permission.

Discussions took place on the recent use of the defibrillator. Cllr. King confirmed that she conducts a monthly check, but if the machine detects a heartbeat, it will not work. Cllr. King to confirm to the Clerk, whether new pads need purchasing.

412. Matters Arising from the minutes from the meeting held on 6h December 2022

The minutes were adopted and approved at a Council meeting held on Tuesday 20th December 2022.

Matters Arising

Minute 346 (292) An electric smart meter has now been installed at the Pavilion.

Minute 346 (297) The bin at Pilgrim Drive has been removed and there have been no reports of fly tipping.

Minute 347 The Wildflower Meadow group have planted the trees in the dog field. They have requested permission to put up three bird boxes. The Committee have no objections.

Cllr. King approved the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Graeme-Drury.

413. Cemetery Digital Mapping and software package proposal

The Clerk explained to the Committee the proposal and associated costs of creating a digital map of the High Cross cemetery, which would give the ability to better record all past and future burials.

Due to the high cost, Cllr. Pengelly proposed a decision on this proposal be revisited later in the year, when discussing the 2024-25 budget. Seconded by Cllr. King.

414. Review of memorials allowed in the Cemetery.

As stated in the Council's regulations, headstones may not be placed on cremation plots. Discussions took place on whether to amend this regulation and allow headstones.

After discussions, the members all agreed to keep the regulation as it is currently.

415. Update on the Adult and Junior Football Clubs agreements.

The Clerk has contacted both representatives of the Adult and Junior Football teams to organize a following up meeting to discuss the future plans for the Clubs. The Clerk read out an email from the Junior Football Manager, in which they stated they do cover a diverse range of participants and had applied for Winter Funding from West Devon Borough Council that would allow them to provide free training sessions in an attempt to encourage further children into the Club, but were unsuccessful.

Cllr. Lamb stated that the Adult Football team need to be actively recruiting new members, both male and female, as with the current low usage of the Pavilion, a grant will not be given for refurbishment.

After discussions, Cllr. Pengelly proposed that a recommendation be put to the Council meeting on 31st January 2022, that a subcommittee meet with the Football Club and be empowered to warn them that if no active changes are done, their lease might not be renewed. Seconded by Cllr. King

416. Pavilion Refurbishment

Cllr. Lamb discussed how the Council need to have a firm policy on how the Pavilion should be rebuild or refurbished.

Cllr. Leithall proposed the Council apply to refurb the Pavilion to modern standard. Seconded by Cllr. King.

417. Review quotes to supply and lay bonded rubber in playpark and repair cableways.

Discussions took place on the quotes received and what funds were available in order to purchase.

Cllr. Pengelly discussed that at a recent BARP meeting, the members had agreed to disband and all remaining funds be donated to the Council. The funds though are to be ring-fenced and spent on new projects in line with their charitable objectives, specifically to improve the play spaces at The Down Recreation Field and Sarah Park.

Cllr. Pengelly suggested forming a sub-committee of Cllrs. Pengelly, Gramme-Drury and Shaw to review the Bere Alston playparks

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

Cllr. Shaw reported the Junior swing seat at the Down is splitting and suggested a washer be put in as a temporary measure. The Clerk to ask the Workman to carry out.

419. Fly tipping issues at the Bere Alston allotment.

The issue of fly tipping at the allotment site is continuing. All allotment holders have been contacted asking to report any incidents of fly tipping they see, to the Clerk. After discussions, Cllr. Crozier proposed getting a quote from a Contractor to remove all the rubbish at previous bonfire site and repost no-fly tipping signs. Seconded by Cllr. King

420. Inspection of allotments at Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers

Bere Alston - The Clerk updated the Committee on ongoing conversations regarding certain plots with rat issues with the Environmental Health Specialist, West Devon Borough Council. Trading Standards have also visited the site and could serve notices of enforcement, which could incur a penalty.

The clerk to organize a date for the Workman to complete the online rodent management course.

421. Correspondence

Two members of public have contacted the Clerk concerned that on football match days, it is a regular occurrence for vehicles to turn into the cul de sac on The Down looking for the football ground. Could the Council contact the football club to arrange signage be put up on match days?

The Clerk to follow up with the Football Clubs.

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

There were no members of the public were present at the meeting.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.20 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Dated this date 31st January 2023