

Bere Ferrers Parish Council

At a meeting of the Footpaths and Environment Committee held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 6th February 2024.

Present

Cllr. V. Grose	Chair of the Committee
Cllr. P. Crozier	Cllr. P. Dennis
Cllr. J. Maciejowska	Cllr. M. Patterson
Cllr. C. Shaw	

In Attendance : Cllr. Lamb

522. Apologies

Cllr. King sent her apology. The Committee accepted her apology.

523. Declaration of Interest

None were made.

524. Items of Interest at the discretion of the Chairman. No action can be taken on these items.

Cllr. Grose will be attending a meeting at Cotehele on Thursday 8th February 2024. There will be a discussion regarding mor marsh land being flooded.

525. Matters arising from the minutes from the 7th November 2023

The minutes were approved and adopted at the Council meeting held on 30th November 2023.

Matters Arising

Minute 350(222 (75)) The Clerk to ask if the Devon Public rights of Way Warden has been able to visit and review the concerns raised about the condition of the bridge/tunnel on Footpath 36.

Minute 350 (224) The issue of Footpath No. 2 has been resolved.

Minute 352 The Climate and Ecology Bill has now lapsed; however it will be introduced in the coming weeks. Support for the Bill has now grown to over 350 Councils and their 2024 focus will be i) reintroduction the bill and growing their cross-party support amongst MPs and ii) produce an open letter to encourage candidate to support the Bill ahead of the general election.

Minute 353 The Council cannot impose on farmers to put up poster alerting walkers to cattle in their fields.

Minute 355 Cllr. Crozier to enquire if some local farmers would attend the next Footpaths & Environment meeting.

526. Submission of the Bere Ferrers Parish Paths Partnership survey and grant request

The deadline to submit the P3 survey, expenditure form for 2023-24 and submit grant request for 2024-25, is 15th March 2023. All footpaths have or are currently been audited by members of the Committee.

After advise from the Clerk, all members agreed to request £1000 grant for 2024-25.

It was asked, when possible, that Councillors use the What 3 Words app, when recording footpath issues on Devon County Council's Public Right of way website - [Home - Public Rights of Way \(devon.gov.uk\)](https://www.devon.gov.uk/public-works/public-rights-of-way)

527. Form the Lost Paths & unclassified roads sub-Committee group

After discussion Cllrs. Crozier, Grose and Shaw will be on the Sub-Committee group. Their first meeting will be held on Monday 4th March at 7 pm in the Council Chambers.

528. Update on EV car charging points in the Parish

At the Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 30th January 2024, Cllr. Saxby provided an update that West Devon Borough Council are due to install EV chargers in Pilgrim Drive at the end of the year.

All members agreed that 2 EV chargers should be installed on Parish Council land. Cllr. Grose therefore proposed applying for funding for 2 chargers, location to be confirmed. Seconded by Cllr. Dennis. All agreed.

529. Proposal from a member of the public to adopt a route in Silver Street, Bere Ferrers, as a public footpath

Following a request from a member of public at the Committee meeting on 8th November 2023, the Clerk has been looking into the proposal. A Public Rights of Way Officer from Devon County Council has confirmed that this route has not put forward as a proposal, but that does not mean it can not be. The Officer stated though that the best person to speak to about is currently on long term leave, therefore the Clerk to contact, when they are back in the office.

530. Environmental Issues

Cllr. Lamb wished to thank Cllr. Shaw and his team of Road Wardens for collecting multiple bags of rubbish at Denham Bridge Road.

531. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

532. Items for agenda for next meeting

1. Report from the Sub-Committee for Lost Paths & unclassified roads group first meeting.
2. Proposal to adopt Silver Street, Bere Ferrers as a public footpath.
3. Audit of missing footpaths numbering signs.
4. Update on the Climate and Ecology Bill

The next Committee will be on 9th April 2024 at 8 pm.

533. Questions from the public present at the meeting at the discretion of the Chair

There being no further business the Chair thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.12 pm.

Signed by the Chair:

Signed this date 27th February 2024