

## Bere Ferrers Parish Council

At a meeting of the Bere Ferrers Parish Council held in Council Chamber, Bere Alston on Tuesday  
29<sup>th</sup> January 2019

### Present

Cllr. H. Boot-Handford	Chairman of Council
Cllr. D. M. A Chapman	Cllr. R. Maycock
Cllr. P. Crozier	Cllr. M. Page-Bailey
Cllr. P. Dennis	Cllr. D. Pengelly
Cllr. S. Hanson	Cllr. H. Rogers
Cllr. B. Lamb	Cllr. G. R. Reed
Cllr. R. Leithall	Cllr. E. K. Wager

### 3069. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. Robin Musgrave due to celebrating his 70<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

### 3070. Chairman's Report.

The Chair's report is very short this month. Since our last meeting the Chair has presented Bere Alston Primary School with their Tommy. We chose a Tommy who had lived in Frog Street and so this was close to the School and seemed appropriate.

The chair has also presented the 4 members of the Neighbourhood Plan group who could not attend the Christmas gathering with their thank you gifts. They were all very appreciative and wished their thanks to be conveyed to Council.

### 3071. To meet with the Rev. N. Law Vice Chairman of Beregen.

Rev. Law – updated Council on Beregen's financial situation. As you will all know the Playschool moved to a dedicated premises at the School last September, however for Beregen this meant the loss of a large slice of income, all told £7,000.

We are looking for a way forward such as fund raising events to keep going, we are trying to maintain our balances for the next 12 months.

Council has supported us in the past and we would ask if you would take over payment of the following statutory items such as the hall lift maintenance contract at £315 per month plus an unknown element which does not include callouts; the Fire Extinguisher, alarm system and emergency light contract at £731 per annum; and the safety carpets in the hall and foyer which Council already pays 50% of at the moment £182, also the insurance at £680. The other costs involved in running the hall and office will be met by Beregen who will continue to pay their share and do the day-to-day things to keep the hall running. Cllr. Leithall – by what you have said you are several thousand pounds down.

Rev. Law “we have £2,000 reserves and we will try to raise funds over the next few months”.

Rev. Law was asked “what ideas the group have for the down stairs room and what have they done so far”? We have approached business to see if they could make use of it but we did not get anywhere. We will be holding such things as events to show people around, Chef's evening, wine tasting, and a food hub to raise awareness in the Parish. We would also like to make greater use of the Soft Play equipment, show case local projects, also set up a Dedicated Community of Friends.

The Chairman – you have heard what the Rev. Law has had to say, has anyone any questions.

Cllr. Maycock – with other income if Council covers the short fall would you be able to cover your costs?

Rev. Law – Yes.

Cllr. Reed – If we take up the burden on the precept do we have enough slack?

Cllr. Lamb – I have been involved with Beregen since they worked the scheme up over 10 years ago, I know the difference that has been made by Beregen looking after the hall, they have done a lot more than we could. It has been a remarkable achievement. I would like to see Bere Ferrers Parish Council support Beregen as it would be cheaper in the long run for them to run the hall with the resources they have.

Cllr. Page-Bailey – contracts that have vat on, would it not be better to take over these as we can reclaim it back.

Rev. Law – all the ones I have mentioned are the vat contracts.

Cllr. Reed – proposed that we make a decision at item 10 on the agenda, to set Precept for 2019-20, seconded by Cllr. Wager. The majority were in favour.

**3072. Notification of items for information at the discretion of the Chairman. No action can be taken on these items.**

1. Cllr. Rogers – we have had a meeting with one of the Judges from Britain in Bloom on what we can do and her advice is the Pennant Scheme.

The group are coming up with a plan, Sue Fisher is also involved, there is a lady in the village who has joined us and she is a wonderful fund raiser. Beryl Mills Bere Alston Carnival Chairman has talked about the hanging baskets.

There will be a route the judges will take which will have areas for judging starting with Hollies garden which I hope will be turned into a wild flower garden, then on to The Downs, Fore Street, all people who would like to join in with say hanging baskets or window box's will be most welcome.

Cllr. Rogers asked if we could turn the Mosaic area into a sensory garden.

The judges would continue on to school where we would like to do something with the raised garden outside the school gate - it is full of grass and weeds; does anyone know who it belongs too?

The next meeting will be 25<sup>th</sup> February. Cllr. Rogers was asked when the judging was planned. This will be in July.

We also need to get advice from the Gardening Club.

2. Cllr. Boot-Handford – has had an email from the Workman re Cemetery store, stating that rain has been coming through and bringing asbestos dust with the rain water into the main building. Discussions took place as to whether he should enter his workshop or maybe find temporary storage- one option was the dog field container.

Clerk to chase SMP Roofing again to get a date for repair of the roof.

**3073. To approve the minutes of Full Council held on 11<sup>th</sup> December as a true record and taken as read.**

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed approval of the minutes of Full Council, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

Matters Arising

Minute 3018(2) Cllr. Reed – the Crowd funding was successful.

Cllr. Reed – has sent his letter re; compensation from County due to potholes at Weir Quay to Cllr. Sanders, we will wait to see what happens next.

Minute 3019 (3011)- The Clerk reported that the locks on the new notice boards are very stiff so much so that the Workman has broken one of the keys on the Bere Ferrers board. The Clerk contacted Nathan to inform him, he is off work for 3 months but hopes to get someone to look at them.

**SO RESOLVED**

**3074. To approve and adopt the minutes of the Plans meeting held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of January and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Reed proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Wager.

Matters Arising

Minute 3027. Cllr. Reed – Air Band were closely and carefully challenged and gave good replies, and a good compromise, committee thinks the idea of a wooden pole was a good result.

Minute 3031- The Clerk has had a reply from the Enforcement Officer.

Minute 3036 Cllr. Reed – regarding Consultation where West Devon will not be sending paper copies of the plans as and from 1<sup>st</sup> April; they will be sent electronically. Page 5 clearly sets out barriers and solutions. I do not think it's a good idea for Parishes and Borough to work entirely on line, what about parishioners being able to see the drawings and plans.

Minute 3031- Enforcement Cases Cllr. Reed – can we try to find out why some cases are on the list for four years.

Cllr. Reed proposed adoption of the Plans minutes, seconded by Cllr. Wager.

**SO RESOLVED.**

**3075. To approve and adopt the minutes of the Open Spaces meeting held on the 15<sup>th</sup> January and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Dennis proposed approval of the Open Spaces minutes, seconded by Cllr. Wager.

**Matters Arising**

Minute 3036. The Clerk read the following email from Cllr. Lamb;

This is to confirm my conversation that the Caloo Hangout YS107, does not require planning permission in accordance with part 12 of the General Permitted Development Order, as it applies development by local authorities, Parish Councils etc., because the maximum height of 2.5m does not exceed the exemption up to 4m height. I was advised by WDBC Planning Officer Claire Stuart.

**Minute 3038.** The Clerk read the following reply from Mr. & Mrs. Rickeard;

Thank you for your letter informing us that there will be a bonfire on the allotments on the 23<sup>rd</sup> January. We greatly appreciate being told and also that you will be taking the wind direction into account.

We understand one of your workmen will be in attendance all day to ensure that unsuitable material will not be burnt (e.g. plastic, painted wood, plant material etc.). We trust that the bonfire will not extend beyond the one day.

Many thanks for your careful and considered management of this issue.

Minute 3040- Cllr. Hanson queried the Precept figure as it was agreed a sum of £2238 should be proposed, subsequently a further £200 for defibrillator maintenance making it £2438, but the figure minuted was £2738. The Clerk to investigate.

Cllr. Dennis proposed adoption of the minutes of the Open Spaces, seconded by Cllr. Hanson.

**SO RESOLVED**

**3076. To discuss possible candidates for the Mayoral Awards.**

Discussions took place. Cllr. Reed proposed John Harris who was a major help in the Weir Quay Hub Club. Cllr. Page-Bailey suggested the people involved in the Neighbourhood Plan Granville Starkey, and do we know if they give the award posthumously if so Cllr. Mike Benson, also Maria Hill for her work on the Tommie's.

Cllr. Dennis felt that Phoenix Rinkowski should be put forward for his work with the Youth Hut in the under 18 Group as he shows a lot of promise.

John Harris's nomination to be actioned by Cllr. Reed,

Potential nominations to Granville Starkey and Mike Benson to be actioned by Cllr Maycock,

Phoenix Rinkowski's nomination to be actioned by Cllr. Dennis.

**3077. Internal Audit to be carried out by Cllr. Page-Bailey and Cllr. Pengelly.**

Cllr. Page-Bailey started the audit and realized that because there were some issues, they would be doing the same audit as last time, defer to Open Spaces meeting.

### 3078. Report from Cllr. Lamb on West Devon Borough Council

Cllr. Lamb- the TAP fund will end on Brexit day.

I am sure you are all familiar with the proposed new hotel to be built in Tavistock at Abbey Rise car park. This is being undertaken with a scheme to produce income from the Borough's investments. This is to be an 80 bed hotel; obviously this will mean a loss of 56 car parking spaces for the town. The hotel will provide 40 car parking spaces for their guests. There is to be a public meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup> February 6.45pm at Kilworthy Park on the issue.

### 3079. Correspondence.

- a) The Clerk asked for the following accounts to be paid;
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| 1. Steve Hingston- Replacement gate post and repair to gate into Playpark. | £185.00 |
| 2. F. Davis- Starter cord and spark plug hedge cutter + labour.            | £17.50  |
| 3. C. Malham – Travel Expenses CILCA course to Yeovil & return.            | £88.43  |
| 4. Tavistock & District Local Transport Partnership. Donation.             | £50.00  |
| 5. 1 Less Worry Payroll Services- pay sheets for January.                  | £36.00  |
| 6. Post Office Ltd- Broadband account.                                     | £130.44 |
| 7. Society of Local Council Clerks- 4 day course CILCA.                    | £408.00 |

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed payment of the accounts, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

- b) West Devon Borough Council- The future of rural and town centre toilet facilities.

The future of rural and town centre toilet facilities moves to the next committee stage at West Devon Borough Council.

In order to meet growing budget pressures, the Borough Council has had to look closely at services which aren't funded by central government and which are not a statutory service. They have been trying to find solutions to the funding shortage by working hard with local parish and town councils to see how they can keep toilets open, particularly where the local need for a public toilet was felt to be necessary.

Over the past few months, there have been a number of detailed discussions in the affected communities to reach a decision on each toilet provision. During these meetings, the Borough Council offered parish councils a number of options: firstly, an option to take on full responsibility for the public toilets in their area, including a transfer of the freehold or leasehold property, or a second option to make a contribution towards the cost of running public toilets equivalent to 75% of all costs. This will not affect BFPC as we already pay for public toilets upkeep.

- c) West Devon Borough Council - Become a Borough Councillor at West Devon and change the future-

Are you considering putting yourself forward to become a Borough Councillor in the 2019 Local Elections? If so, West Devon Borough Council is holding an open evening for residents.

The Open Evening will be held at Killworthy Park, Tavistock on Monday 25 February at 6.30 p.m. and will include information about the role of Borough Councillors, the workload involved, and how to put your name forward.

Sophie Hosking, Executive Director and Head of Paid Service at West Devon Borough Council, said: "Standing as a Borough Councillor may seem daunting, but everyone has something that they can bring to the role. If you want to make a real difference to your community and are passionate about where you live and want the best for your area, then you really should consider becoming a Borough Councillor. All newly elected Councillors will receive an induction pack and training and will be offered support from existing Members and officers.

The role is both fulfilling and demanding and, in light of the extensive challenges that are currently facing the Council, effective Community Leadership is absolutely vital."

Borough Councillors have three main areas of responsibility: representing the people in their area; community leadership, and formulating policy and the annual budget. All Councillors are entitled to claim a Basic Allowance, plus reimbursements for travel, subsistence and/or dependants' carers.

In order to stand as a Borough Councillor, candidates need to be 18 or over and a British, Commonwealth or European Union Citizen, on the electoral roll or have worked or occupied as an owner or tenant any land or premises in the Borough for at least one year.

For more information, come along to the open evening, or email [Member.Services@swdevon.gov.uk](mailto:Member.Services@swdevon.gov.uk)

d) Devon County Highways- Snow Warden update dated Monday 28<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

The following press release was being distributed yesterday evening. Please keep an eye on the forecast and only activate your plans when your thresholds are met. We are sending gritters out again this morning on Dartmoor as a precaution due to the forecast predicting heavy snow lunchtime today.

#### PRESS RELEASE

Devon County Council is urging people to be prepared for the possibility of snow this week.

The Met Office has issued a Yellow Warning of snow and ice conditions from midday tomorrow (Tuesday 29 January) which could have the potential to cause travel disruption.

Although any snow is not expected to be widespread, the current forecast is that higher ground, such as Dartmoor and Exmoor, could face up to 5cm of snow. Haldon and Telegraph Hills may see a small amount of snow, some of which could affect tomorrow evening's rush hour.

Road surface temperatures will be close to zero in most of the county overnight tonight, but it will fall below freezing in East Devon, Mid Devon and Dartmoor.

The County Council's gritters will be treating many of the main routes across the county overnight, with a widespread heavy frost and icy conditions expected tomorrow morning. Untreated surfaces could be hazardous.

Devon County Council, Highways England and Devon and Cornwall Police have been liaising closely and multi-agency conferences have been held to ensure that the Haldon/Telegraph Hill Plan is ready to be activated if needed.

Councillor Stuart Hughes, Devon County Council Cabinet Member for Highway Management, said: "There is a risk of snow this week, with the first spell of wintry showers expected from tomorrow afternoon, so we would urge everyone to be prepared. Our advice is to plan your journey, keep an eye on the weather forecast and please take extra care when travelling."

The County Council is reminding people of the following advice:

- Avoid overnight travel unless absolutely essential as roads will always be more hazardous at night with less traffic and colder temperatures;
- Never assume a road has been salted. Remember that showers or rain will wash salt off roads leaving them prone to ice, and in extreme cold even salting will not stop ice from forming;
- Allow additional time for your journey and reduce your speed;
- Drive with care and according to the conditions;
- If you have vulnerable or elderly neighbours, think about how they could be helped through the cold spell;
- Try to maintain indoor temperatures to at least 18C, particularly if you are not mobile, have long term illness or are 65 or over;
- Listen to local radio for updates on current weather conditions and ensure you are stocked with food and medications.

For more information and travel advice from Devon County Council visit: [www.devon.gov.uk/winter\\_travel](http://www.devon.gov.uk/winter_travel) or for updates on Twitter follow @DevonAlert

#### 3080. **Questions from any members of the public at the discretion of the Chairman.**

A parishioner informed Council that they get wet through while waiting for a bus at Pilgrim Drive, how do we get a bus shelter? There are two sites; the other one is the junction of Whitehall Drive and Broad Park Road.

The Chairman thought this should be referred to Open Spaces.

Cllr. Lamb advised contact Gulworthy Parish Council as they have just put one in.

Clerk to action.

3081. **To approve and adopt the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes meeting held on the 22<sup>nd</sup> January and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.**

Cllr. Page-Bailey proposed approval of the minutes of Finance and General Purposes, seconded by Cllr. Pengelly

Matters arising

Minute 2057 –Cllr Pengelly, Cllr. Crozier and Cllr Page-Bailey met with the Sales Manager Gary from Rhino Play with regards to finding a place to put the swing, Gary has agreed to install it at Rhino’s cost, placed to the South west side of the park with the necessary surrounding and rubber chip. Rhino also gave the Sarah Park Sub-committee a quote for the rubber chip to replace the wood chip when they have completed the drainage. Rhino will look at what item of equipment they could put in between the Zip slide and the toddler swings. Rhino will install the swing on the 11<sup>th</sup> February.

Minute 3005- regarding on-line banking - Cllr. Page-Bailey stated that Barclays Bank do on-line banking where you can view statements on line, there is a safety aspect with this one. We need to view statements on line but would not take the next step to do on line banking.

Cllr. Boot-Handford needs to take the next item in Part 2 Standing order P3 and she asked the Clerk to leave the room.

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed Council goes into part two Standing order P3, seconded by Cllr. Reed. All were in favour.

Cllr. Boot Handford agreed to take notes.

The Clerk left the room.

The Clerk was recalled back into the meeting.

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed committee come out of part two, seconded by Cllr. Hanson.

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed that South West Council be employed to undertake consultancy work, seconded by Cllr. Crozier a vote was called for Cllr. Dennis asked for a recorded vote. The following were for the proposal; Cllr. Crozier, Cllr. Chapman, Cllr. Pengelly, Cllr. Maycock, Cllr. Reed, Cllr. Leithall, Cllr. Lamb, Cllr. Rogers, Cllr. Page-Bailey and Cllr. Boot-Handford. Those against the proposal Cllr. Dennis, Cllr. Hanson and Cllr. Wager. Motion Carried.

Minute 3058. The Clerk asked that SCP be put in front of the scale on the staff wages. Also the Toilet cleaner has been omitted, add Toilet Cleaner NLW rate £8.01.

Cllr. Page-Bailey proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Leithall.

**SO RESOLVED**

3082. **To Formally approve the Precept for 2019-20.**

Discussions took place on the figures, the Clerk asked that the defibrillator budget be put up to two hundred pounds, also the emptying of the litter bins be put in at £160.00 also discussions took place about VAT being returned to committees.

Cllr. Hanson proposed that this Council will support Beregen and asked that £1,400 be added to the Precept to cover the proposed accounts, seconded by Cllr. Leithall.

Cllr. Dennis asked that we postpone the debate. The Clerk informed Council that she has been given until Friday the 8<sup>th</sup> to get our precept into West Devon.

Cllr. Lamb proposed that we re-convene a Special Council meeting for next Tuesday after Open Spaces with all the relevant figures, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 10.02pm.

Signed this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February 2019

Chairman.....