

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held in the Council Chamber Bere Alston on
Tuesday 12th February 2019

Present

Cllr. P. Dennis	Chairman
Cllr. H. Boot-Handford	Chairman of Council
Cllr. P. Crozier	Cllr. R. Leithall
Cllr. S. Hanson	Cllr. D. Pengelly

In Attendance. Cllr. B. Lamb.

3090. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Wager due to business.

3091. Notification of items for information at the discretion of the Chairman. No action can be taken on these matters.

1. Cllr. Lamb – Neighbourhood Plan and section 106. When the plan was completed the next stage was to meet with Tom Jones. Cllr. Lamb will be arranging a meeting and asking either Cllr. Reed or Cllr. Maycock to attend the meeting also.

2. Cllr. Rogers-

BERE ALSTON IN BLOOM – the areas so far suggested for displays.

Quarry Corner - at the start of the village.

West Devon actually gave permission for this area (now ‘Holly’s Flowers’) to be a wild flower garden, but kind friends, who had not heard about this, enthusiastically gave other plants in Holly’s memory. The original idea was to have wild flowers blooming for as much of the year as possible. This would also mean it would be much easier to look after, so although we don’t want to take everything out and start again, it is hoped that we can simply plant specific wild flowers behind the circle already there and, over time, gradually see the wild flowers blend with the other flowers.

Responsibility for this area could be taken by Helena Rogers and Sally Dunn, with whoever else would like to join in.

Fore Street

We hope that as many of the householders and shops will join in by creating displays on their own properties, but we do not want to burden those who would find this difficult, so the Carnival Committee have hanging baskets that could be used if anyone would like to use them. Maybe we could also find some window boxes if anyone would like one – and someone to fix them for the householder.

Would one of you like to take responsibility for contacting the residents/shop managers to see who would be willing to join in, or would let someone else provide baskets or boxes for them?

The Parish Hall Area

This includes the area opposite the hall, which one person suggested might be a ‘Sensory Garden’.

The other area is the grass patch beside the hall. The Youth Group have been talking to the Parish Council about having some kind of shelter there for their use, and Sue Fisher has suggested the young people might like to grow vegetables or fruit there that they can cook and eat – since Sue led a cookery course for them some time ago!

Would someone like to take responsibility for liaising with Vicki, the Youth Worker and finding out what they would like to do and what help they need?

The Primary School

Mrs. Cripps, the Head Teacher, has expressed an interest in letting the children take part. Alan Reid has been involved at the school in this respect already, so maybe he will know what is wanted there. But there is also a brick-built raised flower 'tub' at the entrance to the school that several people have asked about planting up. At the moment it is full of grass and weeds. We need to contact West Devon Council to ask permission to do this.

Is there someone who could volunteer to oversee this area, working with Mrs. Cripps and/or Alan Reid to start something at the school?

Please contact Helena if you can take responsibility for getting a group together to help in one of these areas above, so that we can include as many people as possible to help.

The next meeting of the 'committee' will be on February 24th, and if we decide to go ahead with entering 'Britain in Bloom' (at the lowest level), it has to be registered with the RHS by March 9th.

3092. To discuss the request for a bus shelter at the corner of Pilgrim Drive.

Mr. Roger Parton was asked to explain what they would like. He stated they would like a bus shelter at the junction of Pilgrim Drive and Bedford Street, as they get very wet waiting for the bus, and possibly provision of a litterbin nearby. The neighbours thought it was a good idea. The Clerk read an email from James Chalcraft (ex Gulworthy Councillor), as they have just recently erected one outside the school.

Cllr. Lamb tabled some designs; there are five choices ranging from £2,500. Cllr. Lamb will get together with Mr. Parton and work out what and where they want it, and Cllr. Lamb and the Clerk to fill in the application for Communities Together Funding.

Cllr. Hanson proposed that Cllr. Lamb and Mr. Parton work together to further this project, seconded by Cllr. Dennis. To be actioned by Cllr. Lamb.

3093. Matters Arising from the minutes of the 15th January and taken as read.

Matters Arising.

Minute 2036(1985) – The workman has burnt up all the dumped wood on the lower half of the allotment, but allotment holders were not happy as they wanted to know why they could not have bonfires.

2041. Cemetery store roof, the Clerk stated that the last time she had spoken to the roofing company they were to be starting the work in another week. Also the Clerk has still not heard back from the insurance company.

The workman has been in-touch with Cllr. Boot-Handford about the store room and asbestos contamination, specifically whether the company would clean it out. Clerk to confirm the situation with the company.

It was agreed that Cllr. Dennis and the workman sign off the work when finished.

Minute 3048(1) Dog fouling at Bere Ferrers Recreation field - the Clerk received the following email from Mrs. Birtwistle;

"I was up there yesterday and despite heavy rain there were still large deposits especially near the gate near the road. The sign is very faded and could do with being bigger and both sides of the gate."

Cllr. Crozier – there is dog fouling and I have spoken with some of the dog walkers who are aware there is a dog walker who does not pick up after their dog.

The bottom gate needs the sign moved so it can be seen, and there needs to be a bigger sign in a more prominent place at the main entrance.

3094. To meet with BAUFC Youth team representative.

The Chairman welcomed Steve Damon to give an update on the youth football teams.

“We were delighted to achieve a double promotion; we’ve been moved from division 4 up to division 2 this is great achievement for the youngsters, and we wish to launch an under 9s team next year. Would it be possible to mark out another pitch for the under 9s, between the cycle track and existing pitch and parallel to the hedge; there will be no permanent structures.

The BAUFC are supporting us as well; we also have two volunteers to be managers, and we will keep doing the Mini Kickers.

If you follow us on Facebook you’ll see the good we are doing - most recently we donated toys to the children spending Christmas Day in Derriford Hospital.”

Cllr. Boot-Handford reported that Mr. Westlake had been in touch to say that they are now members of CASC but the Inland Revenue had sent the paper work to the wrong address.

Cllr. Dennis proposed that Council give the youth team permission to mark out another pitch, seconded by Cllr. Hanson.

3095. Financial Statements.

The Clerk explained that 4445 is the cost centre for the Recreation Field, the £6,065 is made up of £3,214 for purchase of Play Equipment, work on the Recreation Field entrance transferred from Ear Marked reserves Devon Air Ambulance £2,436 and the balance of £415 for the work at Bere Ferrers field entrance.

Cllr. Hanson proposed acceptance of the statement with the above explanation, seconded by Cllr. Crozier. All were in agreement.

3096. Revisit the precept to update the figures.

The Clerk explained that the Vat will no longer be returned to committees, in this case the Recreation Committee must increase their precept by £1,000 to £3,438. Cemetery will need to increase their precept by £200 to £760.

Cllr. Dennis proposed acceptance of these figures, seconded by Cllr. Hanson, all were in agreement.

3097. Report from BARP.

Cllr. Pengelly – The new swing at Sarah Park is still not installed.

Cllr. Pengelly asked Rhino for a quote for the rubber chip for Sarah Park they have quoted £13,000 because there is stone under the wood chip so it will need a 12” layer not a 3” like The Down. Cllr. Hanson wished this to be queried. Discussions took place and it was agreed that the sub-committee need to look into this.

Cllr. Pengelly- the Britain in Bloom competition - BARP hope to spruce up the play park on The Down with some flowers.

3098. Update on Sub Committee Road Infrastructure at the Cemetery.

Cllr. Dennis – We had a meeting last night with Jeremy Maddock and the workman, and from that meeting we have a revised plan of the Cemetery; Mr. Maddock will superimpose the grave plot layout on the new drawing.

We are looking into the root system of the existing trees which the workman surveyed, and he does not think they will spread under the new drive or the graves.

The workman looked at the new plan as to where the road is going, he has some concerns about the tight sweep to the left up to the store. Mr. Maddock is happy to go up with the workman to discuss the problems that have come up.

There had also been some talk about the lych-gate being very narrow, but it was agreed that this would have to come up as another project in the future.

We also need to talk with the Undertakers to take advice about the surfaces of the paths that they take the gurneys over.

When we are ready Mr. Maddock has offered to draw up the Tender Specifications.

Report by the workman on the Cemetery hedge area for the track;

“Inside the Cemetery trees on the back hedge area 11 and 9 of these are large.

Trees growing in the hedge 7 and 6 of these will be large.

There are 3 Lleylandi, evergreen trees, two of which are large.

There are also sycamores, oaks, ash, birch and cherry.

All trees are healthy, there is no need to remove any of the trees for the track to be carried out in my opinion.

The two large Lleylandi could be pruned back to the main trunk to gain some more room if needed. Committee accepted this report from the workman.”

3099. Routine safety inspection reports for the Parish Recreation and Play parks.

The Down

Cllr. Hanson – reported that The Down play park has a clean bill of health.

Sarah Park

Cllr. Hanson- the main entrance gate still needs looking into as it will not swing shut. The Clerk hopes to get this looked at tomorrow.

Bere Ferrers. Cllr. Crozier- The field is looking much the same as last time.

3100. To Review Terms of reference.

Cllr. Hanson had reviewed the Terms of Reference and proposed that they remain fit for purpose unmodified, seconded by Cllr. Boot-Handford.

3101. Proposals for headings for the next financial year on the new accounts sheets.

After some discussions Cllr. Hanson and Cllr. Boot-Handford felt that all utilities from each committee should have their own cost centres. Also we need to distinguish between different travel expenses.

Cllr. Boot-Handford to set up a sample spread sheet with guidelines for cost centres and refer them to F. & G.P.

3102. Correspondence.

- 1.** Roger Moore. BAUFC – Further to our attendance at the meeting on the 15th January to discuss the request by the football club for security of tenure over the facilities at the Recreation Field I am writing to provide further comment on this issue. We are appreciative of the Council spending time considering this issue. After discussions in which it was pointed out in this letter that the club were talking about a lease and a licence, if the club are happy we lease the building and give a licence for the pitch, which would satisfy our concerns and give them what they require.

It was agreed that this becomes an agenda item for next month with plenty of time allocated for discussions between the Committee and BAUFC.

3103. Proposals for next meeting.

1. Sarah Park drainage.
2. To inspect the updated Plans for the Cemetery.
3. To further discuss football pitch security of tenure with BAUFC.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.40pm

Signed this 26th day of February 2019.

Chairman.....