

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held in the Council Chamber Bere Alston on Tuesday 11th June 2019

Present

Cllr. E. K. Wager	Chairman
Cllr. B. Lamb	Chairman of Council
Cllr. P. Crozier	Cllr. R. Leithall
Cllr. M. Flicker	Cllr. D. Pengelly
Cllr. S. Hanson	

In Attendance. Cllr. H. Rogers, Cllr. P. Dennis.

75. Declaration of interest.

Cllr. Rogers declared an interest in Britain in Bloom.

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

1. Cllr. Rogers – several people have contacted me with regards to the removal of the two hanging baskets from the outside of the toilets. The Clerk explained that the Workman removed them as he has had complaints about bees in the toilet which were encouraged by the flowers. The Workman reported that a parishioner had been stung and stated that she could sue the Council as they were encouraging bees by having the baskets there. Discussions took place. Cllr. Rogers asked if we can have the baskets put back, with an apology to Martin for removing them in the first place. It was agreed to wait a short while then put the hanging baskets back up. Cllr. Wager asked for a vote on putting the baskets back, 6 for and 1 abstention. Motion carried.
2. Cllr. Rogers- we have tried to get help cleaning the main street with no avail, could we ask the workman to clear the weeds? The Clerk has spoken with the Locality Officer and asked if the road sweeper could come out on the 11th of July and tidy up before the judging on the 12th; she will enquire.

77. Matters Arising from the minutes of the 14th May and taken as read.

Matters Arising.

Minute 3212 – Diana Mitchell. On behalf of Bere Ferrers Villagers Group, thank you very much for your contribution of £100.00 towards the cost of flattening the cycle track - it is much appreciated as it has been an expensive exercise! However, we think Ron Ball has done an excellent job.

Cllr. Lamb – the banks have been formed around the car park area also.

78. Update on the Lease with BAUFC.

The Clerk has had emails from Mr. Russell Moore with regards to the lease. On informing him that Open Spaces has agreed to grant a 10 year lease on the Pavilion and a licence on the pitch, Mr. Moore asked that we put the matter on hold whilst he clarifies with the club that this approach is

acceptable to them. Our understanding is that the proposal was for a 10 year lease on the whole facility. The suggested approach of two agreements will prevent the club seeking grant funding for any part of the facility other than the Pavilion.

After much debate the club has decided to continue the use of the facilities under the current ongoing user agreement.

The immediate issue for the club is to repair and replace the perimeter fencing which is declining due to a combination of vandalism and rot. This will be a major expense but one the club is working towards. The repairs and refurbishment of the clubhouse pavilion is a major project and the club feel it is not ready to approach this at the present time. This will of course come to the fore at some point in the near future and we can approach the council again at this time with regards to tenure.

Thank you and your committee for their time spent on this matter and I hope that the relations with the club continue on the newly found better footing.

Discussions took place, it was agreed that Council go ahead with the preparation of the lease, Clerk to approach DALC and Bright LLP Solicitors. Agenda item for next month.

79. Financial Statements.

Cllr. Hanson asked the Clerk to pass on her approval of the work done by the Assistant Clerk on the spread sheets.

- a) Cllr. Hanson has a couple of questions. Last month we had a cost centre 4455 for emptying the skip, but it is not on this sheet. The Clerk explained that Open Spaces no longer contribute towards emptying the skip and they did not precept to do so.
- b) Cllr. Hanson- Cost centre 4500 Allotment Expenditure, why is it that we have spent our budget already? The Clerk explained that Devon County did not bill us for our half yearly payment for Michaelmas until this financial year and we also had this year's half year one at the same time.
- c) Cllr. Hanson the last query is cost centre 4255 Business Rate why is it £121.00. The Clerk explained that the business rate is divided into 10 monthly payments and monies over are put on the first payment to make 9 equal payments.
- d) The Clerk explained that an Ear Marked Reserve will need to be set up for the bus shelter TAP funding and the basket swing at Sarah Park, also TAP funding, to clarify where the funding for both these items has come from. To set up an Ear Marked reserve a journal is required and a minute number. Cllr. Crozier proposed that a new Ear Marked Reserve be set up for Open Spaces TAP fund grants in general, in the new accounting system, seconded by Cllr. Hanson.

Cllr. Hanson proposed acceptance of the financial statements, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

80. Report from BARP.

Cllr. Pengelly – BARP could not find anyone to help with planting the flower garden up for Britain in Bloom in the play area at The Down, BARP will not be undertaking this now.

81. Youth 2 Youth

Cllr. Lamb and Cllr. Leithall had drawn up a service agreement for the Youth 2 Youth Shelter; this was to prove they had security of tenure of the ground to be able to claim their Lottery grant. Cllr. Leithall had some changes which he brought to committee. Discussions took place and it was agreed to accept the alterations.

Cllr. Lamb proposed acceptance of the updated agreement, copy to Vicki Lloyd for her acceptance.

We expect the Youth 2 Youth to insure the structure but Council will insure for public liability, seconded by Cllr. Hanson.

82. To discuss the progress on Sarah Park Drainage.

Cllr. Lamb gave a review of the work carried out so far, we hope to have a grand opening on Friday with the press and Cllr. Philip Sanders, also thanks to Cllr. Pengelly there will be a group of children from the school to assist.

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

Cllr. Dennis – On the 27th April the workman and Steve Pascoe the undertaker met up at the Cemetery, Mr. Pascoe brought in all his gear to help define what space he would need to drive in and out without having to reverse.

Mr. Maddock has up until now not charged Council for the work on the plans, but he will have to charge for drawing up the road infrastructure. Discussions took place. Cllr. Lamb thought this is an opportunity to apply for a grant with matched funding; Cllr. Leithall would support this as long as the work is done with matched funding and not precept monies.

Cllr. Dennis asked that this committee accept the road infrastructure on the drawing marked in blue. Cllr. Crozier proposed that having approved the drawing this committee accepts a modification on the roads (lined blue) to extend across the dog exercise field, with a new functional entrance and a pleasant gate, seconded by Cllr. Leithall.

84. To discuss problems with the Lawn Flite mower.

The Clerk has been informed by the workman that the back axle has broken on the mower; he has been given a price for repairing the mower (a new back axle and belts) which would cost £700.00, Francis Davies has quoted for a second-hand back axle and new belts at £300.00. Discussions took place. Cllr. Leithall proposed that we go ahead with the second-hand back axle and enquire if there is a guarantee say of 3 months, seconded by Cllr. Hanson, all agreed.

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

The Down

Cllr. Pengelly reported that there is a screw sticking out on the edging board on the right hand side of the park running level with the car park. Workman to deal with in the morning.

86. Monthly Inspection of Allotments Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers.

Bere Ferrers. The Clerk has had a phone call from the tenant of numbers 15 and 20 who assured her that they were being worked; number 15 is planted up with shallots. Cllr. Wager stated that the plot is covered in brambles.

Bere Alston. Cllr. Wager – Mr. Penny's sheds are still in a poor state and he now only has three chickens left and they have hardly any room.

87. Correspondence.

1. Works on trees in a Conservation Area: Ref 1149/19/TCA
Proposal T1 and T2 Oak trees – Fell.
Kiln Cottage, Weir Quay Bere Alston PL20 7BS. Mr. & Mrs A. Anderson.
The Clerk explained that she has had contact from Mr. & Mrs. Anderson with regards to the removal of 2 trees that are in a dangerous state, the Tree Warden has looked at them and agreed, but did say nothing can be done until the Parish Council agree.

Cllr. Wager proposed that this Council agrees with the Tree Warden that these trees are dangerous and need felling as soon as possible, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

The Clerk also had discussion with Mr. & Mrs Anderson about the seat on the verge as they felt the bank is liable to slip. Cllr. Wager and Cllr. Crozier have both been to view the trees and the area and do not feel there is any imminent danger.

- 2. Ian Parsons Leader and Church Secretary Bere Alston United Church – The Church would like to inquire if they could hold an open-air service in the recreation field on The Down, on Sunday 25th August at 10.30am. The service would last about an hour and a half and they would wish to follow it with a barbeque.

Cllr. Wager proposed that permission be granted for the service and barbeque, seconded by Cllr. Leithall, all agreed.

88. Proposals for next meeting.

- 1. Sarah Park drainage update.
- 2. Report from BARP
- 3. To inspect the updated Plans for the Cemetery,
- 4. To award the Eon Wager Allotment Cup.
- 5. Discuss progress on lease of Pavilion

There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.24pm

Signed this 25th day of June 2019.

Chairman.....