

Bere Ferrers Parish Council

At a meeting of the Bere Ferrers Parish Council held in Council Chambers, Bere Alston on Tuesday 28th January 2020.

Present

Cllr. B. Lamb	Chairman of Council
Cllr. P. Crozier	Cllr. D. Pengelly
Cllr. P. Dennis	Cllr. G.R. Reed
Cllr. M. Flicker	Cllr. H. Rogers
Cllr. R. Maycock	Cllr. A. Spry
Cllr. H. Peace	Cllr. E.K. Wager

380. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllr. Leithall due to holiday.

381. Chairman's Report.

On 14 January, I was invited to speak to the Over View & Scrutiny Committee of West Devon Borough Council during a debate on the reopening of the Tavistock Rail Line in the presence of Cllr Davies of Devon County Council, the Cabinet Member responsible for Devon Rail projects.

WDBC support the reopening and it would also appear that Cllr Davies shares these views unlike some of her officers, it was agreed to consider a lobby of the Transport Minister by the two Councils. The quoted £94 million cost consists of £44.7 million for land and buildings; the remaining balance consist of £6.7million for risk, £20.5 million for Optimism Bias and £22.7 million for inflation!

Each year we hold a Parish Dinner for members and after this meeting I would like to informally gather your views of your support, venues and whether some sport should be part of the programme.

No doubt Cllr Reed will bring to your attention the Devon Police programme of Operation ~Snap~.

Members of the Public are concerned about the frequent visits by Traffic Enforcement Officers to the village where there have been a number of confrontations because there does not appear to be any understanding or sympathy with some of the offenders. (Not Me!) Part of the problem is the ambiguity for the reserved lorry area from 7am to 11am, clearly signposted. It would appear that you can park there in the afternoon, but there is another small sign which forbids all private parking in the area which drivers do not appear to understand. I would ask that our Planning and Roads Committee consider this at their next meeting.

I also intend placing an article in Bere Link about our 20/21 Precept to avoid any backlash against this Council.

Finally, I am concerned how the request for an additional litter bin in Pilgrims Drive has been “kicked” around for some months and still without a decision. We need to work out a decisive route for such requests in the future because our present system just wastes everybody’s time.

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

- 1) Cllr. Reed reported people running along Trendle Lane, also the farmer at the far end had his dog run over. I sent an email to the police explaining what happened; a chance of any cover is zero on small roads like ours. It could cause a serious accident.
- 2) Cllr. Maycock – The section 106 on Bovis homes with regards the railway is not worth the paper it is written on.
- 3) Cllr. Maycock informed Council that the Neighbourhood Plans website will close in March. The Parish Council has an electronic version of documents 1 and 2, this is be put on Council’s website.
- 4) Cllr. Maycock – I see that all the rubbish from Down View is still piled at the end of the road. Cllr. Crozier – the company have gone bankrupt and the road is still un-adopted. Devon County are trying to get contractors to bring the roads up to standard for adopting.

383. To approve the minutes of the Full Council held on the 17th December as a true record and taken as read.

Cllr. Lamb proposed approval of the Full Council minutes, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

Cllr. Reed my name is missing from those present.

Matters Arising

Minute 348 (333) – The Workman has cleaned out all the gutters and fixed them back replacing seals. Cllr. Crozier stated there were nearly a dozen cans jammed down the pipe by the glass door.

SO RESOLVED.

384. To approve and adopt the minutes of the Footpaths and Environment meeting held on 9th January and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Matters Arising

Minute 355 (121) - Cllr. Wager stated that whenever the owner is home, they block off the footpath. This has been reported to County and he has had a letter with regards to blocking this path.

Minute 359 (c) - Electric car charging point in the village. Cllr. Crozier stated that in the West Devon Hub Committee report, there is a scheme promoted by Devon County Council to install charging points. Cllr. Crozier has asked that we be included in this scheme.

Minute 355 (127) - Cllr. Wager asked if someone could explain what Gods Acre is.

Cllr. Flicker – this is a scheme for Church Yards where they plant meadow flowers between graves. Reverend Nick Law has been organising this scheme. Cllr. Wager hoped they did not intend to dig up St. Andrews, as in the spring the area is carpeted with primroses.

Cllr. Dennis proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

SO RESOLVED.

385 To approve and adopt the minutes of the Plans meeting held on 14th January and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

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

SO RESOLVED.

386 To approve and adopt the minutes of the Open Spaces meeting held on the 14th January and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 366 - The Clerk recommends an amendment that this project for the Cemetery road goes ahead with a recommendation to F & G.P that the £15,500 from the Cemetery is used and further costs be sought from matched funding. Cllr. Lamb proposed the approval of the amendment, seconded by Cllr. Wager.

Minute 362 (1) - Cllr. Crozier handed around the dog notices for all to see.

Cllr. Wager proposed adoption of the Open Spaces minutes, seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

SO RESOLVED.

387. To approve and adopt the minutes of the Finance and General Purposes meeting held on the 21st January and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Pengelly proposed approval of the Finance and General Purposes minutes, seconded by Cllr. Wager.

Matters Arising

Minute 366 of Open Spaces, Finance & General Purposes to accept the amendment and recommends the whole scheme to Council tonight for adoption, and to get the

Cllr. Wager proposed Council adopt the scheme and go ahead with the work, seconded by Cllr. Crozier. A vote was taken, all present were unanimously for the amendment.

Minute 378 – Cllr. Reed proposed Committee go into Part 2, Standing Order 3 p, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

Discussions took place.

Cllr. Lamb proposed Committee come out of Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Maycock.

Minute 379 (2) – Bus shelter Lockeridge Road. Members of a group of people from Lockeridge Road have asked if they could have a bus shelter. At the time it was not possible. However we now have a possible source of money from Devon County. Cllr. Lamb will be meeting Tom Lee to check that the site is OK. Sarah Hanson is getting local people together and I will be meeting with them to get their support in erecting the shelter.

Cllr. Pengelly proposed adoption of the Finance & General Purposes minutes, seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

SO RESOLVED.

388. To set the Precept for 2020-21

The Clerk explained the figures. Cllr. Lamb stated we have not increased our precept but there is no Council support Tax this year, which means there will be no reduction of the Precept figure and residents will have an increased tax to make up the loss of £3,672 Government support.

Cllr. Wager proposed that the Precept for 2020-21 be set at £65,689, seconded by Cllr. Reed. A vote was called for this, was agreed unanimously that Council accepts the precept.

389. Internal Audit to be carried out by Cllr. Lamb and Cllr. Maycock

Cllr. Crozier and Cllr. Reed carried out the internal audit. Cllr. Crozier reported everything is in order.

390. Report from Cllr. Crozier on West Devon Borough Council.

Slowly picking up speed now after New Year etc.

The precept will be agreed at the maximum possible at £5 for D scheduled property.

This is worth about £43K to the Council.

The Council will be looking for Economy person to help promote Business in both WD & SH.

Also they will be appointing somebody to head the Climate Change Group and help produce costing to reduce the carbon footprint of our Council's.

Finally West Devon in conjunction with Devon County Council are in the process of having electric car chargers installed. I have asked for Bere Ferrers to be included.

391 Correspondence.

1) The Clerk sought payment for the following accounts:

a) Kompan Ltd – 2 swing seats & chains	£372.96
b) Eurooffice Ltd – ink cartridges	£30.39
c) Post Office Ltd – BT broadband & phone a/c	£244.19

Cllr. Dennis proposed payment, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

2) WDBC – Mayoral Awards closing date 28th February.

3) Devon County Council

Devon County Council (Traffic Management) Permit Scheme Order 2020

The above order was made on 20th January to introduce the Devon Permit Scheme for Road & Street Works and will come into force 2nd March 2020. The Council will operate a permit scheme under Part 3 of the Traffic Management Act 2004. The Council identified a strong business case to introduce a Roadworks Permit Scheme as it offers an opportunity to reduce journey delay & associated congestion/fuel emissions through better control & planning of highway works. The order & The Devon Permit Scheme for Road & Street Works, describing the types of works or activities for which, type of roads on which permits are required & all other details of the Scheme including the processes for applying for permits, level of fees, when & by whom they are payable at www.devon.gov.uk/workpermit-scheme & during usual office hours at the address below in main reception.

4) South West Water – Inspection of Water Fittings Public Toilets, Why? We need to carry out these inspections to make sure that your plumbing installations is correctly installed so that water we supply is not wasted or contaminated and is safe to drink. About the inspection – The officer will look at all visible pipework and every water outlet. If the Officer notices anything wrong he will discuss his findings with you and suggest anything that needs to be rectified.

5) GWR Mark Hopwood – We promised you an update on the new timetable once it had been in operation for a while. Generally, it is operating very well, and we are now offering more seats, more services and faster journeys on many of our routes.

There are some issues, and we are looking at how we can improve services in those areas, but overall, we have been pleased with the implementation and operation of the new timetable. Performance has been generally good albeit we have had some challenging days with the weather and, sadly, a significant increase in fatalities on the network

If you have any ideas or suggestions from your own experience of the timetable, please do let me know. We are continuing to use this special Mark Hopwood email address, while Mark is temporarily at South Western Railway, but the emails are coming to me and either Jane Jones or I will reply.

6) Mrs Rance – Parking issues on Chapel Street. I am writing to make you aware of the difficulties inconsiderate parking is causing on Chapel Street in Bere Alston. Vehicles double park either side of the road which means refuse collection, emergency vehicles and deliveries cannot get through. Please see the attached image. I have just spoken to a DPD delivery driver who was furious about the double parking. Please can you let me know who to contact with regards to implementing double-yellow lines along at least one side of the road along its length? Response to inform Highways.

7) Cllr. Crozier – There will be a year-long trial in Tavistock as black bags contain 23% food, 22% recyclable, 20% garden rubbish, the rest waste. Cllr. Wager asked what will happen to staff on 3 week rubbish collection, they will have nothing to do. Cllr. Crozier stated this will make a substantial cost saving.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.35 pm

Signed this date on 25th February 2020.

Chairman.....