

Bere Ferrers Parish Council

At a meeting of the Footpaths and Environment Committee held in the Council Chambers at Bere Alston on Tuesday 4th February 2020.

Present

Cllr. P.Dennis	Chairman
Cllr. B. Lamb	Chairman of Council
Cllr. M. Flicker	Cllr. H. Peace
Cllr. G.R Reed	Cllr. H. Rogers

In attendance. Cllr. P. Crozier, Cllr. D. Pengelly and Cllr. E.K. Wager

399. Apologies.

Apologies were received from Cllr. Spry due to a prior engagement.

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

- 1) Cllr. Flicker has made progress in seeking information on opening up the footpaths through Maristow Woods. It has been suggested that he goes into the Land Registry to find out who the lands belongs too. Cllr. Lamb suggested Cllr. Flicker set up a Task and Finish group.

401. Matters arising from the minutes of the meeting held on the 9th January and taken as read.

Matters Arising

Minute 355 (126). Cllr. Peace – the idea of spray painting on footpath numbers on, is not a good media, on investigation there are different surfaces to consider. Cllr Peace stated that Cllr. Spry would make up a metal plate and engrave it.

Minute 359 (b). Cllr Reed – Climate Change meeting – there were 11 people present, Kate Hardbottle hosted the meeting, interesting exchange with an assessment on how the media treats climate change.

Minute 359 (c). Electric car charging point – Cllr. Crozier said the Government have announced a sum of £800,000 for charging points in Devon, i.e. Tavistock, Okehampton and Chagford. Cllr. Crozier asked to have Bere Alston added to the list. The Clerk asked who would pay for the electricity. Cllr. Crozier explained that they were run by a leasing company who would pay for the electric.

402. Financial Statements.

The Clerk presented the financial statements with a breakdown on the codes. Cllr. Reed proposed acceptance, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

403. Footpath Matters.

On discussion it was agreed to change Footpath Problems to Footpath Matters.

- a) Cllr. Peace felt that when more Footpath Guides are re-printed, it should include reverse descriptions of the walks, as you do not always start as per the guide. Cllr. Peace has also found there are corrections needed, it would be best to send those to Cllr. Rogers.
- b) With regards to Cllr. Flickers request to visit Land Registry to ascertain the owners of the land, that is being looked into to open more footpaths, Cllr. Peace proposed that this Committee make available the sum of £20 for the Land Registry fees, seconded by Cllr. Dennis. All were in favour.

404. Footpath Inspection Forms.

The Clerk asked Cllr. Reed to re-send his, as she has not received them.

405. Environmental Issues. Litter bin Pilgrim Drive Car Park

a) The Clerk has contacted Dilys Lord and is awaiting a reply.

The Clerk presented the following costs for bins, reminding Committee that the emptying will gradually rise to £3 per bin, per week, i.e. £156 for a year. Discussions took place. Cllr. Lamb – The concept is that a bin is needed by the recycling bins. Cllr. Lamb proposed we purchase a bin at the cost of £164.46, excluding VAT. If the Clerk does not get a satisfactory reply from West Devon, that there was a bin there in the past. Also arrange that the bin be emptied by West Devon, seconded by Cllr. Reed. All were in agreement.

b) Cllr. Reed would like to see a Seminar on Climate Change held in the Village. Cllr. Reed to put forward a programme for the next meeting.

406. Correspondence.

1) Tom Lee Devon County Highways regarding the gritting of The Down. I have taken a look at our gritting route maps and cannot see that The Down has been on the gritting for some considerable time, if ever.

I have added a link to show what we do and don't grit, I would say that this road would not be a road that was required to be gritted.

If you would like to have a grit bin put on The Down we could look at doing that but we would have to remove one from somewhere else to do this. We are not adding further bins to the network at present. If you know of a grit bin that is not being used in the area let me know and I will take a look to see if it is one we could remove to put on The Down.

Cllr. Lamb asked that the Clerk contact Devon Air Ambulance to get their support to have the road gritted due to a 24 hour landing site on The Down.

407. Proposals for next meeting.

- 1) Update on progress of proposal to open more Footpaths.
- 2) Item Environment seminar.
- 3) Committee Terms of Reference.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9:00pm

Dated this 25th February 2020.

Signed by the Chairman.....