

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 14th March 2023.

Present:

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| Cllr. D Pengelly | Chair of the Committee |
| Cllr. P. Crozier | Chair of the Council |
| Cllr. V. Grose | Cllr. Leithall |
| Cllr. C. Shaw | |

In Attendance: Cllr. B. Lamb

532. Apologies

No apologies were received.

533. Declaration of Interest.

None were declared.

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

Cllr. Lamb updated the Committee on an incident in Fore Street, Bere Alston, where a lady fell due to a pot hole on the road and may have broken their ankle. The incident has been reported to Devon Highways and they have confirmed the person can put in a claim via their website.

Cllr. Graeme-Drury has given his resignation to the Council, but has requested to remain on the sub-committee that are looking at ways to improve the play spaces at The Down Recreation Field and Sarah Park, with the funds BARP will donate to the Council. It was agreed to leave the decision to the new Council, which will first meet at the Annual General Meeting on 16th May 2023.

535. Matters Arising from the minutes from the meeting held on 14th February 2023

The minutes were adopted and approved at a Council meeting held on Tuesday 28th February 2023.

Matters Arising

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| <u>Minute 476</u> | Regarding a statement published by the Police in the Tavistock Times that no anti-social behaviour has been reported since September 2022, Cllr. Crozier requires more information before taking the matter further with the Police. |
| <u>Minute 478</u> | The Trustees of BARP have confirmed to the Clerk that they plan to formally close down the charity at their next meeting on 16 th March 2023. |
| <u>Minute 480</u> | A notice has been placed in the cemetery informing residents that the Council are planning on tidying up the Memorial Garden. A notice will also be in the Berelink magazine and on social media. |

536. Request from Bere Alston in Bloom to repaint Bere Alston's benches and install a planter outside the toilets

Two members of the organization were present at the meeting. The planter will be painted 'National Trust green', is approx. 6 feet by 1.5 feet and 3 feet height and they request permission to place it outside the Bere Alston toilets. The Committee had no objection to this request.

They also requested to paint the gate next to the disabled toilet door in the same colour. The Clerk to look into whether the Council own the gates, before permission can be given.

The group had originally requested to repaint all the benches in Bere Alston, but at an Open Spaces meeting held on 14th February 2023, permission was only given for one bench, located in the Parish Hall Garden, to be repainted at this stage to gauge how it would look. The group confirmed this bench will also be painted 'National Trust green'.

The Committee requested that once painted, Bere Alston in Bloom attend a Full Council meeting to continue the discussion on them repainting all the other benches in Bere Alston.

There have also been some comments on the height of the benches and whether they are of the national standard height. The Clerk to check what the national standard height of benches is and report back at the next meeting.

Finally, discussions took place regarding the rail bench along the back of the Parish Hall Garden either needs removing or completely replaced. Members of the Committee and the Workman would review and report back at the next meeting.

537. Presentation of safety posters from the Bere Alston's scouts

The Scouts were not present at the meeting and will inform the Council when they would be able to attend another meeting to present the posters.

538. Request from a mobile pizza van requesting permission to trade on council property

Although discussed under Correspondence at a Full Council meeting, held on 28th February 2023, the request was not listed as an agenda item and resolutions can only be made about items that are listed on the agenda.

After discussions, Cllr. Pengelly proposed permission be granted on a trial basis, one evening per week, vacant by 9 pm, with the Council reserving the right to cancel at any time. The proposal was not carried as there was no seconder.

Cllr. King proposed the item be deferred to the next Full Council meeting on 28th March 2023, for a resolution to be made. Seconded by Cllr. Shaw.

539. Approve installation of wooden bench seat in the Bere Ferrers Recreational field

The seat has already been installed in the field and the Bere Ferrers Villagers Group wish to donate it to the Council. As the bench is currently not owned by the Council it won't come under the public liability insurance. After discussions, Cllr. Pengelly proposed the Council do not accept the bench, until it has been inspected by the Councils' Workman and another Councillor, to asset the safety of the bench. Seconded by Cllr. King.

540. Routine safety inspection reports for the Parish recreation and play areas

The Clerk confirmed that Outdoor Play have provided an estimate cost for the ropes, but would give a more accurate cost, when they are onsite at Sarah Park at the end of the month to install other equipment recently purchased.

541. Inspection of allotments at Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers

The Clerk has received an email from an allotment holder on the Bere Ferrers site, stating that many of the IBC water containers aren't connected to the down pipe of the Bere Ferrers Social Club.

It was discussed that the water containers are not owned by the Council and the Council are not responsible for supplying Water to the allotments. The allotment holders therefore need to arrange obtaining water from the Social Club directly with them and it was suggested that the holder's group together to arrange and pay for the water.

The Clerk has also received a complaint from an allotment holder in Bere Ferrers, stating drunk people going onto allotments. After discussions, the Clerk was asked to reply to the allotment holder and request that the situation be monitored and if any further incidents occurred, to report to the Clerk.

542. Update on the pest control management plan at the Bere Alston allotments, including posters

Implementing the pest control management plan for Bere Alston is still in progress and a further update will be given at the next open Space meeting.

543. Correspondence

1. An email from allotment holder at Bere Ferrers regarding the issue of water availability and day-to day issues, were discussed under item 542.
2. An email from the Hedgehogs R Us Highways Project asking the Council to part take in their project to raise awareness for Hedgehog conservation.

It was discussed that the Parish already have an active wildlife group who participate in hedgehog awareness projects and the hedgehog population in the area has increased over the years.

3. An email from Youth2Youth updating the Council that they are obtaining a quote to place 8mm 'vandal proof' Perspex around the outside of the Tin Shed in the Parish Hall Garden in order to provide more shelter for the youth. This has come about after a consultation with the young people on why they hang around at the front of the hall rather than in the Tin.
4. An email from the Chair of the Wildflower Meadow group stating the group have been informed that crab apples, which have been planted in the dog field are poisonous to dogs and asking whether the trees should be moved?

It was discussed that the trees shouldn't be moved until the Autumn and in the meantime to pick the apple buds off the trees as they grow. Where to move the trees to, will be discussed at a later meeting.

544. Agenda items for the next meeting

1. Open Spaces Financial Report for 2022-23.

545. Questions from the public present, at the meeting, at the discretion of the Chair

Members of the public present at the meeting asked no questions.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.56 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Dated this date 28th March 2023.