

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Council Chambers, Bere Alston on Tuesday 27th June 2023.

Present

Cllr. P Crozier	Chair of Council
Cllr. P. Dennis	Cllr. D. King
Cllr. V. Grose	Cllr. B. Lamb
Cllr J Maciejowska	Cllr. R. Maycock
Cllr. Pengelly	Cllr. C. Shaw
Cllr. E. Wager	

In Attendance: Cllr. I. Saxby

115. Apologies

An apology were received from Cllr. Leithall. The Council accepted his apology.

116. Declaration of Interests

There were no declaration of interest made.

117. Notifications of items of interest as the discretion of the chair. No action can be taken on these items.

Cllr. Pengelly – improvements to the Bere Alston playparks will be discussed at the Open Spaces meeting on 11th July 2023.

Cllr. Maciejowska brought up the problem of food poverty in the Parish. It was agreed to discuss this issue at a later meeting.

118. Chair's Report

The Bere Alston in Bloom judging will be on 12th July 2023 and the Council plan to tidy up the area around the Parish Hall before this date. The Council wish Bere Alston in Bloom every success.

119. To receive reports from the District Councillors

Cllr. Isabel Saxby – at a meeting held on 27th June 2023, the Borough Council met to elect Councillors on to the Hub and other Committees. The Leader of West Devon Borough Council is Cllr. Mandy Ewings and the Deputy leader is Cllr. Mark Renders. Cllr. Saxby will serve on the Scrutiny and Overview and Regeneration and Investment committees and all appointments are listed via the link. [Meet Your New Council - West Devon Borough Council](http://www.westdevon.gov.uk/Meet-Your-New-Council-West-Devon-Borough-Council).

120. To receive a report from the County Councillor

Due to a prior commitment, Cllr. P. Sanders was not present at the meeting. Cllr. Crozier confirmed that on behalf of Cllr. P Sanders, he contacted Devon Highways to ask why the work on Oestock Road could not be done consecutively. The response from Devon Highways was the work had been planned to be carried out in two separate schemes, the first of which had already been completed. The road diversion will be through Denham Bridge Road, but no HGV will be allowed via that diversion.

121. Housing Needs Survey – talk from Alex Rehaag, Principle Affordable Housing Officer, West Devon Borough Council

Alex Rehaag and her colleague Katie West outlined the Housing Needs Survey for Bere Ferrers and Bere Alston. It is a quick 5-minute survey and is asking for more understanding about the housing situation and what type of housing both communities need. The survey can be completed online (<http://bit.ly/3PKxR0D>), or residents will be able to come along to two drop-in sessions; Saturday 15th July 2023 10 am to 2 pm at the Bere Ferrers

Shop and Café and 12.30 pm – 2 pm at the Bere Alston Parish Hall. The survey is open till Friday 4th August 2023.

There will be separate report for Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers and the reports will be passed to the Parish Council, the Neighbourhood Plan group and be available to view on the West Devon Borough Council's website.

Cllr. Crozier thanked Ms Rehaag and Ms West for attending the meeting.

122. Report by Cllr. Lamb on Devon & Cornwall Rail Partnership

This item will be deferred to the next meeting, as all Councillors have been given enough time to read the document given out.

123. Co-option of the Parish Council's vacancies. To be taken into Part 2.

Cllr. Maycock proposed going into Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Pengelly.

Cllr. Lamb proposed coming out of Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Wager.

Cllr Lamb proposed Phil Archer and Margaret Patterson be co-opted as the new Councillors of the Parish. Seconded by Cllr. Wager. The Council accepted the resolution of the vote.

124. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Council meeting held on 30th May 2023 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Shaw proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowska.

There were no matters arising.

Cllr. Crozier proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. King.

SO, RESOLVED

125. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Plans & Highways meeting held on 6th June 2023 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Maycock proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

There were no matters arising.

Cllr. Maycock proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Wager.

SO, RESOLVED

126. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Footpaths & Environment meeting held on 6th June 2023 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Grose proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. King.

Matters Arising

Minute 74

Cllr. Maciejowska stated the stile by Ferry Farm may need repairing. She was asked to send a photo to Cllr. Grose.

Minute 75

Cllr. King is currently gathering information of the gradients of each footpath, which will be added to the next reprint of the Footpath guide. Cllr. Grose to discuss with landowners on whether signs of livestock in field can be added on certain routes.

Cllr. Grose proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Shaw.

SO, RESOLVED

127. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Open Spaces meeting held on 13th June 2023 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Pengelly proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Crozier

Matters Arising

Minute 90 The Workman to purchase concrete slabs that will be placed on the motorcycle parking area in the Parish Hall car park.

Minute 91 The Clerk to go out to tender for the Council's hedge trimming contract.

Minute 93 The Bere Alton allotment wildlife section will be inspected later in the year and any damaged saplings will be replaced by the Council.

Minute 95 Discussion on clearing vacant plots will be discussed at the Open Spaces meeting on 11th July 2023.

Cllr. Wager proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. King

SO, RESOLVED

128. To approve and adopt the minutes from the F & G.P meeting held on 20th June 2023 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Lamb proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Maycock.

Matters Arising

Minute 103 (28) The Clerk has requested an extensive the Land Registry an extension for the Parish Hall application. Cllr. Dennis stated he had received correspondence from a Surveyor requesting a £840 fee to value the Parish Hall and recreational field. Cllr. Dennis stated that all that was required was a valuation from the local Estate Agent, which he will contact directly.

Minute 110 An agreement on the hire charges for the recreational field and car parks have been finalised.

Minute 111 The Parish Council taking over the Southern Links Training EMR fund has not confirmed yet.

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

SO RESOLVED

129. To receive the Internal Audit Report 2022/23

The report had been sent out to all members prior to the meeting. Cllr. Crozier proposed acceptance of the report, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowska. All in favour.

130. Review and sign the Annual Governance Statement 2022/23

After review, Cllr. Dennis proposed acceptance of the statement, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowska. Cllr. Crozier, as Chair of the Council signed the statement.

131. Review and sign the Accounting Statement 2022/23

After review, Cllr. Shaw proposed acceptance of the accounting statement, seconded by Cllr. Crozier. Cllr. Crozier, as Chair of the Council and the Clerk signed the statement.

132. Confirm the date period of the public rights and publication of unaudited Annual Governance Accountability return for 2022/23

The Clerk confirmed the date period would be Thursday 29th June to Wednesday 9th August 2023. The Council took note of the dates.

133. Parish Hall carpark

This item will be deferred to the next Council meeting on 25th July 2023.

134. Correspondence

1. Email from Devon Communities Together:

'We are looking for more applicants as our grant scheme will be ending soon. With only £1,500 left, we encourage you to apply as soon as possible. For those who haven't applied yet, you can achieve a lot with our grant fund of up to £500 per group. This includes setting up new wildlife sites or changing the management of gardens, parks, green spaces, churchyards, orchards, ponds, ditches and buildings, in a way which will benefit wildlife.

How to apply? - Community Wildlife Groups, Town / Parish Councils, Schools and Multi-Academy Trusts and other not-for-profit organisations can apply for the fund. Collaborative partnership amongst groups are welcomed, however, the application will have to be made by a lead partner.

Please note, we do not fund the planting of annuals, where there is only short-term benefit, or planting trees as there are other sources of funding for this. For full details, download a copy of [WAD Grant Guidance 2023.docx \(live.com\)](#). To apply: [Wild About Devon – Community Wildlife Fund Application Form 2023 \(Page 1 of 5\) \(office.com\)](#)

2. An email from a member of the Invite from the Landulph Parish Council.

'As part of the Council we also have a Landulph Parish Climate Action Group, and at a recent meeting it was suggested about visiting neighbouring parishes, particularly Bere Ferrers as we are both riverside (Cargreen) and in the Tamar Valley and the AONB. We would very much like to arrange an informal visit to Bere Ferrers and we can exchange ideas about climate/environmental approaches and being part of the Tamar AONB. Our group has 7 members, both Parish Councillors including the Chair of our Parish Council, Martin Worth, and members of our community. We did wonder whether a Friday afternoon would be suitable, most of our members are free on a Friday but we are entirely flexible as to what days and times suit yourselves. I have written to you as Chair of the Council but if it is more suitable to write to another Council member, please let me know. Many thanks for your time and hopefully we can arrange a future visit.

The Clerk to arrange a meeting.

135. Questions from any members of the public present, at the discretion of the Chairman.

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.49 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Signed this date 25th July 2023