

DRAFT VERSION

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Council Chambers, Bere Alston on Tuesday 31st October 2023

Present

Cllr. B. Lamb	Vice-Chair of the Council
Cllr. P. Archer	Cllr. D. King
Cllr. R. Leithall	Cllr. R. Maycock
Cllr. M. Patterson	
Cllr. E. Wager	

318. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs. Crozier, Dennis, Maciejowska and Cllr. Isabel Saxby. The Council accepted their apologies.

319. Declaration of Interests

No declaration of interests were made.

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

There were no items of interest given.

321. Award the Eاون Wager Cup to the Best Bere Alston Allotment.

Cllr. Eاون Wager presented the Cup for the Best Bere Alston Allotment to Mr. Derek Hicks. Mr. Hicks thanked Cllr. Wager and the Council for the award.

322. Chair's Report

Cllr. Lamb gave the Chair's Report:

1. The Government have withdrawn their plans to close the Train Ticket Offices.
2. Remembrance Sunday will be 12th November 2023. There will be a service in Bere Ferrers War Memorial at 10.45 am, followed by a service in Bere Alston War Memorial at 2.15 pm. In the past there has always been a good turnout by Parish Councillor, therefore it is hoped all Councillors can attend at least one of the services.
3. On the agenda tonight is the Dog Control survey. The deadline to submit comments is 14th November 2023, therefore there is no time for it to be discussed at the Open Spaces and is on the agenda tonight for members to discuss and respond to.
4. The first meeting of the Pavilion Task & Finish Group has taken place and the first task is to access what the residents' requirements are. A Community Engagement Event will take place on Saturday 27th January 2024 in the Parish Hall. More details to follow in due course.

323. To receive reports from the District Councillors

The District Councillors were not present at the meeting.

324. To receive a report from the County Councillor

Cllr Philip Sanders was not present at the meeting.

325. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Council meeting held on 26th September 2023 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 269 (186 (147)) The Council's request for a piece of land at Pilgrim Drive to become additional car parking is still progressing ahead.

Cllr. Lamb proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr Patterson.

SO, RESOLVED

326. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Plans & Highways meeting held on 3rd October 2023 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

No matters were arising.

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

SO, RESOLVED

327. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Open Spaces meeting held on 10th October 2023 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 292

The Clerk had forwarded the issues reported on The Close onto West Devon Borough Council and will chase up for a response.

Minute 293 (247)

Issues of the Bere Ferrers recreational car park will be discussed at the next Open Spaces meeting.

Minute 295

The Sub-Committee for Bere Alston playparks improvements had their first meeting and they plan to have an exhibition to determine what residents would like to see in the playparks. More details on the event to follow.

Minute 297

Discussions took place on the general improvements required at the Bere Alston Allotment site. The Clerk to contact the Contractor again regarding the decisions the Committee made at the meeting.

Minute 298

The Clerk confirmed that, as stated in the Allotment Act 1950, allotment holders are allowed to keep poultry on their plots, as long as it is for personal use only.

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

SO, RESOLVED

328. To approve and adopt the minutes from the F & G.P meeting held on 24th October 2023 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising

Cllr. Lamb proposed approving of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Pengelly.

Matters Arising

Minute 305

Photos of the fallen trees on certain footpaths has been passed to Public Rights of Way – Parish Paths Liaison Officer. Some trees have, or will be, removed shortly.

Minute 314

The Committee approved a £150 donation to the Citizen Advice Bureau.

Cllr. Lamb proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Pengelly.

SO RESOLVED

329. Review and approve the External Auditor's report and certificate

The report and certificate stated that there was no concern or issues for the 2022-23 financial year. All members approved the report.

Cllr. Lamb wished to thank the Clerk for the excellent result.

330. Update on Burrington Estate and Co-Op planning application

Cllrs. Crozier and Lamb attended a virtual meeting with two Devon Highways Officers, the Planning Officers for the Burrington Estate and Co-Op applications and Cllr. Philip Sanders. The outcome of the meeting was the Highways Officers would not consider reducing the speed limit coming into Bere Alston to 30 mph. One of their new reasons being, there wasn't enough entrances on that section of the road. Cllr. Lamb stated that when you enter that area on Quarry Corner, there are currently 17 houses, with a further 31 houses proposed to be built by Burrington Estate and also a proposed mini-Co-Op Supermarket. A recent survey carried out by Burrington Estate counted 2597 cars drove along that road over a 24 period.

Sir Geoffrey Cox MP, has been informed and has written to the Chief Planning Officer and Chief Officer of Devon Highways about the situation.

The Bat Highways along the Woolacombe Road has not been mentioned by the Planning Officers in meetings or reports. Cllr. Lamb has received a reply from a AONB Planning Officer who stated they are concerned about a particular species of bat identified in the Tamar Valley Nature Recovery plan and the information in Burrington Estates' application fails to satisfactorily address the impact of the proposed development and therefore, does not meet the requirements of Tamar Valley AONB Management Plan.

331. Discuss the Neighbourhood Plan Group recommendation that the Parish Council should make a Freedom of Information request to Devon County Council for copies of the minutes for the past three years of the Highways Traffic Management Team

Following from the above item. Cllr. Lamb proposed the Council make a Freedom of Information request to Devon County Council for a for details of who are members of the Highways Traffic Management Team and to which Members of the County Council that they report to. Seconded by Cllr. Maycock.

332. Make an application to the HATOC (Highways and Traffic Orders Committee) that they should impose a 30-mph speed limit from Quarry Corner to The Down crossroads, Bere Alston.

Cllr. Lamb proposed the Council make an application to the HATOC group, to impose a 30-mph speed limit from Quarry Corner to the Down crossroads. Second by Archer. All in favour.

333. Discuss and confirm the Council's response to West Devon Borough Council's review of Public Space Protection Orders for Dog Control.

Currently there is a public space protection order for dog control on the Bere Alston recreational field is current Council's policy is:

- Dogs are excluded from the fenced off footpath pitch
- Dog must be kept on the lead during organized sports
- Dog walkers must carry poo bags
- No limit was made on number of dogs being walked about one person.

Discussions took place amongst the members. Cllr. Maycock proposed that the current Council's policy be continued with the addition to the second proposal of the word 'and organised events.' Seconded by Cllr. King. All in favour.

334. Review grant application for the Police and Crime Commissioner's Community Grant scheme.

Although unable to attend the meeting, Cllr. Isabel Saxby had emailed a copy of the draft application to the Clerk prior to the meeting.

After discussions with members of the Council and Dave Hawkins, the Y2Y Youth Worker present at the meeting, it was agreed to postpone the application so as to give more time to prepare its requirements. Mr. Hawkins will discuss with Cllr. Saxby how his ideas for improvements to the court area beside the Parish Hall can be incorporated into the application, taking into consideration the work of the Sports Task Force..

Discussed took place on other Council led projects; improvements to the Bere Alston playparks, redevelopment of the Pavilion and the wider use of the recreational field. It was agreed that ideas to improve the court area by the Parish Hall and improvements to the Bere Alston playparks could be incorporated into the Community Engagement Day running on 27th January 2024 and that all involved in the projects, work together more, to avoid any overlapping.

335. Correspondence

1. The Tamar Energy Fest will take place on Saturday 11th November from 10 am to 5 pm at the Butcher's Hall in Tavistock. All are welcome to attend.
2. Email from DALC with information regarding the 80th anniversary of DD Day on 6th June 2024. Are the Parish Council planning any events?

It was agreed to put this on the next Council agenda for further discussion.

336. 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 8.23 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Signed this date 28th November 2023