# BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held in the Council Chamber Bere Alston on Tuesday 14th November 2017.

Present

Cllr. P. Dennis Chairman

Cllr. R. Leithall Chairman of Council

Cllr. H. Boot-Handford Cllr. M. Page-Bailey

Cllr. S. Hanson Cllr. D. Pengelly

Cllr. R. Maycock

**In Attendance.**  Cllr. B. Lamb, Cllr. E.K. Wager.

**1447. Notification of items for information at the discretion of the Chairman. No action can**

**be taken on these matters.**

1) Cllr. Wager – Could the Clerk approach highway’s to enquire if the occupants of The Jam

Factory have permission to put in kerb stones along the edge of the road.

2) Cllr. Hanson – Would like to record her appreciation to the team who spread the rubber chip,

they are Cllr. Maycock, Cllr. Page-Bailey and Cllr. Lamb. It looks really good.

3) Cllr. Leithall – There has been a reply from West Devon regards our concerns about the Dog

Warden Scheme, they feel it would be better if we met with them to discuss this issue; it was felt we should go ahead and arrange this.

4) Cllr. Dennis – Informed committee that Paul Gill has been cleaning off the graffiti. It was

proposed that an email be sent to him thanking him for doing it, but assuring him we have this in hand.

**1448. Matters arising from the minutes of the 17th November and taken as read, to deal**

**with matters arising.**

Matters Arising.

Minute 1397(1366) – Cllr. Maycock pointed out that the team laying the rubber mulch gave a hand

with the rubber chip. The assistance they gave made the difference to the job being completed. In the end all went well and there is a batch of photographs. Cllr. Maycock asked Cllr. Dennis if he could put them on our Facebook page with the relevant thanks.

Cllr. Lamb reported that the new gate needs attention as the post is loose and the gate has to be lifted to open it.

Discussions took place about the state of the field; the entrance cannot be done yet as the soil is wet.

Cllr. Wager offered to go and have a look to see if it would be viable to roller the field.

Minute 1398 – Cllr. Boot-Handford reported that Mr. Westlake has been and collected the forms

to be sent off to CASC.

Minute 1404 – The Clerk reported that she had gone into WDBC offices and purchased the new

green waste sacks for the Cemetery.

Minute 1408 – The Clerk drew committees attention to the letter from Mr. McGregor complaining

about dog fouling on the Football Pitch.

The Chairman stated we have had a reply from West Devon regards our letter of

complaint.

Cllr. Lamb stated the old orders have lapsed and a new regime now applies.

Cllr. Leithall thinks we should take up Helen Dobby’s proposal that we should meet

with those in charge of Dog Fouling.

Cllr. Boot-Handford felt we should put a piece in the Church magazine.

**1449. Financial Statements.**

The Clerk circulated the financial statements for Cemetery and Recreation.

Cemetery Cllr. Hanson proposed acceptance of the Cemetery account statement, seconded by

Cllr. Pengelly.

Recreation Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed acceptance of the Recreation account statement,

seconded by Cllr. Hanson.

**1450. Report from BARP.**

Cllr. Pengelly would like to thank everyone for their efforts on Saturday. Cllr. Pengelly spoke with the contractor laying the rubber mulch about future work at the 2 parks.

Cllr. Pengelly reported that they have decided not to go for the climbing wall as the safety surface would not be up to spec for this, they have decided on a traversing wall. The money has to be spent by the end of March, the group intend going out for 3 new quotes.

**1451. To set a precept for Recreation and Cemetery for 2018-19.**

The committee looked at the account sheets and picked up on this year’s possible shortfalls –

Cemetery

There was a question about keeping the shillet for a possible base for the new road and path layouts. The Clerk asked where it could be stored. Cllr. Wager suggested we ask Andy Ball if he knows of anyone who would use the shillet.

It was agreed to up the income for burial and memorial fees to £2,000 as there has been an increase in income this year.

Also with regards monies for road and path’s not only for the existing areas but for future work on the extension to the Cemetery (i.e. the dog exercise field).

There is a reserve of £3,950 of which £2,000 is for grass machine fund and £1,950 is the start of a five year plan to put money aside for the roads in the extension to the Cemetery.

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed a preliminary budget of £2,210 be set for Cemetery, seconded by Cllr. Hanson.

Recreation

The committee looked at the account spread sheets to pick up on possible short falls.

Cllr. Wager asked if the hedge cutting cost had gone up as he thought that was a fixed contract. He felt the hedge cutting contract should be put out to tender next year.

It was felt that now we have the rubber chip and rubber mulch installed we could reduce the Recreation Field play area budget by £1,000 from £2,000.

Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed a preliminary precept of £4,895, seconded by Cllr. Maycock.

**1452. Report by Cllr. Hanson the Green Burial progress.**

We have not had another meeting; we are still short of land. Cllr. Hanson has set up a dialogue with the land agent who deals with the Edgcumbe Estate.

**1453. Routine safety inspection reports for the Parish Recreation and Play parks.**

a) Cllr. Hanson – reported no problems at Sarah Park.

b) Cllr. Hanson – inspected The Down Play Park. There is still graffiti on the bin, cargo net,

snake seat and one picnic table.

Cllr. Lamb brought up about the position of the 12’ gate into the play park and that it grounds if

opened more than a few feet. Can we get the post concreted in? this might help.

c) Cllr. Lamb – inspected Bere Ferrers play park. The Villagers Association Group will be

completely renovating the cycle track.

**1454. Monthly Inspection of Allotments Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers.**

Cllr. Maycock reported Bere Alston is ok for the time of the year.

Cllr. Page-Bailey also reported that Bere Ferrers is ok.

Cllr. Lamb thought there were some vacant plots at Bere Ferrers Allotments; the Clerk reported all allotments taken at Bere Ferrers and only one vacant at Bere Alston.

**1455. To review the position regarding road layout for the next section of the Cemetery.**

More information to be sought and possibly a cheaper fall-back position.

**1456. To discuss Community Composting.**

Cllr. Page-Bailey stated that a lot of smaller composting schemes have closed down; he is hoping to have a look at some of the larger ones. More observations needed.

**1457. Update on the Diana Memorial Stone.**

The stonemasons have picked up all the pieces to see if anything can be done to repair it.

**1458. To discuss the Pentillie View maintenance contract.**

Discussions took place. Cllr. Leithall proposed that this Council is not qualified to take on that contract.

**1459. Correspondence.**

1. Helen Dobby Group Manager- Commercial Services West Devon. Dog Warden Scheme

Thank you for your e-mail – I am sorry if you feel that the service you are receiving is not performing as you would expect. You are valued customers and we do want to ensure that any issues are addressed.

I have forwarded your e-mail to Cathy Aubertin, Environmental Services Manager and Richard Easthope who manages our Locality Service in order that we can respond fully to the points you raise. It would seem to me that a discussion around the issue would be helpful rather than purely an e-mail exchange.

It would be useful if we co-ordinate this through our Locality Engagement officer with either Cathy or Richard in the first instance.

We will respond fully within the next 10 days and in the meantime will ensure that the regular patrols and enforcement activity focus is maintained. This is undertaken in a combined offering through the work of both our Mobile Locality Officers and through our Environmental Enforcement Officer.

**1460. Proposals for next meeting.**

1. Road Layout Cemetery.

There being no further business the Chairman thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.22pm

Signed this 28th day of November 2017.

Chairman…………………………….