Bere Ferrers Parish Council

At a meeting of the Finance & General Purposes committee held in the Council Chamber Bere Alston on Tuesday 23rd January 2018.

Present

Cllr. H. Boot-Handford Chairman

Cllr. P. Dennis Cllr. M. Page Bailey

Cllr. B. Lamb Cllr. E.K. Wager

Cllr. R. Maycock

**1534. Apologies.**

Apologies were received from Cllr. Leithall due to holidays.

**1535. Notice of items for information at the discretion of the Chairman. No decisions can**

**be made on these items.**

1) Cllr. Page-Bailey – reported that the Community Wellbeing Event held in the Parish Hall this

afternoon was a great success. Cllr. Page-Bailey was asked by a couple of parishioners if you are allowed to park overnight in the disabled bay in the Parish Hall car park. Discussions took place. Cllr. Page-Bailey was asked about the complainers but it seems they did not wish to take this any further.

Cllr. Boot-Handford stated that if there is a problem please ask the person to contact the council.

**1536. Minutes of the meeting held on 5th December and taken as read, to deal with**

**matters arising.**

Matters Arising.

Minute 1490(2) – the problem with lighting outside the Parish Hall, it was agreed to make this an

agenda item.

Minute 1447 – Cllr. Lamb asked if there was any information on the accounting system. Cllr.

Dennis to meet with the Clerk to discuss the system. The Clerk has had a reply

from DALC they cannot offer any advice.

Minute 1500 – Cllr. Lamb and Cllr. Page-Bailey manned the stall, the event was very good with a

wide variety of groups.

Minute 1501 – Cllr. Lamb reported that the Town & Parish Training was cancelled on the 17th

January and will be re-arranged.

The Clerk reported that the Planning Training will be held on Monday 19th February. It is advised that all Councillors attend even though they do not sit on Plans this could alter next year when committees change.

**1537. Accounts for payment.**

The Clerk circulated the January accounts for payment by email.

Cllr. Maycock proposed payment of the accounts, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

**1538. Financial Statements.**

The Clerk circulated the financial statements to all committee members by email.

Toilets Cllr. Boot-Handford proposed acceptance of the statement for the toilets, seconded by Cllr. Wager.

F&GP Cllr. Lamb proposed acceptance, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

**1539. To accept the reconciled bank statement.**

The clerk circulated the bank statement reconciliation.

Cllr. Dennis proposed acceptance, seconded by Cllr. Boot-Handford.

**1540. Salary Review**

Cllr. Lamb proposed the staff be given a 2% salary increase for 2018/19, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

**1541. To set the Precept for 2018/19.**

Discussions took place on the budget; Cllr. Wager proposed that the Precept be set as per last year’s figures at £63,532, seconded by Cllr. Lamb less the government grant £4018 (Government Grant to compensate Council Tax Benefit removed from tax base [Council Tax Support Grant CTSG]).

The Precept requirement is £59,514 + CTSG £4018 = the Parish Council Precept of £63,532.

A vote was called, all were in favour.

**1542. Review BARP decision on phase two.**

Tesco grant £3856-80 which is to be dealt with by BARP.

TAP grant £2,500 + £500 from BARP, the total cost is £3,040. BARP will give a donation of £40 to cover the cost, these items to be ordered by the Parish Council.

BARP have made the decision to go with Rhino.

The Council accepts BARP’s decision.

**1543. Update on Neighbourhood Plan.**

Cllr. Maycock explained that the Plan is now with West Devon, unfortunately to start with the consultation notices were incorrectly dated, and they also referred people to South Hams website instead of West Devon’s.

This has now been corrected and the consultation will run for 6 weeks between Tuesday 23rd January and Tuesday 6th March.

**1544. 3 monthly inspection report.**

Cllr. Dennis has undertaken the inspection report and has highlighted the following issues:-

Childcare Centre Clean but could be a bit tidier, the access door between the stage and this area is still being used for storage, but is cleared when requested. This is not a fire escape.

Outside walls parish hall Clean and tidy but some signs of graffiti found.

Pathway leading from Childcare Centre, this path is in need of tidying up and air vents cleared of leaves and rubbish.

Hall car park and garden area Generally good albeit the car park surface will need some attention soon and litter problem around Annex and Youth Hut.

War Memorial Tree grids need smartening up somehow i.e. painting.

**1545. Review Standing Orders.**

Cllr. Boot-Handford has undertaken this review and there are a couple of minor alterations.

1m to add; with advice from the Clerk.

4k it is permissible for a Chair of Council who has served for two years, to be excused from any

Committee for the following year.

15(b) xiv unless this is delegated to the assistant.

**1546. Financial Regulations.**

Cllr. Leithall was tidying up item 11.1 regarding contracts (tenders etc.) but has not been able to fulfil this commitment, Cllr. Boot-Handford to ask if he can complete this for the February F&GP.

**1547. Request by Beregen for financial assistance with building repairs.**

Cllr. Dennis declared an interest.

The Clerk read the following letter from Beregen;

As you are probably aware we have experienced some damage to the Parish Hall Complex Room due to vandalism caused by youths throwing a vehicle tyre onto the roof of the complex causing 15 roof slates to be damaged and 15 more in need of repair/attention either damaged by vandalism or due to the high winds and extreme weather we have been experiencing over the past few months. I have gone out for 3 estimates but only had one reply even after sending reminders to the other roofing companies.

We have also had damage to the lower window in the meeting room 1 (Parish Chamber) this was due to a pellet from a shot gun that shattered the glass and as the window is on the first floor and over the Child Care centre play area needed replacing with like for like toughened glass panels.

I ask if Council would consider either claiming on their building insurance for these expenses or feel able to assist financially towards the costs of these repairs.

Clear Toughened Double Glazed Unit and fitting £378.76

Repairs to the roof as above £1,479.00

I look forward to a favourable reply in due course.

Discussions took place.

It was agreed to investigate an insurance claim. Council is prepared to make a contribution to the cost of repairs.

**1548**. **Correspondence.**

1) Tricia Kent – asking if there is any further information on the use of the second room of the barn

at Bere Ferrers Recreation Field for storage for the Belinda O’Flyn Theatre Group.

It was agreed permission be granted for the group to rent the barn for the sum of

£30 per annum.

Council would point out that they insure the building but have no responsibility for the contents.

**1549. Agenda Items for next meeting.**

1. To review committees’ terms of reference.

2. Parish Hall Car Park (lighting, surfacing, disabled car parking space)

3. Notice Boards.

4. Wayleaves.

5. Update on accounting system.

6. To review Health & Safety Policy

7. Fire Risk and check Beregen’s Log.

There being no further business the chairman thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.30pm.

Signed this 30th day of January 2018.

Chairman………………...