

Bere Ferrers Parish Council

At a meeting of the Zoom Full Council meeting held on Tuesday 27th April 2021

Present

Cllr. B. Lamb	Chair of Council
Cllr. P. Crozier	Cllr. C. Carr
Cllr. P. Dennis	Cllr. P. Graeme-Drury
Cllr. D. King	Cllr. R. Leithall
Cllr. R. Maycock	Cllr. H. Peace
Cllr. D. Pengelly	Cllr. G. Reed
Cllr. H. Rogers	Cllr. C. Shaw

931. Chairman's Report

I ask you to congratulate Peter and Ann Crozier on the occasion of their Golden Wedding last Saturday. As is our custom a bouquet of flowers was sent to the 'young' couple!

You will all have received copies of the revised Standing Orders, recently approved by Council. I have an apology and an explanation. The first page will be reissued with the correct section numbers and a page index. Some of you have asked why the West Devon Code of Conduct is attached. The reason is that this Parish Council some years ago, like virtually all, formally adopted these orders to apply to the members of this Council. This has many advantages, particularly on costs. This Code is reinforced by law and certain transgressions can be the result of police investigations! NALC (National Association of Local Councils) with others has a case at the High Court asking that virtual meetings can continue beyond the 6 May. A decision is expected by the end of April. You will be informed of any change which affects your decision of 30 May on delegation.

I would also briefly show the latest find on our archaeological 'dig' at the Parish Hall, regarding the proposed bridge, Bere Ferrers to Blaxton. Circa 1932. One quote from the leaflet.

"It is easy to visualise, this beautiful Parish as a suburb which might well become a residential area of the City of Plymouth!

The last two years have been most exhilarating but very demanding on time and a number of Members have been involved in Council matters almost every day; (and some by night!!)

I am going to break all the rules and thank Peter Crozier for his unfailing support day (and night!) This is in addition to the way he has looked after our interests at District. Richard for the hours that he put in on specifications and purchase contracts, let alone working with me on four staff contracts which take hours. Dave, tremendous energy in looking after the Open Spaces and I will always remember the image of him lying on his back painting under the platform in Sarah Park when we refurbished Sarah Park. Graham really got stuck into the Woolacombe North planning application and you will hear the latest news later on, even though at times we didn't know whether it was North Woolacombe or North Paisley! "money bags" Peter who secured most of the funding for the replacement lift, let alone looking after the Bere Gen Hall and dealing with all the Covid restrictions. The rest of you; the two Colin's, Dotty, Heidi, Helena, Ralph, and Paul all played your parts in one of the best teams that we have had on this Parish Council. All of you seemed to vie to do work on behalf of the Parish.

I must not forget our staff of Caroline, Steve and Jane whose work had all been exemplary and continually contributing to the success of the Council.

Cllr. Lamb proposed going into Part 2, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

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

Cllr. Lamb proposed the Council pay Andy Ball Contractors an additional £1,000 for the tarmac for the cemetery road, seconded by Cllr. Peace. 11 were in favour, 1 against and 1 abstain. Motion carried.

932. Appoint Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer.

Cllr. Lamb proposed the Council appoint Mrs Caroline Metcalf as the Parish Clerk and Responsible Financial Officer. Seconded by Cllr. Peace. All in favour.

933. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Zoom Full Council meeting held on 30th March as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 900 (856 & 858) The footpath discs have been delivered and the hedgehogs signs have been placed on the side of the roads.

Minute 900 (860) Updating the Footpath Guide is currently being undertaken by the Task & Finish Group.

Minute 901 (861) The abandoned car has been reported again by Cllr. Crozier.

Minute 901 (865) No further update with regards to Green Burials.

Minute 901 (869) The dog signs on the football pitch have now been put up.

Minute 901 (871) A number of exchanges have taken place between the Council and the allotment holder. With the assistance of other allotment holders, the site is being cleared. When cleared, it will then be offered to a new tenant.

Minute 902 (887) Cllr. Reed to follow up on obtaining a comprehensive list of the repairs required on the Parish Hall.

Minute 907 Notification has been received from BT informing the Council that two of the areas' telephone boxes are under threat of closure; Station Road, Bere Alston and Weir Quay. A letter has been sent to BT objecting to their proposed closures.

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

SO RESOLVED.

934. To approve and adopt the minutes from Emergency Full Council meeting held on 13th April as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Cllr. Lamb – As these minutes pay tribute to the late Mrs. Mary Taylor, I have been thinking of how the Council should remember her. The Council has only achieved the building of the cemetery road because of her hard work and putting money aside over the years to fund it. Therefore I propose that the new cemetery road being called Mary Taylor Road, in honour of her 42 years of service to the Council. I have spoken to her husband and he was delighted with the idea. Seconded by Cllr. Dennis. All in favour.

Matters Arising

Minute 909 The contract with Evo Lifts has been issued and the old lift has been taken out. Cllr. Lamb confirmed the glass doors had been sold and some of the metal sold to a scrap yard.
The new lift ordered will not fit in the space and an alternative lift is being sourced. Further updates to follow. The contract is a fixed price, therefore the new lift will not cost any more.

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

935 .To approve and adopt the minutes from the Plans meeting held on 20th April as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Crozier proposed approval of the Plans minutes, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

Matters Arising

Minute 913 Cllr. Crozier – As there might be an appeal on the Woolacombe Road development, we are requesting, under the Freedom of Information Act, for information on discussions that occurred between Highways and the Developer of the new estate. Seconded by Cllr. Reed. All in favour.

Minute 914 The Council has objected to the planning application 0260/21/HHO.

Minute 915 The Bere Ferrers Social Club has withdrawn their application to extend their licensing hours.

Minute 916 The Council will be making the application for yellow lines to be placed on the corner of the Down and High Cross, plus changing the parking hours on the Co-op parking space.

Cllr. Crozier proposed adoption of the Plans minutes, seconded by Cllr. Peace.

SO, RESOLVED.

936. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Open Spaces meeting held on 20th April as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 917 (864) The issue of vandalism in the village has been reported to the police and featured in the crime section of the Tavistock Times.

Minute 917 (874) The planting at Quarry Corner will be discussed at the next Open Spaces meeting.

Minute 917 (875) With regards to the continuing excessive rubbish being placed in the bins in Pilgrim Drive, Cllr. Crozier confirmed it is an offence to place household and food waste in litter bins. The suggestion is therefore signs are placed on the bins and also a letter sent to all householders. If residents who require extra refuse or recycling bins, can apply via the West Devon Borough council website.

Minute 920 A correction on the last minutes is required as a quote to replace the Pavilion doors has been requested, not yet received.

Cllr. Pengelly proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Graeme-Drury.

SO RESOLVED.

937. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Finance & General Purposes held on 20th April as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Leithall proposed acceptance of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

Cllr. Leithall proposed adoption on the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Maycock. All in favour.

SO RESOLVED.

938. To receive report from District and County Councillors

Report from Cllr. Peter Crozier, West Devon Borough Councillor:

Supporting the businesses is ongoing West Devon have around £500 k to grant by the end of June. When that is achieved, they will be able to draw down a similar sum for the rest of the current financial year. BID funding for Tavistock town traders was also approved, this is a conditional agreement without Council support this funding would not be available. This is 13K over 5 years for the admin for this scheme.

Waste collections are under review and a decision will be made towards the year end. West Devon is one of the top performing Councils in the country.

The Council committed to always ensuring greater efficiency.

939 To discuss Bere Alston in Bloom's ideas for the village.

Cllr. Rogers – David Hawkins, the Youth 2 Youth Leader, has some ideas he would like the Council to consider:

1). Since there is a lot of graffiti around the Hall, he wondered if a board could be put up, which could officially be painted on, so they don't paint on anywhere else.

Cllr. Graeme-Drury suggested is if they are allowed to tag their area, i.e. add graffiti, they might feel more inclined to protect the area, rather than vandalise it.

2). Would it be possible to have a container (bin) placed by the blue shed that people can place their rubbish in? Dave Hawkins will make sure that container get emptied.

3). Would it be possible to place a picnic table in this area and if the Council agrees to it, would the Council help to buy? Cllr. Pengelly suggested this be put forward to Open Spaces, as BARP may be able to donate some money.

Discussions took place with regards to placing a bin next to the Shed, as this might pose a fire hazard and a fire did recently occur in this area.

Cllr. Dennis is working with the Youth 2 Youth worker to resolve the situation regarding the litter left and the amount of littering being left is decreasing. Work is in progress to get the graffiti cleared off the garage doors.

Cllr. Crozier – there has been discussions in the past of moving the litter bin situated outside the Youth Hut. This should be brought up to discuss further at the next Open Spaces meeting.

940. The Clerk to report on the procedure for the Annual General Meeting

In the absence of not begin able to conduct a secret vote for Chair, Vice-Chair of the Council and also Chair and Vice-Chairs of the Committees, the Clerk proposed that the votes be emailed to the Clerk, who would then count up the votes and announce the people elected during the meeting.

941. Correspondence

1). Cllr. Lamb proposed that another set of Council Office Keys be cut, seconded by Cllr. Dennis. All in favour.

2). The Youth 2 Youth annual general meeting will be held on 6th July at 6 pm and Councillors are welcome to attend.

There being no further business, the Chairman thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.28 pm.

Signed by the Chair: