

**Bere Ferrers Parish Council**

At a meeting of a Special Full Council meeting held in the Bere Ferrers Church Hall on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2021.

**Present**

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

**207. Apologies**

No apologies were received.

**208. Declaration of Interests**

No interests were declared.

**209. Review and adopt the Council's Co-option policy**

Discussions took place regarding the Council's Co-option policy and amendments were made.

Cllr. Reed proposed adoption of the policy, including the amendments, seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

**210. To interview the candidates for the vacant position of Councillor**

There were three candidates to interview for the vacant position.

Mrs. Judy Maciejowska

I moved from London to Bere Alston 10 years ago and am now retired. I have been in politics for most of my life and was actively involved in the green party. Having completed the renovation of our house, are now running it as an organic Small holding and I now have more time. One of the things I have missed was community, as I didn't know people when I first moved here, but now am getting to know people and the community and wish to become more involved.

Questions from the Council:

1. What do you hope to bring to the Council, in terms of your skills and interests?

I am particularly interested in the biodiversity of the area and would like to do what I could to improve and protect the natural environment of the area. I am also interested in Planning and keen that any new developments in the area, act to enhance the area, rather than detract from it.

2. Are you keen on getting involved in the physical aspects of looking after the environment or working towards it in meetings and joining Committees?

If I can, I would like to get physical involved but also would get involved during meetings.

3. Have you been engaged with any community groups in the past?

Less so locally, which is why I am here, but whilst in London I formed an Allotment association and a Local Residence association.

4. Have you been involved in any local/Parish Councils in the past, attended meetings?

I have not been a Councillor before and not attended Parish or Town Council meetings, but I have attended and observed numerous meetings. My experience of this kind of forum has been within the green party or other organisations.

5. How do you think you can improve the regeneration of the area?

It is very impressive how Bere Alston particularly, has picked up since I moved here. I do not drive and only cycle, so one of the things I have noticed is that there is nowhere to leave your bike, so I would like to see how the local environment can be improved.

Cllr. Crozier thanked Mrs. Maciejowska for attending the meeting and informed her that the Clerk will let her tomorrow if she was elected as a Councillor.

Mr. Stuart McQueen

I have lived in the area for 46 years. Since my retirement I have become more actively involved in the community, helping with Bere Alston in Bloom, I have had a great deal of experience in committees and got many interests in the village, one of the main one being the extension of the railway to Tavistock. I am also assisting Cllr. Shaw as a Road Warden. I am a qualified First Aider and can instruct people on how to use a defibrillator. I assisted in getting the Parish Hall Clock operational again. I am an active member of the local branch British Legion and the Community Support Officer for the region. I have some ideas on how to improve the Council's Emergency Plan, currently on the website. I am also against the fire appliance in Bere Alston being replaced by a rapid response vehicle and have written several letters about this to the Tavistock Times and Devon Local Fire Brigade.

Questions from the Council:

1. Some of the Councillors get involved in conducting surveys on the footpaths, therefore there are quite a few roles within the Council where you need to be active, and how much of that would you be willing to do?

I am quite happy to do surveys of footpaths and Open Spaces, but I know my limit, but that would not prevent me from doing it.

2. What do you think you would like to do to help some of the young people in the village?

Show a friendly face, listen to what the problems are and try helping them. Happy to listen, learn and advice on this issue.

3. What else can the Council bring to the village to enhance more regeneration?

More is being done now that I have seen before, for example the Workman is seen doing his work and is doing a good job. The Road Warden scheme is a good thing to be seen to be getting done. Parishioners are seeing that the Council are getting things done.

Cllr. Crozier thanked Mr. McQueen for attending the meeting and informed him that the Clerk will let him tomorrow if he was voted in as a Councillor.

Mr. Eاون Wager

I have lived in the area all my life, previously was a farmer and now sale agricultural machinery. I have previously served on the Council for a number of years and been Chair of the Council and willing to work as the second man to the Workman, if required.

Questions from the Council:

1. What role or involvement you would like to see yourself having with the young people in the area?

When a Councillor, I helped to get the Youth Club started, but not sure of the answer to tackle the issue, not against the youth, but wish they would behaviour themselves better.

2. When you served on the Council previously, the use of technology was a probably, has that changed?

No, I do not use a computer. If elected, all agendas, minutes can be posted; I can also be contacted by mobile phone. Every Tuesday night is a council night and that is they way I looked and treated it and since the Council has returned to face-to-face meetings, I have attended every meeting.

3. What can the Council do next to improve the regeneration of the Parish?

Personally, speaking I feel the Parish Hall costs the Council too much money to maintain. We have a successful Bowling Club with fantastic facilities and feel have taken business away from the Hall.

Cllr. Lamb stated that there are still uses for the Hall and Beregen have raised the funds and will pay for the Parish Hall repairs.

Cllr. Crozier thanked Mr. Wager for attending the meeting and informed him that the Clerk will let him tomorrow if he was voted in as a Councillor.

**211. Councillors to go into Part 2 and a vote will be taken in accordance with Standing Order 8(a) to elect the new Councillor member.**

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

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

**212. Clerk to announce the elected Councillor.**

A secret vote to elect the new Councillor member was conducted and the votes counted by the Clerk and independently verified by Mrs. Margaret Willmott.

The Clerk announced that Mrs. Judy Maciejowska had duly been elected as member of the Parish Council and she will be informed by the Clerk tomorrow.

There being no further business the Chair thanked members for attending and closed the meeting at 9.25 pm.

Signed this 26th October 2021.

Signed by the Chair: