

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Full Council held in the Bere Ferrers Church Hall on Tuesday 29th March 2022.

Present

Cllr P Crozier	Chair of Council
Cllr J Maciejowska	Cllr. R. Maycock
Cllr. D. Pengelly	Cllr. P. Graeme-Drury
Cllr. H. Peace	Cllr H Rogers
Cllr C Shaw	

435. Apologies

Apologies were received from Cllrs B. Lamb, Leithall and King. The Council accepted their apologies.

436. Declaration of Interests

No declaration of interests was made.

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

Several members of the Council stated that the recently installed hearing loop in the Council Chambers, was not working. The Clerk to contact the supplier.

Cllr. Dennis confirmed that Bere Alston in Bloom had made a donation to the Council to help fund the picnic tables being installed in the Parish Hall ground. Cllr. Dennis also wanted to offer congratulations on the new width restricted signs which have been erected onto the turning onto Denham Bridge.

Cllr. Graeme- Drury confirmed that the hedgehogs' signs will be put up around the area, in a few weeks' time.

438. Chair's Report

Cllr. Crozier:

1. At a recent West Devon Borough Council meeting, the Chief Executive of Citizen Advice was present and gave a summary of their activities over the last 6 months: over 1000 people had contacted them for advice, of that 1000, 42% concerned welfare claims, 13% debit, 5% housing and the rest concerned consumer, transport and utilities issues. It was also highlighted how many people who are struggling don't know that the Citizen Advice are there to help.
2. There will be a meeting at West Devon Borough Council next week to confirm the sum the council will be donating towards the DEC Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal.
3. A fundraising event for Ukraine, held in the Parish Hall on the 12th March, raised over £800 and a coffee morning held in Bere Ferrers, raised a similar amount.

439. Reports from the District and County Councillors

Cllr. P. Sanders from Devon County Council and Cllr. A. Blackman from West Devon Borough Council were unable to attend the meeting and sent their apologies to the Council. Cllr. Crozier gave the district report in his Chair's Report.

440. To approve and adopt the amended minutes from the Council meeting held on 21st December 2021 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Pengelly proposed approval of the amended minutes, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowska.

Matters Arising

Minute 379

A vote was taken to accept the amended minute. Four members were in favour. The rest of the members abstained, as they had not been present at the meeting. Motion carried.

Cllr. Pengelly proposed adopted of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Maciejowska.

SO, RESOLVED

441. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Plans & Highways meeting held on 22nd February 2022 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Maycock proposed approval of the minutes. Seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

No matters were arising from the minutes.

Cllr. Maycock proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Shaw. All were in favour.

SO, RESOLVED

442. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Council meeting held on 22nd February 2022 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Crozier proposed approval of the minutes. Seconded by Cllr Dennis.

Matters Arising

Minute 393 Since all Government covid restrictions were lifted at the end of February, cases have increased within the area. Currently a fourth vaccine is being offered to those over 75 years. Free lateral flow tests will end on 31st March and the Government have yet to announced what the price from the 1st April will be. Also, they have yet to announce if vulnerable people and carers will be given the tests for free.

Minute 395 To thank and acknowledge Paul Gentle, the retiring Chair and Trustee of the Bere Alston Regeneration, for all his hard work over the last 20 years, the Council wish to have presentation and present a gift at a meeting to be held on Tuesday 26th April 22. The two other retiring Trustees to also be invited to attend.

Cllr. Crozier proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Pengelly. All were in favour.

SO, RESOLVED

443. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Open Spaces meeting held on 8th March 2022 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 410 The vacant Councillor position is currently being advertised. The deadline to submit an application for is noon on 20th April and interviews will take place at the Council meeting on 26th April 2022.

Minute 414 Cllrs. Crozier, Pengelly and the Workman will conduct an inspection of the rotten sleepers at the Basketball court before the next Open Spaces meeting on Tuesday 12th April 2022.

Minute 416 The inventory of all the Open Spaces assets have been completed by Cllrs. King and Shaw and forwarded to the Clerk. The safety inspections of the playparks have been completed and will be discussed at the next Open Spaces meeting.

Minute 418 The Clerk confirmed the invoices for the new allotment rent year will be sent out from the 1st April 2022.

Minute 419 Regarding Bere Alston in Bloom request to plant a raised United Jack raised bed at the Quarry Corner, the Clerk confirmed that Devon Highways had no objection to this. The Clerk to inform BAIB's Chair.

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

SO, RESOLVED

444. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Finance & General Purposes meeting held on 22nd March 2022 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 442 There have been issues this week with users unable to log into Bankline and was obtaining a debit card has still not been resolved. Cllr. Crozier to write an official letter of complaint to NatWest.

Minute 442 Installation of cycle stands – permission from South West Water is still required, Before the stands are installed the Council will need to check for all cable connectors and it was agreed that companies complete this task themselves.

Minute 429 Cllr. Crozier discussed with members present, the proposed landscape changes at the Bere Ferrers War Memorial. He confirmed that with regards to disabled access that had been discussed and agreed on.

Minute 430 The Council have donated £500 to the Bere Peninsula Platinum Jubilee Committee. Another donation to the group, may be considered in the new financial year.

Minute 431 Replacing the water pipe at the Bere Alston recreational field will start on Monday 4th April 2022. And the location for the new dog field gates had been marked out.

Minute 432 Cllr. Dennis stated this minute was not correct as the Bank signatories on the Council's account is different to those can cash cheques and currently only Cllrs. Dennis and Lamb can do this. To add another Councillor to this list can be done by submitting an application form to the bank and this form can be downloaded via their website.

Minute 433 Cllr. Crozier felt the discussion and resolution to record meetings, should be discussed by the all-Council members. After a lengthy discussion, Cllr. Pengelly proposed that if any members had an issue with a minute, they were to give notice to the Chair of the Council, the Chair of Committee and the Clerk. They would listen to the recording and agree whether or not the minute needed amending. It was agreed that all recordings be kept on a memory stick and locked in the safe. Once the minutes had been approved at the Council meeting, the recording will be deleted. The Council would trial this process for 3 months, Seconded by Cllr. Maycock. All were in favour. Motion carried.

Cllr. Maycock, proposed, subject to the discussed amendments, the adoption of the minutes. Seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

SO, RESOLVED

445. To approve and record a petty cash expense from 2020-21 of £4.19 as unidentified payment

The Clerk explained to the Council that no receipt could be found for a payment of £4.19 from 2020-21.

Cllr. Dennis proposed approving the unidentified payment, seconded by Cllr. Maycock. All were in favour.

446. In accordance with Standing orders regarding contract terms for early payments, that Council authorises the Clerk to pay Outdoor Play, the sum of £11,800 in accordance with their quotation of 4 January 2022; within seven days of the Chair and Vice Chair and Chair of the Villager's Group, certifying the satisfactory completion of all works and successful working of the apparatus.

The Clerk confirmed that there was enough funds in the Council's account to pay the sum of £11,800 to Outdoor Play.

Cllr. Rogers proposed the payment authorisation, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

446. Correspondence

1. The Clerk requested payment to the Royal Images of a cost of £44.40, for the purchase of the formal condolence print of HM the Queen.

Cllr. Peace proposed payment, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

2. Bere Alston in Bloom and Bere Alston Regeneration Partnership have enquired into adopting the BT phone box located on Station Road in Bere Alston. BT allow a box to be adopted for £1 and the stipulation is that the owner must be an official organisation, such as Beregen. BA in Bloom would refurbish and maintain the structure.

Discussions took place.

The adoption of the phone box had previously been discussed last year and it was agreed by the Council, that due to the poor mobile phone coverage in the village and the fact the phone was located near the defibrillator, therefore might be needed to make an emergency call, that the phone box should be retained. The Clerk to inform Beregen and Bere Alston in Bloom that the box is not up for adoption and also there are several other bodies within the area, also interested in adopting the box.

3. The Clerk confirmed that Zurich Insurance have offered a settlement sum towards the cost of replacing the Pavilion doors that were recently damaged by vandalism.
4. The deadline to submit applications forms to express interest in introducing 20 mph speed limits within in communities is 31st March 2022.

Discussions took place.

It was agreed the Council would submit an application form expressing their interest, but the Council would not be interested in applying a 20-mph speed limit for the whole village, only certain congested roads. Further down the line perhaps get the residents views on it.

447. Questions from any members of the public present, at the discretion of the Chairman.

No members of the public were present at the meeting.

There being no further business, the Chair thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 9.08 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Signed this date 26th April 2022.