

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**Present:**

Cllr. D Pengelly	Chair of the Committee
Cllr. P. Crozier	Chair of the Council
Cllr. D. King	Cllr. Leithall
Cllr. C. Shaw	

In Attendance: Cllr. B. Lamb and Cllr. M. Patterson

**456. Apologies**

Cllr. V. Grose and Cllr. Wager sent their apologies. The Council accepted their apology.

**457. Declaration of Interest**

There were no declarations made.

**458. Notification of items for information at the discretion of the Chairman. No action can be taken on these items.**

A resident has enquired whether they could have half a plot at the Bere Ferrers allotments. The Clerk to contact Cllr. Grose for further information on their request.

Cllr. Lamb brought up the issue of the blocked drains at the entrance of the Cemetery. After discussions, the Clerk to organise a meeting between the Workman and Cllr. Pengelly and agree on an action plan to clean the drains.

**459. Matters Arising from the minutes from the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2023**

The minutes were adopted and approved at a Council meeting held on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

Matters Arising

<u>Minute 363</u>	Cllr. Lamb attended a meeting between the Bere Ferrers Villagers Group and the Tamar Valley National Landscape (previously Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty), who stated the Villagers Group might be able to obtain a grant to fund the work required around the Bere Ferrers War Memorial. The Group are working on a grant application to submit.
<u>Minute 363</u>	There is no further update on the Co-Op planning application and no date on when a decision will be made.
<u>Minute 363</u>	The Clerk to contact the Mount Edgecumbe Estate Agent and enquiry whether the ash die back trees, reported on their land, has now been removed.
<u>Minute 369</u>	No date has been confirmed for when the hedges trimming will be done around the Parish. The Clerk to follow up.
<u>Minute 375</u>	The matter of a memorial bench being moved without permission in Bere Ferrers, is being dealt with by West Devon Borough Council.

**460. Review and approve Poultry Policy**

After discussions and with the additional agreed amendments, all members approved to adopt the policy.

It was agreed to discuss at a future meeting, whether there should be an additional fee for those keeping poultry at allotments to cover the costs of rodenticide.

**461. Update on work required at the Bere Ferrers recreational field car park**

Car driving into the loose ground in the car park is creating the pot holes. Cllr. Crozier suggested two solutions; one, filling in the holes with concrete or two, putting down heavy duty plastic grids over the whole car park. After discussions, it was agreed to measure the area and obtain the costs for both options and a solution agreed on, at the next meeting.

**462. Update on Pilgrim Drive parking**

The Clerk confirmed the Council are still waiting on an update from West Devon Borough Council regarding the request to turn a disused piece of land in Pilgrim Drive into additional car parking. It was commented that there had been a lot of discussion about this issue on Facebook. The Clerk to chase up West Devon again and it was agreed to post an update on the Council's Facebook page.

**463. Discuss expanding the Bere Alston recreational playpark**

Cllr. Pengelly explained that there is currently no room in the playpark to expand and therefore wished to seek permission to extend the playpark by approx. 180 square feet. The Committee agreed to the extension and a recommendation to extend the park by this Committee will be put forward to the Full Council meeting, to be held on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024.

**464. Update on Bere Alston playpark improvements**

suggestions for playpark improvements will feature at the Sport Development Day taking place on 17th February 2024 in the Parish Hall, Bere Alston.

**465. Routine safety inspection reports for the Parish Recreation and Play areas**

There are no major issues to report. It was discussed whether it would be an idea to bulk buy wood and store in the Cemetery Hut, therefore always on hand for repairs as and when it was needed. The Clerk to discuss with the Workman.

**466. Inspection of Allotments Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers**

Due to an increase sighting of rats at the Bere Alston site, rat poison is to laid down again.

It was noted that the allotment holders at Bere Ferrers need to organise how to get water onto the site.

**467. Agenda items for the next meeting**

1. Review of the allotment rent for 2025-26.
2. Discuss introducing an additional rent cost for Poultry owners.

**468. Correspondence**

There was no correspondence.

**469. Questions from the public present, at the meeting, at the discretion of the Chair**

There were no members of the public present at the meeting.

There being no other business, the Chair thanked the members for attending and closed the meeting at 8.26 pm.

Signed by the Chair of the Committee:

Dated this date 30<sup>th</sup> January 2024