

Bere Ferrers Parish Council

At a meeting of the Plans & Highways Committee meeting held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 6th February 2024.

Present

Cllr. R. Maycock	Chair of the Committee
Cllr. P. Crozier	Cllr. B. Lamb
Cllr. P. Archer	Cllr. J. Maciejowska
Cllr. C. Shaw	Cllr. E. Wager

In Attendance: Cllr. M. Patterson

508. Apologies

There were no apologies.

509. Declaration of Matters of Interest

None were made.

510. Notifications of items for information at the discretion of the Chair. No action can be taken on these items at this meeting.

None were given

511. Discussion from Stagecoach South West Operators Manager regarding incidents of parked cars causing issues to bus routes

Three members of South West Stagecoach were present at the meeting to highlight the ongoing issue of parked cars blocking the bus route around Bere Alston, causing either major delays, or the route having to be abandoned all together. Stagecoach are in daily contact with Devon County Council with regards to this issue and when buses are unable to pass, the Police are having to be called.

The main problem areas are:

Edgcombe Arms – cars parking causing issues for the busses passing along and lorries delivering having to park on the bus stop, due to cars parking in the loading bay.

Whitehall Road – buses unable to pass parked cars

Pounds Park Road – badly parked cars, resulting in the bus drivers having to mount the kerb at time to get past.

Lockeridge Road – awkwardly parked cars making it difficult to pass.

After discussions, the Council agreed to write a letter to local residents highlighting the issue and also post issue on social media. Stagecoach were also invited to attend the Public Consultation Day on 17th February 2024 in order to talk to residents. They will confirm whether a representative from Stagecoach could attend the event. The Council will also look into producing a leaflet that can be left on cars to highlight they have blocked the route.

A possible outcome, if the bus routes continue to be delayed or abandoned, is Devon County Council may decide to install double yellow lines along Fore Street. This was proposed a few years ago, as Gritters complained they were unable to get through, but the Parish Council managed to persuade them not to do, their argument being buses could get through.

The Council asked Stagecoach to keep logging and photographing (if able to), all incidents, including abusive behaviour towards the bus drivers, keep reporting all incidents to Police and regularly update the Parish Council on all incidents, in order they can either follow up with residents or the Police.

512. Matters arising from minutes at the meeting held on 9th January 2024

The minutes were approved and adopted at the Council meeting held on 30th January 2024

Matters Arising

Minute 447 (421)

The Clerk has contacted the Devon Street Lighting Services regarding improving the street lighting on Fore Street, Bere Alston and the Doctor's Surgery carpark and is awaiting their reply. Further Updates will be provided at the next Plans & Highways meeting.

Minute 452

The Clerk is still waiting on an official answer from West Devon regarding the Parish Council's request to turn a piece of land on Pilgrim Drive into additional parking and will continue to chase until an answer is received.

513. To deal with Planning applications for comment. Interested parties are invited to comment on applications they have an interest in before a decision is made, at the discretion of the Chair.

0111/24/HRN

Devon Grown Ltd, Riverview, Hewton, Bere Alston, PL20 7BW

Application for hedgerow removal notice to remove 5 metres of hedgerow to create a second entrance to the property to enable a one-way vehicle flow system.

The applicant's covering letter stated that the current combined entrance/exit for the site serves three holiday let cottages and a residence and they therefore wished to create a new opening by removing 5 metres of hedgerow to create and separate entrance and exit.

After discussions, a vote was taken on whether to support the application. None were for, six were against and one abstain. The Council therefore object to this application.

Comment: The Council object to the application. There is not enough evidence to justify two entrances and a one-way system could be achieved with current access used.

4165/23/FUL

Zip World, Tavistock Woodlands, Gulworthy

Installation of platforms, masts and suspended track to accommodate a safety rail attraction; heritage visitor interpretation provision; open space, landscaping and additional parking.
Reviewing and commenting as the Neighbouring Parish.

The Council is commenting on this application as a neighbouring Parish and after discussions a vote was taken. Four were for the application and three against.

Comment: The Bere Ferrers Parish Council after discussion on the application and after a vote, were for the application, but do have environmental concerns.

514. Take note of any Planning Applications noted after consideration by the Borough

3642/23/CLE

Mr & Mrs Bugden, Poultry Houses, Rumleigh, Bere Alston

Certificate of lawfulness for existing continued siting and use of building for storage

Decision:

Cert of Lawfulness (Existing) Certified

3465/23/FUL

Mr Peter Crozier, The Mazzard, Leigh Farm, Bere Alston, PL20 7EF

Installation of 20 ground mounted solar panels

Decision:

conditional Approval

3644/23/ARC

Richard Miles, Ezenridge Farm, Bere Alston, PL20 7ET

Application for approval of details reserved by condition 3 (surface water management scheme) of planning consent 0096/23/FUL

Decision:

Discharge of Condition Approved

0118/23/FUL

Mrs Tricia Kent, Bere Ferrers Social Club, Bristol Row, Fore Street, Bere Ferrers, PL20 7JJ

Addition of 24 solar panels to the west facing roof of the Club building.

Decision: Conditional Approval

515. Enforcement cases to be taken into Part Two

There were no updates on current enforcement cases.

516. Update on Denham Bridge closure

The scaffolding is currently being put up and the work to fix the bridge will start soon. Currently there is no date on when the works will be completed.

Cllr. Crozier has been in contact with Cllr. Philip Sanders regarding the school children who use that route to reach their schools. Cllr. Sanders assured Cllr. Crozier that the bridge will be fixed as soon as possible and Devon Highways will issue regular communication updates.

517. Update on Co-Op planning application (2215/22/FUL)

The Co-Op application is due to be discussed at a West Devon Borough Council Committee Meeting on 27th February 2024. The Clerk will put in a request for Cllr. Lamb to represent and speak at the meeting on behalf of the Parish Council. It was also agreed that a formal request be made for the West Devon Committee to have a site visit of the proposed Co-Op site.

518. Update on correspondence between the Parish Council and the Cabinet Member for highways Management Devon County Council

A letter written to the Cabinet Member for Highways Management Devon County Council was sent and a reply was received on 31st January 2024. The reply completely missed the point of original letter. Cllr. Sanders has advised the Parish Council to put in a request to West Devon Borough Council to produce a 106 order that the offer by the Developer for road improvements and the reduction of the speed limit 30 mph, is incorporated into the 106 agreement.

519. Discuss location for grit bin in Tuckermarsh

After discussions it was agreed to leave the grit bin where it currently is located. The Clerk to advise Devon Highways.

520. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

521. Questions from any members of the public

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

The Chair thanked the members for attending the meeting and closed the meeting at 8.09 pm.

Signed by the Chair of the Committee.

Signed this date 27th February 2024