

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Finance and General Purposes Committee meeting held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 21st May 2024 at 8.15 pm.

Present:

Cllr. P. Crozier Chair of the Committee
Cllr. R. Leithall Chair of the Council
Cllr. B. Lamb Cllr. P. Dennis
Cllr. V. Grose Cllr. R. Maycock

In Attendance: Cllr D. Pengelly and Cllr. M. Patterson.

27. Apologies

Cllr. Shaw sent his apologies. The Committee accepted his apologies.

28. Declaration of Interest

None were made.

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

Cllr. Lamb – following the success of the local primary school obtaining a Good in their recent Ofsted report, the Chair of the Council should write to the Head Teacher, giving the Council's congratulations. All agreed.

Cllr. Maycock – the timing of this meeting was not advertised correctly on the website and requested that any changes of the normal meeting start times also be advertised in the subject heading in emails sent out to Councillors. The Clerk apologise for the error and confirmed she would do from now on. Cllr. Dennis stated this Committee meeting should always start at 7.30 pm. Cllr. Crozier stated the late start, was due to an online training course both he and Cllr. Lamb had attended earlier.

Cllr. Grose – Bere Ferrers Villagers Group would like certain areas of the Bere Ferrers recreational field mowed and the subject of EV charging points has been broached with the Bere Ferrers Social Club committee and I will need to put an enquiry in writing.

Cllr. Patterson had heard that the proposed public toilet at the Pavilion will be manned by volunteers. Cllr. Lamb stated that no decision had been made.

30. Matters arising from the meeting held on the 23rd April 2024

Matters Arising

Minute 700

The new surfacing at the Down playpark will be installed on Monday 3rd June and take one day and the installation of the traversing wall at Sarah Park will be on Tuesday 4th June and take one day. Cllr. Pengelly confirmed he can be on site to oversee the installation.

Still waiting on an installation date for the gym equipment. The supplier has requested a 50% deposit. The Clerk to respond.

Minute 706

Following the Council meeting held on 7th May 2024, the Clerk had placed an order for a new lawn mower. The Clerk was asked to request if a mower could be borrowed/hired, whilst the Council await delivery of the new machine.

31. To accept the May 2024 accounts for payment

Cllr. Dennis enquired about the £3.78 interest incurred on the Mole Valley account. The Clerk explained that due to a missed payment of a previous invoice, interest on the account had been incurred.

Cllr. Lamb proposed payment of the accounts, seconded by Cllr. Dennis.

32.To accept the F & G.P Detailed Receipt and Payment Report ending 30th April 2024

Cllr. Leithall proposed acceptance of the report, seconded by Cllr. Grose.

33. To accept the reconciled bank statement ending 30th April 2024

All agreed to accept the bank reconciliation.

34. Review of Committee's Terms of Reference

After review, no amendments were proposed. Cllr. Crozier proposed acceptance of the terms of reference, seconded by Cllr. Lamb.

35. Installation of hand dryer in the Pavilion outside toilet

Converting the outside toilet at the Pavilion, into a public toilet is progressing and quotes are being obtained by builders to undertake the remedial repairs required. A hand dryer has been sourced and Cllr. Lamb proposed is that Adam Smith, an electrician and Chair of the Carnival Committee, install the hand dryer for free, in exchange of free electric use from the Pavilion on Carnival Day, Saturday 25th May 2024. Seconded by Cllr. Crozier. All members agreed.

36. Review of Football Clubs' contract

Cllr. Lamb discussed that for the purposes of development of the Pavilion and applying for grant funds, the Parish Council needs to take back control of the facilities, therefore is proposing, that in accordance with the agreements with both the junior and adult football Clubs, the Council give them the two years notice and that the said agreement be ended on 21st May, 2026. The intention being that after that date the Clubs will continue to use the facilities, on an ad hoc basis. Cllr. Lamb has had a discussion with the Adult Football Club Manager and the Clerk followed up with an email outlining the Council's proposal to both Clubs. After discussions it was agreed to defer this item till the Council meeting to be held on 28th may 2024, in order the Clerk can confirm with both Clubs, they are received the email and agree to this proposal.

37. Request from the Bere Alston Football Club to help finance grass cutting machine

This item was previously discussed at the F & G.P meeting held on 23rd April and the proposal was that the Council, at this time, did not have the funds to give a donation to help finance a grass cutting machine. Cllr. Pengelly asked whether the correct procedure had been carried out at that meeting? After discussions on the Council's Standing Orders, it was agreed that the correct process had been followed.

38. Review and accept the Head of Terms for the proposed Asset Transfer of land at pilgrim Drive, Bere Alston for car parking

This document had not been circulated by the Clerk to all members prior to the meeting. It was therefore agreed to defer this item and the Chair of the Council will review the document the day after this meeting.

39. Review of Fire Check Report

Cllr. Dennis confirmed all was up to date. The Clerk had been trained on the Parish Hall's fire alarm system.

40. Correspondence

1. A letter has been received from the Bere Alston resident complaining about the state of the recycling bins located in Pilgrim Drive. After discussions it was agreed that this be referred to West Devon Borough Council and also to ask how often the recycling bins in Pilgrim Drive are emptied by West Devon.

41. Agenda items for the next meeting

1. Review of the Internal Audit Report 2023/24

42. Questions from the public, at the discretion of the Chair

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

There being no further business, the Chair thanked members for attending the meeting and declared the meeting closed at 9.12 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Dated 28th May 2024