

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Council Chambers, Bere Alston on Tuesday 7th May 2024.

Present

Cllr. P. Crozier	Chair of the Council
Cllr. P. Archer	Cllr. B. Lamb
Cllr. D. King	Cllr. J. Maciejowska
Cllr. M Patterson	Cllr. C. Shaw
Cllr. E. Wager	

727. Apologies

Apologies was received from Cllr. Leithall and Cllr. I. Saxby. The Council accepted their apologies.

728. Declaration of Interests

No declarations were made.

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

Cllr. Pengelly said that a sorn car had been parked in a lay by in Broad Park Road for two years now. It has been reported several times, but still not removed. It is unclear who owes the land, Cllr. Pengelly has reported it again and has requested to be kept updated on the matter.

730. Chair's Report

The Council was disappointed on the outcome of the Burrington Homes application and Cllr. Crozier had written to David Fairbairn, West Devon Borough Council's Head of Legal Services and Monitoring Officer, but Mr. Fairbairn's replied that unfortunately he was too busy to deal with the Council's complaint and has passed it onto Jacqueline Houselander. This was not the outcome the Council wanted. An appeal from this Council has been sent to the Secretary of State to call in the application, because the Council have an established Neighbourhood plan that has been ignored.

Denham Bridge will be reopened on Thursday 9th May 2024.

731. To receive reports from the District Councillors

Cllr. Isobel Saxby gave her apologies for not attending the meeting.

It was noted that Cllr. Angela Blackman has not attended or sent an apology for not attending a meeting for some time.

732. To receive a report from the County Councillor

The County Councillor was not present at the meeting, as he is attending the annual meeting at Brentor Parish Council.

It was noted though that he had attended the public meeting held early today, to discuss the closure of Denham Bridge. The meeting had been positive and Devon Council are now working on a preventive plan to stop further damage and closure of the bridge is in progress.

733. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Council meeting held on 26th March 2024 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

All agreed to approve the minutes.

Matters Arising

Minute 638 (1) The Government has confirmed plans to finalise a Devolution Deal with Devon and Torbay.

Minute 645 A Contract between Mr. John Bailey, undertaking the repair works at the Bere Ferrers War Memorial, has been signed and are awaiting a start date.

Cllr. Lamb proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Patterson.

SO, RESOLVED

734. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Plans & Highways meeting held on 9th April 2024 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

Cllr. Maycock proposed approval of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Archer.

There were no matters arising.

Cllr. Maycock proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. Archer.

SO, RESOLVED

735. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Footpaths & Environment meeting held on 9th April 2024 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 665 It was agreed there was no need to formally adopt Silver Street in Bere Ferrers as an official footpath. The public toilet is on this route and therefore people are aware they can walk the route.

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

SO, RESOLVED

736. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Open Spaces meeting held on 16th April 2024 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 676 A meeting is to be arranged between members of the Council and the Bere Alston Football Club.

Minute 681 A quote to refurbish the outside toilet at the Pavilion has been obtained and the Council will apply for a Devon County Council's Locality Fund grant, to cover the costs.

Cllr. Pengelly approved adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. King.

SO, RESOLVED

737. To approve and adopt the minutes from the F & G.P meeting held on 23rd April 2024 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 704

Cllr. Pengelly explained that he was not happy with the decision to implement a proposal based on a split vote. As the vote was not unanimous it should have been referred to Council for ratification (standing order no 4 k) as a recommendation from F&GP that the offer should not be accepted. Cllr. Pengelly felt that to refuse involvement in a scheme that has attracted a possible grant of 75% (£22,500) without any discussion between the Parish Council and the football club was wrong.

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

SO, RESOLVED

738. Approve the risk assessment for 2023-24

The risk assessment had been discussed and approved by the F & G.P Committee on 20th February 2024.

Cllr. Maciejowska proposed to approve the document, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

739. Approve asset register for 2023-24

Cllr. Maciejowska proposed to approve the asset register, seconded by Cllr. Crozier.

740. Approve purchase of play and gym equipment for the Bere Alston playparks

After discussions and a site visit, a quote has been received of £3,129 to purchase and install two pieces of gym equipment at the Bere Alston recreational field. Cllr. Pengelly proposed accepting the quote. Seconded by Cllr. Patterson. All in favour.

After discussions and a site visit, a quote of £5,000 to purchase and install a double-sided traverse wall for Sarah Park and other various repairs required at the Down playparks has been received. Cllr. Pengelly proposed accepting the quote. Seconded by Cllr. King. All in favour. The cost will be split between the playpark maintenance budget and the Playparks improvements budget.

741. Approve purchase of lawn mower

Two quotes have been received to replace the Council's lawn mower. After discussions, Cllr. Crozier proposed purchasing the lawn mower from Woodhouse Garden Machinery. Seconded by Cllr. Patterson. All in favour.

742. Discuss request from the Bere Alston Football Clubs to help finance grass cutting machine

This was already discussed under item 737 and it was agreed to refer this item back to the F & G.P Committee.

743. Update on events for D Day 80th Anniversary – 6th June 2024

Events have been organised by the Bere Alston British Legion. They raised £300 at a recent coffee morning and Cllr. Crozier has donated £100 of his Chair's allowance. As yet there is no confirmation on the site for the lighting of the beacon.

744. Correspondence

There was no correspondence.

745. Questions from any members of the public present, at the discretion of the Chair.

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

There being no further business, the Chair thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.55 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Signed this date 27th May 2024