

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Council held in the Council Chambers, Bere Alston on Tuesday 28th May 2024.

Present

Cllr. R. Leithall	Chair of the Council
Cllr. P. Crozier	Cllr. D. King
Cllr. V. Grose	Cllr. J. Maciejowska
Cllr. M Patterson	Cllr. D. Pengelly
Cllr. C. Shaw	Cllr. E. Wager

43. Apologies

Apologies was received from Cllrs. P. Archer, P. Dennis, R. Maycock, B. Lamb and Cllr. I. Saxby. The Council accepted their apologies.

44. Declaration of Interests

No declarations were made.

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

Cllr. Wager brought up the poor state of the Parish hall windows. Cllr. Crozier and the Clerk will look into who is responsible for replacing the windows, the Parish Council or Beregen and discuss further at the F & G.P meeting to be held on 18th June 2024.

Cllr. Shaw brought up that there has been two incidents of dogs' attacks at Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers recreational field. It was agreed to add to the next Open Spaces agenda for further discussion.

46. Chair's Report

Cllr. Leithall's report:

Following the annual general meeting of the Council, the website and noticeboards has been updated with the Council's new Chair/Vice-Chair and committee members. The July to September Committee dates have also been emailed to Councillors. All the relevant Council's documents/policies, are on the Council's website.

The Council have been sent the Heads of Terms for the proposed asset transfer of Land at Pilgrim Drive, Bere Alston from West Devon Borough Council and further investigation is required, as the Parish Council need to put in place an easement to the land. This will be added to the next F & G.P meeting agenda.

As previously reported, the Burrington Homes planning application has been approved, and this Council has sent an appeal to the Secretary of State, asking for it to be called in. The response is that the Secretary of State has decided not to call in this application and they are content that it should be determined by the local planning authority. Therefore this Council has reached the end of the road with regards to this application.

47. To receive reports from the District Councillors

Cllr. Blackman firstly apologised for not attending a meeting in a while, but has been very busy.

She has at her disposable a community fund which goes towards groups/organisations in the ward, so if anyone knows of any organisations who require a donation, please do let her know.

It was suggested she contact the local primary school, who are currently installing a new library.

She is currently getting more informed and giving more support to Youth2Youth. She has been approached about installing CCTV cameras on Fore Street and asked that any information on how to proceed to be sent on. The Clerk will send some information on.

It was been stated to her that the Premier Store planning application has been turned down and therefore will look into this.

Cllr. Isobel Saxby gave her apologies for not attending the meeting but sent the following report:

My Borough Council report is that it has been quiet the past 2 months due to the change in roles and local elections. We now have new positions sorted for our committees which can be found on the website. I am still on the TVNL External Board and Overview and Scrutiny. I'm waiting for a response for HATOC on speeding cameras going outside Gulworthy Primary School, helping with Denham Bridge and longer-term protections, fly tipping, housing, and other local issues, including giving out the locality sustainability grant to the Scouts, Y2Y, Bere Alston in Bloom, and Gulworthy to run an environmental event later in the year. Please could any Parish Councillors contact me if they need me to contact, follow-up, or push for something in West Devon Borough Council.

48. 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.

49. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Annual Parish Meeting held on Tuesday 30th April 2024 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

There were no matters arising.

Cllr. Leithall proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by King.

SO, RESOLVED

50. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Plans & Highways meeting held on 7th May 2024 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 717 The Co-Op planning application has been readvertised and will be discussed at the Plans & Highways meeting on 4th June 2024.

Minute 720 The applicant for planning application 3349/23/FUL are appealing their refusal.

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

SO, RESOLVED

51. To approve and adopt the minutes from the Council meeting held on 7th May 2024 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 733 (638(1)) The Devolution deal with Devon and Torbay will still be on the table, even if there is a change of government.

Cllr. Leithall proposed adoption of the minutes, seconded by Cllr. King.

SO, RESOLVED

52. To approve and adopt the minutes from the F & G.P meeting held on 21st May 2024 as a true meeting and taken as read, to deal with matters arising.

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

Matters Arising

Minute 29

Cllr. Wager confirmed the topping of the Bere Ferrers recreational field had been done. It was discussed that machinery repairs will be done going forward, by Woodhouse Garden Machinery.

Minute 30

Cllr. Pengelly will be meeting with a Contractor on 14th June to obtain a quote for the rubber surfacing to be topped up at the Down playpark.

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

SO, RESOLVED

53. Review of Football Clubs contract

Cllr. Crozier read out a proposal that this his Council gives two years notice to Bere Alston United Football Club, in accordance with the Annual Agreement. that they will end the agreement on the 1 June 2025 so as to enable the Sports Development Group of the Parish Council to take control of the Pavilion and Recreation Field to enable development to take place. It is envisaged that after 1 June 2025 that the Club will still be able to use the facilities subject to any development work where they will be one of the major consultees. This confirms written notice that has been sent to the Manager regarding this motion.

After discussions, Cllr. King proposed an amendment to the above proposal, that this Council gives two years notice to Bere Alston United Football Club, in accordance with the Annual Agreement. that they will end the agreement on the 1 June 2024 so as to enable the Sports Development Group of the Parish Council to take control of the Pavilion and Recreation Field to enable development to take place. It is envisaged that after 1 June 2026 that the Club will still be able to use the facilities subject to any development work where they will be one of the major consultees. Fees will be charged on ad hoc pro rata basis, as per the rentable agreement in place at that time. This confirms written notice that has been sent to the Manager regarding this motion. Second by Cllr. Maciejowska. All in favour.

54. Update on Denham Bridge

Cllr. Crozier gave the Council a summary of Cllr. Lamb's findings in that the Police do not follow up on damage caused by vehicles to bridges and thus this Council need to persuade the Police to uphold the restrictions on the bridge. The Council have sent their findings and plea to Stuart Hughes the Cabinet Member for Highway Management, Meg Booth, the Head of Devon Highways and the Police.

55. Correspondence

1. Email from Kier Natural Resources:
South West Water are continuing with the planning for the upgrade to Bere Alston STW. Recently, some unused mineshafts were identified on the proposed Northern access route to the STW and further investigation is now needed. This may result in greater access being sought from the Southern side of the STW, subject to planning permissions.

56. 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.

here being no further business, the Chair thanked members for attending and declared the meeting closed at 8.40 pm.

Signed by the Chair

Signed this date 25th June 2024