

BERE FERRERS PARISH COUNCIL

At a meeting of the Open Spaces Committee held in the Council Chambers on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2024.

**Present:**

Cllr. C. Shaw	Chair of the Committee
Cllr. R. Leithall	Chair of the Council
Cllr. P. Archer	Cllr. D. King
Cllr. V. Grose	Cllr. M. Patterson

In Attendance: Cllrs. B. Lamb and E. Wager

**70. Apologies**

An apology was received from Cllr. Pengelly. The Council accepted his apology.

**71. Declaration of Interest**

Cllr. Grose declared an interest in the allotments.

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

Cllr. Grose – on 15th June 2024, the Bere Ferrers Villagers Group will be running a games afternoon at the Bere Ferrers recreational field, 2 – 5 pm.

Cllr. Shaw – rubbish has been hidden behind the brushes in the memorial and ivy has been planted in front of the mosaic, which could cause damage. The Clerk to follow up.

**73. Matters Arising from the minutes from the meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> April 2024**

The minutes were adopted and approved at a Council meeting held on Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> May 2024.

Matters Arising

Minute 678      The bulk purchase of wood for ongoing playpark maintenance, is in progress.

Minute 679      The Hope Cottage bin is now been emptied by the Council's Workman.

Minute 680      A rounders meeting will be held at the Pavilion on Wednesday 3 July at 7.30pm, after which a game may be played. The purchase of bats and balls will be funded by the Sport Development earmarked reserve.

Minute 681      Conversation of the Pavillions' outside toilet into a public toilet, is in progress.

**74. Discuss grass cutting around the Parish**

The Council are still waiting on the strimmer to be fixed and a new lawn mower to be delivered. In the meantime, both have been loaned to the Workman. It was discussed and agreed that going forward to delegate to the Clerk to authorise the hiring of grass cutting equipment, as and when it is needed.

It was agreed to put together an approx. grass cutting schedule for the Parish at the end of the year, beginning of next year.

**75. Discuss dogs mess on recreational fields**

The issue of dog mess not being picked up on both recreational fields continues and the Clerk informed the Committee that the West Devon Borough Council Locality Officer has been informed and will visit the area, as often as possible.

It was discussed that the law states that if organised sports is taking place, dogs must be kept on the lead. The Council should therefore consider putting up more signs.

Cllr. Lamb has been informed that dog on dog attacks are not dealt with by the Police, but by the Locality Officer.

## **76. Update on Bere Alston playparks installation of new equipment and general repairs**

Improvements and general repairs to both The Down and Sarah Park playpark have been completed. A traversing wall has been installed at Sarah Park and the pull up bars in the Down playpark were removed, due to rotting wood.

On the Friday 14<sup>th</sup> June, Cllrs. Pengelly, Shaw and Grose will meet with a Play park contractor to obtain a quote for purchasing more rubber chips and the rotten parts of the wooded surround at the Down, will also be replaced in due course.

## **77. Routine safety inspection reports for the Parish Recreation and play areas**

Cllr. Patterson and Archer gave their safety inspection report of the Bere Alston playparks. Urgent actions will be passed to the Workman to complete. There were no issues to report from the Bere Ferrers playpark.

Cllr. Grose highlighted that motor cyclists were seen riding up and down the Bere Ferrers recreation field. After speaking to them, they stopped and left the field. It was agreed to erect a sign to say no vehicles are allowed on the recreational field.

## **78. Routine inspection of the allotments, Bere Alston and Bere Ferrers, including the clearing of Bere Alston Allotments**

A member of public was present at the meeting to speak about the state of the bottom right side of the Bere Alston allotment field and also asked whether the dumped stone waste could be made useful by spreading to make an area to walk on, or park their cars on.

The Committee confirmed that a Contractor has been asked to extend the road down to the bottom of the field, allowing better access to the allotments right at the bottom, but the work has yet to be carried out. The Clerk to follow up. It had also been previously discussed clearing that area and that it was an accident stone was dumped on the newly planted saplings. It had already been agreed that, once the area is cleared, the saplings are to be replanted nearer to the hedge and any dead saplings, would be replaced by the Council.

It was agreed that better communication was need between the Council and allotment holders and there was a need to reinstate allotment associations at both sites.

It was agreed to arrange a meeting between the Council and allotment holders to discuss actions going forward and if an associations are reformed, a member of the Council to become a member.

## **79. Agenda items for the next meeting**

1. Update on meeting with the Playpark Contractor.

## **80. Correspondence**

1. Letter from a resident complaining about the filthy access path behind their bungalow in Pilgrim Drive and could it be cleaned up.

After discussion, it was agreed that Cllr. Shaw would view the area and report back to the Clerk.

2. Email from the Tamar Valley National Landscape to say the face-to-face consultations for the Management Plan 2025-30, will now take place in September and October 2024.
3. The Clerk has been informed that Denham Bride is due to close for one day on 24th June 2024, to allow works to be carried out to install temporary restrictions which will physically prevent any vehicle over 2m wide and/or 8m long from accessing the bridge.

4. Email from the local fitness coach wanting to store equipment behind the Football Club.

After discussion it was agreed to allow, but they must take full responsibility and liability of any damage, if it occurs.

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

There were no other 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 9.10 pm.

Signed by the Chair of the Committee:

Dated this date 25<sup>th</sup> June 2024