



**MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2017 AT THE DRAX HALL, NORTH STREET, BERE REGIS COMMENCING 7PM**

- Present:** Cllrs R Pitcher, T Bates. B House, B Benjafield, A Watkins, P Wharf, S Munnings
- Chair:** Cllr I Ventham
- Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker
- Also present:** 4 members of the public

**17.49 Public Participation**

Peter Fysh raised the condition of the footpath from the end of West Street along North Street and felt that it is in a very poor state of repair. Those residents with poor visibility or who are disabled find it very awkward to walk along. It was suggested that the problem should be reported via the Dorset for You (D4Y) web site. The Parish Council will also register this problem and the use of the D4Y web site will be reiterated in the parish magazine notes.

Parking in North Street is at saturation point and many of the houses on the eastern side do not have off road parking. Mr Fysh suggested a residents' parking scheme or a reduction in council tax. Insufficient parking is a problem all over the village. This combined with the 'park and ride' at the end of North Street makes it very difficult for residents. There is an option for enforcement in the private parking at the Sports Club but otherwise, anyone is able to park on the highway. Cllr Wharf informed members that a residents' parking scheme had been suggested in other areas of Purbeck but the administration of it was so expensive, those residents concerned decided not to pursue the initiative.

Nigel Hill, Morton Parish Council – When is our Neighbourhood Plan likely to be completed? Cllr Ventham responded saying that, should everything go according to plan, it should be introduced in early summer 2018. Mr Hill asked if it was likely that any more land would be put forward by the landowner for the next local plan? It is possible that some of the land in the SHLAAs will come forward but there is no evidence that the landowner is in any rush to put the land forward.

**17.50 To receive apologies for absence**

Apologies had been received from Cllrs Fairhurst and Bishop.

**17.51 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2017**

A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr house proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Pitcher and agreed unanimously. The minutes were signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

**17.52 Matters arising from those minutes, not covered by this agenda**

Verge planting at White Lovington – The Clerk has spoken to Steve Davis of DCC regarding this and they are keen to look into the possibility of turning it into a wild flower verge. A site meeting is to be arranged to discuss timings and flower types.

Responsibilities list reissued – A revised copy has now been issued to all members.

Footpath network – A request for a footbridge over the A31 has been submitted but it is very unlikely due to budget constraints.

Play park review – The Lengthsman is currently on annual leave. This item will be deferred to the September meeting.

**ACTION: DEFER TO SEPTEMBER**

Village Information board by Post Office – The Lengthsman has been reminded.

Other village signs – Cllr Benjafield has made all the signs and the Lengthsman will install them on his return.

Field names – Cllr Bates reported that he had found the original field names and they are shown on the Bere Regis Walks leaflet. We now need to think about how we are going to promote the names to residents. It was suggested that a dedicated article could be included in the parish magazine. Cllr Bates will write something and include a map.

**ACTION: CLLR BATES**

Dorset Dogs are to be invited to a future meeting. Cllr Bates felt that things were getting a bit better in some areas. Other areas are still as particularly bad. It was suggested that some bio-degradable spray paint is purchased and used to highlight the problem as a public safety issue. Some stickers will also be obtained for the bins to inform residents that they can be used for both dog waste and litter.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Hedge in front of Lys Cottages – The Clerk will continue to chase Raglan Housing.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Cherry Tree – Guy Stovold, Aster Housing, has been contacted and he will discuss this with his Groundworks Team.

Camp Bestival – No negative comments have been received but it was noted that several cars were using the village as a short cut. Cllr Pitcher asked if PDC had received any complaints regarding the festival and Cllr Wharf responded saying there will be a wash up session quite soon but early indication would appear that it has gone quite well.

Further discussion took place regarding the possibility of preventing vehicles from using the village as a short cut from the bypass to the Poole road in order to avoid the Shell Garage roundabout. There is a mechanism whereby the StatNav companies can be contacted to ask them to amend their directions. The Clerk will contact Stephen Mepham, DC Highways, to see if he has any contacts or advise on how this might be achieved.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### **17.53 To receive declarations of interest**

No interests were declared at this stage.

### **17.54 To receive the County and District Councillor's Reports**

Cllr Wharf reported that he and Stephen Mepham from DC Highways had carried out a tour of the district highlighting highway-related issues and he will report back in September.

Superfast Broadband (SFB) - There is now a new initiative whereby SFB Dorset are trying to enable the remaining 3% of properties to achieve SFB. BT are putting together a programme that will extend the line from the existing green control box to the business, if the business is able to demonstrate a need. BT will put some money towards the cost of this, as will DCC and the parish council will also be asked to put some money forward. Cllr Wharf will be meeting residents in Hyde

to discuss this and may come back saying the project has been started and may look to the Parish Council to demonstrate a degree of support.

Ironman Event – He is unhappy at the way this event has been organised and how it is continuing. He will be looking for feedback on how residents are affected. It is known that the marshals for the event will all be local but it is going to cause huge problems for those areas through which the race travels. There is a high economic cost to the event, but there are other costs that cannot be quantified; such as residents being unable to go about their daily activities or work. Cllr Wharf would like to be informed of any difficulties residents may have as a direct result of this event.

The registration forms have now been sent to every household, asking residents to complete and return them in order to be included on the voting register. This will be noted in the parish magazine under both the Parish Council section and in Cllr Wharf’s section.

## **17.55 Key Topics:**

### **17.55.1 Neighbourhood Plan update**

There is nothing further to report since the last Parish Council meeting. There will be a meeting of the Joint Steering Group on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August.

### **17.55.2 Community Hall update**

Cllr Munnings gave a brief history of the project to date. The current working group has picked up from where the original group left off and have come up with a concept, using the preferred site option of Souls Moor. There are a number of complications with this choice of site; such as overhead cables, proximity to Vitacress, Common Land issues, but it is outside the flood plan and will have road access. The concept shows a large hall with smaller meeting rooms to the west. A concept plan was shown to council members, giving possible room sizes. Julien Lightfoot has kindly produced an artist’s impression and is happy to do additional drawings when required. The group is now looking for support from the Parish Council to agree the concept and give the authority to go to the statutory bodies. It is hoped to go to public consultation in October 2017 although local consultation to the most affected residents will take place before then. Cllr Ventham suggested sharing the information available with those members of the public present and they were shown copies of the proposal. Cllr Benjafield asked if the consultation for the hall would be separate from the Neighbourhood Plan. Cllr Munnings felt that initial consultation with local people will be essential. We would not want to jeopardise the Neighbourhood Plan.

Cllr Munnings requested the Parish Council’s support for the concept of the style, shape and size of building on Souls Moor. Cllr Wharf reported that he had received some feedback from certain residents who felt that we were rushing ahead with this too quickly but he had stressed that this is a concept only. Cllr Munnings reminded members that the public will have many opportunities to comment on the concept. Cllr Benjafield pointed out that it is now seven months since the Parish Council agreed to take forward a plan for the community hall so it would be difficult to see how this could be viewed as ‘rushing ahead.’

### **Proposition:**

‘To approve the broad concept of this type of hall as shown on the plan and drawings on the Souls Moor location, in order to enable the working party to seek the necessary permissions from statutory authorities for approval to take the concept to the next step, which will be a public consultation.’

**It was unanimously agreed that the proposition is accepted and the working group is given the authority to proceed as requested.**

The artist's impression will be included in the Parish Council article, with no floor plan sizes as these may be subject to change.

### 17.55.3 To consider entering the Best Kept Village Competition 2018

As no information was available at this stage, this item will be deferred to the September meeting. The Clerk will liaise with Cllr Watkins.

<b>ACTION: CLLR WATKINS/CLERK</b>
-----------------------------------

## 17.56 Finance

### 17.56.1 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

DCC	Traffic monitoring on Rye Hill	BACS043	300.00
A King	Lenghsmen – July 2017	BACS044	2073.74
DC Pension Fund	August contribution	BACS045	184.17
DAPTC	Annual subscription	BACS046	589.70
Mrs A Crocker	August wages + expenses	BACS047	870.17
HMRC	August PAYE & NIC	BACS048	73.19

Total amount to be paid from the Precept **£4,090.97**

Lunch Club & NeighbourCar (Both these schemes are self-funding with no costs coming from the Precept)

Sam Munnings	July Lunch Club	BACS042	61.39
M Benjafield	July NeighbourCar	BACS045	48.87

Total to be paid from the schemes' funds **£110.26**

Cllr Bates asked if it was necessary to be a member of the DAPTC. The Clerk explained that the Association provided a valuable source of information for recent legislation and changed in any Statute that affects parish councils. It also provides networking opportunities between clerks and other parish councils and provides training for councillors.

Cllr Munnings proposed the payments are processed. This was seconded by Cllr Bates and agreed unanimously.

### 17.56.2 To confirm reconciliation of accounts

A copy of the report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No questions were raised and no comments made.

### 17.56.3 To agree position against budget

A copy of the report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No questions were raised and no comments made.

## **17.57 Planning & Housing**

### **17.57.1 To consider planning applications**

6/2017/0262 19 Green Close - Erect front porch, single storey rear extension, decking, lowering kerb and creation of front drive

6/2017/0394 Long House, 6 North Street - Rebuild & extend height of chimney stack, install thatch protection sleeve & flexible steel liner

6/2014/0419 88 West Street - Renewal of consent to construct a 4 bedroom detached dwelling with integral parking

All three of the applications had been considered by the PWP and Cllr Munnings recommended no objections are raised to any. This was seconded by Cllr Bates and agreed unanimously.

### **17.57.2 To consider tree work applications**

TWA/2017/117 13 North Street - T1 Ash – remove large lateral branch

TWA/2017/125 1 White Lovington - T1 conifer – fell; T2 Sycamore – crown reduce by 3m; T3 Holm Oak – crown reduce by 1m

Cllr Bates had viewed both applications and recommended no objections are raised. This was seconded by Cllr Benjafield and agreed unanimously.

## **17.58 Village Environment**

### **17.58.1 To consider a proposed bridleway diversion at Doddings Farm, Bere Regis**

A copy of the proposed diversion had been issued to all members at the start of the meeting. This represents a very minor amendment and does not prevent residents continuing use of the path. No objections were raised. The Clerk will respond accordingly.

<b>ACTION: CLERK</b>
----------------------

### **17.58.2 To receive an update on Open Spaces**

The recent Bat Walk was very well represented. The next meeting will take the form of a visit to the Higher Hyde Nature Reserve on the 5<sup>th</sup> September. Work will commence along the stream in October/November.

It was noted that the bank along the school access road has now been cut.

### **17.58.3 To receive a proposal regarding the replacement of the play park equipment**

This item will be carried forward to the September meeting.

### **17.58.4 Defects**

- The ground on either side of the Souls Moor boardwalk needs cutting back again.
- Landscaping of watering hole still needs to happen.
- Repairs – Shitterton gully is flooding.

It was noted that several benches have been put up by Tilhill around Dr May's tree planting area; these are gratefully received. Cllr Ventham suggested a note of thanks should be sent to Graham Preece.

- Road surfaces – Egdon Close, Elder Road and Green Close. Complaints have been received by residents about the state of the road surface at all three of these locations. A note will be included in the magazine encouraging as many people as possible to report the defects via D4Y. The Parish Council will also submit a complaint.
- Finger post – The Culeaze post is in place but the directional fingers are not. This has been because the Lengthsman has been unable to source the brackets needed. Cllr Pitcher reported that the Bridport Foundry hold the moulds for the brackets.

### **17.59 Police, Traffic and Roads**

No reply has been received from the Police regarding the joint visits as they are still waiting to hear from the Council enforcement team.

Central car park – Correspondence had been received from residents, expressing concern that cars and motor homes were parking in the central car park for long periods of time, reducing the number of available spaces for others. Cllr Watkins pointed out that there is a sign in the car park setting a limit of 23 hours parking at any one time. Under the District Council guidelines, this could be enforced if we wished, but this would merely move the problem from the car park to the roads, which are already congested. It is a public car park so anyone can legally park there. The Clerk will check with PDC as to why the sign is there and if it can be removed.

### **17.60 Community Liaison**

Cllr House reported that the Friends of Wareham Hospital are holding an AGM on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> September at the hospital. Everyone is welcome to attend and an update will be given on the latest news about the hospital and its future.

### **17.61 Children & Youth**

Cllr Ventham reported that the Kingsbere Explorer Scout unit is now in Kenya and having an interesting and enjoyable time.

### **17.62 Correspondence received since the agenda was set**

There was no further correspondence received.

### **17.63 Public relations**

- Completion electoral form on line link
- Community hall proposal
- Hyde Nature Reserve meeting
- Thank Tilhill for benches
- Friends of Wareham hospital – AGM

A separate note will be included regarding road repairs and encouraging residents to use the D4Y website to report any defects.

### **17.64 Items for the September meeting**

Members are reminded to submit all items to the Clerk by the 31<sup>st</sup> August.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8:21pm. The next meeting will be held on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2017.