

## **Bere Regis Parish Council**

Minutes of the meeting held on 14th June 2007 at 7pm.

PRESENT Councillors J George, J Macintosh, C Maunder, T Maunder, M S Munro, J Parsons (Chairman), J Pitts, I Ventham and Mr J Ruddock (Clerk).

Before starting business the meeting observed a minutes silence for the late Mrs Sarah Damen.

### Apologies

07/081 Apologies have been received from Councillors Fairhurst, Wharf and Shakesby (DCC).

### Vacancy for a Councillor

07/082 This has been advertised as required and Mr D Shepherd has put himself forward for consideration. He gave brief reasons for wishing to sit on the Council.  
Councillor Ventham proposed that he be co-opted, this was seconded by Councillor C Maunder and he was duly co-opted.

### Period for Public Participation

07/083 Mrs A Brooke (MP) together with six parishioners were present one of whom reported that with rights of way being opened up to allow access for the less able there is now access for horses at Yearlings Bottom and everybody concerned is happy.

Mrs Brooke has been looking into the bus services and understands that no price had been put forward, by the bus company, for the service that includes Bere Regis. There is to be another meeting with the bus company and she would like some idea of what is needed. One thing is a service in the mornings and evenings for those people who work in Dorchester/Poole etc. It was also felt that the use of small buses and taxis could be looked at.

Another parishioner raised the problems of vandalism and bad behaviour in the village and said he felt that there was not enough communication with parishioners, because many did not read the magazine, and that a newsletter for all, perhaps twice a year, would be better. This could report on the number of incidents etc. He was also concerned about the young age of some of those involved in the incidents.

He felt there should be an advisory committee on youth and that it should meet parents to discuss the problems and what could be done.

These comments were noted, are in the Parish Plan, and will be carefully considered in the future.

On policing, the Chairman has spoken to PC Stewart who has promised to

07/083 cont

to attend meetings.

The future of the Post Office is at present in the hands of those who will decide on which ones will close. The Postmaster is working very hard to provide a good service.

The matter of problem hedges was raised. Councillor Pitts will speak to Vitacress regarding the hedge at Southbrook which is on the road to Egdon Close and which needs to be cut right back to allow visibility for pedestrians and vehicles. The Clerk will write regarding the grass, on the verge, of the westbound slip road and the bypass and also the hedge, east of the Chaneles, which is encroaching into the highway.

A parishioner informed the meeting of a group in Durweston which has been set up to provide weekly facilities for the young between 5 and 15 years of age.

#### Minutes of the last meeting

07/084 Minute 07/072 was amended to read "Councillor Pitts will follow this up." Minute 07/073 was amended to include "at a cost of £3,600". The minutes of the Annual meeting on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2007 were then confirmed correct.

#### Matters Arising

07/085 07/072 Roundabout. Vitacress remains on board with a limited budget. After many phone calls Banyards do not wish to be involved. Councillor Pitts is at present looking for one more sponsor and he is awaiting a reply from Bartlett's and has Dorset Reclamation in mind.

07/059 Village Pick up. The village has been looking very clean and it had been decided to defer this until the autumn.

07/075 Safer Route to School. EDF has erected the 2 posts for the Vehicle Activated Signs, one on either side of the school. Unfortunately they are not connected to the electrics. Southern Electric will put in a supply to a fused box and the 2 signs, currently in store, can be fitted.

Following the survey, on 10<sup>th</sup> May, the site meets the criteria specified for Zebra Crossings and after consultation with the DCC Head of Department it was officially approved on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June 2007. There are still procedures to be followed including a Traffic Regulation Order which will have to be advertised. However, if the crossing is installed the Lollipop Lady will be dispensed with.

It has always been the understanding, confirmed by DCC, that both the crossing and the Lollipop Lady were to be part of the scheme as the Lollipop Lady is safer but only operates at core times and so doesn't cover any out of school time activities. Councillor Pitts will take this up with the County Council.

More traffic is being diverted onto the C6 because of problems on the Dorchester to Weymouth road which will not be resolved until the Relief road is in place. There is also the additional waste, coming from North Dorset which will create even more traffic. It was agreed that the 30mph limit should be extended to the top of Rye Hill.

Councillor Pitts was thanked for all the work he has done on this matter.

07/076 Traffic & Public Transport. Councillor Pitts met Messrs Bastow and Westwood (DCC) with some input from Mr J Thomas L.T.P

Improvements. They reviewed the whole of the traffic section, of the Parish Plan and obtained answers for all 9 priorities. The key items being:

- a) Reduction of traffic along West Street, particularly heavy lorries and the road being used as a "Rat Run". The short term solution was from the A35 from Dorchester, prior to the slip road to Bere Regis, change the sign to limit traffic to 7.5 tonne weight and 6'6" width reduction and to put these Weight Limit signs either end of West Street on entry to the village. By this means we would be on the same Basis as the B3390 Route Strategy through Affpuddle and Warmwell. Tim Westwood of DCC would support this suggestion but this Council would have to write and request it giving reasons. The only drawback he thought there was, was that he would have to obtain agreement from the Highways Agency regarding the sign on the A35. After a full discussion it was agreed to request the 7.5 tonne and 6'6" limitations.
- b) Parking outside the surgery:- If yellow lines or limitations to parking were required an application has to be made to the DCC (Mr T Westwood). His team would survey, investigate, consult with the Police and issue their recommendations back to the Parish Council. If agreed then a suggestion to limit parking during the day was a SINGLE yellow line, on both sides, but with disabled parking- say 2 bays – outside the surgery, from the corners on West Street down to the corner of the surgery. The single yellow lines would be accompanied by signs saying NO PARKING from 8am to 6pm Mondays to Fridays, when the surgery and the dentist are both open and the parking is most dangerous. Councillor Ventham is to speak to the doctors to get their views and to ask if their staff could use the car park.
- c) North Street is still officially a 30mph speed limit. The traffic regulation is still in place and was not lifted by the bypass and is covered by the 30mph signs when entering the village.
- d) Quiet Roads. This is no longer a solution being pursued by Dorset County Council, following extensive research at Corfe Mullen.
- e) A35 Morden Park Corner. Mr Westwood has a scheme of low cost which he proposes to implement to ease traffic flow at this junction.

07/085 cont

As noted all traffic items within the Parish Plan were reviewed and Councillor Pitts is aware of what can be done.

### Play Park

07/086 This will be discussed at the next meeting.

### Toilet Block

07/087 Purbeck District Council want to know very soon what this Council wants to happen to the toilet block. This was discussed at length and it was agreed reluctantly that the Purbeck District Council be asked to demolish the block. The Chairman and Councillors Pitts and Ventham will meet Bill Davidson (PDC) to discuss the details.

### Planning

07/088 The recommendations of the Working Party, as follows, were accepted.

There were no objections to:-

06/2007/0311 Tollgate Cottage, 72 West Street. Replacement windows, repair windows and repaint property.

06/2007/0314 West Mill, West Street. Convert garage to games room & erect a detached double garage.

06/2007/0376 The Scout Hut Elder Road. Erect a single storey side extension.

06/2007/0330 Meadow Court, Lane End. Demolish single storey extension, garage and greenhouse. Erect new single storey extension and conservatory at rear and new dormer windows front and rear.

Agreed no objection but it was felt that the flat roof was aesthetically unpleasing and that a ridge roof would be more in keeping.

### Parish Plan Portfolio Reports

07/089 The Chairman has been informed, by Mr Cleave, that Dorset County Council responded to the Plan and has commented on 33 items and is unable to support one, which is the quiet lane on the road to Hyde.

A) Public Transport. Councillor Pitts attended a meeting of The Purbeck Transport Action Group on May 16<sup>th</sup>. He has had a discussion with Mr M Goosen of Wilts & Dorset bus Company and will follow this up.

The group is promoting

- 1) The “Safety Pledge to Keep to the Limits” in conjunction with PDC and the Purbeck Community Partnership. Councillor Pitts recommends signing up to this and gets publicity for it.
- 2) Carshare.com.
- 3) He is discussing cycle routes with John Thraves Chairman of PTAG.
- 4) He has spoken to Keith Norris who works for POPP as a community leader for Bere Regis.

B) Environment. Councillor Munro will produce a letter for the Clerk to send regarding the refuse collection system.

C) Employment. The Employment Working Group met on 24<sup>th</sup> May. After an introduction and purpose session the following improvements to “footfall” for existing businesses were put forward.

Business Directory. Create a directory both in electronic and paper Versions, available to all Bere Regis businesses and traders, free entry and free distribution to all households. The Parish Council to possibly pay and sponsor.

Advertise the directory through the Parish Magazine, fliers and the Swanage and Wareham Advertiser.

Websites. Ensure all three websites (Sports Club, church and village) and the school website are linked and have opportunities for advertising.

Brown Signs. These should be on all 3 major routes into the village perhaps advertising the Village centre, Historic Church and the pubs and shops.

Mr R Wilson (PDC) will investigate these with Dorset County Council.

Car Park etc. Improve the car park, install a village map and noting the availability of toilets in the pubs. The village map is to be investigated.

WiFi hotspots. Signs for these are to be obtained for the pubs and Pampered Pigs.

Other attractions. Advertise the village amenities on the Monkey World and Tank Museum websites.

Purbeck Map. Put more village information onto this map.

Encourage new business.

Mr Wilson (PDC) outlined grants that are available for developing redundant buildings for business use. He has more information if needed.

07/089 cont

Based on Armada's recent experience a start up guide is to be drafted. Other bodies will add to the draft in due course. The guide when complete will be available to all via websites.

The Employment Working Group will be expanded and expertise from it made available to anyone considering a business start up. That facility is to be enabled by creating an email Group and by expanding the membership to possibly include Monkey World, East Dorset Golf Club Representative, Julian Lightfoot, Debbie or Simon Scott and Purbeck Restoration.

Future meetings. None set but will contact via email.

D) Communication. Councillor George is still waiting for the email address list. The database has been set up and is ready to go. This will need a Data Protection Policy. A request for people's email addresses should go in the Parish Magazine so they can be updated regularly. Parish Magazine items: the tidy state of the village and the deferment of the pick up, the news on the zebra crossing, bus services, the car park and to note that there has been no vandalism recently.

#### Code of Conduct

07/090 It was proposed by Councillor Ventham and seconded by Councillor Macintosh that the Council adopts the new Code of Conduct including paragraph 12(2). This was agreed unanimously.

#### Life Education

07/091 The requests for a donation from this group and subsequently from the school, for this activity, were discussed. Councillor Ventham proposed that the school be given £180, this was seconded by Councillor Pitts and agreed.

#### Finance

07/092 a) It was agreed to pay the accounts totalling £1,237.35.  
b) It was agreed to pay £395.56 for the annual subscriptions to DAPTC.  
c) The Budget and Financial Statement for May 2007 were accepted. The balance of £64 for the Parish Plan is to be included in the general Balance in future. It was agreed to purchase a laser printer with a budget of £180.  
d) The Statement of Accounts and Statement of Assurance have been checked by the Finance Working Party and are present for approval. This was given.

### Connecting Dorset

07/093 This matter was discussed and it was agreed not to participate in this project.

### Correspondence

07/094 The Clerk has received a request, via a Stonemason for a memorial to consist of a flat bed stone with a book headstone. It was agreed that memorials should be one thing or another not a combination such as this.

### Defects

07/095 The sign for Manor Farm Road has not yet been erected, the “No Cycling” sign nearby needs repairing and the finger post sign at Chapel Cross is out of alignment.

### Any other business

07/096 The Chairman has a new format for the agenda which will allow for an item on the cemetery.

There is a need to review the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations. Councillor Ventham will look at these.

Footbridge. Councillor Munro reported that the work, to remove the County Council bridge, is going ahead which means this council can use this bridge rather than having to buy one. Hopefully delivery can be arranged when we want it. He has contractors in Poole who will be able to cut it to size and refurbish it. This hopefully will cut costs and the bridge can then be delivered and erected at the same time as the boardwalk.

Councillor J Macintosh resigned as a Councillor and was thanked for all the hard work she has carried out for the Council. The necessary steps have been taken for filling the vacancy.

It was agreed to grant an exclusive right of burial to Mrs V Thorn for the grave of Mrs Jean Thorn.