

Bere Regis Parish Council

Minutes of a meeting held on 9th August 2007 at 7pm

PRESENT Councillors L W Fairhurst, J George, A Kennard, C Maunder, M S Munro, J Parsons (Chairman), J Pitts, D Shepherd, I Ventham, P Wharf and Mr J Ruddock (Clerk).

Apologies

07/111 Apologies received from Councillors T Maunder and M Shakesby (DCC).

Period for Public Participation

07/112 2 parishioners were present and one raised the problem of the access to the petrol filling station and the need for more parking off the slip road in. It is a busy place a traffic is often backed up to the roundabout. Vehicles parking on the western side of the road also cause problems. Councillor Pitts will contact DCC to request double yellow lines on the western side down as far as the rear of the first house.

The Clerk will write to the owners to ask them to construct a new access to the site in order to free up the existing slip road.

The County Council is to be asked to also write to the owners.

In response to a question it was pointed out that the minutes are available on the website.

Minutes of the last meeting

07/113 The minutes of the meeting on 12th July 2007 were confirmed correct.

Matters Arising

07/114 07/086(roundabout). Dorset Reclamation are willing to sponsor the roundabout alone. Councillor Pitts will speak to Mr Bastow (DCC) to get things moving.

07/098(police) Nobody was aware of a visit since the last meeting. There has also not been any sign of the SBO. Councillor Wharf will write to Inspector Adams.

07/102 (hedges) Councillor Pitts reported that, with the roundabout sponsorship difficulties whilst he had been into Vitacress He did not wish to upset them with Francis Holland. He found that the hedge in Southbrook was NOT constituting a danger to pedestrians but there was a domestic issue with residents in Southbrook (leading to Egdon Close) over parking their cars against the hedge. He agreed to talk again with Vitacress when Francis Holland returns from leave. Councillor C Maunder also confirmed that he and Councillor T Maunder had walked past the hedge in question and it is quite safe for two people walking side by side.

07/109 (tree) Councillor Munro has removed the tree.

Planning

07/115 The recommendations, of the Working Party, as follows were agreed:

There were no objection to the following planning applications:-

6/2007/0510 Appletree Cottage 12, Shitterton Erect a single storey
511 extension.

6/2007/0528 39, West Street. Erect a 2 storey rear extension and form a
new access.

6/2007/0554 Meadow Court, Lane. Demolish & rebuild side extension.
demolish garage/greenhouse extend window, new window and
sun lounge at rear.

District Councillors Report

07/116 Councillor Wharf apologised for missing recent meeting, he many other commitments.

Dog Control Orders are going out for consultation again because it appears that people were not aware of what they mean. The 3 signs have disappeared from the sports field.

Mr Drax is appealing against the planning refusal for the paintballing on Woodbury Hill.

The District Council has a working party looking into the planning system to make it more efficient. This may give greater powers to Parish Councils to have more influence on the Planning Board.

One club has had its licence revoked for one moth because of incidents there. I will not close for that month until the appeal has been heard.

A tree fell in Stanbarrow Close which PDC dealt with quickly and will deal with claimants once they have been in contact with their insurers.

A new lease has been granted for the Scout Hut which will be the same as the old Lease and will be up to 2017.

The planning application for 3-4 North was refused on the grounds that it may lead to conflict.

The Smokefree legislation is working very well with any problems being dealt with by mediation.

Parish Plan Portfolio Reports

07/117 FULL REPORTS

a) Traffic & Public Transport. The County Council will monitor traffic at either end of West Street to see what vehicles are using the road. Councillor Pitts will reply to DCC stating two weeks at the end of August beginning of September would be best.

The VAS signs are up on Rye Hill and will be monitored. DCC has also confirmed that the zebra crossing will go ahead and the Lollipop Lady will be retained. During the school terms the signs will flash "School".

Subject to this Council paying for them the Brown tourist signs have been agreed for the church and village centre. An application will be made once

Councillor Ventham has spoken to the PCC about what it would like however, the council would like an approximate cost.

The County Council could also see no problems for double lines near the surgery and consideration is also being given to them for one car length either side of the Snow Hill junction with West Street.

Cllr Ventham has met the officers at Bovington and the requests of this Council have been included in Standing Orders. However, with the number of units using the base it is difficult to enforce them. Help is needed from the village to identify the culprits.

On buses the MP has suggested taking things up with Nordcat. Cllr Pitts understands the County Council is doing this but will only do so on a request from a Parish Council.

b) Environment. Cllr Munro is trying to get the Conservation Group off the ground and has obtained funding for an Environmental Map of the village. Hopefully vandalism will not prove a problem.

The Gilligham bridge is being lifted tomorrow and is being taken to Poole where it will be worked on to produce what is required for the village. The firm doing the work would like to oversee it 's erection.

The rain been very heavy and water levels are the same as for November.

On rights of way the paths are muddy but walkable and Vitacress have been out today clearing paths.

Trees/archaeology. This would be a matter for the Conservation Group.

c) Employment. This has been covered with the brown signs.

d) Law & Order. It has been difficult contacting the police to find out what has been happening. The Clerk will try to get contact points for PCSO Dunesby.

There was a burglary in Blind Street and the police responded within 30 minutes and have been very good since then.

e) Communication. The replacement of the Ragamuffins building will cause some problems because of the difficulty for 3 lorries to turn into the field below the school. However, it is planned that there will be 3 different times for the lorries to arrive so delays will be kept to a minimum. The email list will be used to publicise this as well as the shops and public houses.

Parish Magazine. The access to the filling station, Dog Control Consultation, and the zebra crossing and flashing signs will go in.

URGENT REPORTS

a) Housing & Planning. Nothing.

b) Play Park. It was agreed that, because of all the difficulties in going it alone, this route would not be used.

A long discussion took place on the gap between offers from Housing Trusts and the figure provided by the District Valuer. Cllr Ventham proposed that a small group should be formed to meet Synergy and the

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District Valuer to discuss this further, this was seconded by Cllr Fairhurst and agreed. The group will be Cllr Fairhurst and the Chairman. It was also agreed that the Clerk should investigate the situation with the DAPTC. As it may not be possible to sell the land the moving of the play park would have to be postponed.

c) Youth & Education. Ragamuffins have been covered.

There is no direct link between the school and this Council now that Cllr Wharf is not a Governor. The school would be asked if a Council nominated Governor is required.

The structure of the school has been reviewed, because of falling numbers, and the new year will see 3 classes. There will be extended school facilities with preschool and after school clubs. Letters giving details of all the changes have been sent out. Eventually out of school activities will include the school holidays as required by central government. This will help those parents who have to work.

Youth Forum the Headteacher from Sandford is happy for a talk to be given to the School Council and also to link with other youth organisations. Cllr Kennard also wishes to speak to the Community Policeman.

d) Medical Facilities. Cllr Ventham has not been able to speak to the doctors yet.

e) Amenities, Services & Tourism. The cemetery is looking good. There are some trees that need a little trimming and it was agreed to ask Mr Shave if he would do this along with painting the railings across the middle.

It was also felt that a long term plan for the yew trees would be a good thing.

Toilet Block & Bins. It was agreed to go ahead with the proposal from Bill Davidson (PDC) i.e. the building be demolished to slab level, to remove a lamp post, lower the kerb plus a fence or wall to prevent access to the sub station. Councillor Pitts will liaise with Mr Davidson and will point out that the coach parking area has not been used for some time.

f) Community Hall. 19th August sees day of craft and village memorabilia. Miss Potter is being shown on October 13th and there will be a puppet show in February plus a play.

Parish Plan Review Group

07/118 It was agreed to form this group, to meet 2 or 3 times per year to look at the progress being made. It was agreed that the members be the Chairman and Councillors Fairhurst, Pitts and Ventham. Mr Cleave could be consulted if necessary but would be updated by the Chairman and Councillor Ventham on occasions. The Chairman has recently done this with him.

Finance

- 07/119 a) it was agreed to pay the accounts totalling £1,737.63.
- b) the Budget and Financial Statement for July 2007 were accepted.
- c) the list of the youth based organisations that could benefit was not an automatic grant they would have to apply and the application considered to be included in the first £1,000.
The remaining £1,000 could go to other groups that benefit the parish.
Councillor George will put an item in the Parish Magazine saying there is a small amount of money available that groups could apply for

Correspondence

- 07/120 Of the letter circulated it was agreed to approve the amended memorial for Mrs Morgan and her son.
A letter has been received from English Heritage concerning a proposal to list the War Memorial. It was agreed to send a copy to the Royal British Legion and for the Clerk to write to English Heritage to ask for the reason behind the proposal and also what conditions would be placed on the owners if the listing goes ahead.

Defects

- 07/121 The noticeboards at Shitterton and the school have had the doors removed, it was felt that they were not needed just a waterproof backing that notices etc could be fixed to by drawing pins. Councillor Maunder will deal with this.
A verbal complaint has been received about the state of Souls Moor.
However, some of this is rubbish from Egdon Close houses but the path is fit to walk. It will be cut by the tenant farmer once his other work has been done.
Dorset Wildlife Trust are happy with the proposed footpath but would like to see the area properly managed.

Any Other Business

- 07/122 Councillor Pitts reported that the Government had announced that there was to be a large increase in the number of houses they want to build and that he had been made aware that the South West Regional Authority had been instructed to by the Government to look for towns and villages where the increase could be accommodated. With the recent definition of a village, as defined in Councillor Wharfs article in the Parish Magazine, he is of the belief that Bere Regis could be a village targeted. As he is against any major development in Bere Regis and would NOT support a large development such as that at Wool, it is his opinion that the Parish Council should, without any obligations, be prepared to talk to those developers who are already in possession of land around the village. The purpose of the meeting was for the Parish Council to control the rate of any expansion of housing development and see what planning gains can be obtained rather than have

07/122

it imposed upon us.

Cllr George expressed an opposite view as she felt that this would only encourage developers at a time when these matters were being looked at as a whole.

Cllr Wharf stated that PDC are in the middle of a process of fact finding and the results would be known early next year. He felt it would be a good idea to invite Mr Mark Sturgess (PDC) to a meeting to discuss the strategy and to find out how to go about looking to the future and this was agreed.

There is a meeting, of the Association of Dorset Watches, at the Hamworthy Club on September 22nd at a cost of £5. It is from 9.30 to 4.35. If anyone wishes to attend would they contact Cllr C Maunder.