

## **Bere Regis Parish Council**

Minutes of the Annual Parish Council meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> May 2008 at 7pm.

PRESENT Councillors L W Fairhurst, A Kennard, C Maunder, T Maunder, M S Munro, J Parsons (Chairman), J Pitts (to 9pm), I Ventham, P Wharf (to 9.20pm), M Shakesby (DCC) and Mr J Ruddock (Clerk).

Dr Annetta Allen, Headteacher of Oakmead School and Chairperson of the Governors of Bere Regis School, gave an update on the future of schools.

A review is being conducted because of falling numbers, which need to be addressed but her own opinion is that villages need schools. Schools are required to provide a profile which details all they do. Bere Regis School is above the national average and is also providing an excellent service both before and after school. Numbers here will increase after next year. She felt that Bere Regis gave children a good start and that Sandford Middle School continued this.

Consultation will be carried out and needs to be responded to well.

Councillor Pitts felt that a large cause of the falling numbers was the lack of housing in the village.

There has been no specific research regarding which is best a 2 or 3 tier system but Dr Allen felt that 11 years of age is too young to go to a secondary modern school.

The Chairman thanked her for her talk.

### Apologies

08/056 Apologies have been received from Councillors George and Shepherd.

### Period for Public Participation

08/057 2 parishioners were present both from Dorset Golf & Country Club. They took the opportunity to explain the reasons for the planning application for an indoor bowling facility. It is to bring in clients during the winter months which will enable them to retain their staff, rather than laying some off, and which will obviously help them and a lot of other businesses in the area. At present the only other plans are for an additional 9 holes for the golf course.

The Planning Working Party has recommended that there be no objection and that it be supported on employment grounds. The Council accepted this recommendation

### Election of Chairman

08/058 Mr J Parsons was proposed by Councillor Wharf, seconded by Councillor Ventham and was duly elected.  
The Chairman said he was delighted to be elected again but that this would be his last year.

### Election of Vice-chairman

08/059 Councillor Ventham was proposed by Councillor Fairhurst, seconded by Councillor Pitts and was duly elected.

### Representatives on other bodies

08/060 Councillor C Maunder will continue as the DAPTC representative. The Chairman and Councillor Ventham have been looking at the format of the Parish Plan Portfolio Groups and will contact the Councillors in due course.

### Minutes of the last meeting

08/061 Minute 08/051 b) was altered to read to the Drax Estate and then the minutes of the meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> April 2008 were confirmed correct.

### Matters Arising

08/062 08/046 (Repairs) The Manor Farm Road sign has been erected but not the Shitterton one. The County Council has written to say the drain will be cleared.

Mr Tucker has unfortunately broken his arm so the work on the notice boards will be delayed. Councillor Ventham has a new site for the Shitterton notice board but the exact position needs to be agreed.

08/048 (Play park) A letter has been received , from Synergy, stating the Board had approved the proposals to pay £70,000 plus £35,000 and that when this Council had agreed terms with PDC, regarding the covenant they would instruct their architect to proceed with a planning application. Government approval will also be needed for the scheme.

08/055 (Souls Moor) Councillor C Maunder will look into the matter of the siting of the original entrance for the next meeting.

08/051 (bus shelter) It was felt that Elder Road may be a better site as a school pick up point. The Clerk is to put this suggestion to the Bus Company and also write to Bournemouth and Poole Councils to get information regarding bus shelters and any possible contacts.

08/055 (Parish Magazine) The PCC has not met to discuss funding.

### Planning

08/063 Councillor Wharf took no part in this item

The recommendations of the Planning Working Party, as follows, were accepted.

08/063 cont

There were no objections to:

- 2/2008/0241 1 South Mead. Erect 2 storey side extension and conservatory at the rear.
- 2/2008/0254 85 West Street. Erect a replacement satellite dish.  
255 as above
- 2/2008/0268 Dorset Golf & Country Club. Erect 3 lane indoor bowling rink etc.
- 2/2008/0288 Wyvern Lodge Hyde. Erect a ground floor bathroom extension.

With regard to application 2/2008/0256 1 South Mead to erect a garden wall to the front of the property it was recommended that the full council discuss this matter.

Councillor T Maunder declared an interest and took no part.

It was agreed to object because of the impact on the street scene, the loss of an open space and the effect it would have on the line of sight for vehicles.

The matter was raised that the developers of Griffins Yard have rooted out the hedge on the eastern boundary of the site. This is contrary to the planning conditions and the Clerk will write to the Enforcement Officer at PDC about this.

### Wind Farm

- 08/064 Councillor Ventham declared a personal interest in this matter. A long discussion took place with the feeling being that nobody objected to the proposal but there was a concern over the proximity of 2 turbines to the scout camp and the fact that the developers did not appear to be aware of the all year round use of this site. Councillor Munro circulated a paper he had drafted and it was agreed that he draft a response to be circulated for approval.

### District Councillors Report

- 08/065 Councillor Wharf explained the effect of the recent elections. The dog problem at Shitterton is being dealt with and a notice has been served there, regarding the state of the garden and the situation is being monitored. It is likely that the proposed changes to the planning system will be dropped and further consultation will be carried out with the parishes. Councillor Wharf has written to Councillor Shakesby asking him to see if the County Council will put up warning signs for deer along the A35.

- 08/065 cont

He attended the DCC Planning meeting on Binnegar and spoke strongly in favour of a Bere Regis by-pass.

A County Council representative said that the initial design work has been started.

### County Councillors Report

- 08/066 Councillor Shakesby reported that there are 4 sets of plans under consideration for the by pass and one of them is around Lane End. These will go to consultation before a planning application is made. The contribution from Sita will cover the planning process and the government will be approached for the other finance. As Councillor Wharf has said there is a severe deer problem on the A35 and other roads in the area. Most accidents are probably not reported except to insurance companies. Councillor Fairhurst suggested that the A35 be fenced. It was agreed that the Clerk write to the County Council expressing the concern of this Council and asking that warning signs be erected and that the Council uses the media to publicise the problem as well.

### Parish Plan Portfolio Reports

#### 08/067 FULL REPORTS

- a) Traffic & Transport. Councillor Pitts reported that Tony Burt (DCC) has accepted that PDC has held up matters regarding the yellow lines. He now has to go through the legal process which could take a further 3 months. Councillor Shakesby was asked to chase this up. There is also no sign of the advert for the zebra crossing that was promised by Andy Brown (DCC). There is no progress to report on the toilet block. Councillor C Maunder will continue to deal with publicising changes to the Bus timetables.
- b) Environment (incl Boardwalk). The signs are up on the bridge and the extension has been completed. The next stage is the paths and DWT approval will be needed for the type of hoggin to be used. A decision is still awaited over the grant. Councillor Fairhurst suggested a permissive path to the north of the village via Butt Lane. He will produce a plan for Councillor Munro who will make an informal approach to the landowners.
- c) Employment. Nothing to report
- d) Law & Order. Nothing to report.
- e) Communication. Items for the Magazine are the presentation on the school, contact points for the golf club, the wind farm, Binnegar, the deer problem, yellow lines/zebra crossing and the toilet block.

08/067 cont

## URGENT REPORTS

- a) Housing & Planning. Already dealt with.
- b) Youth & Education. Councillor Kennard reported that although the Purbeck Panther project had not succeeded the sports club did have one more Coach now.  
The school council has been interesting but it does look as though the members feel everything should come from government.  
Two issues it has are the media and the way it seems to produce an image of teenagers which creates moral panic and secondly the lack of transport. There is a Participation Day on 10<sup>th</sup> May to look at the area but it appears to lack support from the larger schools. Councillor Kennard is hopeful that a Youth Council could be set up in the village as recommended in the Parish Plan.  
There is a meeting at the Sports Club tomorrow to look into providing a tennis facility.
- c) Medical Facilities. There is nothing urgent at present but a meeting has been set up with the Practice Manager. Drivers will be needed for patients and for collecting and filling prescriptions. This will go in the Magazine.
- c) The cemetery is in good order however, there has been a some subsidence on one or two graves which has been dealt with.
- d) Community Hall. The AGM was held recently and the Committee was re elected. The Yetties concert was very successful.

## Finance

- 08/068 a) The monthly expenditure totalling £7,717.78 was approved.
- b) The Budget and Financial Statement for April 2008 were accepted.

## Correspondence

08/069 Of the correspondence circulated the following were discussed.

An application for a grant was received from the Purbeck Film Festival. It was agreed to donate £75 as the Council did last year.

Snow Hill Lane. The council supported the proposal that this be a byway open to all but motorised vehicles.

The official list of Post Office closures is expected on 15<sup>th</sup> July. It is thought that Bere Regis will not be on the list.

08/069 cont

Request for an allotment. The legislation says that if 6 parishioners request that allotments are provided the Parish Council must arrange this  
There are allotments owned by the Morden Estate which could possibly be used. The Clerk is to write to DAPTC to find out what exactly must and can be done.

Any other business

08/070 There have been two accidents recently on Woodbury Hill and the farmer is concerned that this road is now being used as a “rat run”.  
It was agreed to write to the County Council asking them to restrict the access to this road.

On the matter of a sight mirror for Blind Street it was stated that as the Drax Hall is in a Conservation Area planning permission would be needed.