

## **Bere Regis Parish Council**

Minutes of a meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> November 2008 at 7pm.

PRESENT Councillors L W Fairhurst, C Maunder, T Maunder (from 7.35 to 9pm), M S Munro, J Parsons (Chairman), I Ventham, P Wharf (from 8pm), Mr J Ruddock (Clerk) and PCSO Hann.

### 08/140 Apologies

Apologies have been received from Councillors J George and J Pitts.

### 08/141 Period for Public Participation

5 parishioners were present. One raised the matters of advertising sign near Poole Hill roundabout and in other areas, the condition of the road surface in North Street and the missing Shitterton sign. The Clerk will write to Dorset County Council about the first 2 items and the Shitterton sign is in hand. Finally he raised his concern that the PACT group seemed to be taking over from the Parish Council.

PACT groups have been set up following a government initiative and include the police, fire brigade, parish councils and other local organisations and discuss local matters of interest and what can be done to help where there are problems.

PCSO Hann's view was that PACT is a cousin of parish councils and he refers members of the public to them when the Councils can help. He also encourages the public to attend Parish Council meetings so that they can find out what happens. He recently visited the Parish with Councillor Ventham to look at the vandalism at the scout hut and also the graffiti on the youth shelter. He is investigating what can be done about the graffiti and has some possible solutions and also funding for the work. He will report back when he has more details.

Another parishioner raised the matter of allotments. The Chairman explained the action taken since the Council had received 6 written requests to provide allotments. The Drax Estate agents had confirmed that all the allotments at the Southbrook site are in use, with a waiting list. The agents dealing with the Back Lane site are not prepared to permit more allotments there as the medium to long term future for the site is uncertain.

Advice received from the Dorset Association of Parish and Town Councils confirmed that the Parish Council has no power to acquire land through compulsory purchase/lease and therefore has to request Purbeck District Council to do this. The District Council may choose not to take this action but if it does, the action is generally an option of last resort as the process is long, complex and expensive. The Parish Council is therefore asking the Drax agents to reconsider opening the Back Lane site and the Grainger Trust will also be approached to see if they can provide some land.

### 08/142 Minutes of the last meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 9<sup>th</sup> October 2008 were confirmed correct.

08/143 Matters Arising

08/128 (benches). The Land Drainage Consent is nearly complete .Once done the seats will be installed.

08/129 (Dorset Waste Strategy). The response has been sent in.

08/131 (Sitterton Close). The Chairman has received responses from 7 out of 12 houses. All agree that the trees should be pollarded immediately and a regime set up for regular pollarding every 3 years. Some agreed that alternate trees should be removed with the proviso that this includes the removal of the roots but others did not want any trees removed. One is concerned that one tree could fall on his house and if so who is responsible for the repairs. These comments will be passed on to PDC and Purbeck Housing Trust.

08/132( DCC meeting 2.10.2008) The only item missing from this report is the clearance of leaves from the footpath on Rye Hill.

08/144 Planning

The Planning Working Party have discussed the following planning application and recommended that there be no objections. Councillor I Ventham declared an interest in this and took no part in the discussion.

06/2008/07 erect temporary office building, steel storage container and WC facilities at the Scout Centre, Buddens Farm.

The recommendation of the Planning Working Party was accepted.

The Chairman reported on the last Planning Board meeting. The application for 3-4 North Street was refused. Mr Roden has been given a personal permission, for the café, for another 12 months. He also reported that the Council's comment, on Chamberlaynes Farm, had not been included on the file. Mr Davies had apologised for this and would check in the future, if there was no comment held.

08/145 Co-option of Councillors

There have been no applications so the matter will continue. It was agreed that there was a need to be more available to the public. Councillor Ventham thought that the Council should go ahead with the proposed joint surgery with the District Council. This would start in January 2009 and will have a big splurge in the Parish Magazine to publicise it and the Clerk will prepare a rota of Councillors to attend the surgery.

08/146 Play Park

The Clerk is to chase up the work on replacing the bark.

Although the Sports Club cannot give a definite answer, on using the recreation ground for some time it was agreed to not to write it off altogether. The consultation letter could include a question along the lines of if the recreation ground becomes available would people like this site.

08/147 Village Composting

The Chairman and Councillor Ventham visited the Southbrook allotments and found a possible site near the entrance on the northern side. The Chairman is waiting for a reply from Morden Estates Company. It was also agreed that Councillor Ventham approach the Grainger Trust about using an area to the east of its land at Southbrook. If this goes ahead the site must be run properly to avoid misuse by general tipping there.

Mr Trim is not set up to remove the spoil from the cemetery. Councillor T Maunder will arrange for skips to be provided to take it away correctly and will ask Mr Trim if he could deal with the loading of the skips.

It was also agreed not to have any more cuts in the cemetery for the time being.

08/148 PACT

It was agreed to review our position in respect of the local PACT Panel in the light of advice from Inspector Weekes who will attend the December meeting.

08/149 Code of Conduct

It was proposed to respond as per the attached 2 pages. Proposed by Councillor Munro and seconded by Councillor Fairhurst and this was agreed.

08/150 Minerals Site Allocation Document

It was proposed by Councillor Ventham and seconded by Councillor Munro that the Council responds as follows and this was agreed:

The parish is only affected by the site at Philliols farm and possibly by the one at Trigon. It has no objection to this but is aware of an interest in the village which is against the Philliols Farm site. There is also some concern regarding the levels of traffic that could be generated in the future and finally any development of the site at Philliols Farm should take care of any wildlife and habitat concerns.

08/151 Dorset Local Transport Plans

It was proposed by Councillor Ventham and seconded by Councillor Munro that the Council responds as follows:

The Council agrees with the provision of a bypass for Bere Regis but is disappointed that there is no coherent integrated transport strategy covering Dorset and Somerset linking it with the national road network.

08/152 Affordable Housing Guidance etc

It was proposed by Councillor Ventham and seconded by Councillor Fairhurst that the Council responds saying that it supports the Affordable Housing Guidance and found the Rural Exception Site Checklist very useful. This was agreed

08/153 District Councillors Report

Councillor Wharf recently chaired a meeting between PDC and the Chairman and Clerks of parish and town councils which discussed the following items:

- 1) Volunteer of the Year. There will be one per parish/town and details of this will be sent out soon.
- 2) An update was given on Pathfinder, the scheme where Purbeck is working with the County Council and other District Councils to keep down costs. It is mainly happening with waste collection and environmental health.
- 3) The District Councils objection to the proposed 2,750 houses at Lytchett Minster has been lodged. The SWRA has changed its mind and now opposes the proposal.
- 4) The Council is to review its Development Control process starting with 3 meetings in January. Parish will be consulted with their responses being the basis for the Policy Development Panel to come up with a new system. This panel includes a representative from Purbeck DAPTC Committee and an architect. The general feeling was that the District Council does not take enough notice of the comments from parishes and towns. Councillor Wharf felt that some of this however, was down to those councils not always being aware of correct planning considerations.

08/154 Parish Plan Portfolios

Please see the attached report from Councillor Pitts.

08/155 Environmental Group

The Chairman and Vice-chairman have reviewed the Parish Plan follow up process and are looking at 5 categories to be used. They still need to speak to Councillor Pitts but hope to have the proposals out to Councillors in time to discuss them at the next meeting.

08/156 Finance

- a) The monthly expenditure of £1,180.04 was approved
- b) The Budget and Financial Statement for October 2008 were accepted. Both of these were proposed by Councillor Munro and seconded by Councillor Fairhurst before being approved.
- c) New items of expenditure, to be considered for 2009/2010, are brown signs, the Shitterton sign and special paint for the Youth Shelter.
- d) It was proposed by Councillor Wharf and seconded by Councillor Ventham that the external auditors report for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> March 2008 was approved and accepted. This was agreed.

08/157 Correspondence

Dorset Blind Association. The application for help was refused.

Rallye Sunseeker. It was noted that the rally will take place on 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> February.

08/157 cont

Lengthsmans Scheme. It was felt that this would be worth exploring in the future.

08/158 Defects

The Southbrook sign has not been repaired.

0/159 Any other business

Councillor Ventham has found a site for the Shitterton notice board. The Clerk will inform Mr Moss.

Councillor C Maunder has received a request for a seat on the footpath going up to Blackhill near the cemetery. However, it is known that the landowner would oppose this.

Items to go for the PMUs should be raised at the next meeting. At present this will be cleaning road signs and clearing gullies and pavements of weeds.