

**MINUTES OF BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14th JUNE 2012 AT THE DRAX HALL, BERE
REGIS , COMMENCING 7PM**

Present: Cllrs R Pitcher C Maunder M Howard S Munnings
A Duncanson L Fairhurst T Maunder L Alderman
R Margetts

Chair: Cllr I Ventham

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

In attendance: County Cllr A Brenton

16 members of the public.

The Chairman welcomed everyone to the meeting.

12.16 Public participation

12.16.1 Sports Club application

A representative from Griffins Gardens spoke on behalf of the residents regarding the planning application for the extension of the sports field. In principle, the residents are not against the proposal but, following an informal meeting with the Sports Club held last year, concern was expressed that no further communication had been received. Their main concerns are traffic, increased noise and security. Should the application go ahead, they would like the Parish Council to support the imposition of 4 conditions on the application: 1. Traffic: Vehicle access to the sports club should be via the shell garage end of North Road; 2. No buildings or other structures are to be erected on the extension of the field; 3. Security a) The existing post and rail fence to be repaired and maintained and a lockable gate to be installed b) a green screen to be installed between the field and Griffins Gardens.

The Chairman of the Sports Club responded to the Griffins Gardens concerns saying the club has been as open as possible but, until now, they have been unable to answer their queries. However, with regard to traffic – the sports club have no problem with access from the north ie via the Shell Garage end. This could not be included in the planning application and to request it as a condition at this stage may slow the process of the application. This would have to be a Highways matter. The application states that there will be no additional access points. The club accepts that they will have to work with the amenities officer at PDC as well as residents to supply a screening – where different needs will be required from different people, the club are happy to work with each of the residents. The 6 aside competition which took place on the weekend of the 9th and 10th June has been going on annually for nearly 40 years and no congestion was caused in North Street. Vehicles do not arrive or leave at the same time but arrive over a period of 40-45 minutes. The proposal would equate to approximately 1 vehicle per minute over a period of 15 minutes. With regard to not responding to the flood water question on the planning application – the site is not within the flood area or near a watercourse therefore there is no need to consider excess service water. The Chairman asked if the additional pitch would enhance the junior football? The main aim is not to do training and playing on the same area. Currently about 40 children use the facility and this may increase over a period of time. At present, the club cannot accommodate 11 a side young teams – these currently have to play elsewhere. The application may result in an increase of about 70 children, which will result in a certain amount of increased traffic. The pitch will be used for under 7s and go up to under 14s. The pitch is likely to be used for between 1 and 1 and half hours on a Saturday and Sunday but not all year round. Cllr Margetts asked if the current post and rail fence could be kept between the current land and the proposed land. The club are looking at a 25 year lease, should the change of use go through.

12.16.2 Egdon Close – Neighbourhood Plan

Fiona Bathwell addressed the meeting saying that she and her family had recently moved to Egdon Close and expressed concern over the amount of rumours going around regarding the proposed development. The chairman ran through the current situation as per the explanatory letter that was issued to all Egdon Close residents earlier this week (copy attached).

Helen Parker – also a resident of Egdon Close, reminded the meeting that, when the original consultation was carried out over 2 years ago, over 1,000 leaflets went out but only 187 were returned.

Malcolm Stranack stated that, as a father of a child attending the existing school, he is very much in favour of the new site for the school. The route to the existing school is dangerous and getting steadily worse with the volume and size of traffic that passes so close to pedestrians.

The Chairman reiterated that Parish Council is at the beginning of the consultation process and there will be a lot of other opportunities throughout the summer before the responses can be collated. This will then go to and independent inspection before being put to a referendum of the whole village.

Karen Collins – from Egdon Close – expressed concern over the effects of building the proposed school. She felt that the additional noise and increased traffic during the build, followed by the day long noise of the children would have a big impact on her.

Alison Bennett expressed thanks to the Parish Council for staging the Diamond Jubilee – a wonderful event which brought out the community spirit.

12.17 To receive apologies for absence

District Cllr P Wharf (work commitments).

12.18 To receive the County Councillor's report

12.18.1 347/387 bus service - Some of the new drivers were not fully up to speed with PDC's policy regarding the waiver of the OAP fares during peak times, but this has now been sorted out.

12.18.2 Winter Roads Protocol – A final update will be made available at the end of the month.

12.19 To receive the District Councillor's report

Cllr Wharf was unable to attend the meeting due to work commitments but left his report with the Clerk.

12.19.1 Boundary Commission – Their findings have now been submitted. In essence, Bere Regis has been left as a single member ward and Bloxworth has been hived off elsewhere to become part of the Wareham St Martin ward. In addition, Affpuddle/Turnerspuddle has become part of the Wool ward. If anyone has any general comments regarding the proposals, please contact Cllr Wharf direct. The Chairman reported that Bloxworth is upset with the Boundary Commission findings. They are very keen to stay close to Bere Regis as they have more in common with this village than Sandford or Wareham St Martin. It was suggested that a letter be drafted to the Boundary Commission saying that, whilst we are happy to remain a single member ward, we are upset to lose Bloxworth as we have many and far reaching ties. Although this will make little difference, the letter could also include that we would be willing to consider alternative suggestions such as Morden, Bloxworth, Bere Regis and Affpuddle.

12.19.2 Purbeck Shooting School – On Saturday 19th May, Cllr Wharf presented a cheque for £550 to two charities on behalf of Graham Brown at the Purbeck Shooting School. These were the Race for Life and Macmillan Nurses. When invited to make the presentation, Cllr Wharf made it clear that this implied or stated no views or otherwise as to Mr Brown's business. Cllr Wharf wishes to make it clear that he viewed the offer as an honour and a pleasure as well as the duty of a District Councillor for a business in his ward. Although advised by PDC not to attend, he chose to ignore the advice but did consult with the Parish Council Chair prior to making this decision.

12.20 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 10th May 2012

A copy had been issued to councillors prior to the meeting. They were proposed to be a true and accurate record of the meeting by Cllr Howard and seconded by Cllr Fairhurst. The minutes were then signed by the Chairman in the presence of the meeting.

12.21 Matters arising from those minutes, not covered by this agenda

There were no matters arising.

12.22 To receive declarations of interest in accordance with S94 of the LGA 1972

Cllrs Howard and Fairhurst declared a personal interest in the Bere Regis Sports Club planning application and will not take part in the discussion or voting. Cllr Munnings and Cllr Pitcher both have sons who play in the football club.

12.23 Key topics

12.23.1 Souls Moor Update - Neville-Jones & Co have now received the draft Legal Charge from Viridor Credits solicitors and they have confirmed that they require a local and commons search to be carried out against the land. In order for this to be moved forward a cheque for £300 is required to cover the search fees.

12.23.2 Neighbourhood Plan – Cllr Munnings gave a brief report of the actions and outcomes to date. The biggest single problem at the moment is ignorance, speculation and rumour. The Chairman proposed that instead of relying on people to respond to the questionnaire, a house drop needs to take place to every property within the parish. The drop could include the questionnaire, an explanation of the facts and perhaps include alternative options and a plan of the site at the end of Egdon Close. A Steering Committee date is to be confirmed within the next fortnight.

12.23.3 Diamond Jubilee – outcome and accounts – a splendid day. Thanks to everyone who helped especially Cllr Duncanson who put in so much time and effort. Cllr Ventham proposed that, as we have made a profit of a little over £2,000, the sum of £2,000 should be put towards the play area. This was seconded by Cllr C Maunder. The budget includes the purchase of an additional 40 coins to go to the children who were not put on the original list and to make some coins available for people to purchase if they wish. Two coins will also be given to the pastor and vicar as a keep sake. Tony King has very kindly returned the cost of the marquee and wishes it to be included with the play area. Cllr Margetts asked if we could have a push on additional brackets so we have a small stock for when people phone up for one. The Chairman reported that we now own a wonderful beacon and proposed that it is relocated onto the small roundabout at the entrance to the village. The Clerk will check to see if planning is needed. Cllr C Maunder suggested that the beacon remain where it is until a permanent location on Souls Moor could be found.

ACTION: CLERK

12.24 Planning & Housing

12.24.1 To consider planning applications

12.24.1.1 6/2012/0303: Bere Regis Sports Club – extend existing playing field

Cllr Fairhurst reported that this item was not discussed at the PWP as two of the members have personal interests. As was stated previously, neither he nor Cllr Howard took part in any of the discussions relating to this application. The use of the land would come down to the terms of the lease but it would be expected to involve public access. Restriction of use to mini football may be an option. Cllr Pitcher suggested a lockable gate is sited between the current pitch and the proposed area and the current fence should be left in place. This would restrict access and provide additional security. Cllr Duncanson felt it would not be reasonable for the Parish Council to object to the application as it would be unfair to deprive the youngsters of being able to play football. As they are only young, there is unlikely to be any intrusion into the gardens and perhaps some sort of fencing could be put up to prevent balls going over the walls or hedging. Cllr Margetts pointed out that when Griffins Gardens was built, entrance from the Shell Garage end was looked at but Highways said the roundabout was at its full capacity and they would not encourage additional vehicles using the entrance. Cllr Munnings reminded members that the Parish Council has discussed on many occasions the lack of facilities for young children and suggested that the Parish Council could support the change of use, subject to various conditions. Cllr T Maunder expressed concerns regarding the access and that vehicles could be parked in Blind Street to gain pedestrian access to the grounds. In addition, he would like to see screening around the site. Cllr Margetts felt that the site is tight and should be screened but the security issue is not great. A vote was taken: 6 in favour, 2 abstentions, and 1 non vote. The Parish Council supports the application subject to the following conditions:

1. Security – the most appropriate fencing/hedging is installed around the site to prevent vehicular access and to stop balls landing in the nearby gardens. Any such work to take place in conjunction with the residents' whose land borders the proposed site.
2. Traffic – the Parish Council would strongly suggest possible access from the north, ie Shell Garage end, is revisited. This will take the pressure off North Street, even if this application does not go through.

12.24.1.2 6/2012/0328: Lower Stockley Farm – erect grain store & general purpose building.
The PWP recommended no objections.

12.24.1.3 6/12/0335: Jenkins Farm – change of use of land and part of barn from agricultural to educational centre for people with learning difficulties.
The PWP recommended no objections and a comment will be included stating the Parish Council welcomes this application.

12.24.1.4 6/12/0345: Fairview Orchard, Lane End – demolish existing dwelling and erect 2 storey replacement.
The PWP recommended no objection.

It was proposed by Cllr Munnings, seconded by Cllr Maunder and agreed unanimously that the recommendations of the PWP are accepted.

12.24.2 To consider tree work applications

12.24.2.1 42 West Street – fell bay laurel – not seen from the road. No objection.

ACTION: CLERK

12.25 Village Environment

12.25.1 Stone Signs for the village - all the quarries are currently under water following the severe rainfall during April and May. The two stones that were worked on prior to the rain have been completed apart from the inscription of the names. It was suggested that the third stone could be worked in two parts with the base being made and put in place and the top being put on later. Alternatively, we leave the third stone in its entirety until later. If we wait for all three stones to be completed, it would not be possible to have them inscribed and installed until the end of the summer. The Chairman and Cllr Howard will be going to see the stone mason on Thursday 21st and will have a better idea of how things are going then. In the meantime, it was agreed that we have three completed stones with the Royal Oak and Milborne Road stones being put in as soon as they are ready and the Rye Hill stone to be put in at a later date once it is completed. As soon as the details are known, a note will be sent out to all contributors.

ACTION: CLERK

12.25.2 Souls Moor Update from Wildlife Group – Cllr Pitcher reported that a Bio-blitz will be held on Saturday 16th June between 10am and 1pm – the details have been posted on the Facebook page. This is held in conjunction with the Bere Regis Wildlife Group.

12.25.3 Cemetery – Three quotations had been received for the grass cutting contract and these were put before members at the meeting (copy attached). It was agreed that company B is offered the contract and the appropriate paperwork will be draw up and sent.

ACTION: CLLR T MAUNDER/CLERK

12.25.4 Elder Road Path Improvements & PDC proposals – The Chairman informed members of the recent meeting with PDC but no further details have been forthcoming. In the meantime, the pathworks had been completed and a plaque received from Viridor which will be displayed somewhere along the length of the path.

12.25.5 Footpath Review – Cllr Fairhurst reported that, with the exception of Cllr Ventham, no feedback has been received from anyone. A letter will be sent to Smiths Gore regarding overgrown footpaths and Cllr Fairhurst will pass the relevant FP numbers to the Clerk. County Cllr Brenton informed the meeting that DCC has been training volunteer rangers in order to clear footpaths. A letter could be sent to Carmel Wilkinson, who is in charge of the project, saying what a wonderful set of footpaths we have but no-one can access them due to the amount of overgrowth. A copy should be sent to Cllr Brenton and she will then raise the issue at the next Access Forum.

ACTION: CLERK

12.25.6 Defects –
-The phone box door on Rye Hill is due to be replaced on 29th June.
- The bridge at the Shitterton end is in need of repair.

12.26 Traffic, Public Transport and Roads

12.26.1 C6 Traffic Survey – The traffic survey results have now been received. During the 7 day period covered by the survey, 2055 were found to be speeding. A copy of the survey is attached. It was suggested that the information tells us that a significant proportion of traffic is speeding passing the school and a letter should be sent to both Highways and the Police. Cllr Brenton suggested writing a question to the cabinet member for transport, Peter Finney, asking what the County Council proposes to do with 1/3rd of the vehicles travelling over the speed limit. A copy should also be sent to Miles Butler and a member of the parish council should attend the council meeting. This would mean that the question would be raised at the beginning of the meeting when members of the press would be present and the panel would be obliged to give an answer in public. The full council will next meet during the second week of July.

ACTION: CLLR VENTHAM/CLERK

The survey will be carried out at the same time next year in order to aid sensible comparison and begin to build up some data.

12.27 Children & Youth

12.27.1 Proposed Play Area Update – The applications for Awards for All and the Dorset Community Fund have been submitted. The Viridor application is also in the process of being submitted. The Committee is busy trying to get two additional quotes to back up the Viridor application which, if all the information is in place, will be considered on the 17th July.

12.28 Community Liaison

12.28.1 Website update – The link to the site will be sent to all councillors.

ACTION: CLERK

12.28.2 Purbeck NHS review – Cllr C Maunder attended this meeting earlier in the evening. The consultation period is currently underway and will run from 24th May to 20th July. Broadly speaking, the current situation consists of 6 GP practices in the Purbecks and 2 community hospitals. Between them they care for a population of around 33,000 people. The way healthcare is delivered is changing, with emphasis moving to providing services close to or in people's homes, avoiding the need for them to go into hospital whenever possible. Should someone need to be admitted, community services working together can enable them to be discharged as soon as it is safe to do so. Two proposals have been put forward and can be viewed at any of the consultation sessions or by logging onto www.dorset.nhs.uk/getinvolved/purbeck.

12.29 Police & Security

7th July – 9am to 11am – Security Awareness Campaign – shed alarms, etc.

There is currently no further news on the outcome of the spate of fires in and around the village in the early part of the year.

12.30 Finance

12.30.1 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

Glasdon	Dog bin for Court Farm Lane	1381	160.48
Neville Jones	Legal fees re Souls Moor purchase	1382	300.00
G Sollis	Streamside path improvements	1383	8550.00
Village Hall Bere Regis	Hall hire March 2012 to March 2013	1384	224.00
DAPTC	Annual subscription	1385	516.80
Media 4	Crown design/jubilee fliers/etc	1386	264.00
Bere Regis PCC	Grant re fliers for church	1387	299.00
I Ventham	Diamond Jubilee expenses	1388	545.91
A Duncanson	Diamond Jubilee expenses	1389	202.28

Running Imp	Jubilee coins, etc	1390	1150.68
A Crocker	June wages, fliers, post, stationery	1391	898.80
P Critchell	Cemetery grass cutting	1392	340.00
P Critchell	Lengthsman – May 2012	1393	1301.50
N Fairhurst	Website design & hosting	1394	260.00

Although the total amount of expenditure comes to £15,043.45, £7,000 is covered by a Viridor grant (Streamside improvements) and a further £2,162.87 is covered by the Jubilee takings. The total amount requested from the Precept is £5,880.58. The payments were proposed by Cllr Fairhurst, seconded by Cllr Munnings and agreed unanimously. The cheques were signed by two councillors in the presence of the meeting.

12.30.2 To confirm reconciliation of accounts

A copy had been distributed to all members prior to the start of the meeting. There were no comments made or queries raised.

12.30.3 Comparison to budgets

A copy had been distributed to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

12.31 Communications

- Neighbourhood Plan
- Jubilee celebration and donation to play park
- Stone signs
- Cemetery update
- Traffic survey

The Chairman proposed that the annual walkabout should take place in July whilst the evenings were still light. This, together with the route, will be confirmed shortly.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.30pm

Signed:

Dated: