



MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 9th NOVEMBER 2017 AT THE DRAX HALL, NORTH STREET, BERE REGIS, COMMENCING 7PM

Present: Cllrs R Pitcher, L Fairhurst, S Munnings, A Watkins, P Wharf, D Bishop, B Benjafield, B House, T Bates

Chair: Cllr I Ventham

Clerk: Notes taken by Cllr B Benjafield in the absence of the Clerk

Also present: 1 member of the public

17.97 Public Participation

A request was made for any additional information with regard to the White Lovington proposal – there has been no change since the last meeting.

17.98 To receive apologies for absence

Apologies have been received from the Clerk.

17.99 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 12th October 2017

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

17.100 Matters arising from those minutes, not covered by this agenda for report only

Life Education, Bere Regis School – The Clerk will be asked to send a grant application form for them to complete requesting a donation towards the cost of the Life Education facility.

Grit bins – These are in the process of being filled.

ACTION: CLERK

17.101 To receive declarations of Interest

No interests were declared.

17.102 To receive the County and District Councillor's report

The Secretary of State, Sajid Javid, has been minded to support the two Dorset authorities. Purbeck District Council, East Dorset District Council and Christchurch all voted against the original unitary proposal and will be discussing how to move forward on the 8th January 2018.

It was suggested that a letter is sent to PDC setting out the views of the Parish Council. Cllr Wharf took no part in the ensuing discussions. It was unanimously agreed that the following is submitted to the Leader of Council, Gary Suttle.

‘Bere Regis Parish Council are unanimously in support of the Secretary of State’s decision to be minded to accept the proposal to move to a two Unitary Authority and would urge PDC to reconsider their position on the matter.’

Foster Parents – Cllr Wharf reported that Dorset is in desperate need of more foster parents.

17.103 Key topics

17.103.1 Neighbourhood Plan progress update

Barrow Hill – There are two on-going issues: a Butt Lane resident wishes to develop their garden with two new dwellings; the Neighbourhood Plan wishes to allow very limited development on the southern end of the field with the rest of the field protected by designation. There is concern from local residents who will be attending the meeting on the 11th wishing to find out more. It should be stressed that no formal planning application has been submitted for the Butt Lane proposal, so it is not possible for the Parish Council to discuss or approve anything at this stage.

Nothing else has changed with regard to the Neighbourhood Plan since last month.

It was noted that DCC are keen to begin the demolition of the old school site but the Parish Council are pressing for nothing to be committed until the site of the proposed community hall can be confirmed.

17.103.2 Neighbourhood Plan Consultation Event – 11th November 2017

The meeting will be at the school with set up from 11.30am. The Forum will run from 12 until 4pm with Cllr Ventham giving a presentation at 12. Stands will be set up showing maps of the various sites, settlement boundaries and SANG. Members will be on hand to take questions.

It should be stressed that the village needs new houses and without the Neighbourhood Plan we would be open to developer led construction with no limit on the number of properties imposed on the village. Parliament has voted that, without a Local Plan, planning decisions will be made in favour of development.

It is anticipated that the referendum could take place in March/April 2018.

At this stage, we are looking for suggestions of improvements for the plan and post-it notes will be available on the day for residents to note their suggestions. This is the time to make any major changes to the overall Plan, minor details can then be made at the planning stage.

17.103.3 Community Hall Update

This continues to move forward, and the various reports are being gathered. A meeting of the working group will be held shortly.

17.104 Finance

As Tom Bennett has now left the Parish Council, a new member is needed for the Finance Committee. Cllr Bishop will take on this role and a meeting will be held on the 12th December, prior to which, the Clerk will issue a draft budget.

Members are asked to consider any budget items they will need for 2018/19 and pass the information to the Clerk.

17.105 Planning & Housing

17.105.1 To consider planning applications

6/2017/0522 2 Townsend Park, North Street – Single storey rear extn & first floor side extn.
Change of use from business light industrial (B1) to dwelling (C3(a))

The PWP recommended that the Parish Council OBJECTS to this application as the original concept was for the residencies in this area to consist of a workshop with living accommodation for small, self-employed start-up businesses. It was felt that this concept should not be compromised.

6/2017/0545 Oakwood, The Warren – Insert rooflights & construct external staircase to garage.
Insert new dormer, rooflights & sun tunnels.

The PWP recommended no objection.

17.105.2 To consider tree work applications

TWA/2017/203 Shitterton Close – T1 to T10 Limes – repollard

The PWP recommended no objection to this work.

It was unanimously agreed that the recommendations of the PWP are accepted.

ACTION: CLERK

17.106 Environment & Facilities

17.106.1 Open Spaces update

The Scout bird boxes have now been fitted to the trees and the Woodland Trust trees will be planted by the next Working Party which will be held on Saturday 1st December.

The ponies are due to be removed from the field in the near future.

The Clerk is now in possession of the cuttings from the old Lime tree (2 cuttings). The Open Spaces group will consult on the best location for the trees.

17.106.2 Defects

- The screws on the board walk are coming out

ACTION: CLERK

17.107 Police, Traffic and Roads

The hedges along the North Street have now been cut.

The road closure for the Remembrance Parade has been organised and the signs put out. This will also be advertised on the village Facebook.

17.108 Community Liaison

17.108.1 NeighbourCar – 4 new drivers have put their names forward.

17.108.2 Wareham Hospital – Michael Tomlinson is now supporting the initiative and a petition is being sent around for the new hub to be located on the old middle school site.

17.109 Children & Youth

17.109.1 Skate Park update

Discussion are on-going and Cllr Bishop will contact Jethro Loader to see about moving the project forward.

ACTION: CLLR BISHOP

17.110 Correspondence received since the agenda was set

Cllr Bishop will speak to Mike Moorse regarding fixing the information sign outside the shop. The shop will be given the keys to the existing notice board and any monies they take for advertising on the board they have agreed to put towards local charities.

ACTION: CLLR BISHOP

17.111 Public Relations

- Parish Councillor vacancy

17.112 Items for the December meeting

Members are reminded to send any items for the agenda to the Clerk by the 30th November 2017