



**MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY  
11<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2019 AT THE DRAX HALL, NORTH STREET, BERE REGIS,  
COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs L Fairhurst, S Munnings, P Wharf. P Morgan, C Packham

**Chair:** Cllr R Pitcher

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 6 members of the public

**Public Participation**

18.288 Residents expressed concern regarding the application for Sitterton Close. This will result in additional traffic on an unmade road and potential devaluing of properties nearby. The applicant does not own the path that is required to access the proposed development site. The front door of the properties will open up within 5' of the proposed driveway. If permission was agreed, the ownership of the path would be an issue and the driveway would run along the side of their house. There would be a large house in the garden overlooking the neighbouring properties. Residents were reminded that the unmade road is a civil matter, and, legally, anyone can put planning permission in on another person's land. If they get approval, they will normally then start negotiating with the landowner. Highways at County are very unsympathetic to one extra car causing a traffic problem and this would be unsuitable grounds for recommending refusal. However, there is a Houses in Large Gardens Policy which says development should be sympathetic to the surrounding properties and there is also a potential issue regarding overlooking, as well as the proposal being within the conservation area. There will be no planning committee meeting of the new Council until the 29<sup>th</sup> May. Until that date, there will be an assumption that planning will be accepted unless there is a good case for refusal. It is known that the original plans submitted were inaccurate and did not show the existing porches.

Patrick Hamilton expressed concern regarding the application for three houses on the Paddock at Barrow Hill. It is in complete contravention of the Neighbourhood Plan and he asked if the Parish Council has changed its perspective on this area of land. His original comments regarding the inappropriate nature of taking the access from Barrow Hill remain. Cllr Wharf reported that the longer the Neighbourhood Plan progresses, the greater the weight it holds. As it is coming up for referendum on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May, it now holds considerable weight. Mr Hamilton also expressed concern regarding the Small Sites Policy held in the Local Plan and the effect this is likely to have on Planning Officers' decisions.

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

18.289 Apologies have been received from Cllrs Ian Ventham, Bryan Benjafield, Tony Bates and Brenda House.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> March 2019**

18.290 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Fairhurst proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Packham and agreed unanimously. The Chair signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

**3. Matters arising from those minutes, not covered by this agenda**

18.291 Post Office – see note from meeting. We will continue to follow up with the Customer Service Provider and try to get hold of the contact details for the new Area Manager.

Transfer of assets – we have instructed our solicitors to take this forward.

Lockyer land – Andrew Robinson has not received any contact from the family regarding this. He suggested the Parish Council send a letter to the address held for the family and try to make contact. Cllr Munnings will check to see if the Will has been published yet.

**ACTION: CLLR MUNNINGS/CLERK**

**4. To receive declarations of interest and confirm any dispensations received**

18.292 No interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

**5. To receive the County and District Councillor’s Reports**

18.293 Cllr Wharf reported that there is an outside possibility that the election could be delayed due to the on-going Brexit negotiations.

The residents of Hyde met with Cllr Wharf and the Broadband consultants for County. BT have not advanced the situation and the residents are now dealing with a potential new provider which will involve residents making contributions.

At present the election is still set to take place on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May with the new council being put in place the following Thursday.

Egdon Close – Cllr Wharf has received an email from a resident of Egdon Close complaining that residents are not using their driveways and he would like the Parish Council to consider some form of parking control. He requests that something is put in the parish magazine asking people to use their driveways if possible. The Parish Council is not able to put yellow lines down without a specific request from members of the public, consultation with residents, discussion with the Dorset Councillor and then consideration by Highways.

**6. Key Topics**

18.294 Neighbourhood Plan Update

The Plan was signed off by PDC at the last Full Council meeting and will proceed to referendum on the 2<sup>nd</sup> May.

18.295 Annual Village Meeting arrangements

Nothing further to add. All members are requested to attend if they can. The morning will start at 10am and Cllr Ventham will give a brief talk at about 10.30am. Hard copies of the Neighbourhood Plan will be available for residents.

18.296 Community Hall Update

The Clerk and Cllr Ventham will be meeting with the Trustees on the 17<sup>th</sup> April to discuss a way forward.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**7. Finance**

18.297 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

AG Tree Services	Remove wind blown trees	BACS140	540.00
Play Inspection Co	Annual Play area inspection	BACS141	78.00
Media 4 Graphix	NP design, photography, etc	BACS142	300.00
A King	Lengthsman – March	BACS145	2005.74
Cheap Printing	Banners & signs re village meeting	BACS0001	503.00
DC Pension Fund	April pension contribution	BACS0002	243.97
A Crocker	April wages + expenses	BACS0003	843.75
HMRC	PAYE & NIC April	BACS0004	80.52

Total to be paid from the Precept **£4,597.98**

Lunch Club & NeighbourCar (Both these schemes are self-funding with no costs coming from the Precept)

B Duke	NC – Sept’18-March’19	BACS138	29.25
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B House	NC & Lunch Club 3/12/18-26/2/19	1902	532.22
S Percival	March Lunch Club	BACS139	350.00
I Ventham	March Lunch Club	BACS143	117.36
A Pattison	NC – Nov’18-March’19	BACS144	148.05
M Benjafield	NC –Feb’19 – March ‘19	BACS146	27.00
M Saywell	NC – April’18-March’19	BACS147	151.20

Total to be paid from the schemes’ funds **£1,355.08**

Cllr Munnings proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Wharf and agreed unanimously.

**ACTION: CLERK**

18.298 To confirm reconciliation of accounts and position against budget

A copy of the reports had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No questions were raised, and no comments made.

18.299 To consider the donation of £250 to the Bere Regis Surgery Carers Plus Group

This is a group set up and organised by Michelle Maidment, the Practice Nurse, to support and assist carers in the parish. To date Michelle has been funding this herself, paying for refreshments, prizes and venue hire. The Parish Council has received a request for a grant of £250 to go towards this very worthy cause and provide the refreshments, venue hire and outings up to 6 times a year.

Cllr Packham proposed the grant of £250 is made. This was seconded by Cllr Munnings and agreed unanimously. A cheque will be raised and brought to the next meeting for authorisation.

**ACTION: CLERK**

18.300 To consider a donation of up to £1,600 to Bere Regis Church for the trimming and rewiring of the yew trees

This request has been received to trim and rewire 16 yew trees in the churchyard. The Church has received a quote of £1,600 to carry out the work, which is anticipated to take one week.

Cllr Wharf suggested a representative is invited to attend the Parish Council meeting to put forward the case for the grant. The application does not provide sufficient information and it is not the policy of the Parish Council to give the full amount for any one project. Our total grant is usually in the region of £500. Whilst we are sympathetic, our total grant fund for the whole year is only £1,600, but we do recognise that the yew trees are a valuable part of the community. The Clerk will contact the PCC Secretary accordingly.

**8. Planning & Housing**

**ACTION: CLERK**

Cllr Wharf declared an interest as Chair of the PDC Planning Committee and took no part in any discussions.

18.301 To consider planning applications

6/2019/0126 The Paddock, Barrow Hill - erect 3 dwellings & associated infra-structure.  
Modify existing access.

Cllr Munnings proposed the Parish Council objects to the application and reminded members that the site is currently outside the settlement boundary and contravenes the emerging Neighbourhood Plan which clearly states that we would want the access to the site taken from Tower Hill. Dorset CC Highways, the fore runner of Dorset Council, stated no access from Barrow Hill which is supported by neighbours. The hedge to be repositioned along the norther boundary of the site to prevent further development. The remainder of the field is requested to be gifted to ensure the protection of important archaeological and ecological features.

Cllr Packham seconded the proposed recommendation to object to the application and this was unanimously agreed.



18.309 To consider the future of the Christmas trees initiative

The current system was discussed, and it was noted that several orders for trees were received without payment in 2018. The trees were then not collected, and the result was a loss of £100. It was agreed that trees will only be ordered for those who have submitted a form, with payment. The Clerk will post a request form to all those who have had a tree in the past and the order will only be placed for forms returned before the end of June, with the payment.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**12. Children & Youth**

18.310 Cllr Packham will check the status of the Youth Group and remind them that the minibus is now available for hire.

**13. Correspondence received since the agenda was set**

18.311 Cllr Morgan mentioned a vacant property at the bottom of his land which is rapidly becoming derelict. Cllr Wharf has contacted the District Solicitor setting out the situation in detail in readiness for the new solicitor coming on board. The site has also been reported to Environmental Health.

**14. Public Relations**

- 18.312 - Yellow lines and road traffic orders in general
- Post Office
- Minibus – thanks to Goodwin Graphics
- Christmas trees
- New grant year will be starting
- Ponies back on Souls Moor

**15. Items for the May meeting**

18.313 Members are reminded to pass any items to the Clerk for inclusion in the May agenda by the 30<sup>th</sup> April 2019.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:10 pm.