



MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY

9TH APRIL 2020 COMMENCING 7PM

This meeting was carried out by video conferencing

Present: Cllrs L Fairhurst, M Mathers, B House, P Wharf, R Pitcher, P Morgan, S Munnings, C Packham
B Benjafield

Chair: Cllr I Ventham

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present: Amy Yeats

1. To receive apologies for absence

20.001 Apologies had been received from Cllr Bryan Benjafield

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th March 2020

20.002 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Pitcher proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Houses and agreed unanimously.

Cllr Bates pointed out that the Churchyard project at 19.241 should read DWT Living Churchyard Project.

The Chairman will sign the minutes in due course.

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

20.003 There were no matters arising.

4. To receive declarations of interest and review dispensations received

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

5. To receive the Dorset Councillor's reports

20.005 Cllr Wharf reported that he had received two letters regarding Rowlands Wait and had forwarded them on to the Chair. It is understood that the new owners have not yet applied for a site license. The retention of hedges is not against planning regulations. If it was to be occupied, they would need a site license, but they are able to undertake all the other works that are currently going on.

There are two separate issues: a) the first we heard about this was at the end of 2019. Even if there was nothing we could do about it, it would have been reasonable for the Officer to tell us this was happening. b) Do we have any means to control what is going on? The answer appears to be no. The concrete bases are not large or deep enough to warrant planning permission.

Every time we get a query, we have to reply that, whilst we regret it, there is nothing we can do about it. The Clerk will send a copy of the Chair's reply to one resident to all members.

Cllr Wharf suggested we include that we have also written to our MP to see if there is something that can be done about the current loophole in the law. Cllr Munnings will put together some words together.

70 – this figure has arisen as the Council website refers to 70 – 71 pitches for touring caravans.

There may be an issue with hedges and trees. The Clerk has spoken to the Tree Officer who has confirmed that none of the trees have TPOs. The Officer responsible for hedgerows has also been informed and Natural England and Dorset AONB have also been notified of the potential for up to 40 or 50 semi-permanent residents well within the 400m zone.

6. Key Topics

20.006 Neighbourhood Plan – implementation update

Nothing to report.

7. Finance

20.007 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

Cheap Printing	Covid 19 fliers and posters	BACS090	106.50
Cheap Printing	ID cards, holders, lanyards, posters	BACS091	58.80
A King	Lengthsman – March 2020	BACS092	2246.67
DC Pension Fund	April 2020 pension contributions	BACS001	242.00
A Crocker	April wages + expenses	BACS002	881.78
HMRC	April PAYE & NIC	BACS003	197.18
Wessex Water	Standpipe at cemetery	BACS004	177.00

Total to be paid from the Precept is **£3,909.93**

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

Dorset Council	Minibus inspection & repairs	MB011	366.49
D Fairhurst	NeighbourCar December'19 – March '20	NC027	32.40

Total to be paid from schemes' balances **£397.89**

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

8. Planning & Housing

ACTION: CLERK

20.008 To consider planning applications

No planning applications were available for consideration at this time.

20.009 To consider tree work applications

TWA/2020/037 St John the Baptist Church
T1 London Plane – remove lower branches overhanging neighbour's property

This follows the refusal to pollarding the tree previously. Cllr Bates felt the work needed to be undertaken and recommended no objection. Cllr Wharf had encouraged the Tree Officer to attend the site and this was the recommended course of action.

TWA/2020/024 Victoria Cottage, 3 Old Barn Cottages
T1 Leyland cypress – remove 2 trees with one canopy

Cllr Bates recommended no objection to either application. This was agreed unanimously.

ACTION: CLERK

9. Parish Amenities & Rights of Way

20.010 Update on Play Park works

Cllr Pitcher reported that the Lengthsman will be undertaking some work in the play park whilst it is closed. This will involve spraying the weeds and keeping the site tidy whilst it is not being used.

10. Environment and Conservation

20.011 During this period of Coronavirus, posts will be put out to all those who have expressed an interest in the local wildlife and what is going on in the Nature Reserve and any interesting wildlife features.

The ponies will be invited to go back on site in May. There are no restrictions on moving animals around at the moment so this should not be a problem.

11. Police, Traffic and Roads

20.012 Nothing to report.

12. Community Liaison

20.013 The BereConnect scheme is working very well and Cllr House is managing the initiative very efficiently. It would be extremely helpful to keep this initiative going after the end of the Coronavirus. Cllr Ventham will provide Cllr House with a full list of the volunteers.

ACTION: CLLR VENTHAM

13. Children & Youth

20.014 Nothing to report.

14. Correspondence received since the agenda was set

20.015 Nothing to add.

15. Public Relations

20.016 Cllr Ventham will produce some notes for the parish magazine. This will include the various Coronavirus initiatives carried out in the name of the Parish Council and the fact that the AGM will now be taking place in September.

16. Items for the May meeting

20.017 The AGM will not be held in May but will be held over until the Parish Council is able to meet in person, hopefully September. In the meantime, Cllr Ventham is happy to remain in the post of Chairman until that time.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 19.30.