



MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD ON THURSDAY 14TH DECEMBER 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:** Mrs A Crocker

There were no members of the public present.

17.113 Public Participation

On behalf of Richard Smith, Cllr House raised the issue of the on-going Mineral Sites Plan consultation – this will be an item on the January agenda. The email received from Mr Smith was read out to members. He expressed concern that Philliols Farm will not be producing the quantity that is suggested within the documentation and its inclusion will make very little difference to the overall production. This is the final stage of consultation and runs until the 31st January 2018. Mr Smith requests that the Parish Council resubmit their previous objections. Cllr Munnings reported that if you take the population of East and West Dorset, about 75% live in the east. The consultation has 80% of the aggregate being produced in the west. This means that everything must travel from west to east and most of this will have to travel via Bere Regis. The Clerk will rework the previous responses and forward to members for discussion in January.

ACTION: CLERK

17.114 To receive apologies for absence

No apologies had been received.

17.115 To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 9th November 2017

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

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

A grant application form has been sent to the school, but no response has been received to date.

In response to a query, it was noted that an application from the churches for the Parish Council to give financial support to social welfare activities, such as the Junior Church cakes for elderly people, would be allowed under Section 137.

17.117 To receive declarations of Interest

Cllr Munnings declared an interest in planning application 6/2017/0642 for Lower Woodbury Farm. No other interests were declared.

17.118 To receive the County and District Councillor's report

Cllr Wharf reported that the village calendars are selling well and all costs have been covered.

Unitary – East Dorset have voted 14/12 to withdraw their objection, whilst Purbeck have voted 18/5 to vote in favour of the unitary. The Christchurch pole will be finishing on the 14th December, so the outcome is not yet known. The Secretary of State will be making an announcement at the end of January 2018.

17.119 Key topics

17.119.1 Neighbourhood Plan progress update

The Health Check has turned up some very significant errors and faults in the draft of the Plan. Several points have been raised and passed back to PDC for clarification. A response is expected after the 20th December. The Health Check has also made it clear that the Policies cannot be conditional on another event. The redrafting is proceeding.

Work continues with regard to the SANG and the suggestion to reduce the size of the original proposal and include the area to the south of the sports field. PDC have agreed they would not oppose the suggestion. Jason Bowerman is firmly behind the possibility of reducing the size of the SANG. Our MP is also firmly behind the proposal and has agreed to work with us in any way he can. This leads to Natural England and, it is hoped that, once we have a firm agreement with the Drax Estate, a meeting will be called with NE. We can then begin to consider the Common Land swap.

Cllr Munnings reported that there has been a lot of opposition to the Barrow Hill site. It has been suggested that the hedge is an old hedge and needs to be protected. However, it is understood that the ecological survey shows that the hedge is not ancient hedgerow and can be moved to the back of the proposed development site. Cllr Munnings and Cllr Wharf will meet the residents of Barrow Hill as soon as the report is available.

Anna Lee, PDC, is putting together the Purbeck Plan and would like to include something about the Bere Regis Neighbourhood Plan and make reference to the 105 houses in the Plan. It was felt that this would be appropriate.

17.119.2 Community Hall Update

Recent comments have been received regarding the designation of Souls Moor as Open Space and, at the same time, showing the location of the proposed hall on the site. This may lead to a conflict at a later date. It is suggested that the site is referred to as Green Space in the plan and the policy will be reworded accordingly.

John Scott has begun the market research necessary before the hall dimensions can be finalised.

17.119.3 To review the Neighbourhood Plan Consultation day on the 11th November 2017

About 160 residents signed as attending the meeting. It was generally felt that the tone was right. More copies of the plan would have been useful, and more information could have been displayed on the boards. Having councillors available to answer questions was a very useful approach. A Frequently Asked Questions list will be put on to the web site and residents will be guided to it for information. It was agreed by all that regular communication is now very important.

ACTION: CLERK

17.119.4 To consider nominations for the Purbeck Volunteer of the Year Award

Discussion took place regarding a possible candidate and a decision was made. Cllr Ventham will write the required citation for forwarding to PDC.

ACTION: CLLR VENTHAM

17.119.5 To consider the co-option of a Parish Councillor

Cllr Watkins has said he will be standing down at the end of January 2018. We already have one vacancy but, at this time, no-one has expressed an interest.

17.119.6 To consider sending a letter to the Secretary of State in support of the Future Dorset initiative

The Clerk will draft a letter and issue to all members for review.

ACTION: CLERK

17.120 Finance

17.120.1 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

Bere Regis School	Hire of hall for NP consultation	1874	30.00
A King	Lengthsman – October 2017	BACS082	2883.60
Cheap Printing	NP copies & posters	BACS083	165.00
PDC	Habitats Regs survey	BACS085	1200.00
A Crocker	NP refreshments	BACS087	15.06
Impact Acoustics	Noise Impact Assessment	BACS089	1740.00
DC Pension Fund	December contribution	BACS093	230.22
P Stubbington	Additional levels re old allotments	BACS095	210.00
A Crocker	December wages	BACS092	892.86
HMRC	December PAYE	BACS097	72.99
Bere Regis PCC	Church yard maintenance	1875	500.00

Total amount to be paid from the Precept £7939.73.

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

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

I Ventham	October Lunch Club	BACS081	192.00
M Benjafield	NC 28/9 – 13/10/17	BACS084	86.72
C Crocker	NC1/2/17 – 16/11/17	BACS086	52.20
G Duke	NC 23/5 – 11/10/17	BACS088	34.30
S Munnings	November Lunch Club	BACS090	17.23
Cheap Printing	Lunch Club name badges	BACS091	39.60
A Crocker	November & December Lunch Club	BACS092	183.26
Bere Regis PCC	Adverts for 2018	BACS094	131.50
D Fairhurst	NC – 8/11 – 4/12/17	BACS096	73.80

Total to be paid from the scheme's funds £810.61.

17.120.2 To confirm the reconciliation of accounts

A copy of the report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made, or queries raised.

17.120.3 To review the position against budget

A copy of the report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made, or queries raised.

17.121 Planning & Housing

17.121.1 To consider planning applications

6/2017/0498 12 North Street – single storey side extn, internal alterations to form room in existing roof space & proposed window to front elevation

Velux windows cause light pollution and it was felt that dormers may be better. These would be more in keeping with the street scene and would reduce the light. The PWP recommended that the Parish Council objects to the use of velux windows as the present scheme is not in keeping with the street scape. We would be minded to support the application if dormers were substituted as this would be in keeping with the street scene and reduce light pollution.

6/2017/0510 Crosswinds, 8 Boswells Close – erect front extension

No objections.

6/2017/0642 Lower Woodbury Farm – erect two agricultural buildings

Cllr Munnings took no part in the discussions regarding this application. The PWP recommended no objection.

17.121.2 To consider tree work applications

TWA/2017/235 4 Shitterton – T1, T2, & T3 Sycamores – reduce height to 8’

It is understood that the contractor has since been told by the PDC Tree Officer that two of the trees in question are, in fact, Ash and must not be cut down. The remaining Sycamore can be reduced as requested.

The PWP recommended no objection to this work.

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

17.122 Environment & Facilities

ACTION: CLERK

17.122.1 Open Spaces update

The ponies have now been removed from Souls Moor. Cllr Bates reported that the grazing has been very successful and a new contract will be drawn up for 2018. By that time, a notice giving more information about the ponies and their use will be drawn up and put by the gates.

ACTION: CLLR BATES/CLERK

17.122.2 Defects

- lights on the bridge. It was felt that the area is a green open space and introducing lights will start to alter the appearance of this area. It is a safe route to school, so any alteration would need to come via the school. Any issues regarding lack of light should be made to the school.
- lower rail broken from the Souls Moor Bridge
- there are also some screws that need to be sorted out – the Lengthsman will be asked to look at this
- parents are parking on the corner of Southbrook and some concerns have been raised. It is policy not to allow parents to drive up the school access road and it was felt that Southbrook was sufficiently widened and vehicles are able to park along its length and still permit safe movement of other vehicles.
- Footpath from North Street to Snow Hill – the finger post and rail have all fallen down – Giles Nicholson from Highways will be approached in the first instance

ACTION: CLERK

17.123 Police, Traffic and Roads

17.123.1 Winter Maintenance Plan

All grit bins are full.

17.124 Community Liaison

17.124.1 NeighbourCar – A few more drivers have put their names forward but still more are needed.

17.124.2 Salt & Pepper Lunch Club – Christmas Lunch on Thursday.

17.125 Children & Youth

17.125.1 Skate Park update

Still looking for someone to head the group.

17.126 Correspondence received since the agenda was set

A card has been received from the PPG thanking the Parish Council for the new Doctors sign.

17.127 Public Relations

- FAQs
- grants for local organisations
- Minerals consultation
- Neighbourhood Plan – Health Check

17.128 Items for the January meeting

- Precept for 2018/19

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

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 8.45 pm.