



**MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY  
13<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER 2018 AT THE BERE REGIS SPORTS CLUB, NORTH STREET,  
BERE REGIS, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs S Munnings, T Bates, L Fairhurst, B House, R Pitcher & B Benjafield

**Chair:** Cllr I Ventham

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 0 members of the public

**Public Participation**

18.193 No members of the public were present.

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

18.194 Apologies have been received from Cllrs Peter Wharf, Philip Morgan, and Cathryn Packham.

It was noted that Cllr Dominic Bishop has tendered his resignation with immediate effect for personal reasons. As we are within six months of an election, there is no requirement for the post to be advertised in the usual manner. Members would be able to co-opt as soon as a candidate was found. This will be given more thought over the Christmas period. In the meantime, our thanks are extended to Dominic for all his work during his time as a Parish Councillor and we wish him well.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 8<sup>th</sup> November 2018**

18.195 A copy of the minutes had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Benjafield proposed them to be a true and accurate representation of the meeting. This was seconded by Cllr Munnings 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**

18.196 Cllr Morgan felt that item 18.180 should be amended to remove the word ‘emolument’ and replace it with ‘the Clerk has been awarded a bonus.’ He also felt that the amount should be included. However, there is an issue of confidentiality and no legal requirement to record such items within the minutes. The accounts are a matter of public record and freely available once they have been audited at the year end. All members agreed that the wording is amended accordingly.

18.185 ‘Bere’ Heath.

The abandoned car in the Aster car park has been removed.

Volunteer of the Year – Cllr Ventham has asked Cllr Wharf to provide some information in order to complete one of the citations. It was also agreed that only one volunteer will be put forward at this time.

Christmas trees – many have now been handed out but there are still some available.

S Mepham had responded to our queries requesting additional information:

- Overhanging vegetation on Rye Hill: whilst we agree that some of the vegetation has been cut back, our query referred to the trees overhanging the public footpath
- Roundabout request sign: this is in the interests of road safety
- Snow ploughs; further information is awaited
- Grit bins; these have now all been filled as of Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December. Cllr Bates felt that the Snow Hill bin was still in need of filling but would double-check and report back to the Clerk

**ACTION: CLLR BATES**

- Is there any evidence of collisions or incidents on the western end of West Street? It is purely anecdotal but perhaps the Camera Team could be asked to attend the site. The Clerk will follow this up and check the 30mph roundels to make sure they are all clear.

**ACTION: CLERK**

*Post meeting note: Subsequent communication has been received from Stephen Mepham stating that there is an hourly rate for the use of the snow ploughs which can be claimed by farmers. This has been agreed between DCC and the NFU and is around £30 per hour. The decision to go out will be with the farmer but must be taken only when there is more than 5cm of snow on the ground. They can then raise an invoice and send it to Stephen Mepham who will put it forward for payment, once it has been confirmed.*

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

18.197 Cllr Ventham declared an interest in the tree work application. No other interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

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

18.198 Cllr Wharf was unable to attend the meeting.

**6. Key Topics**

18.199 Neighbourhood Plan Update

Cllr Ventham reported that, since the last meeting, we have been in discussion with Natural England regarding the size and shape of the SANG. In February, we sent an email to Nick Squirrel asking if he was happy with the revised shape and size of the SANG. No reply was received, and this was subsequently included in the Plan. The Plan was then sent out for public consultation, which included Natural England as one of the statutory consultees. A response was received but made no mention was made of the SANG in their reply. However, at the final moment, Natural England objected to the SANG and, thus the Plan. In order for them to agree the Plan, we have been obliged to revert back to the originally agreed size and shape.

The History Centre also submitted an objection. They have reiterated their original comments, but these were disallowed by PDC and have subsequently been withdrawn.

The examiner has now been appointed and should receive the Plan this week.

**7. Finance**

18.200 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

Bere Regis School	Grant re Life Bus	1893	375.00
Info Commission	Annual subscription fee	1894	40.00
Bere Regis PCC	Churchyard maintenance	1895	500.00
Drax Hall	Annual usage	1896	300.00
Dorset Fencing	10 x chestnut stakes	BACS094	31.80
RFW Osmond	Village web page – 2yrs	BACS095	134.15
GB Sport & Leisure	2 x dinosaur spring	BACS097	976.56
DC Pension	December contribution	BACS100	237.44
A Crocker	December wages	BACS102	1448.42
HMRC	December PAYE & NIC	BACS103	547.04
BR Parish Magazine	Remembrance Day centre spread	BACS104	93.00
DAPTC	Clerks seminar	BACS083	25.00
Total to be paid from the Precept			<b>£4,708.41</b>

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

I Ventham	December Lunch Club	BACS096	128.37
BR Parish Magazine	Adverts re NeighbourCar & Lunch Club	BACS098	140.00
M Benjafield	NC – September & October 2018	BACS099	93.60
B House	NC – July to November 2018	1895	531.72
P Morgan	November Lunch Club	BACS105	110.46
M Benjafield	NC – November & December	BACS106	39.15
R Jones	NC – April – July 2018	BACS085	40.05

Total to be paid from the schemes' funds **£1,083.35**

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

18.201 To confirm reconciliation of accounts and position against budget

**ACTION: CLERK**

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.

18.202 To confirm the honorariums of £25

Cllr Ventham proposed that the honorariums are paid. This was seconded by Cllr Benjafield and agreed unanimously. The Clerk will arrange for the payments to be made.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**8. Planning & Housing**

18.203 To consider planning applications

6/2018/0619 16 Sitterton Close: construct a 2 storey bay window to the SW elevation & convert loft to form habitable accommodation, including creating dormer window to NE roof slope

The PWP recommended no objection.

6/2018/0439 13 Sitterton Close: demolish existing detached garage and erect a single storey extension

The PWP recommended no objection.

6/2018/0629 145 The Warren: replacement dwelling

The PWP recommended no objection.

Cllr Fairhurst proposed that the PWP recommendations are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Munnings and agreed unanimously.

6/2018/0633 Higher Stockley Farm: siting of slurry storage bag for storage of digestate & pig slurry

Whilst the PWP felt this application was much improved over the original, withdrawn application, members had requested feedback from Cllr House. Cllr House recommended that an objection is submitted. The amendment to the original application is for storage in a bag, rather than in a purpose-built hole with bunding and a cover. There is still substantial concern over accidental leakage, additional movement of vehicles on and off the site, poor access and the smell. Cllr Munnings seconded the objection and it was agreed unanimously.

18.204 To consider tree work applications

Cllr Ventham took no part in the following discussion.

TWA/2018/237 7 Shitterton: T1 & T2 Ash – fell

The PWP recommended no objection but noted that the trees formed part of a line of attractive ash trees along the west side of the neighbour's driveway. All the trees appear to be of considerable age. The other trees had been felled in the past and allowed to grow up again over some years. The bases of the two trees referred to in this application are ancient and they should be felled in such a way that they can re-grown in the same way as the others. The two trees in question are covered in ivy and the removal of this at an earlier date may have prevented this work being necessary.

Cllr Bates proposed the recommendations of the PWP are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Benjafield and agreed unanimously.

**ACTION: CLERK**

In view of Cllr Bishop's resignation, a place has become vacant on the PWP. The PWP now consists of Cllrs Fairhurst, Munnings and Bates, together with comments from the Chair and Clerk when appropriate. Members felt that, at this stage, the working party remain as it is.

## **9. Environment & Facilities**

### **18.205 To consider expenditure on a notice asking for volunteers**

The Wildlife Group has lost several volunteers recently and, at the last working party, only three people turned up. They now work much closer with the Lengthsman and, although few in number, a great deal of work was achieved. Quite often, whilst they are working, residents walk past and ask what is happening. Putting up a sandwich board explaining what is happening would be one possible idea whilst the group were working. This would cost about £100. In addition, permanent A4 size signs asking for volunteers could be placed under the information boards. Cllr Benjafield will liaise with Cllr Bates regarding design and wording.

**ACTION: CLLRS BENJAFIELD & BATES**

Cllr Ventham suggested Cllr Bates speak to the Scouts as there are a number working towards their Queen's Scout and other badges who may be willing to assist with the volunteer work.

Veteran Tree Survey – will be undertaken.

### **18.206 Rights of Way update**

The Clerk reported that the paperwork in respect of the Frome Lane application was in the process of being checked prior to re-submitting to County.

Dark Lane – this will be a little more complicated as part of it will involve a diversion and part of it will be permissive. This will go forward to the January meeting.

It was noted that Tilhill have not come forward with a offer of assisting with the upgrading of the path across the Mays' Land to the Shitterton access. The first step would be to gain permission from Tilhill to have the work done. A made-up path would be of benefit to older residents using motorised buggies, parents with pushchairs, and anyone who is not too steady on their feet. The path is on the Definitive Map and is, therefore, the responsibility of Dorset County Rights of Way. Cllr Ventham will start by making contact direct with Brian May. An estimate will be obtained prior to contacting each party. The Clerk will contact Rights of Way with a view to seeing if they would be willing to carry out or assist with any upgrade.

**ACTION: CLLR VENTHAM/CLERK**

### **18.207 Transfer of land from PDC update**

The Heads of Terms have now been received and the Clerk has confirmed with PDC that we wish to go ahead with the transfer.

The Scout Hut tenancy has still to be handed over. The Clerk will contact the PDC solicitor and get this settled.

**ACTION: CLERK**

18.208 Open Spaces update

The Lengthsman is continuing with his list of work needed at the play park.

The new dinosaur springers are in place.

18.209 Defects

Elder Road – check signs that say no through road by the pinch point. (Steve Mepham)

Shitterton House – puddle on south side of Shitterton Bridge

**10. Police, Traffic and Roads**

18.210 Winter Maintenance Plan

Grit bins now filled.

Some information needs to be updated on the main Plan and Cllr Morgan is currently working through this.

**11. Community Liaison**

18.211 Community Hall update – Memorandum of Understanding

A response has now been received from the Drax Hall Committee, a copy of which had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

Cllr Ventham reminded members that the purpose of the MoU was to enable the new community hall group to access funds through the Drax Hall, as an asset to be used against raising funds for the new hall. In addition, the value of the Drax Hall could be used as part of the funding campaign for the new hall.

Unfortunately, the Drax Hall Committee have responded in such a way that would not enable any of this to happen. The MoU will, therefore, be withdrawn whilst further options are considered.

20:39 Cllr Wharf arrived.

Cllr Ventham will be meeting with Wilsons on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> December and he will try to clarify the ownership issue. Immediately after this, a meeting will be held with the Drax Hall Committee to go through their email and discuss the various issues raised.

18.212 To consider possible community activities for 2019

It has been some considerable time since the last community activity was held. It could be an opportunity for village communities to showcase themselves. The first step would be to lobby some groups and see if they would have any interest in doing something.

Cllr Wharf will talk to the Church, Cllr Ventham to FoBRS, Cllr House will talk to the Gardening Club, Cllr Pitcher will speak to the Scouts, Cllr Benjafield to the Sports Club and Cllr Fairhurst to the WI. Responses will be brought back to the January meeting.

18.213 Mini bus

With the offer of a minibus received, we need to consider who is going to maintain the mini-bus, keeping it clean, fuelled and serviced.

The first step is to have a look at the bus. The Clerk will arrange for the bus to be seen and checked and will notify Cllrs House and Morgan of the date and time.

Cllr House reported that the school is happy to store the vehicle. Various groups have expressed an interest in using the bus and part of the deal will be that their group produces a driver once every six months to undertake a shopping trip for the village. A Section 19 permit will be required.

**ACTION: CLLR HOUSE/CLERK**

## **12. Children & Youth**

### 18.214 Update on the painting of the Youth Shelter

Prior to his resignation, Cllr Bishop had forwarded details of the artist, Trevor Loveys, who was originally going to be approached to paint the youth shelter. He subsequently felt that the shelter currently blends well with its surroundings and, apart from a very small amount of graffiti, is not badly treated and should be repainted using the existing green shade.

Cllr Pitcher, having seen the work at Bovington, felt it would not encourage additional graffiti. However, it was felt that such painting would not fit in with the surroundings.

Cllr Benjafield felt that the cost was excessive.

It was suggested that the Lengthsman take this on in his usual work. Cllr Pitcher felt that we should go back to looking at an alternative shelter. Cllr Ventham suggested that the time to consider this course of action would be after the May elections.

A letter will be sent to the artist saying thank you, but we will not be pursuing this at this time.

**ACTION: CLERK**

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

18.215 Nothing further received.

## **14. Public Relations**

- 18.216
- process of Neighbourhood Plan
  - volunteers for the Environment Group
  - winter maintenance
  - transfer of assets and benefits of taking over the assets
  - new springers are in place
  - Dark Lane evidence forms – Laurie to provide some wording
  - reporting defects by D4Y

Cllr House reported that she has received a request from the Purbeck Rally for a commemorative seat on behalf of Tony Shaves. We do have a second seat for installation on Souls Moor and this could be used for this purpose. Cllr House will ask the Purbeck Rally representative to contact the Clerk to discuss a way forward.

**ACTION: CLLR HOUSE**

## **15. Items for the January meeting**

18.217 Members are reminded to pass any items to the Clerk for inclusion in the January agenda by the 31<sup>st</sup> December 2018.

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