



**MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON
THURSDAY 11th FEBRUARY 2021 COMMENCING 8PM**

This meeting was carried out by video conferencing.

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

Chair: Cllr I Ventham

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present: 1 member of the public

The Chairman reminded all present that the meeting is being recorded for the purpose of the minutes. Once the minutes are confirmed the recording will be destroyed.

Public Participation

Alison Bennett was invited to address the meeting. She has been looking at ways to bring the community together and to try to combat some of the loneliness and mental health issues that have arisen since the start of the lockdown. She and Cllr Pitcher had visited the sites owned by the Parish Council and felt the southern end of Souls Moor by the lime tree would be the most appropriate site for a Commemorative Garden. However, Cllr Ventham had informed them that this site would not be appropriate as it may jeopardise the possibility of a common land swap for the proposed community hall. The area at the top of the cemetery was then considered. This could work as a peaceful place for reflection, but it is not what Alison was after. She wanted to create a community garden, but we do not currently have the space for this. The Scouts had subsequently been approached for use of the outside area as a meeting space. She asked how long Souls Moor would be held for the potential village hall. At what point do the Parish Council admit the village hall is not going to come about and the land can be used by the community for other purposes.

Cllr Ventham responded saying that no specific time limit could be put on it. If there were no signs that the Drax Estate were moving then the site could be considered but they are moving, very slowly but they are moving.

Alison asked if the public could be told why they could not have a community garden straight away. Could the Council say that when the hall is in place, a community garden will be put around that area. Cllr Ventham felt this could not be promised as we do not know what the outcome of the surveys that will be required are likely to be.

Cllr Bates pointed out that we do have some beautiful wildlife areas in the village and the Wildlife Group would be very happy to assist those who wished to get involved with outdoor activities.

The Community Garden will remain an agenda item for future discussions.

1. To receive apologies for absence

20.216 No apologies had been received.

2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14th January 2021

20.217 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 Munnings and agreed unanimously.

The Chairman will sign the minutes in due course.

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

20.218 Community Groups meeting – A flier was sent to every household in the parish at a cost of £660 for 1,000 fliers. Cllr House has organised 36 trips to Wareham for the vaccinations to date. Thanks are extended to her and her team.

Anti-slip strips for the boardwalk – Dorset Rights of Way are going to attend to this.

4. To receive declarations of interest and review dispensations received

20.219 Cllr Ventham declared an interest in the planning applications for Shitterton and the tree work. Cllr Packham declared an interest in 2 of the planning applications. No other interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

5. To receive the Dorset Councillor’s reports

20.220 Cllr Wharf will produce a full report in the next few days.

The old school building - the Fire Service are keen to use it and have contacted the people using it.

The Transport Assessment – a response has been received and issued to all members.

North Street gate – Highways do not have a key and are trying to find one. It is understood that the Fire Service have a key and will make a copy and pass it to Highways. It was noted that the gate is in poor repair and needs replacing. Cllr Wharf will speak to Stephen Mephram about this.

6. Key topics

20.221 Neighbourhood Plan update

Cllr Ventham noted that the Drax Estate are beginning to undertake various surveys and it had been hoped that planning applications would be brought forward before Christmas 2020.

Cllrs Ventham and Munnings, together with the Clerk met with the architect of the Barrow Hill site. The owner still wishes to develop. The architect has met with the archaeologist for Dorset Council who had said that he does not agree with the Neighbourhood Plan, i.e. excavating of Tower Hill and building into the bank. The Plan has been agreed by Dorset Council. A site meeting is suggested once the architect has produced some drawings.

Plan Review – The Plan has a limited shelf life, and the effect of the material consideration reduces over time. Cllr Munnings has suggested that the Plan is reviewed, and a design statement put alongside each of the proposed sites giving our opinion as to how they should be developed. This would be done in conjunction with the Conservation Officer and Planning Officers to make sure they are happy with what we are proposing. Frances Summers, Dorset Council, has been contacted and a member of the Community Planning team will be contacting the Parish Council in the near future.

Cllr Ventham proposed that we, as a Council begin the process of reviewing the Plan with the intention of submitting a review of the Plan to Dorset Council within 6 months. This will be headed by the Neighbourhood Planning team. This was seconded by Cllr House and agreed unanimously.

20.222 To consider a response to the Dorset Local Plan

The PWP will produce a draft response for consideration at the March meeting.

ACTION: CLLRS FAIRHURST, MUNNINGS & BATES
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20.223 To consider a draft response to the DAPTC survey

Cllr Bates had completed the survey on behalf of the Parish Council.

20.224 To elect a new representative to the DAPTC

Cllr Bates has been the Parish Council's representative for a number of years but now has several outside commitments which mean he will no longer have the time to continue in this role.

At this point, no-one was willing to take on the role. It was suggested that this role is taken as a delegated function depending on what issue is raised at the time.

7. Finance

20.225 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

British Heart Foundation	Defibrillator for Rye Hill	600.00
DC Pension Fund	February pension contributions	248.60
A Crocker	February wages + expenses	817.59
Bartletts	Cement for play area repairs	31.20
HMRC	February PAYE & NIC	208.18
A King	January 2021 Lengthsman	2976.69
Bere Regis Surgery	Postage for Covid19 leaflets	400.91
AG Tree Services	Remove deadwood & damage from poplars	1020.00

Total payments for February 2021 from Precept **6,303.17**

NeighbourCar, Lunch Club and Communibus payments

These payments are made from the funds each initiative holds and do not come from the Precept.

Total payments for February 2021 **NIL**

Cllr House proposed the payments are made. This was seconded by Cllr Munnings and agreed unanimously. It was noted that, before the defibrillator is installed at the Rye Hill kiosk, it will be advertised that it is in place and available for use and Alison Bennett will be asked to include this on her list of defibrillators available around the village.

ACTION: CLERK

20.226 To review the reconciliation and position against budget

A copy of the reports had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No comments were made.

20.227 To consider allowance payments to Councillors

A copy of the proposed policy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Fairhurst proposed the policy is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Mathers and agreed unanimously.

8. Planning & Housing

20.228 To consider planning applications

Cllrs Ventham and Packham withdrew from the discussion.

6/2020/0497 Bluebell Lodge, 142a Rye Hill – Re-siting of mobile home (granted 06/2020/0428) & retention of barn previously to be demolished

Support. No comments made and no objections raised.

6/2020/0507 Purbeck Shooting School – Site temporary lodge to provide 24 hour security accommodation

Support. Bere Regis Parish Council supports the provision of appropriate security facilities at this site but planning permission should only be granted if future use of the building is restricted by way of a Section 106 Agreement, so that the building cannot become a residential dwelling at any time in the future.

6/2020/0540 Mulberry View, Shitterton – Erect a single storey extension & orangery.

Support. The proposal is in keeping with the surrounding street scene and the conservation area.

6/2020/0534 Blackhill Cottage, Shitterton – Demolish existing bungalow & erect a new dwelling.

Object. The proposal is too large for the plot and the style is not in keeping with the surrounding buildings and architecture or the conservation area. (3 abstentions, 6 in favour)

6/2020/0489 Shell Service Station – Demolish existing building & car wash, erect new building, new boundary treatment.

Object. The relocation of the HGV pumps to the front of the site leaves nowhere for waiting HGVs to park. This will result in them having to queue on the access road, blocking the site entrance and, potentially, causing an obstruction on the roundabout. Better white lining should be put in place at the exit route as this is currently unclear for outgoing traffic. In addition, the Parish Council would expect all safety aspects to be taken into consideration when considering the residential accommodation opposite the entrance and exit to the site. The Parish Council would welcome the inclusion of bollards on the pavement opposite to enhance the safety of pedestrians from lorries entering and leaving the site.

20.229 To consider tree work applications

TWA/2021/006 The Old Mill, West Street – H1 hedge – reduce height; T2 Ash – raise canopy; H3 lapsed conifer hedge – fell.

Support. No comments were made and no objections raised.

ACTION: CLERK

Cllr Munnings reported that a resident had reported damage to the hazel coppice by Rowlands Wait. This will be confirmed and reported to the appropriate authority if necessary.

9. Parish Amenities & Rights of Way

20.230 Open Spaces Update

There are still some tree works that need to be undertaken. SSE have applied to undertake some tree work to clear their overhead cables. Cllr Pitcher will check the work suggested before a response is returned.

ACTION: CLLR PITCHER

There is still some question regarding the ownership of a large decaying oak tree on the corner of the Lockyer land. The boundary needs to be defined in order to determine who is

responsible for the tree. Cllr Munnings will liaise with Cllr Pitcher and the Clerk to determine the exist boundary.

ACTION: CLLRS MUNNINGS & PITCHER, CLERK

20.232 To consider the location of a bench near Stanbarrow/Shitterton

This will be moved to the March meeting.

ACTION: CLLR PITCHER

20.233 To consider a possible location for a Community Garden

This had been discussed at length under Public Participation. A report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Pitcher proposed that members agree in principle that the community garden is developed on the cemetery site. Terms and conditions will need to be put in place before any work commences – this will include defining the area and who will be responsible for maintaining it. Cllr Benjamin seconded the proposal, and it was unanimously agreed. Cllr Pitcher and the Clerk, in liaison with Alison Bennett, will produce terms and conditions for putting before the Parish Council in due course.

ACTION: CLLR PITCHER, CLERK

20.234 Rights of Way

Nothing to report

20.235 Defects

- Cllr Benjafield reported that a resident had contacted him with a complaint about traffic parking around the junction of Stanbarrow Close making access difficult. This is a traffic and parking issue and, if someone is blocked in, they should report it at the time.
- Finger posts still need to be repaired and replaced. This will be included in the March agenda.

10. Environment & Conservation

20.236 To receive an update on the tree planting on No-man's land

No report is currently available.

20.237 Blackhill update

No report is available but the situation regarding the damage is not improving. The Clerk will contact Amy Gallagher regarding the signage.

ACTION: CLERK

11. Police, Traffic and Roads

20.238 Cllr Morgan reported that the potholes that had been repaired have since reappeared. He has been in touch with the Neighbourhood Policing team. In December in North Purbeck there were 166 reported crimes, 9 of which were in Bere Regis.

Cllr Packham reported that cars were parking right up to the junction of Manor Farm Road. The Clerk will contact Dorset Highways and ask if the white lines could be refreshed and also ask for white lines to be installed at the junction of Manor Farm Road and Elder Road. The lines at the access to the village by the Royal Oak also need to be refreshed.

ACTION: CLERK

20.239 Purbeck Transport Strategy

The new report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. This now incorporated the points raised by the Bere Regis Traffic Report.

12. Community Liaison

20.239 To receive an update on the Bere Regis Community Groups meeting

There have been discussions about the future of the Food Bank once Pop In is back up and running. This has proved a valuable service and should be maintained.

13. Children & Youth

20.240 A resident has suggested allowing children to produce posters regarding village issues – dog mess, litter, etc. These will be maintained by Fiona Bardwell and the Parish Council will not be involved.

20.241 School computers

All the children now have computers as the school has loaned them out. They are 6 short but the school is dealing with this.

14. Correspondence received since the agenda was set

20.242 School access drive

The Clerk reported that there seemed to be some confusion regarding who is responsible for the maintenance of the bank. Cllr Wharf is looking into this and will report back at the March meeting.

15. Public Relations

- 20.243
- Considerate parking
 - Garden of Remembrance
 - Review of Neighbourhood Plan
 - Dorset Local Plan Consultation

15. Items for the March meeting

- 20.244
- Stanbarrow/Shitterton bench
 - Garden of Remembrance update

Any items for the agenda should be passed to the Clerk by the 31st January 2021.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:50hrs,