



**MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON THURSDAY  
AT THE DRAX HALL, NORTH STREET, BERE REGIS, COMMENCING 7PM**

**Present:** Cllrs P Morgan, T Bates, P Wharf, L Fairhurst, B House & R Pitcher

**Chair:** Cllr I Ventham

**Clerk:** Mrs A Crocker

**Also present:** 1 member of the public

**Public Participation**

18.59 Concern was expressed regarding the Back Lane and Tower Hill sites – primarily the amount of traffic it might cause with each of the new houses likely to have 2 vehicles, adding to the already congested road. It is important to separate out traffic issues from parking issues. The Parish Council is trying to ensure each development allows for a minimum of 2 parking spaces per house, so the on-road parking situation is not exacerbated. Dorset Highways feels that the potential levels of traffic are acceptable. During construction, the Parish Council is encouraging considerate construction from the developers.

**1. To receive apologies for absence**

18.60 Apologies have been received from Cllrs C Packham, S Munnings, B Benjafield and D Bishop.

**2. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2018**

18.61 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 House 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**

18.62 No matters arising.

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

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

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

18.64 Cllr Wharf reported the Local Plan preferred option should be presented to the September Policy Committee, with the preferred option being Option A. (Option A – 470 homes in Wool, 440 at Moreton Station, 90 in Upton, 150 at Lytchett Matravers and 250 on smaller sites across Dorset) This will then be put to the Council in October. This option does include the Small Sites Policy to which Bere Regis remains opposed.

A complaint has been received about highway work being carried out to the road surface of Cow Drove. This is being followed up and Cllr Wharf who will report back to the resident who submitted the complaint.

County is moving forward at a pace. The Shadow Executive has been set up and is concentrating on making sure the Council is safe and legal come May 2019. No further news is available regarding how much work is likely to come down to parish councils. This has still to be looked at in detail.

## **6. Key Topics**

### **18.65 Neighbourhood Plan Update**

The consultation was held on the 23<sup>rd</sup> June at the school hall and about 140 people attended throughout the day. This marked the beginning of the formal, legal consultation period which will last for 6 weeks. Unfortunately, to date few responses have been received and we need to encourage residents to respond, even if they are broadly happy with the Plan. Cllr Pitcher suggested sending out another mailshot to every household, including a covering letter and the response form and saying why it is important to reply. This suggestion was agreed.

**ACTION: CLERK**

A response was received from Bere Regis Surgery, as a result of which Cllrs Ventham and House met with members of the surgery. At present, they are not looking to relocate but do need to reconfigure what they have on site. In the long term, they could be looking to relocate. It was discussed as a possibility that, as we develop the community hall, we go back to looking at a community centre with combined parking and sharing some of the rooms and a new surgery/medical centre built alongside. This may mean the wording contained within the Neighbourhood Plan will need to be amended slightly.

Cllr Ventham and Cllr House will meet with the Surgery Partners at the end of July. After that meeting, Cllr Wharf will speak to the CCG. In the short term, the surgery still has a need and it was suggested that Cllr Munnings have a look at the site to see how it can be reconfigured for the immediate future.

**ACTION: CLLR MUNNINGS**

Cllr Ventham and the Clerk met with the architect for Ms Chapman and the land agent for Mrs Smith (Tower Hill site) The architect is trying to arrive at a development that allows for some properties at the lower end of the site, with an access road crossing the site that will not touch the archaeological and will have as little affect as possible on the ecology of the site. This will be going before PDC Planning in August at the earliest.

A further meeting was held with Peter Dove and Liz Brierly, Drax Estate Trustees, and a Savills representative to discuss the processes we have been through to date with Jason Bowerman. They seemed happy about everything and were aware of the various correspondence that had taken place. They intimated that they have a company looking at the employment site but were unable to provide any details.

The next step is to draw all the threads of the consultation together and make any necessary alterations. A Steering Group meeting will be arranged for the end of July/beginning of August to commence this process.

### **18.66 To receive an update on the proposed Community Hall**

Cllr Pitcher reported that he had spoken to Alison Bennett about a Parish Council representative on the Drax Hall committee as Cllr House has stepped down from this role. As he sits of the new Community Hall steering group, it was felt that it would be appropriate for him to take over the role of Drax Hall representative. The Drax Hall trustees and Parish Council representatives will be meeting with the solicitor on the 17<sup>th</sup> August to discuss the terms of the Declaration of Trust document and determine the best way forward.

### **18.67 To consider fund raising for Bere Regis School**

Cllr Ventham reported that he had seen a letter from FoBRS to parents saying there is a gap in funding amounting to about £10,000. He wondered if there was anything the Parish Council could do to assist. A successful crowd funding campaign was run for the church roof and there would be no reason why the Parish Council could not operate such a scheme on behalf of FoBRS. It would effectively take the form of an appeal from the Parish Council to the community for help in raising the money. Potential wording was passed to all members to consider. It should be noted that this would be carried out in support of FoBRS and would be for one year only and it should be made clear within the wording that any money raised would be purely for the benefit of FoBRS and would not be used for the general running of the Parish Council. Members were broadly in agreement with moving this initiative forward and Cllr Ventham will begin rewording the letter of introduction and will liaise with FoBRS.

**ACTION: CLLR VENTHAM**

18.68 To consider a response to the Local Government Boundary Commission Review of ward boundaries

Under the new boundary wards, Bere Regis will become linked with Bovington, Briantspuddle and Moreton. Cllr Wharf suggested that we respond to the Boundary Commission saying we are happy with the proposal. This was agreed by all members and the Clerk will send the appropriate response.

**ACTION: CLERK**

Cllr Wharf reported that, at the next Wool Parish Council meeting, Cllr Stuart Burman is going to pose the question that Bovington joins Bere Regis Parish Council. At this stage, Bere Regis Parish Council do not have to do anything, but it will have to be seriously considered in the future, should Wool Parish Council agree to the proposal.

18.69 To consider any motions to put before the DAPTC AGM in November

The Clerk will send round examples of policies that other local parish councils have put forward in the past.

**ACTION: CLERK**

**7. Finance**

18.70 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

Cheap Printing	NP posters & draft plans	BACS034	300.00
Leisure Controls	Postage for NP fliers	BACS035	353.34
DAPTC	Annual subscription	BACS036	514.42
DC Pension Fund	July contribution	BACS039	320.53
A Crocker	July wages + expenses	BACS040	1007.05
HMRC	PAYE & NIC	BACS041	222.76
Cheap Printing	NP banners & posters	BACS042	93.60
A King	Lengthsman – June	BACS045	2596.18

Total to be paid from the Precept **£5,407.88**

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

B House	April - June Lunch Club & N/car	1890	452.48
I Ventham	June Lunch Club	BACS033	103.23
A Pattison	NC – May & June	BACS037	30.60
N Reid	NC – June	BACS038	7.65
D Fairhurst	NeighbourCar	BACS043	65.70
M Benjafield	NeighbourCar	BACS044	56.25

Total to be paid from the schemes' funds **£ 715.91**

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

18.71 To confirm reconciliation of accounts

**ACTION: CLERK**

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

18.72 To confirm the position against budget

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

## **8. Planning & Housing**

### 18.73 To consider planning applications

6/2018/0347 Purbeck Shooting School: removal of existing container units & extension of existing building

It was felt that this would be an improvement and tidy up the various containers that are scattered over the site. The PWP recommended no objection.

6/2018/0348 Land at Trigon Estate, Trigon: variation of condition 10 to allow continued use for an additional 10 years

The PWP recommended no objections.

Cllr Bates proposed the PWP recommendations were accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Morgan and agreed unanimously.

### 18.74 To consider tree work applications

No tree work applications at this time.

## **9. Environment & Facilities**

### 18.75 To confirm the route of the Village Walkabout in August

After some discussion, it was agreed that the route would be along North Street, Snow Hill, Barrow Hill, Butt Lane and Back Lane and returning to the Drax Hall, via West Street. Cllr Benjafield will publicise this on Facebook and in the parish magazine monthly article.

**ACTION: CLLR BENJAFIELD**

### 18.76 To consider the installation of benches on footpaths near the school

The benches will be located on the grass by the school entrance, looking out across Souls Moor. Cllr Ventham suggested benches should be similar to those already on Elder Road and the Clerk will obtain prices for this type of bench. Once purchased, the Lengthsman will be asked to fit these and also to mark them with the Bere Regis Parish Council name.

**ACTION: CLERK**

### 18.77 To receive an update on the Village Tidy

Cllr Morgan suggested Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> September. There is a lot of litter on the outskirts of the village, but the centre of the village is not too bad. The main target for the tidy will be the weeds growing along the gutters. PDC will be contacted so the sweep can visit on the following Monday to sweep the gutters of any weeds dislodged and collect any black bin liners. The Clerk will contact PDC and arrange the this, whilst Cllr Morgan will contact the Scouts to inform them of the date and discuss what action they will undertake.

**ACTION: CLLR MORGAN/CLERK**

### 18.78 Open Spaces update

The Lengthsman is gradually rebuilding the play park area. There has been an issue raised with regard to the cat mess in the play park and a resident has asked if it would be possible to have the bark sprayed. There is also a request for the gap between the fence and the gate to be filled. It may be possible to replace the bark with rubber-pour, but this would be costly and not in keeping with the setting of the play area. Cllr Pitcher will monitor the play park in order to gauge whether the cat mess is a one-off problem or something on-going. The pathway does need to be replaced and, once the cat issue is resolved, some quotes will be obtained.

**ACTION: CLLR PITCHER**

Cllr Bates reported that the ponies are doing a good job, but the dry areas need cutting back. This is on the Lengthsman's cutting schedule.

Cllr Bates reported that a resident had complained that he was knocked over by a child on a bike when walking along the boardwalk. The older children do undertake cycle awareness but younger, accompanied children should be watched over by their parents. It was suggested that Cllr Benjafield puts something on Facebook asking parents to be aware of their children when on bikes.

**ACTION: CLLR BENJAFIELD**

Cllr Bates commented that the planting of the Tillhill area towards Shitterton looks exceptional. He will write a thank you to Tillhill and pass it on to Cllr Ventham.

**ACTION: CLLR BATES**

#### 18.79 Defects

- Tree at Jubilee Bridge needs to be removed.
- Overhanging trees along Rye Hill
- Bank on the south side of the school access drive. Cllr Wharf has been discussing this with the Head of Children's Services and the Head Teacher of Bere Regis School. Unfortunately, the Head is too busy until September to attend a meeting. The Clerk will find the relevant correspondence and forward it to Cllr Wharf together with a covering letter expressing our concerns.

**ACTION: CLERK**

- The old school site is becoming unsightly. This will be included in the correspondence to Cllr Wharf.

### **10. Police, Traffic and Roads**

18.80 Cllr Morgan has emailed the Police on a number of occasions requesting they attend a Parish Council meeting but has yet to receive a response. Cllr Ventham suggested he email PC Jonathon Stewart direct.

**ACTION: CLLR MORGAN**

### **11. Community Liaison**

18.81 Cllr House requested Cllr Benjafield advertise the Wareham Hospital fete again.

### **12. Children & Youth**

18.82 Nothing to report.

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

18.83 Nothing further received.

### **14. Public Relations**

- 18.84
- Neighbourhood Plan
  - Benches
  - Village Tidy
  - Village Walkabout route
  - Parents and children on the boardwalk.

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

18.85 Members are reminded to pass any items to the Clerk for inclusion in the June agenda by the 31<sup>st</sup> July 2018

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 20:54 p.m.