



**MINUTES OF THE BERE REGIS PARISH COUNCIL AGM HELD ON
THURSDAY 10th MAY 2018 AT THE DRAX HALL, NORTH STREET, BERE
REGIS, COMMENCING 7PM**

Present: Cllrs S Munnings, P Morgan, T Bates, P Wharf, L Fairhurst, D Bishop, B House, C Packham & B Benjafield

Chair: Cllr R Pitcher

Clerk: Mrs A Crocker

Also present: 8 members of the public

Public Participation

Sue Aldous – The Department of Transport is going to be putting out hedgehog signs. Would the Parish Council place an order for the signs as the village is now a dedicated Hedgehog Friendly area? Following an accident on the by-pass over the weekend, there was a considerable amount of traffic using the village as a cut through. Is it possible to have a ‘Locals only’ sign on the access road from the bypass? Cllr Wharf reported that the Parish Council has spoken to both Highways and Dorset County Highways, as has our MP, and the answer is ‘No’ as the village is a recognised alternative route should the bypass be blocked at any time. Verge at White Lovington – it was suggested some time ago that this area could be cleared, and wildflowers planted here. The officer dealing with this has now left but the Clerk will contact the new officer.

ACTION: CLERK

Peter Fysh reported that, about 10pm one evening, he had been returning from Wool and, just past the Monkey World turning, there were two tanks coming in the other direction. They only had one flashing light and inset headlights. In the weather conditions at the time, it was almost impossible to distinguish them from a farm vehicle. Is there a better way of illuminating the vehicle at night? Cllr Wharf will take this up with the camp.

ACTION: CLLR WHARF

Barrow Hill – Patrick Hamilton expressed concerned over both the neighbourhood plan proposals and now the planning application which appears to be at variance with the neighbourhood plan. The proposed road will cut through any archaeological remains. How are the Parish Council going to bridge between the NP and this proposal? It appears that the applicant has control over the route of the track and the corner of the land at Barrow Hill, both of which cut across the land proposed within the NP. The NP was also proposing no access from Barrow Hill, the application has the access road joining at Barrow Hill. The road system is not adequate and there would be a virtual 180* turn required on to the site from Tower Hill. He is also concerned about possible damage to his property by heavy traffic. One of the houses is designed for disabled use – access for emergency vehicles would be difficult.

John Cleave – the whole area will be impacted by any change in traffic, especially in the short term whilst building is taking place. Longer term, there are more vehicles now in the general area than there were 15 years ago. It is a younger community and there are often 3 cars per family and the traffic in the area is considerably heavier. Barrow Hill is very much a part of the open land within the village and is a clear denominator between the built part of the village and the countryside behind it. Two houses are likely to lead to many more, especially once a road structure is in place.

Mrs Crisp – expressed concern over the speed and recklessness of some of the drivers in and around the triangle at the top of Snow Hill.

Patrick Hamilton asked if the road constitutes a change of use from agriculture.

Craig Lammiman was unable to attend the meeting, but Cllr Bates reported on his behalf, that the proposal would cause all sorts of disruptions to his house as he borders the access road.

Cllr Munnings responded to the concerns saying that this application was registered on the 2nd May and was not entirely unexpected. Up until now, the Parish Council has not been able to respond to concerns as

no formal application had been submitted. He and Cllr Wharf met with the PDC planning officer recently. They confirmed that all the statutory consultations had been sent out but, until they are returned, they are unable to respond. Any information they receive from the Parish Council or neighbours will be taken into account when considering the application. The concept of the development has been discussed at length by the NP Steering Group as it does contradict what the NP is trying to achieve. The proposal relies on a new track through open countryside and outside the development boundary.

Cllr Wharf reminded members that, because it is an application for two dwellings, it will automatically go before the Planning Committee – probably in July. There is a mechanism for members of the public to attend the meeting and speak for up to 3 minutes. If attending, all comments should be based on key planning issues and not emotional matters. He would also urge the Parish Council to send a member to the meeting to speak.

John Day – endorsed everything that has been said. Will the Parish Council object to the application? Mr Lammiman raised issues that will affect his property and he has written to Parish Councillors - will these points be included and taken into account?

Sue Aldous asked if the Parish Council’s response could be written down somewhere and be made available.

Patrick Hamilton – there appears to be discrepancies between the forms that have been put in. It mentions a survey that has not been carried out and the application has been completed incorrectly.

John Cleave asked if members of the public would be allowed access to the field to consider their responses. No – it is private property.

Pauline Thomas drew members’ attention to the application to install two slurry tanks at Higher Stockley Farm and, in particular, her concerns regarding the smell and the additional lorry movements. The waste is to be brought onto the site and stored and is then to be sprayed on the fields. The waste matter will be brought in from Dorchester and Warminster. The tanks will contain 192 cubic meters of slurry. The application suggests 80 lorries a year. The tanks are also to be only partially banded and, should there be any overflow, it will run into the nearby river Piddle. Cllr Wharf suggested the Parish Council request it is submitted to the Regulatory Committee.

1. To receive apologies for absence

18.02 Apologies have been received from Cllr I Ventham.

2. Chairman’s Report for 2017/18

18.03 Cllr Ventham was unable to attend the meeting but had drawn up his report and this was read out by Cllr Pitcher. The full report of the year can be found on the Parish Council web site.

3. Elections

18.04 To Elect the Chairman for the coming year

Cllr Fairhurst proposed Cllr Ventham as Chair. Cllr Ventham had previously agreed to stand as Chair for another year, should members wish. This was seconded by Cllr House and agreed unanimously.

18.05 To Elect the Vice Chair for the coming year

Cllr Munnings proposed Cllr Pitcher for the role. This was seconded by Cllr Bishop and agreed unanimously. Cllr Pitcher agreed to stand as Vice Chair for the coming.

18.06 Group Responsibilities

A copy of the current list had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Packham will be added to the Community Liaison group. All other groups and their representatives will remain the same. The list will be updated and reissued.

ACTION: CLERK

4. To receive the County and District Councillor's reports

18.07 Two plans from County are going to the Inspector for independent review – The Waste Management Plan in July and the Minerals Plan in September. He strongly urged the Parish Council to attend the meeting and submit our objections.

District Council – transfer of assets to parishes. It was agreed that PDC would consider transferring assets where they could and one such asset was the Bere Regis central car park. Two conditions will be stipulated: any overage will be paid back and there was general agreement that PDC will provide legal advice if asked. The Clerk will contact Bob Lockhard accordingly. The various pieces of verge, etc. will also be included within the request.

ACTION: CLERK

Broadband – connecting the hard to reach areas. The principle is that they need parish council support as some financial commitment will be required from the parish council. We have 101 properties that are hard to reach, mainly in the Hyde area. There are various schemes that can be considered and it is important that the Parish Council understands the various schemes available. This will be included on the June agenda.

The Ward Boundaries – the existing 206 councillors are to be reduced to 82. There are 42 wards and, going forward, there will be one councillor per 3472 electors. There is a suggestion that there is a new ward consisting of Bere Regis and Bovington with Briantspuddle. The consultation will be made available in June for six weeks.

LGR – a presentation was given to inform the staff about this. Cllr Wharf will be happy to give a presentation to the parish council.

Reviewing the possibility of building a footpath to Monkey World.

New school at Bovington is going ahead.

Mental Health Awareness Week at County, commencing Monday 14th May. Feeling stressed is something you can talk about.

5. To confirm the minutes of the meeting held on the 12th April 2018

18.08 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 Munnings and agreed unanimously. The Chair signed the minutes in the presence of the meeting.

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

18.09 Signs for the ponies - Cllr Benjafield is still awaiting the wording for the signs. Cllr Bates will deal with this.

ACTION: CLLR BATES

7. To receive declarations of interest and confirm any dispensations received

18.10 Cllr Bates declared an interest in the planning application for Barrow Hill. No other interests were declared and no requests for dispensations had been received.

8. Key Topics

18.11 Neighbourhood Plan Update

The draft plan has been reworked and issued for comment. PDC are currently rewording some of the policies which should be ready early next week. In order to make the deadline for the referendum in May 2019, we must go to public consultation in June 2018.

18.12 To receive an update on the Community Hall and to agree the Terms of Reference for the Project Team

The response from PDC on the Drax Hall pre-app advice has been received and they are broadly in agreement that it can be used for residential purposes. A copy of the proposed Terms of Reference had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting.

18.13 To consider a response to the DAPTC survey on LGR matters

A copy of the paper had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Wharf any transformation will not be taking place immediately in May 2019 as there are a great deal of issues to resolve in the first instance.

9. Finance

18.14 To approve monthly expenditure

The following payments had been requested:

Cheap Printing	1,000 walk leaflets	BACS011	140.00
Came & Co	Annual insurance renewal	BACS012	841.24
Darkin Miller	Internal Audit 2017/18	BACS013	348.60
DC Pension Fund	May contribution	BACS014	235.30
A King	Lengthsman – April 2018	BACS016	2682.71
Mrs A Crocker	May wages + expenses	BACS017	798.13
HMRC	May PAYE/NIC	BACS018	81.12

Total to be paid from the Precept **£5,127.10**

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

A Meaton	NeighbourCar	BACS008	79.01
I Ventham	April Lunch Club	BACS009	104.39
M Benjafield	NeighbourCar – April	BACS010	156.60
Sam Percival	April Lunch Club	BACS015	260.00

Total to be paid from the schemes' funds **£ 605.85**

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

18.15 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.

18.16 To agree the Annual Governance Statement

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Each statement was reviewed and individually acknowledged. Cllr Munnings then proposed that the Annual Governance Statement is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Bishop and agreed unanimously. The Statement was then signed by the Chairman and Clerk in the presence of the meeting,

18.17 To agree the Accounts for the year ended 31st March 2018

A copy of the full set of accounts had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. Cllr Wharf proposed the accounts are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Pitcher and agreed unanimously. The Accounting Statement was signed by the Chairman and RFO in the presence of the meeting,

18.18 To consider the Internal Auditor's Report

A copy of the report had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. The following points had been raised:

- (a) VAT - £10 difference between the calculated VAT and the cashbook total. This will be carried forward to the next claim and amended accordingly.
- (b) Several payments were either not recorded in the minutes or recorded in the minutes but not on the payments schedule. Greater care will be taken to ensure all payments are recorded in the minutes.
- (c) Risk Assessment – This was reviewed in July 2017 and it was noted that some minor amendments were needed and the assessment would be brought back to the August meeting. The minutes of the August meeting do not record any additional review or acceptance. This was noted and care will be taken to ensure such items are recorded in the minutes.
- (d) Supporting paperwork for expenses – two items of expenditure, one for £1.90 and the other for £7.80, did not have supporting receipts. Care will be taken to ensure receipts will be acquired wherever possible.
- (e) Reserves – it was noted that the reserves amounted to £101,795. This equates to 162% of the value of expenditure for the year whilst guidance suggests that general reserves should be around 50% to 75%. It was pointed out that £55,882.17 of the reserves represented allocated funds, a further £3,570.82 is for the Lunch Club and £3,570.82 for the NeighbourCar scheme. Once the allocated expenditure is removed, a balance of £48,412.58 remains.

Cllr Bishop proposed the internal audit is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Munnings and agreed unanimously.

18.19 To confirm the Standing Orders and Financial Regulations

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. No amendments were required for either report at this stage. Cllr House proposed the Standing Orders are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Benjafield and agreed unanimously. Cllr Fairhurst proposed the Financial Regulations are accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Munnings and agreed unanimously.

18.20 To confirm the Risk Assessment

A copy had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. No amendments or alterations were required at this stage. Cllr Bates proposed the Risk Assessment is accepted. This was seconded by Cllr Benjafield and agreed unanimously.

18.21 To confirm the Insurance for the coming year

The Clerk informed members that the Parish Council is currently in the third year of a three-year Long Term Agreement.

10. Planning & Housing

18.22 To consider planning applications

6/2018/0217 Barrow Hill, rear of Butt Lane – erect 2 dwellings

Cllr Bates commented that the application stated it will improve the access across the field. There is no access road in this field. Cllr Bates took no further part in the discussion or the voting.

Cllr Munnings proposed that we object to the planning application. Cllr Fairhurst seconded the proposal and this was agreed unanimously. Cllr Munnings will draft a full response which will be circulated to all members.

6/2018/0174 Higher Stockley Farm, The Warren – construction of two slurry stores for the storage of pig waste.

The PWP originally felt that no objection was required but, having heard the resident's concerns, they reconsidered this position. It was noted that the site was to be only partially bunded. In addition, all the drains from the slurry store run straight down to the river leaving a potential for water contamination. The bunding is not sufficiently adequate to protect the local environment. The access is poor due to the state of the proposed road entrance.

6/2018/0190 38 Elder Road – single storey rear extension and internal alterations. Demolish existing conservatory.

No Objection

6/2018/0172 Mistover Knapp – demolish existing double garage and construct new double garage with carport and store.

No objection

6/2018/0169 A31 Boltons Barrow, Mile Stone – conservation work to Grade II listed milestone.

No objection

6/2018/0107 Chamberlaynes Farm – change of use from agriculture to offices and siting of refrigerated container

This application was considered by email following the meeting. No objections were raised.

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

ACTION: CLERK

18.23 To consider tree work applications

There were no tree work applications to consider.

11. Environment & Facilities

18.24 Open Spaces update

The Poole Roundabout has now been sown with poppy seeds.

The ponies will be returning on Monday 14th May.

There are three walks organised; the first will be on the 20th May at Rye Hill. The second will be based around Ancient Trees and will take place in June. Details of the third will be issued at a later date.

Play park path – quotes needed for next year's budget.

Cllr Fairhurst asked if it would be worth cutting the area around the telegraph pole in the area where the ponies are kept earlier on in the season this year. Cllr Bates responded saying that we will see how the ponies get on and what they decide to eat and make a decision on any cuts later in the season.

18.25 To review the current Cemetery charges

A copy of the current fees had been issued to all members prior to the start of the meeting. It was noted that no increases had been made since April 2015. Cllr Munnings proposed a 10% increase is made across the board. This was seconded by Cllr Fairhurst and agreed unanimously.

ACTION: CLERK

Cllr Munnings reminded members that we did look into having woodland burials but this would require additional land which, at this time, is not available and would also require new licences.

18.26 Update on Dorset Dogs visit – 3rd May

Dorset Dogs attended the site on a very wet Wednesday morning. The Clerk did invite them to comment on how they thought the initiative was received but no reply has been received. It is understood that they would like to return later in the year and set up on Dr May's land.

18.27 Defects

- Sliproad on the westbound exit to the bypass needs repairing
- Verge above zebra crossing needs cutting back

12. Police, Traffic and Roads

18.28 With the up and coming show season, it would be helpful if a Police presence could be requested. It would be useful if they could also let us know in advance of when they are going to attend events in the Drax Hall so they could be more effectively publicised.

13. Community Liaison

18.29 Cllr Benjafield reported that the community buses discussed at last month's meeting should be better advertised. It was suggested that their advert is altered and made easier to read and put out on the noticeboards and in the shop.

ACTION: CLLR BENJAFIELD

18.30 Salt & Pepper Club

Continues to be successful.

14. Children & Youth

18.31 Nothing to report.

15. Correspondence received since the agenda was set

18.32 Nothing further received.

16. Public Relations

- 18.33
- AGM and elections, councillor responsibilities
 - Christmas trees
 - NP in draft stage with PDC
 - Planning applications
 - Ponies/open spaces/poppies
 - Community buses
 - Tanks

Items for the June meeting

19.34 Members are reminded to pass any items to the Clerk for inclusion in the June agenda by the 31st May 2018.

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 21:05p.m.