

**Draft Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council
held at Endecott House on Monday, 8th October 2012 commencing at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs Bleakman; Coombe; D'Arch Smith; Mrs Haxton; Mrs Hill (Chairman); S.Lloyd Hill; Parrott; Sampson; Shears; Stead and Mrs R Short (representing Chagford Swimming Pool Committee) and Cllr J McInnes (DCC Councillor)

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Ms Thorn and Cllr Williams

In Attendance, the Clerk, Mrs P Stone

156 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

There were no interests to declare.

157 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

- a) The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 10th September 2012 were confirmed subject to an amendment to the resolution of Min 121 to read “the WDBC Ward Member has spoken to Cathy Auberton”.
- b) To confirm the minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 24th September 2012 subject to an amendment to the heading of Min 151 to read “DNPA Inspector’s Report. A pre hearing meeting has been called for 25th October 2012”.

158 Chagford Swimming Pool

Mrs R Short was welcomed to the meeting by the Chairman and invited to make a report of proposals for improvements to the swimming pool. She stated the plans were in the early stages at the moment as the first priority was to gauge the level of public interest and the amount of support available. Following the Olympic Games funding is now available for revamping old facilities but the scale of the endeavour would also need funds to be raised elsewhere. It is hoped eventually to supply heating for the pool and improved changing facilities.

The Committee have circulated a Questionnaire locally to assess local opinion and seek help.

Mrs Short was seeking support from the Parish Council and asked for help by providing contact details with regard to the planning application. The Chairman offered the support of the planning inspection group when the time arose.

In all it is anticipated that the scheme would take two years to accomplish and the aim is to extend the seasonal activity.

Cllr McInnes expressed interest in the project and said he would do what he could to help.

The Chairman thanked Mrs Short for her interesting discussion and reminded Cllrs McInnes and Sampson that WDBC had always supported the outdoor pool.

Resolved: A copy of the Minute to be forwarded to the Swimming Pool Committee via Mrs Short.

159 Cllr J McInnes

Cllr McInnes was welcomed to the meeting and invited to update the Council on the DCC, including what is happening with the status of current Highway services.

There is an apparent lack of cohesion in the Highways Department particularly with regard to the Contractors who do not respond quickly enough to reports of road problems.

In response to questions about the duties of the lengthsman and their ability to carry out works Cllr McInnes informed the Council that there are now two-man teams to carry out the required tasks. He has been advised that lists of problems need to be notified to the department prior to the lengthsman visit.

There was a question raised with regard to the parking problems in Manor Drive. Attention was drawn to negotiations which began at the beginning of last year with regard to extending the traffic regulations. The Highways engineer at that time was in the process of dealing with this when his Department was dissolved since when there has been no progress. Cllr McInnes said he would make contact with the Officers concerned and endeavour to arrange another meeting.

The Car Fare scheme which has been discussed with Mr Richardson Dawes is progressing. He is in contact with Cllr McInnes and as soon as a specification has been completed. Cllr McInnes will give instructions for the release of the £3,000 funding from his budget.

Cattle Grids Cllr McInnes referred to a meeting being held between DCC; DNPA Parish Council Representatives and the Commoners which is to take place on 18th October 2012. It is the duty of the Commoners to present a new proposal.

Tap Funding Cllr Mrs Hill stated that the Throwleigh Parish Council had not been receptive to the idea of sharing resources that could benefit from Tap Funding. However they wished to clear a drain from Monks Withecombe to Waye Cross. It was suggested that this is not a matter suitable for the use of Tap Funding. Cllr McInnes agreed to speak to Throwleigh Parish Council on the subject.

Community Asset Register Each Parish is required to compile a Community Asset Register and pass this to the District Council. The Parish will then be notified if an asset is coming onto the open market and will provide an opportunity for the Parish to purchase the asset.

The Parish Council will draft an asset register for consideration at the next meeting. Cllr McInnes was thanked for his participation. **Noted:**

160 MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising from previous Minutes.

URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

161 Notice of Election for a Police and Crime Commissioner

A notice of election for a Police and Crime Commissioner was received and placed on the Parish Notice Board. The election will take place on 15th November 2012.

Noted:

162 West Devon Borough Council Consultations

- a) **Shaping our Towns of Tomorrow** – a consultation on shopping and leisure provision in the Borough is taking place in Okehampton and Tavistock on 13/10/12 and 20/10/12 respectively.

- b) **Hatherleigh Plan-it Group Consultation: Hatherleigh Community Plan.**
Consultation is a community plan prepared by the Hatherleigh Plan-it Group
The Consultations take place over a seven week period from Thursday, 4th October until Friday 23rd November 2012.
Community Exhibitions will be held at Tavistock on 13th October 2012 from 10am to 3pm and Okehampton on 20th October from 10am to 3pm.
Drop In surgeries will be held at Kilworthy Park and the Customer Services Centre Okehampton on 7th November and 14th November. **Noted:**

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

163 Planning Control Matters

- a) **0162/12 Little Thorn, Thorn, Chagford – Notice of Withdrawal of Application.**
Proposed extension to house and retrospective change of use and alteration of piggeries to outbuilding for general storage. **Noted:**
Cllr Bleakman reported the recommendations of the planning inspection group meeting held on 5th October 2012, attended by Cllrs Bleakman (Chairman); Mrs Haxton; S. Lloyd Hill; Parrott and Williams.
- b) **0524/12 Crossways, Chagford**
Proposed change of use of paddock to create vehicle access to Crossways; closing off existing access to vehicles and converting to pedestrian access only.
Resolved: The Council is very supportive of the principle to close the existing access to the property at the Crossways junction and its replacement with an alternative safer location. However, the Council has concerns regarding some detailed aspects of the current Application.
The Council is concerned that the area of land (currently part of the entrance driveway) on the highway side of the closed entrance, will be used as a casual parking area for delivery vehicles servicing the properties in the locality. This would result in the visibility at the junction being more obscured than at present. The Council believes that it should be possible to create some structure at this point that would prevent this usage together with reflective highway markers previously installed to help drivers see the road division at this point. The Council is also of the opinion that the closing of this entrance using a granite wall damages the general vista at this location.
The Council considers that the visibility from the proposed new access point in the out-of-town” direction is acceptable but is concerned that the visibility in the “town” direction is inadequate particularly with respect to two wheeled vehicles, which will be obscured by the hedge to a vehicle exiting from the driveway until it is less than 10m from the edge of the proposed splay, see photo 1. The Council is of the opinion that further repositioning of the hedgerow could result in an adequate solution.
- c) **0390/12 Sandy Park Inn, Chagford. – Amended Plans.**
Proposed change of use of part of adjacent field to create car park for customers and residents
Information received from the DNPA indicates a reduction in the number of parking spaces from 30 to 18, including removal of proposed residents parking.

As Sandy Park is within the Drewsteignton Parish and in view of Chagford Parish Council's previously expressed concerns over the on street parking at Sandy Park, it was felt necessary to comment on this decision.

Resolved: i) A letter be sent to the DNPA expressing the view that on street residents parking in this area was hazardous and it is regrettable that the original proposal has been rejected; ii) A copy of the letter be forwarded to the Drewsteignton Parish Council

164 Grant of Conditional Planning Permission

a) 0443/12 Denshams, Chagford - Noted

Proposed outdoor riding school (20m x 40m)

b) 0447/12 Little Thorn, Thorn, Chagford – Noted:

Proposed erection of livestock barn (12m x 12m) to replace existing hay barn.

165 Consent to Display Advertisements

0431/12 68a the Square, Chagford – Noted:

Proposed projecting hanging sign for new business.

166 Dartmoor National Park Management Plan 2013 – 2018.

The DNPA is reviewing the National Park Management Plan 2013 – 2018 to provide a focus for partnership working on Dartmoor over the next five years. This is a statutory document for which an independent facilitator/project manager has been appointed to lead the process.

A short Questionnaire has been supplied on line to obtain Parish Council views by 26th October 2012, which will be discussed at the National Park Forum on 30th November 2012.

Resolved: To be placed on the Agenda for the next meeting.

167 Felling Licence – Fernworthy

Details of a felling Licence Application for Fernworthy has been forwarded for information. The South West Lakes Trust is seeking permission under section 10 of the Forestry Act 1967. The sites will be restocked with not less than 1100 broad leaf trees per hectare. The Licence expires on 24th September 2013.

Resolved: The Clerk to contact the Forester with regard to the avoidance of lorries driving through the Town during the busy Summer months.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND POLICY MATTERS

168 CCD Rural Futures Conference

Cllr Sampson reported that Sarah Eppel from DEFRA described the workings of her Department to great effect and did not disguise the fact that there are tough times ahead because of the current economic situation. Cllr Sampson attended two workshops, one concerning ways to provide green/renewable energy to Community buildings and the second concerning Devon and Somerset broadband services.

Cllr Hill attended the workshop on Community Land Trusts which was based on a project at Broadhempston and another workshop on Localism. **Noted:**

169 DALC AGM and Conference – 6th October 2012

The DALC AGM that was held on 6th October 2012, was reported by Cllr Mrs Hill. Lord Lytton who is the president of the National Association of Local Councils and a Cross Party Member of the House of Lords, was the main speaker. He farms on

Exmoor and understands the difficulties currently being experienced by rural residents. He indicated the effect of the current shortage of funds and the impact it is having on the Association's ability to support local Councils. He indicated that more and more responsibility would be downloaded to Parish Council's who would, inevitably, have to raise the necessary finance by increasing their precepts.

The theme for this year's conference is "**Localism on the Ground**" taken up by the Ilfracombe Community Group who have raised a Community Budget Fund which is administered by a small group of local people.

Cllr Mrs Hill attended two workshops, the "Right to Bid and Right to Challenge" and affordable housing. Cllr Sampson joined the group discussing the allocation of Grants. The information he gathered will be passed to the Finance Group at their next meeting. **Noted:**

170 FINANCE

a) Finance Group Meeting

Cllr Parrott reported the Finance Group Meeting held on 24th September 2012 which compared the Council's spending against the budget and stated that all was well. The major expenditures had been for the repair of the stone wall at the playing field and the improvements to the play equipment. **Noted:**

b) Chagford Conservation Group

Thank you letter received for Insurance Grant. **Noted:**

c) Okehampton District Community Transport Group

Request for funding

Resolved: Refer to the next Finance meeting.

d) Royal British Legion – Poppy Wreath

The Clerk confirmed that she has been approached for the purchase of a poppy wreath for the Remembrance Service.

Resolved: The sum of £25 be approved for the wreath.

e) Grass Cutting

The Chairman drew attention to the need to renew the grass cutting Contract for the next Season. It was also suggested that consideration might need to be given for the cost of cutting the Crossways Bank, possibly four times a year. The Clerk stated she is still awaiting confirmation from the DCC about the ownership of the bank.

Resolved: These Matters to be referred to the next Finance meeting.

171 ENVIRONMENT

a) Jubilee Park

i) South West Play has confirmed that they have now completed the installation of the see-saw (Min 102 refers) **Noted:**

ii) South West Play have examined the condition of the cradle swings and reported that the timber overhead beam needs to be monitored to ensure it does not suffer from water egress. The legs are fixed into concrete and are in good condition. **Noted:**

b) Cllr Ms Stead gave her monthly report and stated that some of the table tops are breaking up and a small tree behind the Health Centre has snapped. She cleared the sand trap in the leat. There were no other problems to report.

Resolved: The Environment Group to determine action to be taken.

c) **Public Conveniences**

Cllr Ms Stead stated the public conveniences were satisfactory. **Noted:**

d) **Deterioration of tree outside gentlemen's toilets**

A representative of Stone Lane Gardens has offered to donate an Alder for replanting in the Square and stated it should be planted in November and protected.. In return for the donation, the gardens will display a small advertisement on the tree guard.

Resolved: The Clerk to write a letter of thanks and suggest the representative liaise with Cllr Coombe re the installation of the tree and replacement of the existing guard.

e) **Turn Lake Leat Grid**

The metal grid from Turn Lake Leat has been found buried beneath silt further along the leat. **Noted:**

CLERK/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

172 Waste Bin – Churchyard Wall

Cllr Sampson reported that following his discussions with the WDBC, it was agreed the damaged bin would be inspected and if not repairable, would be replaced.

Resolved: Cllr Sampson to follow the matter up.

173 Rain Water Gulley – Three Crowns Hotel

The broken rain water gulley outside the Three Crowns Hotel has been replaced by the Highways Department. Unfortunately they did not replace it with the traditional metal pipe-work but with a pipe buried in concrete. **Noted:**

174 Memorial Seat for John Parker

A relative of the late Mr John Parker has requested the installation of a memorial seat at Factory Cross and has contacted the DNPA for permission.

Resolved: The Clerk to write to the relative and say it is happy to comply with his request.

175 Remembrance Day Service

The Chairman drew attention to the Memorial Service to be held on 11th November 2012 and stated those who wish to attend to congregate at the Cross Tree at 10.30am. Cllr Ms Stead offered her apologies as she will be away. **Noted:**

CORRESPONDENCE/e mails RECEIVED

176 WDBC News Release re Adult Education.

Devon Adult and Community Learning is offering advice and information for Adult Education in conjunction with the West Devon Connect Services. They will be available for advice at the Chagford Library on October 12th and 26th 2012 from 10.30am to 12.30pm.

177 WDBC/SOUTH HAMS – Community Life Stakeholder Event.

Meeting to be held at Kilworthy Park, 23rd October 9.45am to 12.45pm. Cllr Mrs Hill has expressed an interest in attending.

Resolved: The Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

178 DCC – Your Community, Your Choice

Details of Public Meetings to be held for the purpose of obtaining public views on matters of their choice have been received. The meeting at Okehampton will take place on 24th October at the Charter Hall and at Tavistock Town Hall on November 6th. The Chairman will attend one of these meetings and will be pleased if someone wishes to join her. The Speaker will be Mr John Hart, Leader of the Council.

Noted:

179 Department of Transport

A Consultation paper on revision of the Department of Transport's speed limit framework has been received for circulation.

Resolved: The document is available from the Clerk for those who wish to read it.

180 Devon & Cornwall Constabulary - Speed Watch Strategic Plan 2012 -2014.

The Plan consists of three schemes: Community; Neighbourhood and School Speed Watch. It delivers activity in support of Community identified priorities and those of the Force and the Peninsula Road Safety Partnership: **Noted:**

181 Chagford Recreational Trust

Copy of correspondence to County Solicitor received in support of cattle grid installation and **Noted:**

182 South Hams – Redeeming Our Communities

Mr Gary Streeter accompanied by the Chief Constable, will address a meeting at Ivybridge Methodist Church on Saturday 20th October on redeeming Communities. i.e. working with partners to create safer and kinder communities. **Noted:**

183 Dartmoor Preservation Association

The DNPA are hosting the 3rd Biennial Conference at Exeter Racecourse on 19th October from 9.30am – 4.30pm. Subject matter – Management of the Commons in the 21st Century.

Resolved: Cllr Shears will be attending.

184 May Gurney

Notice received of temporary Traffic Management, the Square, Chagford from 21.01.13 – 01.02/13 between 9am and 5pm for Highways utility works. It was felt necessary to discuss the implications of this road closure with the Contractors to avoid problems previously encountered with closures in this area.

Resolved: The Clerk to make the necessary arrangements.

185 Jubilee Field Land Registry

Cllr Sampson produced a Deed of Surrender for signature in respect of the Land Registry requirements for the QE11 Field registration. The Council sanctioned the Chairman's signature and the Deed was returned to Cllr Sampson for return to the Land Registry. **Noted:**

186 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

£

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

a)	Direct Debit – BT – Broadband services	31.77
b)	3675- CCD – Rural Futures Conference fee – Cllr Sampson	20.00
c)	3676- Mrs P Stone – September Salary	719.55
d)	3677- Mrs P Stone – September post; electric; computer; petty cash	34.75
e)	3678- Viking Direct – 2 Toners for Photocopier (discounted)	144.17

f)	3679- Cllr K Coombe – reimburse paint from B&Q for play equipment	17.96
g)	3680- Bowden & Sons – Ronseal wood treatment	31.96
h)	3681- Shaw & Sons – Receipts and Payments book	70.80
i)	3682- Cllr A.Parrott – set up new e-mail account/configure computers	48.00
j)	3683- Mr B Pell – Jubilee Field grass cutting 04/09; 27/09	270.00
k)	3684- Royal British Legion – Poppy Wreath	25.00

187 PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION RECEIVED

The following publication was made available to Members

- a)** DCC – A new future for Devon’s Heritage

The Meeting Ended at 9.35pm

Confirmation of the Minutes

Dated.....

Signed.....