

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council  
held at Endecott House on Monday, 10<sup>th</sup> August 2009 commencing at 7.30pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs Bleakman (Chairman) Cllrs Davies; Geering; Mrs Haxton; Jeffrey; Mrs Milton; Perryman; Sampson and 1 member of the public, Mr D. Rogers.

**Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Coombe; Mrs Hill; Parrott; Ms Thorn.

**In attendance** the Clerk, Mrs Stone.

**135 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS**

- a) Cllr Geering declared an interest in Mins 142b; c; d; 143a; 143c.
- b) Cllr Jeffrey declared an interest in Min 142b
- c) Cllr Perryman declared an interest in Mins 142b; 143b
- d) Cllr Sampson declared an interest in Mins 142a; c; d; 143a; 144

**136 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES**

- a) The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 13<sup>th</sup> July 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed subject to the deletion of the words “with the sub group appointed” in Min 90 and the name Ms Cathy Hoare substituted for Ms R. Northey in Min 108.
- b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 27<sup>th</sup> July 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed.

**MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**137 Car Parking Survey (Min 91 refers)**

- a) A report of Cllr Bleakman’s meeting with the WDBC Parking Enforcement Officer on 9<sup>th</sup> April 2009 was circulated and discussed. Many of the issues agreed at that meeting have still not been implemented by the Highways Department i.e.- Improved white lining; the obliteration of incorrect lining at Crossways junction; changes to the goods only loading bay at the Globe Inn; lack of labelling of the loading only bay at the SPAR shop in the Square.

**Resolved:** i) The Clerk to write to the Area Engineer, Highways, North emphasising the safety aspect at Crossways junction; ii) the matter to be discussed at a meeting with the Business Association, yet to be arranged; iii) copies of the correspondence to be forward to Cllrs McInnes and Sampson.

- b) The WDBC forwarded a copy of their reply to Mr. Manchester re parking enforcement.

**Noted:**

**138 Chagford Primary School – School Governors (Min 92 refers)**

A message from Cllr Coombe, who was unable to attend the meeting, stated he will be meeting the Chairman of the School Governors on 11<sup>th</sup> August 2009 to discuss his appointment to the Governing body. **Noted:**

**139 Waye Hill Post Box**

To record the Waye Hill post box has been installed and is now operational. **Noted:**

**140 Swimming Pool Party at the Pool**

The 75<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Chagford Swimming Pool was celebrated with a party at the pool on Sunday, 2<sup>nd</sup> August 2009. The event was greatly enjoyed by all who attended.

**Resolved:** The Clerk to write and congratulate the organisers for the success of the event.

**141 URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION**

**Flyposting**

The Council's attention was drawn to the ever increasing and unsightly nuisance of flyposting in and around the Town. A Notice for the Bulletin is being drafted for approval by the Council. This would be published together with the notice concerning the early depositing of refuse on pavements for collection that had failed to reach the Bulletin last month

**Resolved:** The Chairman and Clerk to draft an appropriate Notice and e-mail Members for their response before submitting it to the Bulletin.

**GROUP/REPRESENTTIVES REPORTS**

**DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND PLANNING REPORTS**

**142 Development Control Planning Applications**

Cllr Bleakman gave a report of the planning inspection group meeting held on 7<sup>th</sup> August 2009 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Davies; Mrs Haxton and Mrs Milton. Cllr Sampson declared an interest in the following item and left the room.

**a) 0323/09 Meldon View, 16 Mill Street, Chagford**

Proposed demolition of existing porch and rebuild in larger footprint.

**Resolved:** The Council is supportive of the proposed development subject to the existing extension ridge tiles being re-used on the proposed development supplemented with additional tiles of similar design to accommodate the increased length of the ridge. The Council feels that this will maintain the existing visual link between the main house roof and that of the extension.

Cllrs Geering; Jeffreys & Perryman declared an interest in the following item and left the room

**b) 0347/09 Cuckoofield, Adley Lane, Chagford.**

Proposed erection of single storey extension and garden room, both to replace existing.

**Resolved:** The Council is sympathetic to the proposed developments which it considers satisfy the requirements of the DNPA Core Policy COR 4

Cllrs Geering and Sampson declared an interest in the following 3 items and left the room

**c) 0350/09 Upper Long, Chagford**

Proposed replacement dwelling

**Resolved:** The Council objects strongly to this application.

Upper Long is located within the Chagford Conservation Area, immediately adjacent to a major row of Grade II listed buildings. Given the good condition of the existing dwelling, the Council is unable to see how the development satisfies the requirements of the DNPA Retained Local Plan Policy BL4 clause (i). Further, the Council is of the opinion that the planned proximity of the two storey garage/studio of the proposed dwelling within 3.2 metres south west of the only windows of ground and first floor rooms of Mr & Mrs Giles' dwelling constitutes a significant loss of a previously light amenity and therefore does not satisfy DNPA Core Policies COR1 and COR4.

Similarly, the upper floor windows of the dwelling would create a loss of privacy previously enjoyed by Market Field, Market Cottage; 6, 7 & 8 Stannary Court and Stoneridge. Finally, the Council is of the opinion that a modern 2 storey building in this location, with a ridge height similar to the Grade II buildings and where most of the modern development has been kept to single storey dwellings, is an inappropriate development and does not satisfy the requirements of DNPA Core Policies COR3 &

- COR5. If the DNPA is minded to approve this application the Council requests permission to present its case to the Committee Members at an appropriate meeting.
- d) **0356/09 Thornworthy Farm, Chagford – Prior Notification**  
Proposed replacement of building damaged by snow for a machinery store.  
**Resolved:** No objection.
- 143 Grants of Conditional Planning Permission – Noted:**
- a) **0260/09 Wellpark, Middlecott, Chagford**  
Replacement Dwelling  
Cllr Perryman declared an interest in the following item and left the room
- b) **0195/09 Lower Drewston, Moretonhampstead**  
Proposed change of use of part agricultural field to depot for the storage and distribution of architectural salvage.  
Cllr Geering declared an interest in the following item and left the room
- c) **0262/09 Gratner, Broomhill, Chagford**  
Proposed porch to front of property
- d) **0263/09 Westcott House, Chagford**  
Revision of approved extension **0294/08** to reposition bay window and other minor changes: new side porch and replacement timber windows.
- e) **0266/09 7 Manor Drive, Chagford**  
Proposed new driveway.  
Cllr Sampson declared an interest in the following item and left the building.
- 144 ENF/0241/08 Higher Weddicott, Chagford**
- a) At the extraordinary meeting of July 27<sup>th</sup> 2009; the DNPA Enforcement Officer asked for the Council's view on the unauthorised residential unit at Higher Weddicott. Without a proper briefing from the DNPA and no prior knowledge of the existence of the unit, the Council deemed the only course open to it was to support any action by the DNPA to bring the matter within planning regulations. The response was required by the DNPA before the 7<sup>th</sup> August and they were advised that the matter had not been discussed following usual planning procedures so the recommendation would need to be ratified at the next regular meeting of the Council.  
**Resolved:** To ratify the action taken.
- b) A copy of Mr Rogers' letter to the Council in 1996 indicated that the DNPA had advised the need for a planning application in respect of the caravan on his site. A copy of Mr Rogers' reply to the DNPA was also submitted to the Council  
**Resolved:** Until the Council receives a formal application including proposed development plans, the matter can not be discussed by the Council
- c) During the meeting, the Clerk was presented with a further letter by Mr Rogers, from a person who stated she had lived in the caravan for a period of 12 months. **Noted:**
- 145 DNPA Management Plan – Part 1 – Introduction and Management (Min 98a refers) – Deferred from July Meeting**  
**Resolved:** To be placed on the Agenda for the September meeting.
- 146 WDBC Sustainable Community Strategy 2007 -2010 (Min 100 refers)**  
Deferred from July Meeting.  
**Resolved:** To be placed on the Agenda for the October meeting.
- 147 DAPC -Empowering Communities in Devon Conference**  
The Conference held at Sandy Park, Exeter on 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2009 was attended and reported by Cllr Bleakman who circulated detailed memoranda to all members.  
Dr Paul Norrey, Chief Exec. DCC expressed the view that the public had considerable concerns regarding the state of democracy. The public's confidence in Parliamentary decisions is at a low ebb. A considerable amount of effort has been expended on the

subject of unitary government but various delays now make it unlikely that there will be any structural change for Devon.

The unsustainability of the National Debt means that State funded services could not continue at their present level. Devon is currently looking at making £40M of efficiency savings in the next two years.

Two talks on current legislation followed, by David Incoll, Chief Exec, WDBC. The Sustainable Communities Act 2007 provides a channel via local councils for local people to ask central government to take action to improve sustainability of the local area. The approach in West Devon is to use the 3 Link Committees plus unnamed groups in Okehampton and Tavistock

The Power of Well Being was stated by Ms Lesley Smith, County Secretary, DAPC, as being a means of enabling local authorities to do anything which it considers likely to achieve the promotion or improvement of the economic; social or environmental well-being of their area.

Asset Transfer was a subject discussed by Cllr Alan Connett, Leader Teignbridge District Council. Parish and Town Councils are encouraged to look at Assets currently on the books of District Councils that could be advantageously managed locally. The government sees car parks as revenue earners and they are, therefore, not an easy target.

**Resolved:** An extraordinary meeting to be held in September for a full overview presentation on the Power of Well Being and to discuss asset transfer issues.

#### **148 FINANCE REPORT**

##### **a) Annual Audit 2008/09**

A notice was received from the Audit Commissioners to the effect that the Audit for the current year was satisfactory. A Public Notice is displayed on the Council notice board. The Council congratulated the Vice Chairman and the Clerk for their efforts. **Noted:**

##### **b) Young Devon – Young Carers Project**

Request received for funding for financial support for young carers.

**Resolved:** Refer to Finance.

#### **ENVIRONMENT REPORT**

##### **149 Jubilee Field Inspection Report**

**a)** Cllr Perryman gave a mostly favourable report of conditions on the Jubilee Park particularly in respect of the sweet smelling roses at the entrance. There was little litter to report but the infant multiplay is in need of a wash with soap and warm water. The hedges are due for a trim; the grass has been strimmed prior to a full cut and the bins are almost full. **Noted:**

**b)** Cllr Bleakman circulated a report on the Playing Fields Conference held on 2<sup>nd</sup> July 2009. There were 3 presentations at the Conference i) Funding Sport in the Community; ii) Play Builders Funding for Devon; iii) New concepts to engage teenage girls in outdoor sport and play. Grants are available subject to being supported by evidence of community/user support and a mini business plan covering what, why, when and expenditure.

**Resolved:** i) The Environment Committee to produce a plan for grant application together with a business plan for the future; ii) To await details of the plan for discussion at an appropriate meeting in the future.

##### **149 Public Convenience Inspection Report**

Cllr Davies informed the meeting that Ms Cathy Hoare has been appointed WEBC Monitoring Officer for the Conveniences. A meeting was arranged for 24<sup>th</sup> July 2009 to discuss progress with regard to improvements to the loos and it was confirmed that

building estimates have been sought for enhanced decoration as an interim measure prior to a complete refurbishment in 2011. The interim measures include improved lighting; repositioning the loos; redecorating and pressure cleaning the floors. The loos will probably be closed for 5 days and is likely to start after the 2<sup>nd</sup> week in September. The report indicated removal of the hand sink in the Ladies' loos, however, it was thought preferable to retain this sink for use by mothers with small children. Cllr Davies stated it was hoped to install a baby changing unit prior to the full refurbishment.  
**Resolved:** Cllr Davies to approach Ms Hoare with a view to retaining the sink and make enquiries about the baby changing unit before work commences.

**150 Padley Common**

Cllr Mrs Hill indicated to the Council, prior to her absence, that there is a need to assess improved drainage and fern control on the footpath at the entrance to Padley Common. It is some years since the area was drained for the sports facilities and it was felt that Mr. J. Shears who has a working knowledge of the ESA requirement in that area could provide helpful assistance.

**Resolved:** An inspection to be carried out by the Environment Committee together with representatives of the Chagford Recreational Trust and Mr J. Shears.

**151 Street Lighting**

Mr. Allison of Orchard Meadow requested various adjustments for a reduction in the level of street lighting which were referred to the Lighting Engineer for a reply. A copy of the lighting engineer's reply was received explaining the criteria governing the decisions that had been taken and inviting Mr Allison to contact him again if a further explanation was required. **Noted:**

**152 Clerk/Chairman's Report**

**Chairman's Report August 2009**

- a) The Chairman circulated his report for August listing an item in the Okehampton Times giving details of an action taken by the Standards Committee against an Okehampton Councillor who had failed to declare a prejudicial interest or leave the room during the Environment & Community meeting of the WDBC on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2008.
- b) Tables & Chairs at the rear of Blacks. The Chairman was advised by the Churchwardens that Blacks have made an application to site a couple of tables and chairs at the rear of the premises for customer use during the summer months. The Churchwardens have raised no objections. – **Noted:**

**GENERAL PURPOSES & POLICY REPORTS**

**153 Dogs Fouling of Land Act 1966** (Min 78 refers)

It was reported by Cllr Davies that the Dog Wardens have increased their visits and will continue to patrol more regularly during the run up to and after the introduction of the Dog Control Order. **Noted**

**154 Chagford Recreational Trust**

The Chagford Recreational Trust have made a request for a consultation concerning dog fouling problems on War Memorial Playing Field Site. They have stated that the area is greatly used by dog walkers and they do not wish to deter them from enjoying the area but a means needs to be found to prevent dog fouling and the Council's advice is sought in this connection.

**Resolved:** A meeting to be arranged by the Clerk to discuss this and the drainage problem jointly.

**155 WDBC - Boundary Review**

Correspondence from Cllr McInnes & Cllr Margaret Garton, Deputy Leader of the WDBC, expressed doubts as to where the boundary review is heading. In the absence of any clear directive, Councils are now concentrating their efforts on enhanced collaborative working across a range of activities through shared services. It is obvious that the next few years are going to be extremely difficult and continued effort is being made to secure the best services at the best value for tax payers. **Noted:**

**CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED**

**156 Chagford Conservation Group**

- a) A letter of thanks has been received for the grant for insurance cover. **Noted:**
- b) The McNamara Seat Trail - The Conservation Group have forwarded a copy of the McNamara Seat Trail they have produced for sale, at a cost of 50p, for consideration by the Council. The Council welcomed the initiative, particular in respect of the Groups' endeavours to maintain the seats in good order.

**Resolved:** The Clerk to write to confirm that Council's acceptance of the scheme.

**157 Devon County Council –Road Closure**

- i) SW Highways advise a road closure from the car park entrance to Nattadon on 29<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup> October for carriageway drainage works. **Noted:**
- ii) Manor Road, Chagford – 12<sup>th</sup>; 13<sup>th</sup> October 2009 for patching works. **Noted:**

**158 WDBC – Parish Emergency Planning Workshops**

Workshops to be held on September 15<sup>th</sup>/16<sup>th</sup> at Tavistock

**Resolved:** Members are to inform the Clerk if they wish to attend.

**159 WDBC Recycling Contract**

WDBC advise of changes to recycling contract. Residents views sought by 20<sup>th</sup> September 2009. Consultation venues advertised on notice board. (Chagford August 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>).

**160 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT**

£

The following accounts were approved for payment

a)	2707	Mrs P. Stone – July salary	695.64
b)	2708	Mrs P. Stone – July post; electric; computer	33.63
c)	2709	Mr B. Pell – Jubilee Field Maintenance 29/06; 13/07.	260.00
d)	2710	The Whiddon Parishes – Circulation charge for Dog Control notices	25.00
e)	2711	Audit Commission – Audit Fees 2009	327.75
f)	2712	Cllr Bleakman – Travel expenses to Playing Field Conference	18.80
g)	2713	Cllr Bleakman – Travel expenses to Communities conference 22/7/09	17.60
h)	2714	Chagford Combined Charity – Hire Endecott House 1/4/09 – 30/9/09	141.00
i)	2715	Lexis Nexis – Council Administration Guide – 8 <sup>th</sup> edition	59.05
j)	2716	Viking Direct – labels; copy paper; CD shells	51.60
k)	2717	Chagford Swimming Pool – 1 <sup>st</sup> instalment of Grant	500.00

**161 PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION RECEIVED**

The following publications were made available to Members

- a) DNPA – Agendas – 7<sup>th</sup> August 2009.
- b) The Playing Field – Summer 2009
- c) Helping You to Help Yourselves – Issue 6

**The Meeting Closed at 9.10pm**

Confirmation of the Minutes

Dated.....

Signed.....

