

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council
held at Endecott House on Monday 11th March 2013 commencing at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllr Bleakman; Coombe; d'Arch Smith; Mrs Hill (Chairman); Lloyd Hill; Parrott; Shears; Ms Stead; Ms Thorn; Williams.

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllrs Mrs Haxton; Sampson and the Clerk, Mrs P Stone.

The Minutes were taken by the Chairman, Cllr Mrs Hill.

313 DNPA Ranger Peter Rich paid a brief visit to the Meeting in search of any queries or problems that the Council may wish to report. Attention was drawn to the poor state of the gates along the Rushford to Chagford Bridge footpath. The Ranger assured the Council that this was in hand, he also mentioned that the stepping stones from Rushford to Teign Marsh were being realigned having been displaced with the storms of 2012.

It was pointed out that following gravel being laid on the bridlepath across the cricket field that the gateway now flooded as the water could not disperse into the adjoining soil, but channelled down the path. There is a drain from the path to the stream but this one requires clearing and also realigning.

The Willow Path to commemorate the Jubilee was discussed, but the weather needs to dry up, and from the end of March the bird nesting season will begin again hence little will take place before the Autumn. The Council sought reassurance that the stile would be replaced by a gate at the bottom of O're Hill field. Providing that conditions are right in September, the Diamond Jubilee Group will be seeking help to create the path.

The raves in Fernworthy Forest were discussed and The Ranger reassured the group that the Chief Executive of DNPA Kevin Bishop is in talks with the Forestry Commission and other bodies.

Mr Rich was thanked for attending the Meeting

314 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- a) Cllr Lloyd Hill declared an interest in Min 323a
- b) Cllr Parrott declared an interest in Min 323a
- c) Cllr Mrs Hill declared an interest in Mins 323g; h.

315 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 11th February 2013 were confirmed as a true record subject to the inclusion of the following:- Cllr Williams attendance; Minute 299c to determine the loss of privacy and additional items of expenditure i.e.- Min 311d vii Chagford Jubilee Fund £500; Min 311dviii WDBC empty 1 litter bin, 5 dog bins x1 weekly and 2 dog bins x 2 weekly £341.33

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

316 Fare Car Scheme – Min 293 refers

The launch of the Fare car scheme was postponed, firstly due to the lack of a photographer, secondly there is a new timetable for the Greyhound Bus Service

which will begin in April and provide an increased number of buses to link with at Whiddon Down. The launch will be planned to take place in May. **Noted**

317 Fernworthy Forest, Chagford (Min 296 refers)

A letter received from South West Lakes Trust expressing regret that the Council had felt it necessary to comment on the state of the site. The trust reassured the Council that the intention is to clear the debris and re instate the footpaths, also plant native broadleaf trees to replace the conifers. Brian Beasley from the DNPA has visited the site and considers that the damage is not excessive for an operational site. **Noted**

318 Post Office Campaign (Min 303 refers)

The public meetings went well and as a result, an e-mail was received from Mr Tappenden stating that one extremely community orientated local couple have expressed an interest in purchasing the building in order to secure the postal operations for the town. **Noted**

319 Tap Fund Project (Min 292 refers)

The Specification has been drawn up and the application to Tender for the work either in one Parish or all Three Parishes has been advertised. The closing date is Monday March 25th 2013. Councillors were encouraged to spread the word to possible interested bodies. **Noted**

320 The Annual Assembly 18/04/2013

To confirm that Richard Sheard the Chief Executive for WDBC will be the main speaker for the evening. The Clerk has requested the numerous reports required prior to the meeting. The Councillors were reminded of the time and place of the Meeting. **Noted**

321 Speeding in Lower Street (Min 308 refers)

The letter from Mr Pitt of Northfield concerning the high speed that the cars travelled when passing the school and the garage was forwarded to WPC Wilson. WPC Wilson replied that she had previously had complaints and been concerned that traffic was travelling at speed down this road but in fact when she monitored the situation the vehicles were travelling within the 30mph limit. She continued to say that in her opinion the speed bumps which are in place are in fact effective. **Resolved:** To write to Mr. Pitt and pass on this information.

322 URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

The Community Land Trust

The Chairman explained that there are a group of people in Chagford who are interested in setting up a Community Land Trust and would like to do a presentation to the Parish Council.

Resolved; That the group could attend the Extraordinary Meeting on the 25th March and follow the presentation on the refurbishment of the Jubilee Hall.

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

323 Planning Control Matters

a) ENF0177/12 Land near Buda Farm, Meldon Common Chagford

Re unauthorised shelter and shed

Notice received of impending enforcement order.

- i) The DNPA propose that the appropriate legal action be authorised to secure the removal of the unauthorised buildings from the land
- ii) The land be restored to its former condition.

Resolved: That as the DNPA had consulted frequently and given the owner sufficient time to submit a planning application which has not been forthcoming that the Parish Council support the DNPA.

Cllr Bleakman reported the recommendations of the Planning Inspection group meeting held on 8th March 2013 attended by Cllrs Bleakman (Chairman); d'Arch Smith and Lloyd Hill

b) 0524/12 Crossways, Chagford – Notice of withdrawal of application

Proposed change of use of paddock to create vehicle access and closing off existing access to vehicles and converting to pedestrian access only. **Noted:**

c) 0065/13 Stinhall Farm, Chagford

Proposed alterations and extensions to dwelling.

The Council supports in principal the extension of the dwelling but

Resolved: that the Council objects to the application for the following reasons.

- i) The Council considers that the proposed flat roof to the extension on the south west elevation is not in keeping with the rest of the development and is clearly visible from the road.
- ii) The Council considers that it would be more appropriate for the roof of the north east extension to be finished in slate recovered from the main roof.
- iii) The Council considers that the fenestration of the upper floor of the south east elevation of the north east extension, does not fit with the existing and proposed fenestration on the rest of the building.

d) 0081/13 Land at Yellands Cross, Chagford

Proposed relocation of field gateway

Resolved: That the Council approve of the relocation of the gateway subject to

- i) The new field entrance is at a point south of the existing beech tree, in order that the existing hedgerow and trees on the south side of the road from Yellands Cross to Langaford Bridge are preserved and road safety for vehicles approaching Yellands Cross in an easterly direction is maintained.
- ii) The closing of the existing field entrance is carried out in such a way that the existing drain from the roadside into the field system is maintained.

Proposed rebuild and reconfigure collapsed retaining wall to west side of house

e) 0052/13 Northhill, Chagford – Retrospective

Proposed rebuild and reconfigure collapsed retaining wall to west side of house.

Resolved: The Council supports this application.

- f) **0053/13 Northill, Chagford – Retrospective – Listed Building Consent**
Proposed rebuild and reconfigure collapsed retaining wall to west side of house.
Resolved: The Council supports the principle of this application but does not have the technical knowledge to be able to comment on the detail of the proposed works to restore the house wall.
Cllr Mrs Hill declared an interest in the following two items and left the room Cllr Parrott took the chair.
- g) **0100/13 18a Lower Street, Chagford – Listed Building Consent**
Proposed alterations and replacement of extension
Resolved: No objection.
- h) **0041/13 19 Southcombe Street, Chagford – Second Inspection**
Proposed dormer window: Following a second inspection with regard to the lack of privacy to neighbouring properties.
Resolved: The Council has no objection
Cllr Mrs Hill returned to the meeting.
- 324 Princes Trust Foundation – Cllr Mrs Hill**
The Princes Foundation held a scoping workshop at the Globe Hotel on Thursday February 28th 2013. Cllrs: Hill and D’arch Smith represented the Parish Council. There was an introduction by the agents C.G Fry, The Princes Foundation and Mr C Amery the Landowner. This was followed by presentations from the DNPA, the Highways Authority, the Housing Authority, The Local Education representative, Specialists on Landscape, Ecology and the Archaeology of the site followed by a couple of presentations on the local area, the economy, community facilities available including the demographics and the most recent evidence from the 2011 census with regards to population age etc.
This was followed by a site inspection of the proposed development land and its impact on the area visually and commercially.
The afternoon session was in fact a workshop session where groups looked at the masterplan and attempted to interpret what the development of the site would mean for Chagford and the surrounding community.
There will be further scoping sessions on the 17th 18th and 19th April
It is proposed to have a public consultation session with the Princes Foundation on the evening of the 16th April and a feedback session to the Public on the evening of the 19th April. **Noted**
- 325 Grant of Conditional Planning Permission**
0620/12 Old Market House, Chagford – Noted:
Proposed extension of garage to create home working unit, timber cladding, creation of brise soleil and amendments to existing balcony.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND POLICY MATTERS

- 326 Dispensations – Min 297 refers**
The WDBC Solicitor has written to the Clerk to explain that the Parish Council is now responsible for granting its own dispensations.
The Clerk has the necessary forms and guidelines. It will be necessary for all the members to seek dispensation to set the precept and to deal with on street Parking. Individual dispensations are just that, if a Councillor has a need to discuss any issue

which it can be perceived that he has an interest in he /she is able to discuss this with the Clerk and seek dispensation if appropriate. **Noted**

327 DALC training 4th March 2013 – Rising to the Challenge

Cllrs: d'Arch Smith and Mrs Hill attended the first day of a three day work shop on the Localism Bill. The day was provocative it looked in detail at the Power of Competence, the Right to Bid, the Right to Buy, the Right to Challenge and included the Community Right to reclaim land. During the afternoon session It was discussed the pros and cons of the Localism Bill and do the Parishes have enough resources to do everything.

The next session will be looking at our own Parishes. **Noted**

328 FINANCE

a) Letters of thanks for Grants – Noted:

- i) St Michael PCC for churchyard Maintenance
- ii) West Devon Citizens Advice Bureau
- iii) Chagford Swimming Pool – for lifeguard services

b) HM Revenue & Customs - VAT Refund £188.62 – Noted:

- c) Precept:** A letter was received from WDBC including a table recording the West Devon Borough Council, Council Tax banding for 2013 /2014 The Band D property will pay £1599.44 per annum, the other bands range from B and A at £1066.29 and Band H £3199.38. In addition to this there will be a County Rate plus the Police rate and the Parish Council rate.

The first instalment of the Parish Precept will be paid into the account at the beginning of April. **Noted**

There will be a meeting of the Finance working group on March 21st

ENVIRONMENT

329 Jubilee Field Inspection Report – Cllr d'Arch Smith

There was quite a large amount of rubbish during the fine spell, but on the whole the field is in good condition. Cllr d'Arch Smith repaired the panels in the fencing **Noted**

330 South West Play

Cllr Coombe met Drew Davies of SW play on the Jubilee Field to discuss the problem of the see saw 'listing to port'. It was recommended to re site the see saw with a firmer fixing. As a result of this it is suggested that another piece of equipment should be placed on the safety service. Cllr Coombe and Drew Davies inspected the A frames for the swings and both are rotting quite rapidly. Mr Davies agreed to send a quote for both jobs.

Resolved that the recommendations be accepted, having received the quote from SW play of £646.00 to resite the see saw with a new safety surface and repair the current safety surface.

To renew the A frames for both sets of swings at a cost of £2498.00 for both.

It was suggested that the Councillors review the website and a new piece of equipment can be agreed at the Extraordinary meeting on March 25th.

- 331 Public Convenience Inspection Report** – Cllr d’Arch Smith
Cllr d’Arch Smith reported that the toilets were in good condition and the gents was dry for much of the period. **Noted**
- 332 Picnic Tables** (Min 305a refers)
Cllr Coombes has placed an order for the two picnic tables. The Chairman agreed to contact Mr Welsman again to establish if he wishes to give one in memory of John Parker as the plaque could be inserted while being made. **Noted**
- 333 Work-in on 02/03/2012**
Unfortunately there were only three members due to working commitments. It was a cold morning and not suitable for painting the Multi Play. The members tidied the field and trimmed the Willow shelter .
Resolved: to have another working party probably after the schools go back after Easter.

CORRESPONDENCE/e mails RECEIVED

- 334 North Devon Healthcare Trust** – Min 298e refers
A letter was received from Roger French (Chairman of Northern Devon Healthcare) with regard to the status of Moretonhampstead Hospital. He states that it is only a temporary closure of in-patient beds allowing time for concerns about the consistency and quality of the care provided to be addressed. **Noted**
- 335 e-mail from Princes Foundation** There will be a session held at the Globe on the evening of the 16/04/2013 in order that residents of the Parish are able to state their wishes with regard to the Masterplan. This will be followed by a presentation to the public on Friday 19/04/2013 following three days working on the project.
- 336 e-mail A Call For Evidence** This is research being carried out by Richard Inman part of the sparsity group on behalf of Defra. The aim is to establish what services are being provided by non statutory bodies including the community and voluntary section.
Resolved that the Chairman will complete the survey.
- 337 Cattle grids** The Chagford Commons Association are holding a meeting on 15/03/2013 at The Three Crowns Chagford with Miss Jan Shadbolt Devon County Solicitor to discuss the response to the open day held in January . The Parish Council is invited to attend.
Resolved: to respond to the letter stating that a Councillor will respond if at all possible but it is short notice.
- 338 Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service.** The fire and rescue service will have a reduction in the government grant over the next two years The Parish Council is invited to respond to their consultation on the website.
The Fireman present at the meeting explained that the co- responder service is likely to be reorganised. This would necessitate one fireman taking the van home and responding on his own from home.
Resolved: To write to the Fire Service objecting to down grading the service and placing firemen and patients at risk

339 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

£

The following accounts were approved for payment

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| a) | Direct Debit - British Telecom – Broadband Services | 34.66 |
| b) | 3717 - Mrs P Stone – February Salary | 719.55 |
| c) | 3718 - Mrs P Stone – February electric; computer | 20.00 |
| d) | 3719 - Mr B Pell – Jubilee Field grass cutting/hedge trimming 18/02 | 280.00 |
| e) | 3720 - HM Revenue & Customs – 3 months NI payment | 39.54 |

340 PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION RECEIVED

The following publications were made available to Members

- a) South Western Power Distribution – Power for Life
- b) South Western Ambulance Service – edition 17
- c) Sovereign Play Equipment – Sale Catalogue.

The Meeting Closed at 9.30pm
Confirmation of the Minutes

Dated.....

Signed.....