

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council held at
Endecott House on Monday 11th November 2019 commencing at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Cllr: Coombe, Mrs. Haxton, Mrs. Hill (Chairman), Parrott, Pope, Mrs. Printy, Ms Somme, Shears, Mrs. Stanbury and Williams

In attendance: Cllr: Mrs. Nicky Heyworth WDBC Ward Member and one member of the Public.

103. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllrs: Mrs. Malseed and Mrs. Phelps

104. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no interests to declare.

105. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

- a) The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Monday 14th October 2019 were confirmed and signed as a true record.
- b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Monday 28th October 2019 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

106. MATTERS ARISING

a) Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration (Min87(a) refers)

There was a debate as to whether Chagford should consider declaring a Climate and Ecological Emergency, many Parish Councils have already done so.

Cllr: Williams proposed that Chagford did not declare an Emergency as all the major authorities including Devon County Council, West Devon Borough Council Dartmoor National Park and DALC had already declared an Emergency and their decisions will encompass Chagford, the motion was seconded by Cllr: Coombe. Following a vote by a show of hands the motion was not carried.

A proposal by Cllr: Ms Somme that Chagford Parish Council should declare a Climate and Ecological Emergency, was seconded by Cllr: Mrs. Stanbury. Following a show of hands of four in favour of the declaration, four not in favour and one abstention the Chairman had the casting vote.

Resolved: Chagford Parish Council support the Climate and Ecological Emergency Declaration.

Proposed by Cllr: Somme and seconded by Cllr: Stanbury that the Parish Council set up the working groups as discussed at the Public Meeting. Following a show of hands six voted for the motion and three abstentions.

Resolved: to discuss how to move forward with the working groups at the next regular meeting.

b) Large scale sewer rehabilitation scheme in Chagford (Min:102(c) refers)

Following a meeting in the Square between the Chairman, of the Parish Council, DC Councillor, WDBC ward member, South West Water and a highways representative, having determined that the work was not urgent and there should not be problems over Christmas and New Year it was agreed that South West Water will postpone the work to the sewers in the Square.

The Clerk has subsequently been informed that highways have agreed to the work commencing on 17th February 2020.

R&M Utility Services are in discussion with the Forestry Commission regarding the log lorries coming through Chagford when the work is being carried out. Cllr: Pope commended the Chairman on how the meeting was carried out with a successful outcome. **Noted.**

c) DeadTree in the Jubilee Field (Min:99(c) refers)

The Clerk had contacted Lee Miller to ask his advice on the tree and he recommends it comes down. There is rot with fungus up the main stem, the root plate has been compromised by the die back where the whole tree including the root system moves.

Cllr: Coombe informed the meeting that Mr. Rob Austin has offered to remove the tree. **Resolved:** the Clerk will confirm this with Mr. Austin and make sure he has the necessary certificates to use a chain saw and fell trees in public places.

d) Condition of Surface of Store Street (Min:82(e) refers)

A further letter has been received regarding the surface of Store Street, Chagford. Devon County Council has checked their records and state that Store Street is not highway maintained and DCC are not responsible for this location. The resident living on Store Street would like a site meeting with Chagford Parish Council to explain their concerns. **Resolved:** the Clerk will contact Mr. Meredith and arrange a date for a site meeting.

107. URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

- a) The Chairman thanked those Members who helped on Saturday 10th November 2019 with the clearing of the drains and leaves in readiness for the Remembrance Day Service on the 11th November. She also thanked those who attended the Service. **Noted.**

108. GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

Planning Control Matters – Cllr: Parrott

- a) Ref: 0153/18 Land off of Lower Street, Chagford (Amended Plans)

Proposed: Erection of four employment units and a satellite television dish. **Resolved:** to support the application.

Tree Works

b) Ref: 19/0062 Chagford Conservation Area: Proposed Tree Works, 40 New Street.

Schedule of Works

- 1) Ash – Cut back to previous pruning points
- 2) Holly – Reduce height
- 3) Elm – Fell
- 4) Holly – Cut back lower branches

Resolved: to support the application.

c) Ref: 19/0052 Chagford Conservation Area: Proposed Tree Works, St. Michaels Church.

Dartmoor National Park Authority has not protected the trees with a Tree Preservation Order. **Noted.**

109. FINANCIAL MATTERS

- a) Approval to pay RJ Austin for grass cutting. **Resolved:** to approve payment.
- b) Approval to reimburse the Petty Cash. **Resolved:** to approve payment
- c) Request from St. Michael the Archangel Church for a grant towards the upkeep of the Churchyard. **Resolved:** to pass to the Finance Group for consideration.
- d) Approval to pay Martin Smith Inspections for the inspection of the Play Equipment. **Resolved:** to approve payment.
- e) Chagford Parish Council has received a VAT Refund of £2,129.90. **Noted.**

110. ENVIRONMENT

a) Jubilee Field Inspection Report – Cllr: Pope

Cllr: Pope reported that there was a lot of rubbish around the field but otherwise in good condition. There were also many mole hills in the field and skate park. The gate post is unstable to the Skate Park. The WI bench is in a very poor condition. **Noted.**

b) Public Convenience Inspection Report - Cllr: Pope

Cllr: Pope reported that the Public Conveniences were in good order. The men's urinals would benefit from some more tablets to lift the smell. **Noted.**

c) The Play Equipment Safety Inspection and Risk Assessment (Min:101(b) refers) – Cllr: Coombe

Cllr: Coombe confirmed that he had been through the Inspection and certain points had been highlighted.

- The Multiplay – will require replacing as it is highlighted as unstable
- Skate Park Fencing – the loose posts are in the process of being replaced
- Evidence of climbing through the hedge in various places behind the Trim Trail
- WI Bench badly rotting

Cllr: Coombe and Mrs. Malseed are in the process of contacting three

companies with regard to replacing the Multiplay – Outdoor South West, Wicksteed and Touchwood. Tony Mears is in the process of working on the fencing in the Skate Park and the replacement of the steps on the Jubilee Field. **Resolved:** to ask Mr. Mears to look at the gate post at the top of the field as the double gates and gatepost is unstable. To look at the road hedge and try and determine how to stop the children climbing the hedge without getting trapped in a fence. The WI have been contacted regarding the bench.

111. CLERKS/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

- a) WDBC have released the results of the consultation exercise with Town and Parish Councils on the Council Tax Support Grant. The Council recommended to withdraw the Council Tax Support Grant from Town and Parish Councils with effect from 1st April 2020 as part of the budget process. **Noted.**

112. CORRESPONDENCE AND EMAILS

- a) The next DNPA Development Management Committee will be on Friday 6th December 2019 at Parke, Bovey Tracey. **Noted.**
- b) Doing What Matters Project – A team from Devon County Council are reviewing the highway planned maintenance processes under Doing What Matters Project. DCC have identified the need to connect to the local community and understand their highway priorities. DCC would like to meet separately with all the parishes in the Hatherleigh and Chagford electoral division in Okehampton. **Resolved:** Cllr: Mrs. Hill, Shears and Mrs. Stanbury will meet with Devon County Council Highways.
- c) Robinson Plant Ltd have bought the remaining stock of Ben Jones Extreme Granite and restocked with many of the items that Extreme Granite supplied. **Noted**
- d) DNPA Local Planning Response – a parishioner has informed the Parish Council that he has made a response to the new Local Plan regarding the proposed development of the Market Site. He wants them to include the whole site, front and back fields. **Noted.**
- e) Sports 4 all ages – a local community sports centre has been proposed for North Tawton. Two open meetings have been organised on Tuesday 21st January 2020 and Tuesday 11th February 2020 at 7.30 p.m. at North Tawton RFC for anyone who wishes to discuss this project and also make their thoughts known. **Noted.**
- f) Update on the proposed Cattle Grid – a meeting is being set up with the Commoners to discuss the issue and in particular to consider whether there might be a long term solution using the new technology, tagging livestock to control their movements with GPS virtual boundaries. Devon County Councillor, James McInnes has offered a contribution of £1,000.00. **Noted.**

113. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT	£	
a) 4466 Mrs. S. Curtis – Salary		577.61
b) 4467 HM Revenue and Customs – PAYE		149.64
c) 4468 Mrs. S. Curtis – Expenses		20.00
d) 4469 R. Austin – Grass Cutting		350.00
e) 4470 Ms Elizabeth Rose – Play Equipment Inspection		122.00
f) 4471 Royal British Legion – Poppy Wreath Donation		40.00
g) 4472 Mrs. S. Curtis – Reimbursement of Petty Cash		95.07
h) 4473 Okehampton District Community Transport Group – Grant		100.00
i) 4474 Citizens Advice TNMWD – Grant		100.00
j) 4475 Chagford Film Festival – Grant		200.00
k) 4476 Mr. J. Shears – Lengthsmans Duties		320.00
l) 4477 Mr. J. Shears – Lengthsmans Duties		312.00

The meeting closed at 9.12 p.m.