

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council held at Endecott House on Monday 14th March 2016 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Prior to the meeting Ben Phillips, Area Forester (South Devon) gave a short presentation on the plans for harvesting Fernworthy Forest.

Firstly Mr. Phillips drew our attention to the Dartmoor Forest Plan. As part of an ongoing programme of plan renewal, the Forest Plan for Dartmoor has been reviewed. The Plan defines the long term vision for the collection of forests and sets out proposals for how management will move towards achieving this vision over the forthcoming decades.

Proposals can be viewed and feedback can be left online at:

<https://englandconsult.forestry.gov.uk/forest-districts/dartmoor-forest-plan>

Secondly the Eastern third of Fernworthy will be harvested over the coming months. In the past the work has been carried out over the winter months however this is becoming difficult due to the heavy rain therefore the Forestry Commission wish to try harvesting during the summer. This is due to commence shortly, there are certain times when timber cannot be drawn out of Fernworthy – over the Easter Period, School half term and the Summer School Holidays.

There will be no haulage through Chagford from 7.30 a.m. – 9.30 a.m. and 2.30 p.m. – 4.30 p.m. This will mean that there will be lorries travelling through Chagford during the evening and the early morning.

Present: Cllrs: Coombe, d'ArchSmith, Hamer, Mrs. Haxton, Mrs. Hill (Chairman), Lloyd Hill, Parrott, Sampson, Mrs. Stanbury, Miss Stead, Ms Thorn and Williams.

Apologies: There were no apologies.

473. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr: Sampson declared an interest in Minute 480.

474. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

- a) The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Monday 8th February 2016 were confirmed and signed as a true record.
- b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Monday 22nd February 2016 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

475. Diamond Jubilee Funds - Clock (Min: 436 refers)

The Historic Buildings Officer has advised the Clerk that Listed Building Consent will be required to site the clock on the Market House and he has stated that in principle he would support the application.

Guy Pederick from West Devon Borough Council has also been in contact, in principle he will support the idea of a clock being placed on The Market House but he requires a formal proposal to include size of clock, how it will be powered and who will install the clock. If this is acceptable WDBC will issue

Chagford Parish Council with a Grant of Licence. **Resolved:** after much discussion it was decided to try and find another firm who would provide the whole package, give advice on site, provide and install the clock.

- 476. Her Majesty the Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations (Min: 435 refers)**
Natural England has asked that Chagford Commoners HLS/UELS Association to complete a derogation form.

The Pageantmaster has requested the Parish Council light the Beacon at 7.30 p.m. on 21st April 2016.

The Sector Ranger for Chagford, Pete Rich, has agreed to be involved.

Ms Belinda Hayter-Hames (Lord of The Manor) has given permission for the Parish Council to light a beacon on Meldon Hill.

Cllrs: Mrs. Hill and Coombe will carry out a risk assessment, which has to be approved by the Insurance Company at least 14 days prior to the event.

Resolved: to advertise the event widely in order that Parishioners are able to attend.

CLERKS/CHAIRMANS REPORT

- 477.** The Chairman reported that she and Cllr: Parrott had attended a pre determination site meeting on the Lower Street to Westcott Lane development, with the DNPA, the CCT, WDBC ward member, and the Highways Officer

A number of points were raised and discussed on the snagging list:-
The fencing around the Oak Tree – to request that this should be a fence not a hedge.

The red line – boundary shown on the plan to be clarified.

On and off site Highways Issues – including the lack of pavement over the culvert, the need for parking bays to be set into a lay by, the pavements at the entrance to the site.

The Business Units being parallel with the hedge adjoining Bretteville.

Resolved: that the list should be forwarded to DNPA and to write to the Highways Officer requesting that the current Traffic Calming measures on Lower Street should be replaced with speed humps.

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

- 478. Planning Control Matters – Cllr: Parrott**
Ref: 0360/15 Land off Lower Street, Chagford
Residential development comprising 93 dwellings, access road, public car park, public open space, demolition of an rebuilding of fire station, new B1 business units and public toilets. **Resolved:** to support the application.

- 479. Ref: 0100/16 Millholme, Mill Street, Chagford**
Erection of porch and insert Velux roof windows on south elevation.
Resolved: no objection.

Cllr: Sampson left the meeting

Certificate of Lawfulness

480. Ref: 0109/16 Higher Weddicott Farm, Chagford

Certificate of Lawfulness in respect of the siting of a mobile home for residential use with associated curtilage and parking. **Resolved:** to support the application however the Council would like to see the mobile home tied to Higher Weddicott and make clear that there should only be one mobile home situated on the plot.

Cllr: Sampson returned to the meeting

481. Application to designate Dartmoor Forest Parish as a Neighbourhood Area

Dartmoor National Park Authority has received an application from Dartmoor Forest Parish Council to designate a neighbourhood plan area for the parish of Dartmoor Forest. Details about this application can be found on the Authority's website at www.dartmoor.gov.uk/planning/planning/dartmoor-forest-neighbourhood-development-plan

Noted.

Group Reports – Cllr: Mrs. Hill

482. Eastern Links Meeting – 3rd March 2016

Cllr: Mrs. Hill attended the Eastern Links Meeting on Thursday 3rd March 2016 at North Tawton.

Police Report – Inspector Mark Sloman was unable to attend the meeting but had sent a report. There has been a general increase in crime in non-dwelling burglaries, particularly in sheds, taking branded power tools.

There have been problems between hunt supporter and hunt monitors in Chagford.

There has been an increase in neighbour disputes.

Fire and Rescue report by Jon Donovan - the total budget for the Devon and Somerset Fire Service is 80 million, this will be reduced over the next three or four years by 8 million and a further 9 million.

There are three priorities, Community Safety, Firefighter Safety and Efficiency and Effectiveness. It is important to have the correct response. The right appliance, the right people and the right equipment.

It is important to ensure that businesses conform to the correct legislation and procedures.

Prevention is identifying vulnerable people.

The Fire Service is currently co-operating with the police and the PCSO's are training to be part of the retained team of firefighters. The co-responders are also working with the ambulance service.

The fire appliances will be streamlined as not one size fits all. There will be an all singing all dancing fire engines at some stations, others may have a light response vehicle carrying less equipment and less personal and there will be rapid intervention vehicles.

TAP Funding – Chagford Parish Council with Drewsteignton and Throwleigh, On the Edge Project will received £2000.00, North Tawton will receive £2140.00 towards draining and ditching.

WDBC Update – Dil Lord, Locality Engagement Officer

The transformation project is progressing well, the planning portal is improving. The Waste survey is now on line, this is in preparation for renegotiating the current contract which is due to expire shortly. Annual litter pick – this is now being undertaken borough wide.

DCC Update – Simon Kitchen

Highways – A Highways representative would attend a further Link meeting.

DNPA update – Jo Rumble

The Parks DEFRA grant has now been confirmed for the next 4 years therefore they know what cuts they have to deal with. Planning services issues are now resolving.

Local Plan – this is being reviewed, the first stage will be a reissue of the Statement of Community Involvement.

Airband – this project is going well, planning applications have been submitted with some already determined. Users should be starting to be up and running by the start of the summer.

Tour of Britain Cycle Race – very pleased this is coming back to the area.

483. Smaller Councils Meeting – 9th March 2016

Cllr: Mrs. Hill attended the Smaller Councils Meeting on 9th March 2016. Reminder to Councils with a turnover of less than 25 K about the transparency code and money available towards setting up a website and become computerised.

The optimum size of a Council was discussed as more and more is being devolved to Parishes. There was a lot of discussion about the precept and how much should be raised. It was highlighted that £50 per year for a Band D equivalent was considered reasonable. There are also difficulties because the Clerk's pay scale is very close to the living wage. There was discussion about the advantages and disadvantages of Clerk's clerking for more than one Parish and often across more than one District.

There were many thoughts about grouping Parishes and also views on how often small Parishes need to meet. This will hopefully go forward to the Conference when someone from a grouped Parish may do a presentation.

Teignbridge like many Districts are no longer providing paper plans, this is having implications for some Parishes on where they are able to meet or the need to provide the necessary equipment in order to view plans.

The government's latest views about housing is causing many problems for small rural parishes with the right to buy clause and the effect on housing associations.

It was highlighted that Neighbourhood plans are not necessarily the right way for Smaller Councils to go and that a Parish Plan may be more appropriate.

Noted.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

484. Report on the Financial Group Meeting – Cllr: Mrs. Haxton

The Finance Group met on 10th March 2016.

The accounts had been scrutinised and approved to date.

It was agreed to pay the Clerk her annual increment to bring her up to point 20 on the salary scale as from April 2016.

There are still some outstanding expenditures expected –

Her Majesty the Queen's 90th Birthday Celebrations

Repair of the Play Equipment

The Defibrillator

Election Charges

The Update of the Emergency Plan

Noted.

ENVIRONMENT

485. Jubilee Field Inspection Report – Cllr: Hamer

Cllr: Hamer reported that there was no new damage to the play equipment.

The field could do with a cut especially with Easter approaching.

There were no problems with litter however due to the better weather bins were filling up.

The track from the Contractors resurfacing the Tennis Courts was recovering slowly.

There were some poles down in the Willow Walk.

Resolved: to ask Ben Pell to cut the grass in the Jubilee Field

486. Public Convenience Inspection Report – Cllr: Hamer

Cllr: Hamer reported that all was in order in the Public Conveniences. The toilet seat in the Ladies had been replaced and the self-closing mechanism has been installed on the door of the Gents. **Noted.**

URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARDS AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

- 487. Chagford Conservation Area – Proposed Tree Works, Eastholme**
Cllr: d'ArchSmith will look at the Trees and let the Clerk know his comments.
Noted.
- 488. Ref: 0115/16 Longmynd, Broomhill, Chagford**
Replacement of refabricated concrete garage with timber frame garage and car port. **Resolved:** to designate to The Chairman and Chairman of Planning following a period of public notice.
- 489. Grant of Outline Planning Permission**
Ref: 0015/16 Thorn Farm, Chagford
Construction of agricultural dwelling. Subject to conditions. **Noted.**
- 490. Superfast Broadband to Dartmoor**
The Connecting Dartmoor and Exmoor programme is well underway and on track to deliver the largest wireless broadband project in England and ahead of target. When complete, this programme delivered by Airband Community Internet Company will connect 5,800 homes, farms and businesses across the two National Parks using wireless broadband technology. The programme is due to be completed by the end of 2016. **Noted.**
- 491. Caravan Site**
An email has been received from a visitor to Chagford who usually stays in one of the Public House in the centre of Chagford. However she now has a touring caravan and is disappointed that there is nowhere within a mile of the town centre where she can pitch up for a short stay. She has heard that this sort of enterprise is not welcomed by the Parish Council. **Resolved:** to reply stating that the Parish Council have never been approached regarding providing a certificated site in Chagford.
- 492. Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic and Parking**
- a) A temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable patching works from St. Michaels Church to Higher Middlecott Farm, Chagford on Thursday 17th March 2016 for a maximum of 5 days.
 - b) A temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable secondary surface dressing patching from Gidleigh Lodge to Factory Cross on Friday 18th March 2016 for a maximum of 5 days.
 - c) A temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable secondary surface dressing patching at Collihole Farm, Chagford on Thursday 17th March 2016 for a maximum of 5 days.
 - d) A temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable secondary surface dressing patching from Hillhead Junction to Higher Corndon, Chagford from Thursday 17th March 2016 for a maximum of 5 days.
Noted.

CORRESPONDENCE AND EMAILS

493. Highways Conference

A reminder that it is the DALC Highways Conference on 16th March 2016. 10am – 4pm at Exeter Football Club. **Noted.**

494. DALC March Newsletter

DALC are offering training events throughout the year.

Transparency Code Funding for Smaller Authorities is still available for mandatory websites.

DALC are pleased to announce that the following Councils were successful in the draw to attend The Queen's Garden Party in May.

Bere Ferrers Parish Council

Newton Abbot Town Council

Exminster Parish Council

Frithelstock Parish Council

Noted.

495. Recycling, Waste and Cleaning – Have your say

West Devon Borough Council are asking residents for their opinion on the future of waste collection, recycling, street and public cleaning services. Over the next 3 years, the Council has set itself some very challenging targets to reduce the amount of waste thrown away by households. The survey is available on the WDBC website www.westdevon.gov.uk/wasteconsultation
Noted.

496. The Pound Garden

An email has been received from a resident of Chagford offering to tidy the garden and remove the Rowan Tree. **Resolved:** the Pound Garden is Chagford Parish Council's responsibility therefore it is necessary to obtain two quotes from qualified tree surgeons to do this job.

497. Email from the Enforcement Planner, DNPA

The Clerk wrote to the Enforcement Planner regarding concerns over two properties where building works are being carried out. Planners have visited the sites and confirm they are permitted developments. **Noted.**

498. Dartmoor Communities Fund

The Dartmoor Communities Fund was set up by DNPA in 2014/15 with funding received from WDBC and SHDC. The 2015/16 round of funding opened to applications at the end of last year. Applications from two local projects have been received.

a) Hot Water Showers, Chagford Community Swimming Pool

b) Village Hall Extension, Chagford

Resolved: to support these applications.

499. Chagford Post Office

A letter from Ms Anne Thorn, Sub Postmaster of Chagford Post Office has been received stating that after 4 years of seeking a buyer for this property as a going concern no acceptable offers have been received.

Unless a Community offer with an associated strong retail component is received the Post Office will close on 7th April 2016.

Resolved: to write to the Post Office Ltd asking What Happens Next!

500. Compliment

An email has been received from a holiday maker staying in Chagford. "Our experiences have been great and I wanted to congratulate you and the parish for being so friendly and welcoming. In particular the chaps in the Spar Shop and the chaps at Northfield Garage, the staff at both ironmongers, the Veg Shop and the Ring O' Bells. Chagford is such a desirable place kept well and is a credit to all that live and work there." **Noted.**

501. Superfast Broadband

As a lot of Chagford has now been enabled the Economic Development Officer from DCC will be planning an event with publicity photography in the area to promote the Superfast Broadband to local residents and businesses. The date will be confirmed. **Noted.**

502. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

	£
a) Direct Debit – BT Telephone and Broadband Services	43.03
b) 004035 – Mrs. S. Curtis – Salary	465.45
c) 004036 – HM Revenue and Customs	31.00
d) 004037 – Mrs. S. Curtis – Clerks Expenses	20.00

Date **Signed**