

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council held at Endecott House on Monday 14th March 2022 commencing at 7.30 p.m.

Present: Cllr: Kevin Coombe, Cllr: Mrs. Gay Hill (Chairman), Cllr: Jill Millar, Cllr: Andrew Parrott, Cllr: Mrs. Gill Printy, Cllr: John Shears, Cllr: Marion Stanbury and Cllr: Stuart Wright.

In attendance: The Clerk, Mrs. Sarah Curtis, Cllr: Nicky Heyworth, West Devon Ward Member.

115. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies were received from Cllr: Mrs. Margaret Haxton, Cllr: Christine Malseed and Cllr: Rachel Short.

116. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr: Kevin Coombe declared an interest in Minute 120(c).

117. CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

a) The Minutes of the Regular Monthly Meeting held on Monday 14th February 2022 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

118. MATTERS ARISING

a) Chagford Annual Parish Assembly (Min: 107(e) refers)

The Minutes of the Annual Parish Assembly 2021 had been distributed to all Councillors. These will be confirmed and signed at the Parish Assembly on Thursday 21st April 2022.

The following speakers had been invited to the Assembly – Alex Gandy, Senior Policy Officer from Dartmoor National Park, to speak on The Climate and Ecological Emergency and the New Dartmoor Local Plan, Cllr: James McInnes from Devon County Council and Cllr: Nicky Heyworth from West Devon Borough Council. John Fewings from Devon County Highways had also been invited but had declined. **Noted**

b) The Queen's Green Canopy (Min 107(d) refers)

The Chairman thanked Councillors and Members of the Conservation Group who had attended on Wednesday 23rd February 2022 to help plant the trees. The Chairman thanked Paul Bartlett for his expertise in advising which trees to buy and all his work in planting the trees, etc. Seven trees were planted to represent each decade of the Queen's reign. Stone Lane Gardens donated three Aspen, the tree stakes, ties and spiral guards.

Resolved: a plaque has been ordered to mark the Queen's Green Canopy. Approval to reimburse the Clerk. A plaque will be sourced to state that the trees were donated by Stone Lane Gardens.

c) The Queen's Platinum Jubilee (Min: 107(a) refers)

The Queen's Platinum Jubilee coins for the Children of the Parish have been ordered and paid for. **Resolved:** to advertise the events.

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

- a) Eight more post trimmer guards have been purchased for the play equipment in the Jubilee Park. **Resolved:** approval to reimburse the Clerk £68.06.
- b) Direct Debit – EDF Energy - services to the Market House. **Noted.**
- c) Direct Debit - Source for Business - services to the Market House. **Noted.**
- d) Direct Debit - British Gas - services to Ellis Drive Toilets. **Noted.**

120. GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

Planning Control Matters – Cllr: Andrew Parrott

a) Ref: 0072/22 Fernworthy Forest, Chagford

Proposed: Installation of 35m lattice tower supporting 6 no. antennas, 4 no. transmission dishes, 2 no. equipment cabinets, 1 no. meter cabinet and ancillary development including generator and associated fuel tank, a hard standing area, fenced compound and gabion wall.

Resolved: although this application is not within the Chagford Parish it was agreed Chagford Parish Council should support this application. To write to DNPA supporting the planning application.

Grant of Conditional Planning Permission

b) Ref: 0006/22 Bedford House, 2 The Square, Chagford

Minor external and internal alterations. Subject to conditions. **Noted.**

c) Ref: 0421/21 Greatstones, Chagford

Farm diversification to erect timber framed low rise buildings to cover retained steel commercial storage units. Subject to conditions. **Noted.**

Certificate of Lawful Use of Development

d) Ref: 0008/22 No. 2 Mill Street, Chagford

Use of the property as four self-contained flats.

Reports

e) Consultation Groups – Bike Stands (Min: 107(b) refers) – Cllr: Mrs. Gay Hill

The Bike Stands working group met on 7th February 2022. Due to the fact that putting bike stands on Highway's ground would take a long time to get approved, suggested private land was discussed. The most favourable location was Cross Tree where two stands could be erected. This area would also benefit from being paved due to the grass suffering from dogs.

Resolved: Councillors to meet at Cross Tree prior to the next Parish Council Meeting to discuss.

121. FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Finance Group Report – Cllr: Mrs. Gay Hill

The payments and receipts book were reconciled with the statements, invoices and cheque book. There is one outstanding cheque which has not been presented.

The Clerk is due a National Salary Award from April 2021. She currently is on SCP 16 and works 15 hours per week at £12.48 per hour rising to £12.70 per hour. The Finance Group thought that it was pertinent to increase the Clerk's Salary from 1st April 2022 to SCP 17 which will increase the hourly rate to £12.95.

Expenditure

The Market House has cost £7784.59 to run including legal fees of £1470.00. The income of the Market House is £7223.00.

Precept for 2021/22 - £50,000

Expenses expected –

Parish Assembly

Platinum Jubilee

RoSPA

Market House

Fencing the Skate Park

Consultation on Climate and Ecology Emergency

The Internal Auditor, Mrs. Jill Hick, has been contacted and agreed to carry out the internal audit.

The Finance Group propose that a Credit Card should be applied for avoiding reimbursing the Clerk. **Resolved:** to apply for a Parish Council Credit Card.

- b) Approval to pay British Gas for services to the toilets at Ellis Drive. **Resolved:** to approve payment.
- c) Approval to pay the Clerk the National Salary Award 2021/22. **Resolved:** to approve payment and move the Clerk up to SCP 17 from 1st April 2022.
- d) Notice from BT that as from 31st March 2022 the price of some of the products and services will be increasing in line with the Consumer Price Index rate of inflation. **Resolved:** to stay with BT for the present.
- e) Approval to pay Paul Bartlett for the trees and materials for the Green Canopy. **Resolved:** to approve payment.
- f) Approval to pay Cllr: Andrew Parrott for the Microsoft 365 Annual Subscription. **Resolved:** to approve payment.

122. ENVIRONMENT

a) Jubilee Field Inspection Report – Cllr: Mrs. Gay Hill

Cllr: Mrs. Gay Hill reported that the Jubilee Field was in reasonable order. The stream had been dammed up and wire netting and other fly tipping was again in the stream. The moles are very active with increasing mole hills. **Noted**

b) Public Convenience Inspection Report – Cllr: Mrs. Gay Hill

Cllr: Mrs. Gay Hill reported that the Public Conveniences were in good order apart from one of the locks was broken in the men's public convenience. **Resolved:** a new lock will be needed.

123. CLERKS/CHAIRMANS REPORT

- a) Cllr: Mrs. Gay Hill attended the Dartmoor National Park Authority National Park Forum on Thursday 17th February 2022 at Parke, Bovey Tracey.

The main topic on the agenda was the overview of the Government response to the Landscape Review. The independent Landscape Review was led by Julian Glover.

The Governments response is structure around four themes

- A more coherent national network
- Nature and climate
- People and place
- Supporting local delivery

A More Coherent National Network

A central tenant of the Landscapes Review was that the 44 national parks and AONBs needed to work together in new ways.

Strengthen AONB – new purposes to mirror those of National Parks, a 15% increase in their funding. The partnership should generate additional private sector income.

Nature and Climate

The forthcoming Nature Recovery Green Paper will set out how the Government will achieve its goal to protect 30% of our land for nature by 2030.

People and Place

The Landscapes Review was clear in advocating that protected landscapes needed to deliver for everyone in society and thus contribute to the health and wellbeing of the nation.

Supporting Local Delivery

This section of the Government's response focuses on governance and resources.

Noted.

124. CORRESPONDENCE AND EMAILS

- a) An email has been received from the Chair of the Chagford Recreational Trust requesting to plant 70 trees of traditional native English varieties around the periphery of the sports playing area on banks and other areas appropriate for infill.

Cllr: Mrs. Gay Hill, Cllr: Kevin Coombe and Cllr: John Shears met with members of the Recreational Trust to discuss the tree planting and the effects on the cricket pitch and banks ie shade, roots, leaves etc. It is the recommendation from the Councillors that Chagford Parish Council support the planting of the trees but feel 70 is too many. **Resolved:** to write to the Chair of the Chagford Recreational Trust supporting the tree planting but stating that 70 is too many in this area.

- b) Chagford Parish Council has received notification that the tenants of 1 Market House, Chagford has given three months' notice to relinquish the lease on No. 1 The Market House, Chagford. **Noted.**

125. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT	£
a) Direct Debit – BT Telephone and Broadband Service (Mar)	55.36
b) Direct Debit – British Gas – Services to Ellis Drive	15.73
c) Direct Debit – EDF – Services to the Market House	615.17
d) o/l Mrs. S. Curtis – Salary	647.31
e) 4672 HMRC – PAYE	174.15
f) o/l Mrs. S. Curtis – Expenses	20.00
g) 4673 British Gas – Services to Ellis Drive	86.21
h) o/l Paul Bartlett – Trees for the Green Canopy	515.82
i) 4674 Andrew Parrott – Microsoft Subscription	113.76
j) 4675 Mrs. S. Curtis – Post Trimmer Guards	68.06
k) 4676 Source for Business – Services to Market Hse	126.29
l) 4677 Mrs. S. Curtis – Plaque for Green Canopy	130.99
m) o/l Gifts 2 Impress – Coins for Platinum Jubilee	1,093.80

PART II

Vacancy on the Parish Council has been advertised

Two candidates put their names forward for co-option. Mr. Paul Mortimer was chosen by the majority to become a Chagford Parish Councillor.

Market House Lease – was debated. It was agreed to acquire the first-floor office for use by the parish Council

The meeting closed at 9.15 p.m.