

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council
held at Endecott House on Monday, April 14th 2008 commencing at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs Bleakman (Chairman); Coombe; Davies; Geering; Mrs Hill; Jeffreys; Parrott; Sampson

In Attendance the Clerk, Mrs Stone

Apologies for absence received from Cllrs Mrs Haxton; Mrs Milton; Ms Thorn; Perryman.

390 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- a) Cllr Mrs Hill declared an interest in Min
- b) Cllr Sampson declared an interest in Min

391 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

- a) The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 10th March 2008 were confirmed as a true record and signed subject to an amendment to read Cllrs Mrs Hill and Sampson declared an interest in Min 353 and not 351.
- b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 31st March 2008 were confirmed as a true record and signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

392 Local Government Review – Devon

- a) The Local Government Review has prompted numerous meetings to acquaint local Councils of the decisions facing them with regard to possible boundary changes. A programme of events is being spearheaded by the WDBC; the Devon County Council and the Devon Association of Parish Councils. The Secretary of State has prompted this review which was triggered by Exeter's attempt to obtain Unitary status. A meeting held at Spreyton was attended by Cllrs Mrs Haxton and Mrs Hill and one at Ivybridge was attended by Cllr Davies.

Reports from the representatives confirm that proposals will be put forward for approximately 4 or 5 Unitary Authorities but that there will be no change to Parish boundaries although Parishes might be required to form clusters, primarily to reduce costs of administration. Parishes have, so far, given a clear indication that they do not wish to be absorbed.

Urban areas such as Plymouth and Torbay are unwilling to change although it might eventually be necessary for them to increase their size by amalgamating with an adjoining area i.e. Plymouth with Tavistock and Torbay with surrounding Parishes in order for their unit to be viable.

The Boundary Committee will consider concepts and information gathered between 14th April and 4th July. From the 7th July to 26th September there will be a consultation on draft proposals including boundaries. Affordability information will be provided by Local Authorities. Between 29th September and 19th December all submissions will be considered by the Commission and any further information required will be requested as necessary. At the end of this process, advice will be provided to the Secretary of State.

Noted:

- b) An invitation has been received for Councillors to attend a Special Parish Link Committee Meeting to discuss concepts of unitary status. Meeting to be held on 22nd April at Whiddon Down Village Hall at 7.30pm.

Resolved: Cllrs Mrs Hill and Jeffreys to attend.

- c) West Devon Borough Council has offered to send a speaker to address the Council informally on the subject of the review.

Resolved: The Clerk to arrange an informal meeting for 28th April 2008.

393 Objectives

Consideration was given to objectives for action in the coming year.

Priorities were identified as being 1) Housing (including provision of a care home); 2) Car Park and Parking; 3) Environment (reducing cost of street lighting etc); 4) Emergency Self Help Group – review; 5) Formation of Development Trust; 6) Improved communications – better use of web site; 7) Liaison with other Groups.

Resolved: i) The Clerk to seek advice from the lighting authority re options for reducing costs of lighting; ii) The Clerk to seek advice from WDBC re setting up a Development Trust .

394 Unauthorised Signs (Min 346 refers)

- a) It was noticed that the blue sign originally on the wall of the Globe Hotel has been replaced by a new sign in black and gold.

Resolved: The Clerk was asked to bring this to the attention of the DNP Enforcement Officer to enquire whether this complied with their regulations.

- b) The Chairman reported the joint action taken with the Clerk with regard to complaints concerning the Courtyard sign. A letter has been sent requesting compliance with regulations governing obstruction of pavements and control of signage. This has been ignored to-date.

Resolved: The Clerk to request enforcement action from the DNP and Highways Authority throughout the Town where infringements arise.

395 Beating the Bounds – 4th May 2008

Cllr Mrs Hill confirmed that the second leg of the Beating the Bounds route had been inspected and arrangements made with landowners for the official event to take place. The walk will commence at 10.30am from Chagford Bridge and is limited to Members of the Council and their families due to the difficult access in many areas. A representative of the Throwleigh Parish Council will meet the walkers at Chagford Bridge and it is hoped to meet members of the Moretonhampstead PC at Meacombe and North Bovey PC at Thorn. The walk will terminate at Jurston at approximately 5.30 – 6pm. **Noted:**

URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION.

396 London Marathon – Mr. Paul Bartlett

- a) It was with great pleasure that the Council received the news that Mr. Paul Bartlett of Chagford Fire Brigade had completed the London Marathon in 5 hours 30 minutes, in uniform, the previous day. The Town takes pride in his achievement and congratulates him on his success.

Resolved: The Clerk to write a congratulatory letter to Mr. Bartlett.

- b) **History Society Exhibition**

The Council expressed its' appreciation of the display of material relating to the Lower Street area which was held in the Jubilee Hall recently.

Resolved: The Clerk to congratulate the Society on their excellent display.

COMMITTEE/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

397 Planning Inspection Committee

Cllr Bleakman reported the recommendations of the Planning Inspection Meeting held on 11th April 2008 attended by Cllrs Bleakman (Chairman); Davies; Geering and Jeffreys

Cllrs Mrs Hill and Sampson declared an interest in the following item and left the building for the duration of the discussion.

a) 0175/08 4, Lower Street, Chagford

Proposed two storey rear kitchen and bedroom extension and other alterations.

Resolved: No objection. The Council is supportive of this application which creates another viable unit of accommodation in the Town.

b) 0190/0 8 Higher Shapley Farm, Chagford

Proposed replacement of existing general purpose agricultural building.

Resolved: No objection.

398 Grant of Listed Building Consent

0105/08 Mill Pond, Chagford

Proposed installation of solar thermal collectors covered with patent glazing in south pitch of roof. **Noted:**

399 Finance Committee

a) Cllr Mrs Hill circulated an end of year budget statement which was discussed at length. The Vice-Chairman (Chairman of Finance) sent an apology for not being able to attend the Parish Assemble meeting on 17th April 2008. Cllr Mrs Hill will present the financial statement to the Assembly. **Noted:**

b) The 1st instalment of the Parish Precept in the sum of £12,500 has been received. **Noted:**

c) Allianz Insurance invites renewal of insurance premium in the sum of £1,347.16

Resolved: Refer to Finance Committee.

d) Devon Playing Fields Association invites renewal of 2008.09 subscription in the sum of £15

Resolved: Refer to Finance Committee

e) DAPC invites renewal of 2008/09 subscription in the sum of £267.50

Resolved: Refer to Finance Committee

f) Chagford Swimming Pool To receive details of discussions with the Chagford Swimming Pool Committee re Grants.

Resolved: Refer to Finance Committee

Arising: It was agreed that in future all matters relating to a decision in respect of the allocation of finance be referred by the Clerk direct to the Finance Committee for report and approval at the following Council meeting. **Noted:**

g) Letters of Thanks for grants received from Teignbridge CAB (£50) and West Devon CAB (£100). **Noted:**

h) **Audit Commission – Notice of Annual Audit 2008 – Noted:**

Notice received that the Annual Audit is to be submitted by 7th July 2008. Arrangements have been made for an internal audit prior to this date.

i) A wayleave from BT has been received in the sum of £26.40 **Noted:**

400 Public Convenience Inspection Report

a) Cllr Mrs Hill stated the loos had been satisfactory on inspection but she was concerned that persons wishing to use the loos early in the morning or later at night were unable to do so because of the locking up times.

Resolved: i)The Clerk to discuss this matter with Client Services, WDBC; ii) The Chairman to speak to the key holder in respect of locking up times.

b) A letter received from Mrs Foster concerned persistent vandalism by children playing in and around the toilets. The Clerk confirmed that she had forwarded a copy of the letter to Client Services, WDBC for action and comment.

Resolved: The Clerk to inform Ms Foster of the action taken and the matter be referred to the Police Representative at the Assembly Meeting.

401 Jubilee Field Inspection Report

Cllr Mrs Hill reported that i) the trimmed hedge is much improved; ii) a tree in the Jubilee field has “keeled over” and the root damaged but was still firmly implanted in the ground; iii) a recent “work in” attended by Cllrs Coombe; Mrs Hill; Mrs Milton; Perryman and Sampson, cut back shrubbery needing attention; nuts and washers were missing from 4 slats on the multiplay.

Resolved: i) The Clerk to seek advice concerning the tree from the Trees & Landscape Officer, DNPA; ii) The multiplay be taken out of action pending reinstatement of the bolts etc.

402 Town and Parish Listening Events

Cllrs Mrs Haxton and Mrs Hill attended a meeting held at Spreyton Village Hall on 4th April 2008 to gather further information concerning the Local Government Boundary Review. **Noted:**

403 Parish & Town Council Standards Training - 3rd April 2008

Cllr Mrs Hill stated that Mr Graham Rowe (Solicitor) gave an excellent presentation on Council Standards requirements. There is to be a new Code of Conduct presented sometime in May/June. Personal and prejudicial interests were discussed at length and the advice given was - make a declaration if in any doubt on the need to. Further information will be forthcoming in the near future. **Noted:**

404 DCC & MCTI – Devon Towns Forum – 9th April 2008

Cllr Bleakman reported that he had been unable to attend the seminar held to discuss Regeneration, Sustainability and Community Asset Transfer but has asked for a report of the meeting. He was given to understand that the DNP are to continue support of the Sunday Rover service and interest continues in opening the Dartmoor Railway from Yeoford and Okehampton. The possibility of a CCTV system for Okehampton is being investigated. **Noted:**

405 Environment Committee Report

- a) The Committee reported that the granite troughs have now been replenished and volunteers can be advised accordingly. Two large and one small trough have been moved from Mill Street to the memorial garden by Cllrs Perryman; Bleakman and Jeffreys. This required a considerable output of effort on the part of all three and the Council expressed its’ gratitude to them. **Noted:**
- b) The Memorial Garden, Lower Street is progressing. Discussions have taken place with Mr. Winsor re the installation of the mosaic and it now remains to cost the plant material required. An additional seat has been offered by supporters of the Bulletin. **Resolved:** The Clerk to liaise with Mr Baker (the Bulletin), re the provision of a suitable 2 seater seat.

406 Clerk/Chairman’s Report

- a) Attention was drawn to a list of various training sessions organised by the Community Council of Devon and Members were advised to inform the Clerk if they wished to attend. **Noted:**
- b) Parish Assembly Meeting The Chairman requested Councillors’ assistance in making arrangements for the meeting and stated Mrs Bleakman had volunteered to make tea and coffee in the interval. It was proposed and agreed that a sound system could be hired at a cost of £15. **Resolved:** To approve payment for the sound system and incidental expenses in respect of refreshments.
- c) The Chairman reminded the Council that this was the last meeting of the current year and he thanked everyone for their co-operation and support during his present term as Chairman. **Noted:**

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

407 Chagford Two Hills Race

Information received that the two hills race will take place on 26th May 2008 **Noted**

408 DCC – Road Closure

Information received that the road from Chagford Library to Westcott Farm is to be closed for the construction of a Devon haunch from 25th April to 29th April 2008.

Noted:

409 Dartmoor Commoners' Council – Election Meetings

Details received of the forthcoming election for Members to serve the Dartmoor Commoners' Council. Election in Chagford to be held on 27th May 2008 at the Jubilee Hall from 7 – 9pm. Notice placed on Council Notice Board. **Noted:**

410 Devon County Council – Local Involvement Network for Devon (Link)

An invitation was received for Councillors and the Public to become involved in a Devon Link to raise awareness of available services.

Resolved: Cllr Mrs Hill and possibly Mrs Haxton to participate when they are available.

411 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were approved for payment

		£
a)	3081 Chagford PCC – purchase of bunting and banners for community use.	212.00
b)	3082 Mrs P. Stone – March salary	657.53
c)	3083 Mrs P. Stone – March post; electric; computer.	26.82
d)	Direct Debit – BT Telephone account 1/4/08 – 30/06/08	48.89
e)	<u>Granite Trough Replanting</u>	
i)	3084 Mrs J. Foster – Long Park & leat	10.00
ii)	3085 Mrs Alford – Cross Tree garden	25.00
iii)	3086 Mrs Anderson – Memorial garden	30.00
iv)	3087 Mrs Griffiths – Lloyds Bank	10.00
v)	3088 Mrs Bock – the fountain	20.00
vi)	3089 Mrs Wakefield – Big Red Sofa	10.00
vii)	3090 Mrs Powell – No 10 High Street	10.00
viii)	3091 Mrs Fynn – Orchard Terrace	10.00
f)	3092 Computer Solutions – Printing Assembly Minutes etc.	130.43

412 PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION RECEIVED.

The following publications were made available to members

- a) Dartmoor Biodiversity Newsletter – 2007/08
- b) Devon Rural Transport Newsletter 2008
- c) Dartmoor National Park Authority Agendas – 4th April 2008.
- d) CVS News – Spring 2008.
- e) Devon in Touch – March 2008.
- f) Devon Talk – Spring 2008.
- g) DAPC Newsletter – March/April 2008.
- h) DCC Newsletter April 2008
- i) NCH Childrens' Charity – Come Abseiling.

The Meeting Closed at 9.32pm

Confirmation of the Minutes

Dated.....

Signed.....