

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council
held in Endecott House on Monday 9th June 2008 commencing at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs Bleakman (Chairman); Coombe; Davies; Geering; Mrs Haxton; Mrs Hill; Jeffreys; Mrs Milton; Parrott; Perryman; Sampson; Ms Thorn and Mr Brendan Caylor.

In Attendance the Clerk, Mrs Stone

36 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Sampson declared an interest in Min 43d

37 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on May 12th 2008 were confirmed as a true record and signed subject to i) Line 2 – the Mayor of Okehampton’s name be amended to read Mrs Kay Bickley; ii) Min 10 line 7 – Lettaford Trust be amended to read Langaford Trust.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

38 Dartmoor Railway (Min 8a refers)

Information received from WDBC re status of railway was circulated to all members.

Resolved: The Clerk to write to the WDBC in support of any effort made to progress the scheme and indicating a wish to be kept informed. A copy of the letter to be sent to Cllr J. McInnes.

Standing Orders were suspended at this point to enable Mr. Brendan Caylor to address the Meeting on his proposals for a Skills Exchange.

39 Chagford Skill Exchange (Min 32 refers)

Mr. Caylor identified himself as a Technical Consultant for a Software Company who has devised a programme for a skills exchange initiative. The scheme is currently seeking sponsorship and would be self administrating through a database driven website. In effect a Community Partner could access labour for various tasks by paying for the services on a credits basis.

Following a question period Standing Orders were reinstated at this point

The Council discussed the subject at length. Concern was expressed that the scheme would not be appropriate for a Local Authority.

Resolved: The Clerk to seek legal advice as to the Council’s position in such matters..

40 Tinnners’ Fair

a) Copies of planning details for Tinnners’ Fair have been forwarded for safe keeping by the Parish Council. **Noted:**

b) Letter received from Treasurer, Mr. C. Barnes giving details of final accounts. Following receipt of a generous donation, the sum of £1,066 has been ring fenced for any future Parish Church/Community event. **Noted:**

URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN’S DISCRETION

41 Chagford Electricity Generator

Mrs Jean Rhodes has asked the Local History Society to approach S.W. Water at Mary Tavy to release the old turbine originally installed in the Chagford Power Station. It has been suggested that the generator could become a land mark in Chagford, possibly at Cross Tree or Factory Cross accompanied by a suitable plaque relating to its’ history.

Resolved: In principle, the Council supports the idea but would require more information concerning the generator's size and condition. The Clerk to write and suggest Members of the Council inspect the generator and refer back to Council.

42 DCC – Road Closure for Patching Works

South West Highways give notice of a road closure in High Street from its junction with the Square to the junction with New Street on Tuesday 26th August 2008 to facilitate patching works. Diversion routes will be signed and maintained from both ends via Teign Marsh and Westcott Farm. The Business Association has been informed.

Resolved: The Clerk to remind the Highways Authority that the date chosen is immediately following a Bank Holiday when there will be numerous visitors around and it also coincides with a refuse collection.

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

PLANNING INSPECTION GROUP

43 Development Control Planning Applications

The following recommendation was made following a meeting of the planning inspection group held on 19th May 2008 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Davies; Mrs Milton and Parrott. The recommendation was circulated electronically and approved by Members and forwarded to the DNP to meet the short time scale. The recommendation was ratified by the full Council

a) 0158/08 28, New Street, Chagford – amended plan

Proposed conversion of outbuilding to living accommodation and construction of a link between main dwelling house and outbuilding

Resolved: The Council has no objection to the amendments to the drawings reference AS/07/SP4-P1 Revision D dated 11th February 2008. The Council remains supportive of this application.

The following recommendation was made following a Planning Inspection Group meeting held on 6th June 2008 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Davies; Geering; Jeffreys and Mrs Milton.

b) 0324/08 Lower Corndon Barn, Chagford

Proposed creation of three arrow slit windows on existing dwelling.

Resolved: The Council believes that the proposed use of slit windows to provide natural light to the kitchen of the dwelling is both fully compatible with DNPA Policy GP2 and significantly, the habitability of the dwelling. As such the Council is supportive of this Application.

c) 0152/08 Lakeland Farmhouse

Additional detail supplied and **Noted:**

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

d) 0300/08 Land near Yellands, Chagford.

Proposed erection of a timber agricultural building for equipment and sheep

Letter of objection received and referred to DNP Planning Officer. **Noted:**

44 Grant of Conditional Planning Permission

a) 0117/08 4-6 High Street, Chagford

i) Proposed change of use of ground floor of property to living accommodation associated with first floor.

ii) Letter of explanation received from DNPA re decision taken.

Resolved: The Chairman and Clerk to write to the DNPA giving the opinion of the Council that their criteria for deciding changes of use from retail to domestic are in need of further consideration.

b) 0133/08 Rixfield, Broomhill, Chagford

Proposed demolition of the existing dilapidated corrugated iron shed/store and extending the end bay of the existing timber framed and clad agricultural implement shed. **Noted:**

c) 0152/08 Lakeland Farmhouse, North Bovey.

Proposed alteration to two-storey house, including the addition of a single storey rear extension, conversion of a small barn to private workshop and new main entrance.

Noted:

d) 0238/08 The Cleave, Chagford

Proposed conversion of existing single garage/stable/loft to workshop/painting/sculpture studio. **Noted:**

e) 0294/08 Westcott House, Chagford

Proposed rear extension to existing house to provide single bedroom and sitting room.

Noted:

45 DNP Forum – 23rd May 2008 (Min 18 refers)

It was not possible for representatives to attend the DNP Forum held on 23rd May 2008.

Noted:

46 Village Design Statement

Cllr Parrott indicated copies of the current status of the Design Statement will be circulated for the Extraordinary Meeting to be held on 23rd June 2008. **Noted:**

47 Jubilee Hall Report

Cllr Sampson gave a report of the Jubilee Hall Trustee meeting and AGM held on 4th June 2008. The meetings were conducted separately but members of the public were permitted to remain for the Trustees Meeting. Mr. Tim Myers was elected Chairman of the Jubilee Hall Committee. A strategy for the Jubilee Hall was agreed and circulated stating the current position and setting out short and long term goals for marketing and fund raising. **Noted:**

48 DAPC - Current Legislation Training

Cllrs Bleakman & Davies gave a report of a meeting held on 5th June 2008 concerning new legislation on Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007; Criteria for Power of Well Being; Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005 and Freedom of Information Act. The information received was of a very high standard and they wish to produce a number of Presentations/Training sessions on the subjects over the next three months.

Resolved: Cllrs Bleakman and Davies to confer and produce items that can be placed on Agendas over the next three months.

FINANCE GROUP

49 Financial Group Report

- a)** The Clerk sought advice from Mr. Page (Goldsmith) in respect of the Chairman's Chain of Office and its' insurance value. She was advised that the chain is gold plated and enamelled to a high standard and should be insured for approximately £6,000 - £7,000. A written valuation can be provided for insurance purposes, if required, for the sum of £75. It was further stated that the carrying case would cost £750 if it needed to be replaced.

Resolved: The Chain to be photographed and the medal inscriptions recorded and copies be sent to the insurance Company when the Finance Committee agree the cover required.

- b) A letter of thanks has been received from Chagford Swimming Pool Committee for the lifesaving Grant. **Noted:**

ENVIRONMENT GROUP

50 Environment Group Monthly Report

A meeting of the environment group on 27th May 2008 unanimously elected Cllr Coombe as Chairman. Those attending were Cllrs Coombe; Mrs Hill; Mrs Milton; Perryman and Ms Thorn. Apologies were received from Cllrs Davies and Geering. Jubilee Field and Skate Park The following were recorded:- i) all safety surfaces need weeding and brushing; ii) shrubbery is encroaching onto the infant multi play and needs cutting back in the Autumn; iii) 4 nuts and 6 washers are required on the bridge of the senior multiplay; iv) a number of tamper proof torque screws need tightening up on the BMX skate board area; v) new turf is needed on worn areas of the grass banks; vi) man made bridges were removed from the leat; vi) park gate does not latch and 2 planks loose on the skate park gate.

Resolved:i) A working party be arranged to deal with the safety surfaces; ii) shrubbery to be cut and the grass bank of the skate park to be repaired in the Autumn; iii) Cllr Bleakman to produce nuts and bolts for the senior multiplay; and tighten screws on the BMX skate board area; vi) the man made bridge materials be deposited in the skips at the week-end; vi) latches to be removed from self-closing gates

Arising: i) Cllr Jeffreys reported that an 8 year old child had fallen from the multiplay and fractured an arm. The Clerk has not been notified of any accident but would make enquiries concerning the event.

ii) Cllr Sampson reported a further incident when a person crossed the field to the allotments with her dog on a lead and when spoken to she suggested there was no problem as long as the dog was on a lead. .

Resolved: The Clerk to write to the Allotment Association asking them to remind their members that they have an obligation to keep the field free of dogs as part of the agreement to their request to open the field gate at the top of the field. The Council reserves the right to lock the gate to prevent further occurrences if they do not comply.

Lighting It was proposed that 75watt street light lamps should be replaced with 45watt but lighting hours should remain as at present. Cllr Jeffreys said that he was concerned with this proposal as many of the outlying streets were already dimly lit. As the Council were not aware if any of the lamps had already been changed it was agreed that the Council needed more information before taking any action.

Resolved: The Clerk to ascertain whether all existing lights have been downgraded and whether lights in outlying areas should remain at 75watts because distances between light poles are farther apart. Enquiries to be made re procedure for obtaining additional lights.

Granite Troughs The group all agreed that the granite troughs at Cross Tree and the Memorial Garden are providing a lovely splash of colour. A request to move the trough next to the Chemist to the opposite side of the road should be declined. The rubbish previously causing problems has been overcome by the provision of a lidded bin and recycling bins. It is hoped that the volunteer will now feel able to plant the trough.

Noted:

Resolved: The Clerk to advise the volunteer of the decision

51 Public Convenience Inspection

Mrs Milton's inspections of the public conveniences found them to be clean and in good order. It was suggested that the air freshener/disinfectant used in the ladies loos should be used in the Gents'.

Resolved: The Clerk to ask Client Services to provide this facility.

52 Memorial Garden

Two items are outstanding in respect of works to be completed on the memorial garden, namely, the specifications for the handrail and mosaic stand and the acquisition of a 2 seater seat on behalf of the Bulletin. The Chairman informed the meeting that the specifications will be forwarded to the Clerk to obtain tenders, soon. However it has not been possible to identify a compatible 2 seater seat from catalogues currently available to match or blend with the existing seat. Further catalogues are being obtained. **Noted:**

53 Chagford Conservation Group

a) Letter of thanks received for Insurance cover Grant. **Noted:**

b) Synopsis of work undertaken during past year received and circulated to Members.

Noted:

CLERK/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

55 1885 Rate Book

Mrs M. Jeffreys has entrusted the care of the Local Government Board Rate Book for 1885 to the Parish Council for safe keeping. It was previously in the possession of her father the late Mr. R. Collins.

Resolved: The Clerk to write and thank Mrs Jeffreys for her generosity and advise the History Society that the book is available for perusal by application to the Clerk.

56 M.V. Kestor

The Clerk reported that she had been recommended to seek advice from Mr. Charles Sells of Plymouth re repairs to the MV Kestor. Mr. Sells is highly regarded for his model boat building and the winner of many awards. He indicated that he was prepared to renew the damaged hull of the boat and refix the damaged rigging for the sum of £100. He would not, however, wish to replace the glass panel in the display cabinet. The Chairman was consulted and an executive decision taken to leave the boat with Mr. Sells for repair.

Resolved: To approve payment for the repair up to the sum of £100.

57 DNPA Learning Network Conference - Role of the Town/Parish Council in Devon.

Invitation to Town/Parish Clerks to attend conference at Kennford, Exeter on 15th July 2008 **Noted:**

58 Open Fields. The customary notices regarding the practice of opening the fields from 6th August to 6th November annually are being displayed and have been forwarded to the Bulletin and Chagford P.C. website. The Annual inspection of the fields will be carried out at the beginning of August. **Noted:**

Arising: Cllr Sampson drew attention to a merger between his Firm, Woolcombe Beer Watts with that of Silverthorn and Colthorpe. Ms Silverthorn was a member of the Bevan Ashford Team that acted on behalf of the Council when the Open Fields Charity was set up.

59 Recreational Trust AGM

a) A report compiled by the Council's chairman from notes taken at the AGM of the Recreational Trust held on 20th May 2008 was circulated to Members. Existing Committee members were re-appointed and the current Chairman, Robert Young, advised that this would be the last year in this role. The Chairman of the Parish Councils of Chagford, Throwleigh and Drewsteignton and the Chairman of Gidleigh Parish Meeting were re-elected as Patrons. **Noted:**

- b) Padley Common Gate Mr. Rundle reported damage to the gate onto Padley Common and expressed the need for urgent repair to avoid accident. On enquiry, it was determined that the gate was the responsibility of the Recreational Trust and the matter was referred back to the Trust for attention. A letter received from the Trust indicated that repairs were in hand.

Resolved: The matter to lie on the table.

60 Notice Board – The Square, Chagford

Repairs are needed to the door of the public notice board on the wall adjoining the Big Red Sofa. The lock is defective and jammed.

Resolved: Mr. Cox to be invited to effect a repair at a cost of not more than £50.

GENERAL PURPOSE & POLICY REPORTS

61 Boundary Committee Review (Min 26a refers)

A letter has been received from WDBC stating there will be only one opportunity to express choice in respect of boundary reorganisation. To support the Rural South Devon & Dartmoor Unity proposal it is imperative that the Council and members of the Community e-mail the Boundary Commission **before the end of June** stating their preference. The e-mail address is reviews@boundarycommittee.org.uk Letters should be addressed to The Boundary Committee for England, Trevelyan House, Great Peter Street, London.SW1P 2HW. It was felt that more detailed guidelines were required pending the Parish Council's response.

Resolved: Cllrs Bleakman and Mrs Hill to produce guidelines for discussion at the Extraordinary Meeting to be held on 23rd June 2008.

62 Western Power Distribution – Business Plan 2010-2015

WDP are reviewing their business plan for 2010-2015 and invite participation in Summer Workshop in the summer. Stakeholders views are required on wpdconsultation@westernpower.co.uk by 25th July 2008.

Resolved: Cllr Bleakman to produce a summary of the Plan for discussion at an informal meeting to be held on 23rd June 2008.

- 63 DAPC The Regional Co-Ordinator, BBC South West** wish to stage a 'have a go sports event' to coincide with the handover of the Olympic Games. They hope to have a link with radio Devon and require information of any events that might be appropriate at that time so that can be incorporated. **Noted:**

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

64 Chagford Care Home – Mr. Pefanis

Letter received from Mr.Pefanis re his continued interest in the provision of a care home for Chagford.

Resolved: To lie on the table.

65 West Devon Borough Council

- a) Changes to the way complaints are made against Councillors

Details of complaints procedure received **Noted:**

- b) Removal of BT Payphones

Details of payphones to be removed (none in Chagford) **Noted:**

- c) W.Devon CVS Focus on Health

Invitation to participate in Forum to be held on 10th June at United Reform Church, Tavistock.

Resolved: Cllr Mrs Haxton to represent the Council

66 Devon County Council

- a) **Road Closure**

Notice received of a temporary prohibition of through traffic from Monday, 28th July 2008 to Wednesday, 30th July 2008 both dates inclusive. Roads affected – U4224 Woodcott to Library, Orchard Meadow to Biera View. Restriction necessary to enable haunching work. **Noted:**

b) Post Office Closure Programme

Details received of the County Councils' initiative to counter the proposed closure of many post offices across the County. The DCC deplores the scale of post office closures and outreach services and seeks support for action to achieve the retention of sustainable post office services in affected communities.

Resolved: A letter of support be forwarded to the Chief Executive, DCC; the WDBC and Mr. Geoffrey Cox Q.C.,M.P.

67 ThePost Inn, Whiddon Down.

Drewsteignton Parish Council expresses thanks for support received from Chagford Parish Council in respect of planning application at the above. **Noted:**

68 Devon Playing Fields Association

a) AGM to be held on 10th July 2008 will incorporate a presentation and lunch to discuss future management of playing fields. There will be opportunities for free advice and consultancy on any play area. **Noted:**

b) Nominations required for one vacancy on the DPFA Committee. **Noted:**

69 Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Min 8 (3) refers)

WPC Nadine Wilson has responded to an invitation to attend a Parish Council meeting to discuss various matters of concern, with the information that she is off duty on Monday evenings but will reply to written questions.

Resolved: The Clerk to invite WPC Wilson to offer a time when she is available when the Clerk will arrange for Council Representatives to meet her.

70 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

£

The following accounts were approved for payment:-

a)	3110	Mrs P. Stone – May salary	670.02
b)	3111	Mrs P. Stone – May post; electric computer; petty cash.	61.27
c)	3112	Mr J. Sheridan – Jubilee Park maintenance – May	231.25
d)	Tiscali	– broad band services	36.79
e)	3113	Mr. M. Page – repair of chain of office links	40.00
f)	3114	Mrs P. Stone – Travel to Plymouth for model boat repair MV Kestor	23.20
g)	3115	Cllr Bleakman – Travel to Exminster for Legislation Training	20.64

71 PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION RECEIVED

The following publications were made available to Members:-

- a)** West Devon e-connect – May 2008.
- b)** Dartmoor Access Forum – Notice of meeting to be held 10th June 2008.
- c)** DNPA – Agendas 6th June 2008
- d)** WDBC – Updates – Housing; Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2010.
- e)** Village Green – June issue

The Meeting Ended at 10.05pm

Confirmation of the Minutes

Dated.....

Signed.....

