

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council
held at Endecott House on Monday, 9th November 2009 commencing at 7.30pm.**

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

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllr Jeffreys

In attendance the Clerk, Mrs Stone

232 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- a) Cllr Bleakman declared an interest in Min 245b;
- b) Cllr Geering declared an interest in Min 246;

234 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

- a) The Minutes of the regular meeting held on 12th October 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed.
- b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 26th October 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

235 Chagford Car Park (Min 193 refers)

- a) Cllr Sampson reported that the WDBC Officer dealing with the installation of the ticket machine has sent a plan of the proposed site to the Health Centre for their observation. She is awaiting their reply which will be forwarded to us in due course. **Noted:**
- b) To report progress with respect to the enquiry of the WDBC regarding provision for salting the car park in bad weather. (Min 204c refers) The reply is not to hand as yet. **Resolved:** The Clerk to make further enquiries and report at the next meeting.

236 Car Parking & Traffic Management (Min 192 refers)

- a) A meeting took place on the 3rd November 2009 between 4 Members of the Parish Council and 6 Representatives of the Business Association. Common issues were identified. The next meeting will be held on 1st December 2009 following which a report will be circulated to Members. **Noted:**
- b) A statement from the DCC indicated that white lining queries have been dealt with and the orders are “awaiting the start” stage. The goods loading bay on the corner of high street must remain enforceable until such time as official changes are made. **Noted:**
- c) **Forestry Transportation**
Concern was expressed regarding difficulties and hold ups being experience by lorries trying to negotiate the Manor Road junction and the junction to the Square caused by illegal parking.
Resolved: The Clerk to write to the Highways Department suggesting that raised kerbs at these junctions would deter smaller vehicles from parking there thus easing the situation.

237 Removal of electricity poles and overhead wires, High Street (Min 210 refers)

Cllr Bleakman advised the members that a meeting was arranged for 12th November 2009 with all Agencies affected by the procedure.

Resolved: Cllrs Coombe and Bleakman to represent the Council

Arising: A road closure notice has been received for the High Street commencing at the Jubilee Hall to take place from 25th January to 29th January 2010 to facilitate the procedure. **Noted:**

238 Fernworthy Forest (Min 194 refers)

An invitation was received from the Forester for Members to view the tree felling operation at Fernworthy. The date suggested was 3rd December 2009.

Resolved: The Clerk to thank the Forester for his kind invitation and agree the proposed date.

239 Bus Shelter, Lamb Park (Minute 195 refers)

There has been no reply from Highways to previous correspondence.

Resolved: To defer to next meeting.

240 Appointment of School Governor (Min 196 refers)

Cllr Bleakman is awaiting an invitation from the Chairman of the School Governors to discuss this matter further.

Resolved: To place the matter on the Agenda for the next meeting.

241 Empowering Communities Conference (Min 205 refers)

The Council was advised of an Empowering Communities in Devon Conference to be held at The Kenn Centre on 25th November 2009 from 10am to 2pm to discuss the Local Government Review; Emergency Planning and the DCC Strategic Plan among other subjects. Delegate Fee £15.

Resolved: Cllr Davies to represent the Council and the Clerk to forward the appropriate fee.

242 WDBC – Gambling Act 2005 – Renewal of Statement of Principle for 2010-2013
(Min 218 refers)

Having perused the information forwarded, Cllr Sampson reported there was nothing in the content relevant to the Council's responsibilities. **Noted:**

243 DCC – Highways Maintenance Surgery (Min 219 refers)

The Highways Maintenance surgery held on 21st October 2009 was attended by Cllr Mrs Haxton who stated that the responsibility for dealing with pot holes is divided between two factions as can be witnessed by different road markings, some yellow, some white. She expressed concern at the deterioration of the tarmac at road edges and the general state of drainage. Highways have not fulfilled their promise to remove the existing white lines at the Crossways junction. A serious hold up for a log lorry outside Bowden's shop had had to be resolved by calling the Police because of inconsiderate and illegal parking. The Highways Department took notice of the matters raised and are to arrange a further surgery in 2 months time. **Noted:**

244 URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

Register of Interests

Members are reminded that the Borough Surveyor needs them to furnish a declaration of interest even if it is to submit a nil return. **Noted:**

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND PLANNING REPORTS

245 Development Control Planning Applications

a) **0485/09 36 New Street, Chagford**

Proposed erection of wooden summerhouse in garden

Resolved: No objection

Cllr Bleakman declared an interest in the following item and vacated the Chair. The meeting continued under the Chairmanship of Cllr Mrs Hill

Cllr Davies reported the recommendations of the planning group

b) 0486/09 16, Nattadon Road, Chagford

Proposed variation of condition 5 of permission ref: **0429/04** (garden/studio office) to allow ancillary domestic use.

Resolved:

The Council strongly objects to this application.

The Council is of the opinion that had this Application been for the erection of the structure specifically for ancillary domestic use to the main dwelling it would object on the grounds that the proposed development was unnecessarily large for the proposed use and the size of the site. As such it does not satisfy DNPA core Policy COR 1, 2 & 4. On this basis, it believes that the correct decision is to object to the requested change of use of the existing structure due to the potential for intensive development of the dwelling's living accommodation. This is the same view that the Council expressed with respect to the original application 0429/04 where it stated, "*The Parish Council....would be concerned if there was any possibility of the studio/office being used as an extension of the living accommodation of 16, Nattadon Road.*"

However, should the DNPA be minded not to support the Council's objection and is minded to approve the Application, the Council request that they are given the opportunity to address the Authority's Development Management Committee prior to a final decision being made and that the following conditions be specified as part of the approval:-

1. The use of the building shall be ancillary to the main dwelling for the domestic use of the owners of 16 Nattadon Road and it shall not be sold or rented as a separate unit of accommodation.
2. The building shall not be used for overnight accommodation.

The Council's reason for making these recommendations is a concern that the structure, because of its size, high structural/insulation standard and supply of mains electricity, could be considered suitable to be used as a permanent unit of accommodation. Given the potential for the main dwelling to be extended under approved application 0373/07, the approval of this application could result in an unreasonable increase in the living accommodation of this property or provide for the separate occupation of the structure covered by this application. Council is of the opinion that the approval of the Application to increase the living accommodation of the dwelling would not satisfy the DNPA Policies COR 1, 2 & 4.

Cllr Bleakman resumed the Chair at this point

Cllr Geering declared an interest in the following item and left the room

246 Grant of Conditional Planning Permission - Noted

0404/09 Great Weeke Cottage, Chagford

Proposed stable block to accommodate horses, feed and associated equipment.

247 DNPA Management Plan (Min 202; 226 refers)

Resolved: Defer to next meeting

248 Dartmoor Commons Owners Association

AGM to be held at Plume of Feathers, Princetown on 18th November 2009 commencing at 2pm. **Noted.**

249 Chagford Commons ESA AGM

Cllr Mrs Hill reported attendance at the Chagford Commons ESA AGM held on 27th October 2009. Mr John Shears was appointed Chairman and Mr Gordon Mortimore, Vice-Chairman for the ensuing year.

The Level Stewardship Scheme is to replace the existing ESA agreement in 2010 and the Commoners Association is considering at what level they enter the new scheme. A presentation was made by Karen Aylward, (Natural England) and in view of the limited

size of Padley Common it is considered preferable to continue to allow the Commoners to manage the Common on the Council's behalf.

Resolved: To await further information.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND POLICY REPORTS

250 The Power of Well Being (Min 223 refers)

A discussion on the proposed introduction of the Power of Well Being centred mainly on the ability to unlock Council spending for major projects. It was pointed out that, to date, any expenditure required for purposes other than those laid down by financial restrictions had been covered by the use of Section 137 and the Parish Council had managed very well with that option. The Council would need to meet eligibility requirements before being able to register for inclusion in the scheme. It was thought necessary to take stock of the financial situation in respect of next year's budget before coming to any definite conclusion on the matter.

Resolved: Refer to Finance to review budget issues.

251 Dogs Control Order – Cllr Davies (Min 211 refers)

Cllr Davies confirmed that the Order has been signed and a notice placed in the Okehampton Times. Two notices of restriction are being prepared for the field gates at a cost of £28.75 including vat.

Resolved: To approve payment for the signs.

252 WDBC Flood Prevention and New Initiatives

A delivery of sand has been received at the fire station to fill the sand bags stored there. The WDBC has offered the use of apparatus to fill the bags when necessary. The Clerk is to be notified when adverse weather conditions are expected. **Noted:**

FINANCE REPORTS

253 WDBC – Parish Precept 2010/11

- a) The WDBC request precept requirement details by 25th December 2009. A meeting of the Finance Group is to be held on 3rd December 2009 at 8p.m. **Noted:**
- b) VAT refund received - £653.24 **Noted:**

ENVIRONMENT REPORT

254 Jubilee Field Activity

- a) Monthly Inspection Report

Cllr Bleakman paid tribute to the results of the working party's efforts and reported that the field was generally very tidy. The bank had been repaired but is being damaged by the attention of primary school children climbing on the bank and eroding the grass. The spring horse is slightly loose and there is further shrinkage of the safety surface under the multiplay.

Resolved: To pay further attention to the bank erosion.

- b) The working party activity on 31st October 2009 was greatly assisted by the efforts of Mr. Russell Hannaford which was much appreciated. **Noted:**

A Parishioner expressed concern at the heavy leaf fall on the Cross Tree which was subsequently removed by the working party.

Resolved: The Clerk to write a letter of thanks to Mr. Hannaford.

255 Public Convenience Inspection Report

Cllr Bleakman stated that there was an improved standard of cleanliness following the recent refurbishment but that the wallgate in the Gents' loos was still not working in spite of requests for its repair. It is generally accepted that considerable effort has gone into improving standards under the direction of Ms Auberton of the WDBC.

Resolved: The Clerk to write to Ms Auberton expressing the Council's appreciation for her endeavours but also requesting that Messrs Wallgate effect a satisfactory repair of their appliance.

256 Chagford Recreational Trust – (Min 212 refers)

A letter from the Chairman, Chagford Recreational Trust confirmed their wish to discuss the implications of the dog control order in relation to problems they were experiencing on the playing field. He also stated that a drainage programme had been carried out on the lower pathway in the hope that the improved land could be used for Sports practice.

Resolved: Cllrs Bleakman; Coombe; Davies and Mrs Hill to meet with representatives of the Recreational Trust at a date to be agreed after Christmas.

Clerk/Chairman's Report

257 Service of Remembrance

The Chairman expressed his pleasure at the level of support received for the excellent Service of Remembrance held on 8th November 2009. The Chairman was thanked for his hospitality following the service. **Noted:**

258 Rowan Tree – The Square.

The DNPA Trees Officer, in response to an enquiry by the Clerk, stated that the replacement rowan tree would be planted during the planting season. The growth at the base of the remaining tree could be removed with secateurs.

Resolved: To accept Mr. Palmer's kind invitation to attend to the remaining tree.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

259 Mel Stride – Local Community Action Team

Support offered for local projects.

Resolved: Information to be forwarded to the Chagford Primary School and the Chagford Recreational Trust.

260 South West Lifelong Learning Network

Dr Gregory Borne invites questions from Parishes concerning progress of project **Noted**

261 South Western Ambulance Service – Aspirant Foundation Trust Consultation

A consultation document and Questionnaire received for appraisal was perused and evaluated by Cllrs Mrs Haxton and Hill who considered there was nothing of significance to Chagford to report. **Noted:**

262 The Pound Rest Garden

A letter received from Mr J. Hancox raised issues relating to the placement of a plaque in the garden and ownership of the boundary wall.

Resolved: The Clerk to acknowledge the letter referring to the various matters raised

263 DCC Highways

a) Road Closure Notice – Noted

Road closure from 25th January to 29th January for utility works by Western Power, outside Jubilee Hall.

b) Parish Lengthsman Service

A letter from the Highways Department indicates inability to address road repair requirements due to lack of funds. The next service from the lengthsman will take place from January 16th – 18th 2010. **Noted:**

264 Burrator Parish Council – Improving Parish Council Participation in the Planning Process.

Burrator Parish Council seeks support for their action to secure Parish Council participation in the Development Management Committee discussions at the DNPA

meetings. As far as Chagford is concerned this is not thought to be practical. A better solution would be for Councils to have a three minute presentation time at the DNPA Meeting. The DNPA appear to be willing to offer this latter item. **Noted:**

265 DCC – Invitation to Meet the Leader of Devon County Council

Meeting to take place at Tavistock Town Hall on 18th November from 6.30pm. **Noted:**

266 DAPC – Ballot to fill casual vacancy on County Committee

A ballot form containing three nominations for possible election to the County Committee has been forwarded of which up to two names can be selected. The votes to be submitted by 29th November 2009.

Resolved: The Clerk to forward the two nominations selected.

267 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

		£
	The following accounts were approved for payment	
a)	Direct Debit – Tiscali Billing – broadband services	29.39
b)	3333 Streetmaster – Provision of materials to restore seat at market house	17.25
c)	3334 Neat Ideas – ink cartridge for photocopier	91.99
d)	3335 Mrs P. Stone – October salary	704.60
e)	3336 Mrs P. Stone – October post; electric; computer	33.09
f)	3337 Mr B.Pell – Jubilee Field Maintenance Oct 14 th	130.00
g)	3338 GK Design – 2 Dog Control signs for Jubilee Field Gates	28.75
h)	3339 DAPC – Cllr Davies attendance @ Empowering Communities Conference, 25 th November 2009	15.00

268 PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION RECEIVED

The following publications were made available to Members:-

- a) The Playing Field – Autumn 2009
- b) DNPA Agendas 6th November 2009.
- c) DAPC – Newsletter Nov/Dec.
- d) West Devon e-connect – November 2009

The Meeting Ended at 9.45pm

Confirmation of the Minutes

Dated.....

Signed.....