

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council
held at Endecott House on Monday 12th April 2010 commencing at 7.30pm**

Present: Cllrs Bleakman (Chairman); Geering; Ms Hill; Mrs Milton; Parrott; Perryman; Sampson and Mrs S. Geering; Mr B. Norris; Mr J. Shears.

Apologies for Absence were received from Cllrs Coombe; Davies; Mrs Haxton; Jeffreys; Ms Thorn.

In attendance the Clerk, Mrs Stone

417 Letter of Condolence

It was the unanimous wish of the Council that a letter of condolence be sent to Cllr Coombe and his family following the death of his mother, Mrs Marcia Coombe.

418. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Geering declared a personal; interest in Min 430 and took no part in the discussion. Cllr Perryman declared an interest in Min 430 and left the premises.

419 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 8th March 2010 were confirmed as a true record and signed subject to an amended version of Min 381b to read “The Council has received a copy letter to Ms Auberton from Dr Wood in which he confirmed that he did not wish the installation of a ticket machine outside of health centre premises.”

MATTERS ARISING

420 Devon & Cornwall Constabulary (Min 369a refers)

An invitation extended by Superintendent Sarah Sharpe, (LPA Commander South Hams and West Devon) to meet members of the Police Team at Okehampton Police Station on 12th March 2010 was attended by Cllrs Mrs Hill; Mrs Haxton and the Chairman, Cllr Bleakman. It was an informal gathering with several members of the Force and was very informative particularly in respect of the misuse of drugs and the ongoing problems with traffic management. Cllr Mrs Hill mentioned her discussion with the new Community Support Officer who is working closely and very effectively with the Youth movement. There is to be another such gathering in six months time. **Noted:**

421 Mobile Library Service (Min 385 refers)

Response received from mobile library service in respect of current usage from which it was ascertained that calls were no longer made to Broomhill, Easton Cross and Sandsgate as had been the practice in the past.

Resolved: The Clerk to make enquiries as to whether these stops should be added to the programme.

422 Dartmoor Folk Map Project (Min 386 refers)

Cllrs Bleakman & Sampson reported that they had been unable to complete their survey of this project but will do so before the next meeting. **Noted:**

423 Damage to Jubilee Hall Step (Min 387 refers)

Cllr Bleakman confirmed completion of the repair to the Jubilee Hall step at a cost of £60.

Resolved: to approve payment of the account.

424 Incidents at the A30 Whiddon Down Junction (Min 392 refers)

The Clerk reported that she had not received any reports of incidents at the Whiddon Down Junction.

Resolved: To make a further request to the public via the Bulletin.

425 Replacement of Rowan Tree in the Square (Min 403 refers)

The replacement rowan tree is now in situ.

Resolved: The Clerk to thank Mr Beasley, Trees & Landscape Officer.

426 Chagford Leat (Min 404 refers)

The Clerk reported that a request to S.W.Water for an inspection of pipe-work at the reservoir in order to contain leaks had met with a prompt response. The problem arose because of root invasion of the pipe-work and this has now been removed. The Council has been thanked for bringing the matter to the attention of S.W.Water. **Noted:**

427 Welcome to West Devon Sign (Min 407 refers)

A request to the Highways Department for a “Welcome to West Devon” sign at Half Way House, Moretonhampstead was recorded and advice given to the effect that this will not be funded by DCC but would cost approximately £500 if the Council wished to proceed.

Resolved: Not to proceed.

428 First Aid Course (Min 408 refers)

The Clerk reported that the proposed Red Cross training session would now be held at the fire station on Tuesday 11th May from 7-9pm. Trainer – Mr Peter Juniper. Members were invited to inform the Clerk of numbers wishing to attend.

Resolved: The Clerk to invite participation by members of the Conservation Group.

429 Parking Problems – the Square.

- a) Attention has been drawn to illegal parking on the corner of Mill Street/ the Square. A request for action was submitted to the Highways Department who have yet to reply.

Resolved: The Clerk to expedite the matter.

b) **Replacement of Parking Signs**

Highways Department informs of their intention to replace a number of parking signs including signs on churchyard wall opposite Susan at No 10 on the wall of Fowlers.

Resolved: The Clerk to request a meeting between Highways and the Chairman to discuss signage.

URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN’S DISCRETION.

Cllr Geering declared a personal interest in the following item and took no part in the discussion. Cllr Perryman declared an interest in the following item and left the building.

430 Cattle Grids

A very detailed appraisal of the Enquiry by Inspector Roberts held on December 10th 2007 was circulated by Cllr Mrs Hill. The Clerk has obtained an extension of three weeks for the reply period due to the oversight by the DCC in informing the Parish Council of the latest requirement.

It was felt that since the Parish Council had always supported the principle of cattle grids to protect animals and other road users, but had expressed a view that they did not have the professional skills to assess if the latest proposals were suitable to meet these objectives and the Inspector had largely supported the proposed cattle grids subject to technical questions being answered, the Council should support the Inspectors recommendations.

Resolved: The Clerk to write to the Secretary of State supporting the Inspector’s report and conclusions (7.57 in the attached appraisal) with the proviso that the Devon County Council should give due consideration to the Inspector’s comments.

Cllr Perryman returned to the meeting.

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS
DEVELOPMENT CONTROL – PLANNING MATTERS
Development Control Planning Matters

431 Grant of Listed Building Consent

0719/08 Lower Jurston Farm, Chagford

Installation of a central heating and under floor heating system. **Noted:**

432 Grant of Conditional Planning Permission

0026/10 Fire Station, Lower Street, Chagford

Proposed internal refurbishment to existing building and build single storey extension with pitched roof to front. **Noted:**

433 DNPA

a) Bat Survey

Cllr Perryman raised a question concerning the need for a wildlife inspection survey to comply with National Park Authority requirements. This imposes what is considered to be an unfair expense for Applicants for planning permission and it should not be a compulsory requirement.

Resolved: The Clerk to convey these sentiments to the Planning Authority

b) Appointment of Planning Director.

Dr Bishop writes to advise that following the departure of Mr Chris France, Mr Colin Jarvis will be the Acting Director of Planning (Development Management) and Mr Phil Markham will be the Acting Director of Planning (Forward Planning and Community) until such time as a new Director of Planning is recruited. **Noted:**

434 Chagford Community Agriculture Project – Parford

The Planning Application for this project was not noticed by the Parish Council because it fell within another planning area. However it is now known that the project is for an agricultural project to target the Chagford area. Distribution, it is understood would be through Proper Job. It is considered to be a matter to be taken into account by Members of the Business Association

Resolved: Cllr Parrott to bring this to the attention of the Business Association.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND POLICY MATTERS

435 Standing Orders for Local Councils (Minute 395 refers)

Cllr Mrs Hill stated progress was being made by the working party in establishing a list of standards to be adopted by the Council. A full draft will be available for the next meeting. **Noted:**

436 Staffing Committee (Min 396 refers)

Cllr Bleakman stated more time was needed to acquire more detailed information on the matter. It will be referred to Council as soon as possible.

437 FINANCIAL MATTERS

a) Cllr Mrs Hill circulated details of the receipts and payments account for the year April 2009 to March 2010. Attention was drawn to a transfer of funds amounting to £6,000 into the Bonus Saver Account to attract a higher level of interest. This account will be held to offset funds required for the purchase of a new cemetery and possible renewal of some play equipment. The account currently stands at £16,844.41. Expenditure for the coming year would inevitably be tight.

Resolved: To adopt the Receipts and Payments Account as the basis for submission to the Auditors

b) WDBC – Parish Precept 2010/2011

The 1st Instalment of the precept was received on 6th April 2010 (£14,750). **Noted:**

- c) **Audit Commission**
Notice received of Audit to be held on 21st June 2010. **Noted:**
- d) **The Audit Commission**
Appointment of External Auditor **Noted:**
- e) **Acknowledgement of Grants Noted:**
West Devon CAB - £75.
Teignbridge CAB - £75.
Chagford Swimming Pool - £500.

ENVIRONMENT MATTERS

- 438 Jubilee Field Inspection Report** – Cllr Mrs Hill
- a) Mogford Associates confirm their intention to carry out an inspection of the Jubilee Park during April at a cost of £90 plus VAT. **Noted:**
 - b) The working group met on 20th March 2010 and were pleased to note a marked absence of litter and the playing field seemed to be well used. A large number of snowdrops , kindly donated by Cllr Perryman, were planted **Noted:**
 - c) Invitation received to renew playing field membership fee (£35)
Resolved: To approve payment.
- 439 Public Convenience Inspection Report**
Cllr Mrs Hill reported the public convenience inspection was satisfactory. **Noted:**
- 440 Chagford Car Park** (Min 381a refers)
The WDBC has advised that the last site proposal for the installation of the ticket machine was unacceptable because there was insufficient room for wheelchair approach. Cllr Sampson requested copies of previous correspondence on the matter and a copy of the car park plan so that he could address the problem at the next meeting of the WDBC.
Resolved: The Clerk to provide the necessary information.
- 441 Relocation of Granite Trough to location adjacent to Market House** (Min 383b refers)
The Clerk’s letter to WDBC received a response indicating that the area in front of the bus shelter was Highways property. A further letter was written to the Highways Department asking for a decision as to whether the trough could be located adjacent to the Market House entrance door but no reply has been received to date. **Noted:**
- 442 Bus Shelter** (Min 401 refers)
- a) The Working Group stated they are still waiting for a reply from the Highways Department before proceeding further.
 - b) 2 letters of objection were passed to the working group for consideration **Noted:**
- 443 Dog Bin**
- a) **Memorial Playing Field** (Min 400c refers)
The meeting with WDBC re collection of dog waste from this site was postponed due to the unavailability of the representative From FOCSA. We are to be advised when a further arrangement for a site meeting can be arranged. **Noted:**
 - b) **Dog Litter Bin – Chagford House Entrance**
An e-mail was received from Mrs Tweedie requesting consideration of moving the dog bin further away from Chagford House entrance. The existing dog bin is damaged and a replacement liner and lid is unavailable.
Resolved: The Environment Committee to obtain prices for a replacement bin and consider a more suitable site. ii) Mrs Tweedie to be informed.

bin

444 Grit/Salt Bin – Junction Nattadon/Meldon Roads (Min 400d)

The Clerk has been advised that the Highways Department will install a grit/salt bin at the Junction of Meldon/Nattadon roads. **Noted:**

445 Swaling

A letter from Mrs C Ash Wheeler raised concerns about burning on Meldon and Nattadon Common and questioned the legality of such measures.

Resolved: The Clerk to write to Mr & Mrs Ash-Wheeler advising her that the e-mail has been noted and passed to the Police Authority.

446 Offer to purchase artistic seating

- a) Cllr Bleakman gave details of some artistic seating offered by the Borough Council for approximately £500 as being surplus to requirements after removal from a site in Tavistock

Resolved: In view of financial restraints the offer to be declined.

- b) **Arising:** Cllr Perryman advised that an acquaintance wished to make a donation for either a seat or a tree.

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

447 Planet Aid UK

Permission sought for a clothing collection bin to be placed on a site acceptable to the Parish Council

Resolved: The Clerk to inform Planet Aid that the only site available is occupied by another textile collection bin in the car park.

448 WDBC – Pest Control & Collection of Stray Dogs

e-mail received stating pest control will be contracted out to County Mole and Pest Control, Redruth (also used by South Hams) Free service for both rats and mice – domestic premises only. Services for fleas and wasps will be chargeable. Stray Dog Collection will be carried out by WDBC Environmental Service from the end of April.

The shared service arrangements will deliver a saving of £15,000. **Noted:**

CLERK/CHAIRMAN’S REPORT

449 Arrangements for Parish Assembly.

The Chairman confirmed that the reports for the Parish Assembly were ready for printing. Members were advised that their help would be required on the evening to prepare the hall and provide refreshments etc. **Noted:**

450 Western Power – Road Reinstatement

The Chairman expressed his complete dissatisfaction with the standard of road works carried out by Contractors employed by Western Power following the under-grounding of electricity cables in the vicinity of the Jubilee Hall. The drainage channel constructed to take surplus water off the road has proved to be ineffective; the churchyard path remained untouched and a trip hazard remains in the High Street footpath. This observation was passed to the Highways Technician for his comment. In view of the possibility of future maintenance problems, the Technician offered to arrange a meeting with the Highway Enforcement Officers and Cllr Bleakman to resolve the issue.

Resolved: The Clerk to ask the Highways Technician to make arrangements for the appropriate site meeting as soon as possible.

Arising. The church path has since been resurfaced with a generous supply of “Chagford gold” supplied by Cllr Perryman. **Noted:**

451 DCC Parish Lengthsmen Service. Noted:

Visit Dates – 14th April; 7th July; September 30th; October 1st and 11th; December 17th; January 10th and 11th. The service can be contacted by telephoning 01271 388727.

Resolved: To draw attention to matters requiring attention in the lane from Moretonhampstead to Great Weeke; Plantation corner; Sands Gate to Chagford Bridge road; and Lower Weddicott.

452 Parliamentary Election – Central Devon Constituency

Notice received of a parliamentary election to be held on 6th May 2010. Nomination forms may be obtained from the Acting Returning Officer (Tel 01822 813600) **Noted:**

453 Memorial Garden, Lower Street, Chagford

A rainwater pipe from an adjacent property has been constructed to discharge into the memorial garden.

Resolved: The Clerk to determine ownership and report to the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

454 Devon Heartlands

Community Forum Questionnaire received

Resolved: To take no action.

455 South Hams Emergency Planning Officer

The South Hams Emergency Planning Officer has offered to visit to discuss Parish emergency plans.

Resolved: To arrange a visit to the next meeting of the Group

456 Two Hills Race Noted:

Information received to the effect that the two hills race will be held on 31st May 2010.

457 Chagford Combined Charity – Easter Event

The Chairman gave an account of his visit to the Easter Event held at O'er Hill on Good Friday, 2nd April at which he presented the prizes for the Easter Egg competition. **Noted:**

458 Eastern Parishes Link Committee Meeting

Notice received of a change of date for the meeting from 10th June 2010 to 1st July 2010 at the Church House, South Tawton commencing at 7.30pm. **Noted:**

459 Dartmoor Commoners Council

Notice received of Commoners Election Meetings to be held in May. The Chagford Meeting in the Jubilee Hall is on 18th May 2010 from 7-8pm. Nomination papers are available from Mrs C E Seage, 6 Lockyer Mews, Paddons Row, Tavistock. PL19 0HF, Tel: 01822 618892. **Noted:**

460 Dartmoor Commons Owners Association – Padley Common

Correspondence confirms cancellation of the Council's membership (8.4.10) **Noted:**

461 DAPC – Ask the Climate Question Events.

A Green Alliance coalition of nine development and environmental charities seek action to press for climate change issues to become a doorstep issue prior to the election of 2010. 4 meetings have been arranged by the RSPB at Weston-super-Mare on 15th April; Bedford Hotel, Tavistock on 20th April; Dartmoor Community College on 22nd April and The Phoenix, Exeter on 27th April. **Noted:**

462 DCC – Highways Maintenance Surgery

a) Invitation extended to attend the Highways Maintenance Surgery to be held at the Ockment Centre, Okehampton on 20th April 2010 from 10am – 12pm.

Resolved: The Chairman to attend.

b) **Road Closure Notice – Manor Road at Padley Bridge**

Period of closure – Tuesday May 4th – Friday May 28th for bridge strengthening **Noted:**

c) **Road Closure Notice – Mill Street, Chagford**

Period of Closure – Thursday June 3rd – Friday June 4th for Utility Works **Noted:**

463 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

	£
The following accounts were approved for payment	
a) Direct Debit – Talk Talk – Broadband services	32.27
b) 3381 Mrs P. Stone – March salary	704.60
c) 3382 Mrs P. Stone – March post; electric; computer	34.48
d) Granite Trough Payments:-	
i) 3383 Mrs J. Foster – Long Park; leat & Church gallery	30.00
ii) 3384 Mrs Alford – Cross Tree	25.00
iii) 3385 Mr Ellis – The Birdcage trough	10.00
iv) 3386 Mrs A. Griffiths – Lloyds Bank	10.00
v) 3387 Mrs Fynn – Orchard Terrace	10.00
vi) 3388 Mrs Anderson – Memorial Garden	30.00
vii) 3389 Mr Glastonbury – Lower Street	10.00
e) 3390 Mr I T Smith – Repair Jubilee Hall Step (damaged by removal of Parish Safe)	60.00
f) 3391 WDBC – 30% Contribution for cleaning Chagford loos	1,297.25
g) 3392 Mr B. Pell – Jubilee Park Maintenance – 4/3/10	130.00
h) 3393 Devon Playing Field Association – Membership fee 2010/11	35.00
i) 3394 Mrs P Stone – Reimburse purchase Dell ink cartridges	267.83

464 PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION RECEIVED

The following publications were made available to members.

- a) Devon Talk – Spring 2010
- b) R D & E Express – March 2010.
- c) DNPA – Agendas 9th April 2010.
- d) DCC Emergency Planning Newsletter
- e) West Devon CVS – Newsletter Spring 2010
- f) Senior Council for Devon – April 2010.
- g) Junk Mail – issue 4

465 Part II Items which may be taken in the absence of the public and press on the grounds that exempt information is likely to be disclosed. Local Government Act 1972 Section 100(A) (4)

466 Traffic Management Working Group

The Meeting Ended at 9.26 pm
Confirmation of the Minutes

Dated.....

Signed.....