

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council held at
Endecott House on Monday 13th March at 7.30 p.m.**

Present: Cllrs: Coombe, d'Arch Smith, Hamer, Mrs. Haxton, Mrs. Hill (Chairman), Lloyd Hill, Parrott, Sampson, Mrs. Stanbury, Miss Stead, Ms Thorn and Williams.

Apologies: no apologies were received.

530. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr: Coombe declared an interest in Minute 532

Cllr: Sampson declared an interest in Minute 542

Cllr: Williams declared an interest in Minute 542

531. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

a) The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Monday 13th February 2017 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Monday 27th February 2017 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

Cllr: Coombe left the meeting

MATTERS ARISING

532. Planning Application Ref: 0627/16 – Chagford C of E Primary School

The Parish Council wrote to DNPA expressing concerns regarding the processing of this planning application.

A reply has been received from the Acting Head of Planning stating that he is confident that the decision of the Authority stands up to scrutiny and that, given the concerns raised by the Parish Council at the site inspection in particular, Members were fully aware of the implications of the access issues and all other matters when reaching their decision. **Resolved:** Members felt the reply was inadequate and did not raise all the issues of concern. The observation sheet for full planning permission was sent to DNPA on 16th December 2016 and the observation sheet (addendum) for the amended plans relating to the access issues was sent on 29th December 2016.

Cllr: Coombe returned to the meeting

URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION

533. Draft SHWD Events Policy and Information

Last year South Hams and West Devon Borough Council undertook a consultation relating to their events policy. The Council recently agreed that one of its key priorities is to achieve financial sustainability – this is in response to reduced Government funding to all district and borough Councils. West Devon Borough and South Hams District Council need to be able to generate over £1.6m between them each year by the financial year 2020/21. The key change will see the new policy being applied consistently across all events. The proposed events policy is not designed to generate profit for the Council – instead it is designed to remove any uncertainty by making sure that officers can more easily support event organisers by having a clear charging

system and policy to follow. The policy will take effect from 1st April 2018.
Noted.

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

534. Planning Control Matters – Cllr: Parrott

Ref: 0110/17 Hillsborough, Southcombe Street, Chagford

Internal refurbishment of house, erection of single storey garden extension to replace existing outhouse and conversion of adjacent coach house to annex accommodation. **Resolved:** no objection with the condition that the coach house should remain ancillary to the main house.

535. Ref: 0067/17 11 Manor Drive, Chagford

Amended plans – extension and conversion of existing internal garage into bedroom and extension to rear of property, replacement roof and rendering.
Resolved: no objection.

Group Reports

536. Eastern Links – Cllr: Mrs. Hill

Cllr: Mrs. Hill attended the Eastern Links Meeting on Thursday 2nd March 2017.

Okehampton Town Council had received the announcement that the inpatient beds at Okehampton Hospital are to be closed.

Martin Rich from Devon Communities Together gave a presentation on the Big Energy Saving Network project to try and get more people involved in energy efficiency schemes and looking at the options for reducing fuel and energy costs.

DCC Highways – John Fewings is the new DCC Neighbourhood Highways Manager. Highways are currently working through the change of contractor from SW Highways to Skanska.

DCC will be promoting the Roadwardens scheme. The purchase of materials by parishes to fill potholes was raised as an issue as they are expected to do this on an individual basis which does not appear to be very cost effective or efficient. They are still looking at different and better ways of filling potholes. DCC will be offering grants to buy the filler.

Jo Rumble from DNPA gave an update on the Local Plan. The first consultations were at the end of last year, staffing issues have slowed the process down, there will be a revised schedule issued shortly.

Dark Night Skies – a project DNPA are looking into.

TAP Fund applications were received from Throwleigh for a Rural Skills worker.

Sampford Courtenay to improve heating and insulation for the new meeting room at Sampford Courtenay Village Hall.

Drewsteignton for a Parish Lenghtsman project.

Throwleights application was granted in full, Sampford Courtenay and Drewsteignton were awarded the remaining grant and this amount be split between the two.

Policing issues – it was reported there has been an increase in drug seizures across the whole of West Devon. There has been a large increase in shoplifting across the whole of Devon and Cornwall. Towns such as Chagford have also seen a small increase.

Steve Jordan (WDBC) reported that council tax had increased by 2.34%. £600k of annual savings need to be found. **Noted.**

537. Jubilee Hall Trustee Meeting

Cllr: Mrs. Hill presented the Jubilee Hall Trustee Meeting Minutes. The Local History Society will be entering into a new contract with the Jubilee Hall on 1st May 2017. Libraries Unlimited will also be entering a new contract. Rents for the Jubilee Hall should now be paid at Fowlers. The Pantomime Committee are offering a grant towards the Acoustics Project. **Noted.**

538. DALC County Committee

Cllr: Mrs. Hill attended the DALC County Committee on 13th March 2017. A lengthy discussion was had regarding the setting of precepts. A Devolution and Productivity Plan was being set up to drive productivity in the South West. A green paper was being prepared. The South West Regional Conference will be held on Thursday 16th March 2017 at Taunton. The DALC Annual Conference will be held on 10th October 2017.

GENERAL PURPOSES AND POLICY MATTERS

539. Open Meeting to discuss the Future of Chagford

Members of the Parish Council attended the Open Meeting on 1st March 2017 to discuss the Future of Chagford which was very well attended. The meeting was helpful with good ideas being put forward. It was proposed that a Community Development Trust be developed and funding put together for a Chagford Development Officer to work exclusively on developing projects in Chagford. **Resolved:** to write to the Business Association to make it clear that Chagford Parish Council want to see if they can help/contribute, have an input in taking Chagford forward. To suggest a small meeting with two representatives of the Council and the Business Association.

540. Chagford Cemetery

The Churchwarden has reported that there are approximately 50 spaces in the bottom of the churchyard. If the average of burials continues it gives approximately 9 years' space left. **Resolved:** to discuss the matter of obtaining land for a new cemetery at the General Purposes Group Meeting and report back to the Members.

541. Devon Air Ambulance – Community Landing Sites

Cllrs: Coombe and d'ArchSmith met with Toby Russell from Devon Air Ambulance on 7th March 2017. Four sites were considered – Chagford C of E

Primary School, The Jubilee Field, The Recreational Trust and the Market Field.

The Recreational Trust and the Market Field were the two suitable sites however the access to the Rec Trust could be a problem due to Ambulances getting larger and the Market Field there was no access to power. **Resolved:** Toby Russell will be sending a surveyor to both sites and will let the Council know the outcome.

FINANCIAL MATTERS

Financial Group Report – Cllr: Mrs. Haxton

542. Cllr: Mrs. Haxton reported that the accounts had been scrutinised and approved to date.

Future expenditure which should be considered – the electrics for the clock on the Market House, fixing the defibrillator to the Jubilee Hall and the installing of a netball hoop on the Jubilee Field.

Cllr: Haxton informed the meeting that the Clerk was due an annual increment, however suggested by the Working Group to ask the Clerk if she is able to do fourteen hours per week. **Resolved:** The Clerk accepted the fourteen hours per week. The new working hours and the increment to spine 21 will take place from the 1st April 2017.

Cllrs: Sampson and Williams left the meeting

Two grants had been requested – Chagford Bowling Club and MoorHealth, the Finance Group suggested a grant of £400.00 for the Bowling Club and £500.00 for MoorHealth. **Resolved:** to approve payment.

Cllrs: Sampson and Williams returned to the meeting

Future expenses – the procurement of land for a new cemetery.

Considerations – possible funds for the Business Association. **Noted.**

543. Approval to ask Jill Hicks to carry out the Annual Internal Audit. **Resolved:** to contact Jill Hicks to confirm she is able to carry out the Internal Audit.

ENVIRONMENT

544. **Jubilee Field Inspection Report – Cllr: Hamer**

Cllr: Hamer reported that the Jubilee Field was in good order. Storm Doris had caused some problems with litter but this had been removed. There is a loose slat on the entrance gate. The grass will need cutting soon. **Noted.**

545. **Public Convenience Inspection Report – Cllr: Hamer**

Cllr: Hamer reported that the Public Conveniences were in good order apart from a handle was loose in one of the Gents cubicles and the outside door of the Gents was looking a little tired and could do with a paint. **Resolved:** to contact WDBC and report the handle and request the outside door be painted.

546. Jubilee Field – Netball Hoop

A quote has been received from South West Play to install 1 netball hoop and grass mats (5mts x 4mts) = £522.00 + VAT. **Resolved:** to order the Netball Hoop and Mats.

547. Moor Otters

The Clerk has spoken to the project manager for DNPA regarding the Otters project. DNPA would like to get a batch of Otters hosed in the Chagford area and the Council have been asked for locations or venues that would consider housing an Otter. The hosting of a Moor Otter is free however DNPA would be delighted if they could get some sponsored. **Resolved:** to approach businesses in and around Chagford to ascertain if they would be interested in hosting an Otter.

CLERK/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

548. Public Rights of Way

The Clerk handed out a leaflet sent by the Sector Ranger regarding the rules and regulations for Landowners with public rights of way going through their land.

Pete Rich Sector Ranger for DNPA will attend the next Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council to answer any questions. **Noted.**

549. Notice Boards and Seats

The Chairman reported that the Council Noticeboards and wooden seats around the town were in need of some attention. **Resolved:** to ask for Tenders to repair, clean and vanish.

CORRESPONDENCE AND EMAILS

550. Temporary Prohibition of Through Traffic

A temporary restriction is considered necessary to enable Overhead Reconductoring on the road from Teign March to Easton Cross, Chagford from Tuesday 25th April 2017 until Wednesday 26th April 2017. **Resolved:** to contact DCC raising concerns regarding access for Buses and Lorries.

551. Development Management Committee

The next DNPA Development Management Committee will be on 7th April 2017. **Noted.**

552. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

	£
a) Direct debit- BT Telephone and Broadband Services	48.49
b) 4092 Mrs. S. Curtis – Salary	415.95
c) 4093 HM Revenue and Customs	104.00
d) 4094 Mrs. S. Curtis – Office expenses	20.00
c) 4095 Chagford Bowling Club – Grant	400.00
d) 4096 MoorHealth – Grant	500.00

The Meeting Closed at 9.39 p.m.