

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

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

Apologies for absence were received from Cllrs Mrs Haxton; Geering and Sampson

In attendance; the Clerk Mrs Stone

81 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr Perryman declared an interest in Min 85c.

82 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

a) The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 9th June 2008 were confirmed as a true record and signed.

b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on 23rd June 2008 were confirmed as a true record and signed.

MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

83 Western Power Business Plan 2010 – 2015

The Council's reply to the Western Power Business Plan discussed informally on 23rd June 2008 resulted in an invitation received for a representative to attend stakeholder workshop to be held at Thistle Hotel Exeter on 18th July 2008.

Resolved: Cllr Davies to attend and report to the next Meeting.

84 W.Devon CVS Focus on Health

Cllr Mrs Haxton apologised for not being able to attend the Forum held on 10th June at United Reform Church, Tavistock. **Noted:**

URGENT BUSINESS BROUGHT FORWARD AT THE CHAIRMAN'S DISCRETION.

There was no urgent business to discuss.

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

PLANNING INSPECTION GROUP

85 Development Control

Cllr Bleakman gave a report of the recommendations of the Planning Inspection Group held on 29th June 2008 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Geering; Jeffreys and Mrs Milton.

a) **0257/08 Westcott Park, Adley Lane, Chagford**

Proposed two-storey extension and construction of a new garage.

Resolved: The Council has no objection to the changes proposed in the additional drawings referenced 393/PR/004 and 003 dated 11-03-2008. The Council continues to support this application for the reasons stated in our original decision.

Cllr Bleakman gave reports on the following recommendations of a meeting held on 4th July 2008 attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Geering; Jeffreys and Mrs Milton.

b) **0390/08 St. Levan, Broomhill, Chagford**

Proposed single storey rear extension and modification to 0919/07

Resolved: The Council continues to be supportive of this application for the reasons given in the decision on Application Ref: 919/07.

Cllr Perryman declared an interest in the following item and took no part in the ensuing discussion

c) 2 Fields north of Drewston Farm, near Chagford (SX726 874)

Proposed erection of 5 wooden poles, 6.5m above ground with overhead cables.

Resolved: It is the Council's policy that there should not be any new overhead cables erected either within Chagford town or in those parts of the Parish that are on, or can be seen from, the High Moor. Given that the proposed location does not satisfy these criteria and the cables are largely invisible from any viewpoint other than the private land over which they cross, the Council has no objection to this application.

d) 0004/08 Princeps, Manor Road, Chagford – Amended Plan

Proposed link extension between dwelling and annexe and alterations to garage.

Resolved: The Council continues to have no objection to the Application as modified by the amended drawing submitted by Mr. John Barford under letter dated 23rd June 2008.

e) 0392/08 Montessori School, Chagford

Proposed extend opening hours to 8am-6pm, create play scheme for two weeks from 8am-6pm in school holidays, teacher training courses in term time and practical workshop during school holidays.

Resolved: After careful consideration of the additional data provided by the applicant and copies of a number of letters of objection from local residents, the Council decided that it would change its' original decision.

The Council is now supportive of all aspects of the requested 'Change of Use' subject to the following conditions –

1. The children attending the Holiday Play Scheme shall be limited to children between the ages of 2 and 8 years who are already registered as students at the school or are resident in Chagford; Throwleigh; Gidleigh or Drewsteignton.
2. The Holiday Play Scheme operation shall be limited to two weeks (Monday to Friday inclusive) during the School's summer holiday period.
3. The School shall obtain formal acceptance in writing from all attendees at the School, their parents or guardians, to the conditions of the School's Traffic Management Policy prior to any attendance at the School and that the management Policy be extended to include motor cycles and bicycles.
4. The School shall appoint a Traffic Warden who will attend at the entrance to moor Park, at the start and finish of all sessions held outside the School's normal opening hours i.e. Monday to Friday, 0800 to 1800 during term times.

86 Grant of Conditional Planning Permission

0158/08 28, New Street, Chagford

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

87 Refusal of Planning Permission

0300/08 Land near Yellands, Chagford – Noted:

Proposed erection of a timber agricultural building (9.3 x 5m) for equipment and sheep.

88 Town and Country Planning Act 1990

a) Appeal Refusal of Full Planning Permission – 18 Orchard Meadow, Chagford.

The Notice of Appeal stated that it would be dealt with by written statements. Letters of objection that had been received were read to the Council with a view to ascertaining if there was any further comment to make following the original recommendations made to the DNPA.

Resolved: The Chairman to forward a letter to the Planning Inspectorate by 24th July 2008 reiterating decisions taken previously,

89 FINANCE GROUP

Cllr Mrs Hill produced the monthly statement of account which was circulated to all Members. She drew attention to the £100 set aside for the repair of the MV Kestor which is yet to be completed. **Noted:**

ENVIRONMENT GROUP

90 Jubilee Park Inspection Report

a) Cllr Parrott stated the field was in good heart and looking well, however he is concerned at the wear to the grass banks caused by cycle riding. In addition, the chain link fencing adjoining the car park has been bent down by children trying to climb over it to gain access instead of using the gate.

Resolved: The Clerk to inform the WDBC that repairs are necessary.

b) Cllr Coombe thanked those Cllrs who gave their time for a working session on the Jubilee Field on Sunday, 13th July. A great deal was achieved including scrubbing the safety surfaces and weeding the shrub beds. **Noted:**

b) It has been necessary to purchase new bolts for replacement of worn fixings on the multiplay unit in the Jubilee Field. It is understood the cost of these will be in the region of £20/30.

Resolved: To approve payment up to a limit of £30.

c) Western Power. Western Power write to confirm safety measures they have taken with regard to sheathing and insulating the overhead power lines. **Noted:**

d) Jubilee Field Footpath

A letter has been received from the Allotment Association Secretary confirming adherence to the exclusion of dogs from the playing field. **Noted:**

e) The Willow Shelter has been reported as being in a bad state and detrimental to the appearance of the playing field. It would appear that the structure was not being developed as promised.

Resolved: Cllr Davies to speak with Ms Lemieux and report to the next meeting.

f) Grasscutting

i) Mr. Sheridan has informed the Clerk that the cost of fuel for his mowers has exceeded expectations and he would like the Council to consider an increase in respect of this item. He has indicated that £5 per cut would be appreciated. He is contracted to cut the field twice a month for 8 months terminating in November 2008.

Resolved: To approve an additional payment of £5 per cut.

ii) Attention was drawn to the possibility of stones flying up when Mr. Sheridan strims the grass around the play equipment. It was thought advisable for notices to be placed on the entrance gates when strimming was in progress.

Resolved: The Clerk be authorised to spend up to £10 to obtain 2 notices for Mr. Sheridan's use.

91 **Memorial Garden** The granite doorstep of one of the houses destroyed in the fire has been removed for safe keeping until such time as it can be incorporated in the garden scheme. It has been suggested and agreed that the step could be inscribed to explain the history of the site and its current designation. The Chairman has drawn up specifications for the installation of a hand rail and a plinth for the mosaic.

Resolved: Cllr Mrs Hill has agreed to obtain estimates for the inscription on the steps and liaise with the Clerk in obtaining tenders for the remaining works.

92 **Open Fields** Cllr Coombe (Chairman of Environment) has made arrangements for a walk to inspect the open fields on Tuesday, 6th August, commencing at 19.30hrs from the Square.

93 Rowan Tree, The Square, Chagford.

The Clerk reported to Mr. Beasley, DNPA Trees & Landscape Officer, that one of the Rowan Trees in the Square has died. She invited him to inspect the tree and advise. Subject to his findings on inspection, Mr. Beasley indicated that as the tree was in a Conservation area, he would do what he could to replace it.

Resolved: To await Mr. Beasley's report.

94 Public Convenience Inspection Report

Cllr Parrott reported that the ceiling in the Gent's loo has still not been cleaned and on one occasion the doors had not been locked at 9.30pm although the agreed time is 6.30pm.

Resolved: The Clerk to take the matter up with the WDBC.

95 Dartmoor Commoners' Council – Election Results 2008.

East Quarter Mr. W.J. Jordan and Mr M.H. Retallick

West Quarter Mr. A. H. Cole and Mr. G, Hill

North Quarter Mr. J. J. Cooper and B.W.J. Lavis.

South Quarter Mr. A.J.R. Coaker and Mr. P. French

Ms Rebecca Burge appointed to represent Commoners grazing less than 10 livestock units in the South Quarter from 1st July 2008 for a period of 4 years.

Notice displayed on Notice Board. **Noted:**

96 CLERK/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

a) Children's Picnic in the Park

A request has been received from the Okehampton Childrens' Centre for permission to organise a picnic in the Jubilee Park for children aged under 5, from the Parish of Chagford and surrounding areas on 28th July 2008. (weather permitting).

Resolved: To approve the use of the field for this purpose.

b) Affordable Home Development – Whiddon Down.

An application has been submitted for the development of 8 affordable homes in Whiddon Down (Drewsteignton Parish).

Resolved: The Clerk to make enquiries concerning the allocation of some housing being offered to Chagford applicants.

c) Mill Street Obstruction – 10.07.08 (Police Ref 1187/10/7/08)

Two furniture removal vehicles completely blocked the road at the top of Mill Hill for several hours and refused to allow drivers through access. They did not acquire road closure permission nor display diversion signs. The Police were informed who have indicated they will communicate with the removal firm with regard to their compliance with regulations in such matters, **Noted:**

d) Antisocial Behaviour 12.07.08 (Police Ref: 1217/12.07.08)

A group (5/6) inebriated males drinking outside the Bullers Arms at approx 8.45pm accosted and intimidated a lady walking down the road. She was clearly upset by the incident so the Police were informed and they indicated they would send an officer. I have requested they speak to the Landlord concerning the conduct of his establishment. I discovered later that the lady had also referred the matter to the Police. **Noted:**

97 GENERAL PURPOSE & POLICY REPORTS

a) Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act 2005

Cllr Davies and Bleakman attended a current Legislation Training Course on 5th June 2008 at Exminster. The both reported that the event was one of the best training events ever offered.

Cllr Davies submitted a detailed dossier of the options open to the Parish Council based on dog control orders but similarly available in respect of litter control; graffiti etc. The Council have an opportunity to address current problems with the introduction of a Dog Control Order in respect of any land which is open to the air and which the public are entitled or permitted to have access to. If adopted, the Order will permit the Council to impose a fine on any person in breach of the order.

Cllr Davies also indicated, that if adopted, the WDBC would support the Order including providing a uniformed officer to enforce the Act.

The Council was asked to consider the findings of the report which could only be undertaken after consultation and with the support of the Parish.

Resolved: It was unanimously agreed that the Council should participate in the scheme after observing the necessary formalities and Cllrs Davies and Mrs Hill were asked to make further enquiries concerning the steps to be taken and costs involved.

b) The Boundary Committee for England

The Draft Proposal Structural review of Devon has been forwarded for comment and representations are required before 26th September 2008. The Draft proposal for Devon is: a Devon unitary authority composing the existing county of Devon with no changes to Plymouth and Torbay. The Draft clearly states that the proposal has not been finalised to date and further views submitted will be considered before a decision is taken after 26th September 2008.

Resolved: To defer until the next meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

98 Land Registry

A letter received from Messrs Stones (Solicitors) drew attention to the registration of Parish lands, i.e. Village Greens. The Clerk was advised that the registration of all the Parish properties could be registered collectively and the availability of Deeds and Parish Documents would simplify the process thereby reducing overall costs.

Resolved: The Clerk to seek clarification on the next steps to be taken.

99 Devon & Cornwall Constabulary

The Chief Constable Mr. Stephen Otter has given an update on police progress. He has indicated that he intends to transfer some duties to civilian staff to release 200 Officers to the beat. **Noted:**

Arising: In view of the continued unavailability of Officers when required for assistance, the Community Sergeant be invited to discuss future requirements and any possible improvements in the service.

100 Digital TV Switchover Road shows

Details of road shows received and posted on notice board. **Noted:**

101 Road works The following road closures have been notified and **Noted:**

a) Meldon House – Higher Weddicott – Monday, 8th September 2008.

b) High Street junction – New Street junction – Monday 22nd September

c) Waydown Cross – Yarnapitts Cross – Monday, 22nd September 2008.

102 Maitland Walker – Public Call Boxes

Messrs Maitland Walker draw attention to the proposal of the Independent Service Company Ltd to take over the provision of telecom services in current public call boxes.

Noted:

103 Devon County Council – Post Office Services.

DCC identify 10 post offices that should be retained. None of these relate to Chagford.

Noted:

104 Bus Shelter

A request has been received stating the need for a bus shelter in the vicinity of the Primary School for the benefit of those children catching the school bus in wet weather. During the ensuing discussion, it was pointed out that this was a matter for the Highways Department if thought necessary. A bus shelter in that region was removed some years ago for reasons not yet identified.

Resolved: Before making recommendations to the Highways Department, Minutes of the previous episode be researched to clarify the position. The Clerk to notify the writer accordingly.

105 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were approved for payment

a)	Direct Debit – Tiscali – Broadband services	59.36
b)	3117 Mrs P. Stone – June salary	670.02
c)	3118 Mrs P, Stone – June post; electric; computer	32.02
d)	3119 Mr J. Sheridan – Jubilee Park Maintenance – June	231.25

106 PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION RECEIVED

The following publications were made available to Members.

- a) Local Council Review – July issue
- b) DCC – A Unitary Council for Devon – Your Questions Answered.
- c) Clerks & Councils Direct – July 2008
- d) DAPC – Newsletter Jul/Aug 2008.
- e) Devon in Touch – Special Bulletin – Boundary Review
- f) Devon in Touch – July 2008
- g) DCC Annual Report 2007/08.

The Meeting ended at 10pm
Confirmation of the Minutes

Dated.....

Signed.....