

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council
held at Endecott House on Monday, 14th September 2009 commencing at 7.30pm.**

Present: Cllrs Bleakman (Chairman); Coombe; Geering; Mrs Haxton; Mrs Hill; Jeffreys; Mrs Milton; Parrott; Perryman; Sampson (during min 165); Mr B. Phillips (Dartmoor & Plymouth Forestry Commission) and one Member of the public.

In Attendance: The Clerk, Mrs Stone

Apologies for absence were received from Cllr Davies and Ms Thorn.

162 DECLARATION OF INTEREST

- a) Cllr Bleakman declared an interest in Min 171g.
- b) Cllr Coombe declared an interest in Min 171g.
- c) Cllr Geering declared an interest in Mins 171d; 171f.
- d) Cllr Mrs Haxton declared an interest in Min 171c.
- e) Cllr Mrs Milton declared an interest in Min 171c
- f) Cllr Parrot declared an interest in Min 171g.
- g) Cllr Perryman declared an interest in Mins 171d; 171f
- h) Cllr Sampson declared an interest in Mins 171e; 171g.

163 CONFIRMATION OF THE MINUTES

The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on 10th August 2009 were confirmed as a true record and signed subject to the reversal of a declared interest by Cllr Geering from 143b to 143a and by Cllr Perryman from 143a to 143b.

164 FERNWORTHY FOREST

The Chairman opened the meeting with an introduction to Mr. Ben Phillips representing the Dartmoor & Plymouth Forestry Commission. Mr Phillips thanked the Council for the opportunity for him to address the meeting relating to matters of concern in connection with the current felling programme. He advised that it has been necessary to bring forward the felling at Fernworthy to an immediate start to offset an extensive disease problem in the forestry areas surrounding Plymouth where large areas of timber are dying for no reason identified as yet. This resulted in a shortfall of timber to comply with existing orders.

The movement of timber will be conducted in the same way as previously from Monday to Friday, with transport avoiding school times as much as possible. It is hoped the felling will be finished by March 2010.

The Harvesters are currently on site and are capable of felling 100 cubic metres per day. Mr Phillips offered to arrange a site visit for the Council to the operation in practice.

Mr Phillips was advised that Friday was usually Chagford's busiest day and he should be aware of events in the area to be avoided i.e. road work closures and Pony Sale Day. The Chairman thanked Mr Phillips for taking the trouble to keep the Council informed.

Noted:

MATTERS ARISING

165 Car Parking Survey (Mins 91; 137 refer)

In response to an e-mail from the Clerk concerning outstanding highways matters, assurance was given by Area North Highways that all matters drawn to their attention would be dealt with and in fact had already been started in some respects. Not all of the lines have been remarked and the loading bays have not had the appropriate legend marked. In addition the two vehicle bay at Cross Tree has not been deleted.

A letter received from a New Street resident requesting reinstatement of a small area as a parking place was forwarded to the Highways Department who replied that no parking

is allowed outside of the designated areas but the site would be inspected for consideration.

Resolved: i) The Clerk to request that **all** white lining is improved and the 2 car bay be deleted as agreed. The re-designation of a loading bay will be discussed with the Business Association; ii) Highways be requested to inspect the site in New Street with a view to re-assessing its purpose.

166 WDBC Car Parking Strategy Group Meeting

Details of the recommendations of the car parking charges meeting held on 3rd September were circulated to all members. Cllr Bleakman, standing in for Cllr Sampson who had been detailed elsewhere, drew attention to the proposed increase in charges, mostly in connection with long stay parking necessary to meet the expenditure needed to maintain car parks. The charges for 1, 2 & 3 hours remain unchanged whereas the 4 hour charge is increased to £1.40 and all-day to £1.90. A season ticket is approximately 50% of the meter charge and the WDBC is considering a 12 month season ticket payable in 12 monthly instalments by direct debit to assist town workers.

In answer to criticisms of the Council's inability to prevent increases in Chagford charges, Members were reminded that Chagford charges were the lowest in the area and considerably lower than urban areas.

The circulated report also mentioned the possibility of on street parking charges currently being considered by DCC to meet enforcement costs.

Cllr Sampson (Chairman of the WDBC parking strategy meeting) apologised for his late arrival and expressed his disappointment at the reaction to the parking "package". The charges proposed were still modest and the consensus view was that it is necessary to encourage the maximum turn over of parking spaces which would probably result from the introduction of on-street parking charges. There will be a further review of charges in 2 years time.

Resolved: Members to be represented in greater numbers when the meeting is due in 2011.

167 Bus Shelter Survey – (Min 90 refers)

Cllr Mrs Hill gave an explanation of the survey circulated to all members and stated that a notice in the Bulletin inviting views on the matter received **no responses**.

163 letters were circulated to Biera View; Orchard Meadow; Lower Street; Valley View; Bretteville Close and Lamb Park. **53 were returned.**

The Vice Chairman proposed that Members should now have time to analyse the content of the replies prior to a meeting with the sub group and Highways Department to locate a possible shelter site.

Resolved: i) The Council representatives to arrange a meeting with Highways and the sub group and report back to Council; ii) The current negotiations not to imply any commitment on the part of the Council.

168 Chagford Primary School – School Governors (Mins 92; 138 refer)

Cllr Coombe advised the Council that he had had a discussion with the Chairman of the Board of Governors and had declined the invitation to join the Board He had understood that he had been asked to represent the Council on the Board whereas in fact the requirement was for a Parent Governor who was free to attend meetings during working hours and this was not possible in his case.

Resolved: The Chairman to ascertain whether a Council Governor was still being sought.

169 WDBC Recycling Contract

The current waste and recycling contract is due to be re-let by 1st April 2010. Residents are required to indicate their views on the needs of the service by completing a questionnaire on line at www.westdevon.gov.uk.

Among the concerns expressed by the Council was the need to continue weekly collections, particularly household waste; introduce the collection of garden waste; increase the number of recyclable collections

Resolved: i) The Clerk to write to WDBC stating we do not wish to see the removal of weekly collections for health and safety reasons; ii) copies of the questionnaire to be copied and circulated to Members by the Clerk.

170 Parish Safe.

The Jubilee Hall Trustees have drawn attention to the existence of the Parish Safe in The Hall which was not removed when arranged previously.

Resolved: Cllrs Perryman and Geering will remove the safe by arrangement with Mr. Myers, Chairman of the Trustees.

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

DEVELOPMENT CONTROL AND PLANNING REPORTS

171 Development Control Planning Applications

The recommendations for the following two items were forwarded to the DNPA under delegated Authority, to comply with the restricted time scale imposed, following meetings of the planning inspection group held on 21st and 28th August 2009 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Davies; Mrs Haxton; Jeffreys and Mrs Milton.

Resolved: To ratify the recommendations given.

a) 0366/09 4 Mill Street, Chagford

Proposed change of use of part ground floor from D1 status to residential.

Resolved: The Council is supportive of this Change of Use Application. The Council considers that compensatory provision, as is required by DNPA retained Policy CS2, was made by approved application 0143/09. There is a significant need for small units of domestic accommodation within Chagford and this proposal will add to the available housing stock. The Council remains concerned regarding the extent of on-street parking being created by this type of development.

b) 0372/09 Leigh Bridge Farm, Chagford

i) Proposed building for the winter housing of beef cattle and the storage of feed (13.7mx11.8m)

Resolved: The Council supports this application, which in its opinion satisfies the requirements of retained DNPA Policy FD2.

ii) **0372/09 Leigh Bridge Farm, Chagford – Additional Details**

The additional data contained on the drawing – Section levels dated 1st September 2009 by the DNPA does not change the decision submitted for the initial consultation.

Cllrs Mrs Haxton and Mrs Milton declared interest in the following item and left the room
The planning inspection group meeting held on 11th September 2009 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Davies; Geering; Jeffreys and Parrott; report had been circulated.

c) 0373/09 18 Meldon Road, Chagford

Proposed demolish existing porch and rebuild in larger footprint

Resolved: no objection.

Cllr Geering and Perryman declared interests in the following item and left the room.

The planning inspection group meeting held on 11th September 2009 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Davies; Mrs Haxton; Jeffreys and Parrott; report had been circulated.

d) 0387/09 Great Weeke Farm, Chagford

Proposed cattle building and covered yard.

Resolved: The Council supports this application, which will help to satisfy the modern requirements of stock winter husbandry and satisfies the conditions of retained DNPA Policy FD2.

Cllr Sampson declared an interest in the following item and left the room.

The planning inspection group meeting held on 11th September 2009 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Davies; Geering; Mrs Haxton; Jeffreys and Parrott; report had been circulated.

e) **0397/09 Higher Weddicott Farm, Chagford**

Proposed replacement general purpose barn (14.8m x 6.2m)

Resolved: The Council supports this application as a necessary development to support the farm business and satisfies the conditions of retained DNPA Policy FD2.

Cllrs Geering and Perryman declared an interest in the following item and left the room

The planning inspection group meeting held on 11th September 2009 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Davies; Mrs Haxton; Jeffreys and Parrott; report had been circulated.

f) **0404/09 Great Weeke Cottage, Chagford**

Proposed stable block to accommodate horses, feed and associated equipment

Resolved: The Council has no objection to this Application subject to the following:-

1. The use of the stables is limited to the stabling of horses the property of the Owners of Great Weeke Cottage and that the stables shall not be used for the stabling of third party owned horses or for commercial benefit.
2. The roadside hedge on the northern side of the property shall be properly maintained and not reduced below 3m in height in order to maintain a noise and visual barrier between the stables and Broadlands.

The Council would like to advise the DNPA that there remains a level of concern that the scale of development is inappropriate to the site.

Cllrs Bleakman; Coombe; Parrott and Sampson declared an interest in the following item. The Chair was taken by Cllr Mrs Hill.

The planning inspection group meeting held on 11th September 2009 and attended by Cllrs Davies; Geering; Mrs Haxton & Jeffreys report had been circulated.

g) **0403/09 Chagford C of E Primary School**

Proposed photo voltaic panels to the pitched roof of the south-east facing roof slope to the north-west wing of the Quadrangle and to the flat roof of the single storey extension to the south-west.

Resolved: The Council is very supportive of this application which in its opinion satisfies all the conditions required by DNPA COR Policies COR4 & 10. The development is largely invisible outside of the school quadrangle and will constitute a major step forward of the use of renewable energy in Chagford.

The Chairman returned to the Chair

The planning inspection group meeting held on 11th September 2009 and attended by Cllrs Bleakman; Davies; Geering; Mrs Haxton & Jeffreys report had been circulated.

h) **0411/09 Whiddon Park House, Chagford**

0412/09 Whiddon Park House – Listed Building Consent

Proposed repair to cob boundary wall including slate capping and shelter coat.

Resolved: The Council supports the principle of the planned wall refurbishment but is unable to comment on the specifics of the refurbishment process.

i) **0416/09 Corndon Cottage, Chagford**

j) **0408/09 Corndon Cottage, Chagford – Listed Building Consent**

Proposed alterations to an attached store to habitable accommodation, the formation of an opening into the house and the addition of windows and a replacement door.

Resolved: The two items above to be determined at an extraordinary meeting to be held on 28th September 2009.

172 Consent to Display Advertisements - Noted

0202/09 Susan at No 10, High Street, Chagford.

173 DNPA – Replacement of Ranger Vehicles.

An item in the DNPA Agenda document circulated for 4th September 2009 indicated the intention to purchase replacement ranger vehicles as follows:-

Members:

- i) Noted the procurement of four replacement vehicles for the ranger team;
- ii) approved the proposal to procure the vehicles in silver rather than two tone green;
- iii) authorised further work to review the Dartmoor National Park/Authority brand and logo to include issues pertaining to copyright/trademark, consistency and fitness for purpose.

This matter provoked an irate response from Council who have recently been informed that the DNPA can no longer subsidise the maintenance of public loos due to financial constraints.

Resolved: The Clerk to write a letter of protest to the DNPA reminding them of their obligations to tourist interests.

174 DNPA Management Plan (Min 145 refers)

Resolved: Defer to October meeting

175 FINANCE REPORT

Cllr Mrs Hill circulated an account of current finances and expressed concern at the increasing strain on the budget and the need to keep expenditure within the constraints of the precept.

Resolved: A meeting of the Finance Group to be held on Thursday., 1st October 2009 commencing at 8pm at 2 Lower Street. Cllr Coombe, as Chairman of the Environment was invited to attend.

ENVIRONMENT REPORT

176 Jubilee Field Inspection Report

Cllr Sampson was pleased to report that very little litter had been found during his inspections; the bin allocated for can collection has not been emptied; the W.I. seat has not been repaired; there is a mattress strewn in the skate park.

Resolved: i) The Clerk to seek the assistance of the WDBC with regard to the removal of the mattress and the collection of cans; ii) Enquiries to be made concerning the WI seat repair.

177 Public Convenience Inspection Report

- a) Cllr Sampson drew attention to the intention to commence refurbishment of the loos and the fact that they were still open because of delays in starting the scheme. Cllr Davies had advised the Chairman that day that work had been delayed due to sickness. It is anticipated the proposed works will take place the week commencing 21st September 2009. **Noted:**

- b) Cllr Davies was unavailable to report on the possible removal of the sink (Min 149 refers).

Resolved: The Clerk to contact WDBC to make necessary enquiries.

178 Street Lighting

The Clerk expressed regret that she had been unable to elicit the required information concerning the completion of the lighting system on the church footpath or in the High Street. The lighting Engineer is incapacitated and it will be necessary to make contact later. **Noted.**

179 Clerk/Chairman's Report

Chagford Show

Cllr Bleakman expressed delight at the success of the Chagford Show which has grown in size considerably and now attracts attendance from farther afield. The Chairman congratulated Cllr and Mrs Perryman for their presidential duties.

Cllr Perryman stated the free bus service had been extended to include Moretonhampstead and this had attracted a large level of support.

Resolved: The Clerk to write a letter of congratulation to the Committee.

GENERAL PURPOSES & POLICY REPORTS

180 Chagford Recreational Trust

No date has been arranged for a joint meeting with the Recreational Trust as yet. **Noted:**

181 Eastern Parishes Link Committee Meeting – 3rd September 2009

Cllr Mrs Hill stated the Link Meeting had a busy programme and Members would be interested to hear that Inspector Hammond has returned to duties in the area.

An interesting Place Survey revealed that in a section dealing with “Factors most in need of improving West Devon” Chagford had indicated the following level of concern:-

1. Level of Traffic Congestion
2. Affordable Decent Housing
3. Public Transport
4. Road and Pavement Repairs
5. Job Prospects.

Mr Tim Bevan gave a presentation on the Rural Development Programme.

There is to be a Judicial Review of the Boundary Proposals on the 6th/7th October 2009.

A pilot scheme is to be based on a Partnership of Okehampton; North Tawton; Hatherleigh and Chagford.

The Highhampton Parish Plans were produced for comparisons by other Communities.

Cllr Mrs Hill was thanked for her report which was **Noted:**

CORRESPONDENCE RECEIVED

182 DAPC – AGM – 26th September 2009 at County Hall

Invitation received for 2 nominees. (Day rate £15 per person)

Resolved: Cllrs Mrs Hill and Sampson to attend.

184 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

		£
a)	2718 Mr B. Pell – Jubilee Field Maintenance 27 th July; 11 th August	260.00
b)	2719 Mrs P. Stone – August salary £697.45 + £5.43 (see Finance report)	702.88
c)	2720 Mrs P. Stone – August post; electric; computer	32.54
d)	Tiscali Billing – Broadband Services	30.03
e)	3321 Mr B. Pell – Jubilee Field Maintenance – 24 th August 2009.	130.00

185 PUBLICATIONS/INFORMATION RECEIVED

- a) DCC – Devon Car Free Day – Tuesday, 22nd September 2009
- b) DAPC – Annual Report 2008 – 2009.
- c) DAPC – Newsletter – September/October 2009
- d) Devon Countryside Access Forum – Annual Report 2008/09
- e) Clerks & Councils Direct – September 2009
- f) S. Devon & Dartmoor CDRP – Senior Community Safety Days.
- g) Dartmoor Military Heritage Weekend – 12th & 13th September – Okehampton Battle Camp
- h) DNPA Agendas – 4th September 2009.

- i) Community Council Review – 2008-09
- j) Village Green – September 2009.
- k) RD & E Express – Winter Planning & Bed allocation
- l) DNPA – Dartmoor Access Forum – Annual Report 2008

The meeting Closed at 9.35pm
Confirmation of the Minutes

Dated.....

Signed.....