

DARTMOOR FOREST PARISH COUNCIL

**Minutes of the ANNUAL Parish Meeting held on Monday 2 April 2007
in the High Moorland Visitor Centre, Princetown**

Present

Princetown

Mr Gary Easton
Mr Cliff Palmer
Mrs Wendy Stones
Mrs Helen Ward
Ms Pat Weir

Postbridge

Mr Dave Fisher (Chair)
Mrs Wendy Watson

Hexworthy/Huccaby

Mrs Rosemary Mudge

Apologies

Princetown

Mr Paul Turnbull

Postbridge

Hexworthy/Huccaby

In Attendance

Councillor Alan Hosking, DCC

Two members of the public

1. The meeting opened at 7.30 p.m.. The Chair welcomed all present.

2. Minutes of the Previous Annual Parish Meeting

The minutes of the meeting on Monday 3 April 2006 were approved and then signed by the Chair.

3. Matters arising from the Previous Meeting

There were no matters arising

4. Chair's Report

- 4.1 The Chair thanked members of the Council for their help in running the affairs of the Parish. Their attendance at meetings is first class, in what is an unpaid, and often thankless, task with ever increasing bureaucracy
- 4.2 Problems persist with speeding vehicles and vandalism. However, the addition of a dedicated Police Community Support Officer to the local police resource team had made a real difference, especially in Princetown where vandalism and other anti-social behaviour had been reduced, removing the pressure on local residents. The Chair thanked PCSO Mark Canvin for his hard work and expressed the hope that he would continue the good work and not be expected to cover a very large area, thereby diluting his services to the Parish

- 4.3 The Duchy hds continued its efforts to improve the environment in Princetown and it was hoped that Chris Gregory would be able to provide an update on the progress of the Duchy Square project. Refurbishment of the Pavilion has started. When completed it will provide a dedicated space for the young people of the village
- 4.4 The Chair expressed his thanks to the Clerk for her enthusiasm and the mileage she covered attending meetings and posting notices around the Parish

5. To Receive Statement of Accounts for Dartmoor Forest Parish Council for the Year Ended 31 March 2007

The statement of accounts for Dartmoor Forest Parish Council for the year ended 31 March 2007 was received and accepted. The Chairman signed the Receipts and Expenditure Summary and the Supporting Statement for the financial year 2006/2007.

6. Postbridge Village Hall Report and Statement of Accounts

The annual report and statement of accounts were not yet available. The Chair said that the financial position showed an improvement on the previous year, with a balance carried forward of more than £8,000

7. School Report

Wendy Watson, Chair of Governors, Princetown Primary School, said that the budget had increased, thanks to an increase of nine pupils on the roll. This meant that the number of classes had been maintained

8. Playground Report

Gary reported that the end of 2006 saw the removal of the very popular swings that had become unsafe due to repeated damage by vandals. An unexpected donation from the winding up of the KIPPER account and a donation from the Parish Council enabled new swings to be purchased for less than £1,000. Gary installed them and had the great pleasure of watching the children put them to immediate use. Some areas of the play surface are wearing, and temporary repairs are being made using bark chippings. There is an increasing problem with dog fouling in the play area and any incidents witnessed should be reported to the Police or to the Parish Council. Despite the high level of litter dropping, the clearance is carried out on a regular basis and to a very high standard

9. Burial Ground Report

- 9.1 There had been one interment during the year. The seat in the cemetery had been refurbished. A meeting was due imminently with members of the Beattie family to finalise the siting of their Mother's memorial seat
- 9.2 A large amount of the vegetation has been cut back, opening up previously overgrown areas. These can be used for burials, thereby deferring use of the extension purchased from the Duchy
- 9.3 The Clerk is pursuing the possibility of two Councillors undertaking a memorial safety training course

10. Any Other Business

Nothing to report

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 7.40 pm

Signed:
Chairman

Date: **7 April 2008**