

DARTMOOR FOREST PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 10 September 2013
in the Community Centre, Princetown at 7.30 pm

Present

Princetown
David Worth (Chair)
John Steele
Wendy Stones
Paul Turnbull

Postbridge
Val Greatrex
Wendy Watson from item 5.6

Hexworthy/Huccaby

Apologies

Princetown
Emma Derham
Gregg Manning
Cliff Palmer

Postbridge

Hexworthy/Huccaby
Alison Geen

Absent without Apology

Princetown
None

Postbridge

Hexworthy/Huccaby
None

In Attendance

PC Dave Pickles (for item 5)
PCSO Rob Walsh (for item 5)

There were no members of the public present

A G E N D A

1.	To receive apologies
2.	Declarations of interest
3.	To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 9 July
4.	Matters arising from the previous meeting and not on the Agenda – Part I
5.	Report from Beat Manager
6.	Matters arising from the previous meeting and not on the Agenda – Part II
7.	Grass Cutting
8.	Community Centre & Youth Club
9.	Repairs & maintenance
10.	Highways jobs
11.	Planning applications
	PUBLIC SESSION
12.	Reports from Sub-Groups and Special Interests
13.	Reports from other meetings
14.	Correspondence
15.	Financial management
16.	Urgent matters at the Chair's discretion
17.	Any other business
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1. Apologies

There were apologies from Emma, Alison, Gregg and Cliff
David took the chair in Alison's absence

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of 12 August were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair

4. Matters arising from the previous Meeting – Part I

- 4.1 **Princetown Litter Pick** – The litter pick had been organised as a reparation event. Fourteen children and one parent had taken part, together with Wendy S, David and PCSO Mark Carvin. This event was in addition to the group of volunteers who are carrying out regular litter picking in the village
- 4.2 **Mid-Devon Cycle Club Event** – Alison was waiting to see if she could attend the wash-up session
- 4.3 **Bus Timetable** – Still waiting for a reply
- 4.4 **Speedwatch** – Still waiting for a reply
- 4.5 **Dog bin installation** – John said that the bin would be installed by the end of the current week, and he would confirm this with the Clerk so that thank you letters could be written. Paul expressed concern that the final choice of site did not solve the problem of dog litter being left in Woodville Avenue. Wendy S said that this was a similar situation to the bin in Ivybridge Lane, where the location of the bin was at the end of a path leading on to the moor, but the bin was still well used as dog walkers knew it was there and used it before they went on to the moor.
ACTION: Clerk to create a map showing the location of all the bins. This to be placed on the notice board for information

Wendy W joined the meeting

- 4.6 **Website Update** – David was waiting for more collateral from the Clerk
- 4.7 **Duchy Square building** – Tom Stratton had reported that the new tenant would be moving in within about six weeks. Wendy S said that she was annoyed that residents had seen a report about the use of the building before that information was known by Councillors. The Clerk said that she had been given the information after the previous meeting and had put it in the Council's monthly parish magazine report. It was noted that the reported use of the building was to be arts, retail and business space, which was the same as before. Paul ventured the view that there might have been a restriction clause with the award of European money which precluded a change of use

PC Dave Pickles and PCSO Rob Walsh joined the meeting and Matters Arising was interrupted to allow the Beat Report to be given

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5. Report from Beat Manager

John said that he was very concerned about the surge of crime that was taking place in Princetown. He cited as examples; drunken behaviour including glasses being smashed, children carrying knives, residents being threatened with lighters, drugs paraphernalia near the Prison grounds, smashed windows, a stolen ladder, shoplifting and a child carrying a razor blade.

Dave said that young people congregating by the pool had now been stopped

Dave said that the characteristics of the vehicle damage in Burrator Avenue led Officers to believe that it was carried out by an adult. All residents in the avenue had been leafleted but, so far, this had not yielded any usable information.

Dave said that the idea behind the special litter pick event had been to provide an opportunity to build pride in the village. He said that some of the crimes were being perpetrated by children that were only bordering on the age of criminal responsibility, and a multi-agency approach was being used, as well as working with the parents of the children concerned. He thanked Wendy S and David for helping to organise the litter pick and for taking part on the day.

Wendy S said that she agreed with the multi-agency approach and asked if this included Social Services. Rob said that the Police automatically informed Social Services if a child was involved in an incident. Dave said that he and his colleagues were working very closely with other agencies, but this work could not be discussed in public. He said that residents had a part to play in helping the Police to deal with crime. Rob said that some of the reported crimes did not have any evidence, which made it very difficult for Officers to act.

Dave said that the two disputes in Woodville Avenue had now been resolved, using a multi-agency approach

Dave reported that, with regard to Moor Watch, 48 vehicles had been robbed, of which 8 were in our area

Rob said that he was in dialogue with the Duchy and, from 1 October, Ian Morgan to install mesh windows in the Community Centre

PC Dave Pickles and PCSO Rob Walsh left the meeting

6. Matters Arising from the previous Meeting – Part II

6.1 **Access to Burrator Avenue** – John, Paul and the Clerk had met Tom Stratton on 4 September. Tom agreed, in principal, to the Council's proposals for the area between 24 and 25 Burrator Avenue. The next step is to put the proposal to Highways

6.2 **Rural Fair Share Petition** – Petitions had been collected and were handed in

7. **Grass Cutting in Princetown** – The clerk had had a technical problem with a file containing the document to be discussed. Item carried forward to next month's meeting

8. Community Centre and Youth Club (Wendy S)

8.1 **Community Centre** – the lease had now been signed and would take effect on 1 October. The AGM would take place on 25 September at 7.00 pm

8.2 **Youth Club** – nothing to report

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9. Repairs & Maintenance – nothing to report

10. Highways Jobs

- 10.1 **Tavistock Road** - A hole had opened up in the road near the Prison entrance. This was likely to take some time to diagnose and repair. The Council had intervened and the diversion/road closure had been removed and replaced with temporary lights
- 10.2 **Postbridge** – A drain had collapsed on the B3212 in Postbridge, near the property called Beechwood
- 10.3 **Postbridge** – The edge of the B3212 between Chapel Lane and Beechwood was badly eroded and hazardous
- 10.4 **Peek Hill wall** – Stones were, once again, falling from the wall into the road
- 10.5 **Pothole re-appeared** – In the approach to Station Cottages, before the car park entrance
- 10.6 **Postbridge** – Water is running from the Bellever Road into the B3212 and carrying detritus with it
- 10.7 **Clapper Bridge** – The steps from the road down to the river are very steep and there is no handrail
- 10.8 **Safe walkway** – Trees and shrubs overhang the road between the East Dart and the road to the cemetery. If these were cut back, the road would be much safer for pedestrians
- 10.9 **Lamp Posts** – Check that street lighting is mandatory for roads covered by 30 mph speed limits

11. Planning Applications - The following planning applications were received in August

DNPA Ref. & Applic. Type	Description	Location	Comments
13/0465 Full PP	Installation of ground mounted solar panels	Unused paddock Laughter Hole House Postbridge	With Councillors for review
13/0430 Full PP	Erection of roof structure over existing concrete manure storage yard	Runnage Farm Postbridge	Supported by the council
13/0424 Full PP	Installation of flue	Garage building Rear of High Moorland Visitor Centre Princetown	Supported by the council
13/0414 Full PP	Demolition of existing dwelling and construction of replacement dwelling	Tor View Bungalow Postbridge	Objection on the grounds of water supply and septic tank arrangements, plus the lack of investigation of refurbishment option

PUBLIC SESSION - Nothing to report

12. Reports from Sub-Groups and Special Interest Groups

12.1 **School (Wendy W)**

The roll was currently 75, which included an intake of about 11 new pupils

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The school was now a member of the newly expanded Tavistock Co-operative Learning Trust

12.2 **Play Area (Clerk)**

Work was in progress to install the phase 2 equipment

The spoil was not suitable for garden use, so needed to be used elsewhere or disposed of

A letter of thanks to go to Carl Easterbrook for his help in dismantling and disposing of the swings and the surface beneath them

12.3 **Cemetery** – The wall repair had been completed. Val's husband was refurbishing the benches

12.4 **Emergency Plan (David)** – Nothing to report

12.5 **Parish Plan Sub-Group** – Meeting held on 29 August and prior to this meeting. Currently looking at topics to be included in the consultation questionnaire. Must ensure that young people are included. Delivery of questionnaires via door-to-door drop, various collection methods (to be agreed)

12.6 **Parking Sub-Group** – Pressed Men had been inundated with visitors asking directions to the Visitor Centre. Information on the income from the first month of operation to be sought. Letter from resident concerned about Tavistock Road parking to be sent to DNPA

12.7 **Fire & Rescue Service** – The open day had raised £800, which will be split 50/50 between the Fire & Rescue Benevolent Fund and village charities

13. Reports from Meetings with Other Groups

13.1 **“Moor than meets the Eye” (MTMTE) project** (Wendy W) – A meeting had been held with residents of Postbridge and Bellever, plus representatives from the Forestry Commission and from the MTMTE project. Plans were at a very early stage but, initial ideas for improvement included;

- Changes to the car park in Postbridge, opposite the Visitor Centre e.g. for long-term parking
- Tidying up in and around the Clapper Bridge
- Tree thinning

Questions were raised about empty Forestry Commission properties, and residents were told that there were no plans for these properties currently

14. Correspondence

14.1 **National Park Plan document** – The Park Authority had sent out two copies of the Development Management and Delivery Development Plan, which had been adopted on 5 July 2013. On the DNPA website

14.2 **West Devon Homes** – An invitation had been received for the Tenant and Company AGMs which were to be held on 19 September

14.3 **South West Water document** – The *“Water Future, Proposals and Choices 2015 – 2020”* had been received. On the SWW website

14.4 **Electoral Review of West Devon** – This had been set up because 36% of the Borough Council's 22 wards varied by more than 10% from the average electoral variance. Notice provided. Papers to come via email

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- 14.5 **Moor than meets the eye project** – There is a community workshop to be held on Saturday 28 September to find effective ways for people to play their part as the project develops

15. Financial Management

15.1 Summary for August

Payments made			
	Ref 707	A D Inman – Clerk's expenses	£677.47
	Ref 708	M J Druett – grass cutting	£400.00
	Ref 709	Grant Thornton – Annual audit fee	£300.00
	Ref 710	A Jaques – Litter picking	£53.65
	Ref 711	Blachere Illumination – Balance for tree lights	£266.40
Receipts		Nil	
Balance in bank 31 August			£20,548.29
To Receive			
	Ref 712	Santander dividend	£0.39
	Ref 717	WDBC – Second half-year precept	£8,810.50
To pay			
	Ref 713	M J Druett – Grass cutting	£330.00
	Ref 714	F K Martin – Cemetery wall repair	£600.00
	Ref 715	WDBC – Second half-year rates	£61.00
	Ref 716	Duchy – Second half year rent	£36.00
	Ref 718	A Jaques – Litter picking	£53.65
	Ref 719	Duchy – hall hire (final)	£30.00

- 15.2 **Play Area Payment** – the arrival of the second half-year precept means that the payment can be made to Sutcliffe before the grant money is received, and without the account falling into the red

16. Urgent Matters at the Chair's Discretion

- 16.1 **Re-organisation of Prisons** – It was agreed to send a letter of concern to Geoffrey Cox MP regarding the recently announced closure of the Prison in 2023
- 16.2 **Localism clarification** – Check with Councillor Sanders that the Localism Act allows Parish Councils taking over delivery of services from another Council (e.g. grass cutting from WDBC) to be funded by the latter
- 16.3 **Moorland View, Princetown** – Obtain from DNPA clarification on its intentions for Moorland View
- 16.4 **Leat Clearance** – Follow up with South West Water the project to clear the leat between Tor Royal Farm and Peat Cot. Work does not appear to have been completed

17. Any Other Business

- 17.1 **Postbridge, Dog Litter** – Val said that she was looking for a solution to manage the dog litter problem in Postbridge
- 17.2 **Postbridge Village Hall Sign** – A new sign was needed and Val said that she would be seeking a donation from the Council towards the purchase of a new sign for the Village Hall

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- 17.3 **Macmillan Coffee Morning** – This will be held in the Community Centre on the morning of Friday 27 September in the Community Centre
- 17.4 **Saving our High Streets** – High Moorland WI will have a tent/gazebo on Princetown village green on Saturday 14 September to highlight the need to keep high streets alive and healthy

PUBLIC SESSION – Nothing to report

Next Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.57 pm

The next Parish Council meeting will be at **7.30 pm MONDAY 7 October 2013** in **The Forest Inn, Hexworthy**

Alison will chair the meeting

Apology from Val, who will be on holiday, and a standing Monday evening apology from Paul

List of Sub-Groups and Special Interests

Parish Emergency Group – Cliff, Paul and David	Special Interest Cemetery – Val
Parish Plan Sub-Group – Alison, Val, Wendy	Special Interest Housing – Wendy S
Parking Sub-Group – Gregg, Paul	Special Interest Princetown Community Centre – Wendy S
Play Area Sub-Group – Emma and Cliff	Special Interest Princetown Primary – Wendy W
Princetown Toilets Sub Group – Paul and Wendy S	Special Interest Southern Link – Paul
Website Sub-Group – Gregg and David	Special Interest Youth Club – Wendy S

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