

DARTMOOR FOREST PARISH COUNCIL
Minutes of the Council meeting held on Tuesday 14 January 2014
in the Community Centre, Princetown at 7.30 pm

Present

Princetown
 Emma Derham
 Cliff Palmer
 Paul Turnbull
 John Steele
 Wendy Stones
 David Worth

Postbridge
 Val Greatrex
 Wendy Watson

Hexworthy/Huccaby
 Alison Geen (Chair)

Apologies

Princetown
 Gregg Manning

Postbridge

Hexworthy/Huccaby

Absent without Apology

Princetown
 None

Postbridge

Hexworthy/Huccaby

In Attendance

Pam Carter (Youth Projects Manager, Stonehouse Youth Projects)
 Nigel Tigwell (Clerk Designate)

There were two 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 December 2013
4.	Youth Club update
5.	Police Matters
6.	Matters arising from the previous meeting and not on the Agenda
7.	Budget 2014/15
8.	Community Centre & Youth Club
9.	Repairs & maintenance
10.	Highways jobs
	PUBLIC SESSION
11.	Planning applications
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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Signature of Chair

10 February 2014

1. Apologies

There was an apology from Gregg, who hoped to be back to the meetings from February

The Chair welcomed Nigel Tigwell who would be the new Clerk, subject to satisfactory references

2. Declarations of interest

Alison declared an interest in the Pizwell Farm planning application

Paul declared an interest in the Wesley House planning application

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

The minutes of 9 December were agreed as a true record and signed by the Chair

4. Youth Club Update

The Chair welcomed Pam Carter, who said that the wishes of young people had been taken into consideration when designing activities and this had contributed to the high attendance levels currently being experienced for the two weekly sessions that were running. About 20 people attended the sessions for younger children, with between 12 and 20 attending the sessions for older children

Funding had also been successful, with grants from the Dartmoor Sustainability Fund being used for the Moor Active project, which was aimed at improving the employability of young people. Interest had been expressed in Youth Worker training, with those who had undergone training returning, in a voluntary capacity, to help with activities for the younger children. Moor to Mouth was another project, where it was hoped that a community garden could be created in the land around the Pavilion, and maintained inter-generationally. An application had also been made for a grant from the Lottery's Grow Wild fund, which, if successful, would be used to plant native species of plants and to purchase tools and a shed

The application for funding from Microsoft had also been successful. Under this initiative, three young people would be trained in London to become mentors to enable them to support local children to improve their IT proficiency. There would also be new IT equipment and software installed in the Pavilion

Sessions for these new projects would run on Thursdays and (monthly) on Sundays, starting on Thursday 13 February

Councillors confirmed to Pam that the Parish Council would set aside £1,000 in the financial year starting in April for the rent on the Pavilion and continuing repayment of the loan

Paul asked about measures that would be taken to ensure that the Pavilion and the proposed garden were not subject to vandalism. Pam said that she had a meeting scheduled with Tom Stratton to discuss fencing the proposed garden area, whilst still allowing people to walk through it

Pam left the meeting

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5. Police Matters

PC Dave Pickles (via a verbal report to the Clerk) had effected a holding repair to the male toilets in Princetown, after a report of damage had been made by John. In addition, the door to the disabled toilets had been left open and the heater had been left running. The Clerk had reported these matters to WDBC

The patrols in Princetown were continuing in order to ensure that the Community Centre remained safe.

Plans for the re-organisation of the Neighbourhood Teams were still being drawn up. This was likely to see a reduction in the number of Neighbourhood Beat Managers, of which there were currently four

The Christmas tree lights had been vandalised on new year's eve, rendering one of the three sets unusable

ACTION; Clerk to inform Police

6. Matters arising from the previous Meeting

6.1 **Clerk's Recruitment** – The interviews had taken place earlier in the day. There were three shortlisted applicants and the job had been offered to Nigel Tigwell, subject to satisfactory references

6.2 **Grass Cutting** – The current three year contract will end on 31 March this year. The Clerk explained that the procurement exercise for the new contract was likely to be much more time consuming and complex than normal. This was due to;

- The proposed increase in the areas to be cut
- A potentially steep increase in the number of contractors wishing to quote for the work
- The negotiation with land owners/tenants to secure donations towards the cost of providing the service

In view of this, the Clerk proposed that the current contract should be extended by two months (i.e. April and May) to allow time for the work to be completed

DECISION; Councillors voted unanimously to extend the current contract by two months, until 31 May

The Clerk will issue to all Councillors a copy of the latest version of the list of areas to be cut

6.3 **Councillor Vacancy** – the formal notice of casual vacancy had been posted, and the deadline for receipt of requests for election was 27 January

7. Budget 2014/15

The donations to various projects around the Parish for 2014/15 were agreed as follows;

Princetown Youth Club	£1,000
Refurbishment of St Raphael's	£750
Signage for Postbridge village hall	£400
Repair to the wall and monuments in Postbridge cemetery	£1,000
Installation of a defibrillator (site to be agreed).	£1,800
Replacing damaged Christmas tree lights in Princetown	£100

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DECISION; The vote on the precept £17,359 was carried unanimously. Last year's precept was £17,621

8. Community Centre and Youth Club (Wendy S)

8.1 Community Centre

Wendy S said that a meeting of the Trustees' Board had been set for 16 January

8.2 Youth Club –

Wendy S had had confirmation from Adrian Kemp (Stonehouse Youth Projects), that funding would be made available to run a summer holiday club for children under 11

9. Repairs & Maintenance –

It was noted that the kiosk opposite the war memorial had been damaged, and repaired, on two separate occasions

Progress report needed on Ivybridge Lane as the new season starts to increase numbers using it (e.g. Ten Tors training)

Reminder to the Park Authority needed regarding the shifting granite setts around the war memorial

10. Highways Jobs

To be reported;

- Water is exiting the bank by the arboretum in Princetown, from the gate to the Prison corner (heading into Tavistock)
- Water is flooding down through the Forestry Commission's car park in Postbridge and depositing dangerous detritus (e.g. large stones) onto the B3212
- Pressure of water is lifting a manhole cover halfway down Pork Hill
- Reminder of the dropped manhole cover outside the Prince of Wales
- Potholes in the road across Dunnabridge Common and across the cattle grid
- B3212 by Postbridge Village Hall – possible collapsing drain
- Road from Slade to Saddlesbridge – pothole/collapsed drain

Val reported that the Forestry Commission were dealing with problems causing flooding across the bridge outside the Postbridge Village Stores

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Nothing to report

Signature of Chair

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11. Planning

11.1 The following planning applications were received in December

DNPA Ref. & Applic. Type	Description	Location	Comments
14/0010 Full PP	Provision of new steps and ramp access to the front entrance	National Park Visitor Centre Tavistock Road Princetown	With Councillors for review
13/0656 Cert of Lawfnss	Removal of chimneys	1, 2, 8, 9, 15, 16 and 17 Burrator Avenue Princetown	Supported, but with reservations about the choice of properties
13/0647 Prior notific	Extension to existing agricultural building	Brimpts Farm Dartmeet	Supported by the Parish Council
13/0633 Prior notific	Lean-to extension for agricultural storage adjoining existing cattle shed	Pizwell Farm Postbridge	Granted; work to start within five years
13/0581 Full PP	Conversion of former Methodist chapel to form three open market dwellings, incorporating new access onto highway	Wesley House Two Bridges Road Princetown	Supported by the Parish Council, but with reservations about displaced parking in the immediate vicinity
13/0537 Full PP	Second storey extension over existing extension at rear of the property	6 Tor View Princetown	Granted; Work to start within 3 years First floor bathroom window facing SW shall be glazed in obscure glass in perpetuity Materials to finish external walls and roof shall match those on the existing building
13/0004 Change of use	Change of use of upper yard to trekking centre	Tor Royal Farm Princetown	Granted: Conditions as set down in the Agreement with the Duchy

11.2 **Tor Royal Farm** – The Agreement with the Duchy will be made available to Princetown Councillors for information

12. Reports from Sub-Groups and Special Interest Groups

12.1 School (Wendy W)

The new intake this term has taken the number on roll to 76

A new teacher has started for the Kestrels class

This year's residential will be in London from 6 to 11 July

12.2 Play Area (Cliff)

Cliff reported that all was well. He said that the bad weather had meant that he had been unable to replace the rotten wood on the climbing frame. However, it was not dangerous.

12.3 Cemetery (Val) - Nothing to report

12.4 Emergency Plan (David) –

There was still no snow in the forecast for the month. One more volunteer had joined the snow clearing team

Signature of Chair

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12.5 **Parish Plan Sub-Group** – Nothing to report

12.6 **Parking Sub-Group** –

The Sub-Postmaster in Princetown had suggested that a “No parking” sign should be wrapped around the post box outside the Post Office

ACTION; Clerk to obtain progress report on the Traffic Order from Councillor Sanders

12.7 **Fire & Rescue Service** – Paul reported that the recent bad weather had brought down trees again at Holming Beam, which had prevented a Fire and Rescue vehicle from getting through to deal with an emergency

13. **Reports from Meetings with Other Groups** – nothing to report

14. **Correspondence**

14.1 **Devon Senior Voice** – latest edition received

14.2 **Western Power Distribution (WPD) Stakeholder Workshops** – A series of workshops is being held in February. The workshops will;

- Explain WPD’s business plan in detail
- Outline Ofgem’s assessment
- Explain WPD’s roadmap for delivering its key commitments

14.3 **National Park Affordable Housing** – Consultation on the Supplementary Planning Document for affordable housing will run from 17 January to 28 February. The Parish Council will be able to respond to this, if required.

ACTION: The Clerk will email a copy of the Document to all Councillors

14.4 **Abbots Way Walk** – This year’s walk will be held on Sunday 5 October, starting at Buckfast Abbey, passing through Princetown and ending in Tavistock. All walkers should be through Princetown by 3.00 pm. The Park Authority had asked the organisers (Tavistock and District Outdoor Education Forum) to keep the Parish Council informed about the event

14.5 **DCC Accommodation Strategy** – The County Council is holding a series of events to engage with stakeholders about the range of accommodation options needed in the future for older people. The nearest venue would be either Totnes, on Monday 27 January, or Exeter Football Club, on Friday 31 January. Sessions start at 10.00 am and end at 12.30 pm

14.6 **Spinal Injuries Association Event** – The Association is holding its annual fund raising fish and chip supper event on Friday 16 May. Notices available for posting

15. **Financial Management**

15.1 **Summary for December**

Payments made			
	Ref 738	M J Druett - grass cutting for Sept and Oct	£540.00
	Ref 739	A Jaques – litter picking	£53.65

Signature of Chair

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Receipts			
	Ref 734	DCC grant for play area	£7,888.00
	Ref 735	Santander dividend	£3.10
	Ref 736	Commonwealth War Graves Commission - 3 yearly payment	£18.00
	Ref 737	HMRC - VAT refund	£3,605.18
Balance in bank 31 Dec			£21,683.31
To receive			
		Nil	
To pay			
	Ref 740	A D Inman – Clerk’s expenses	£182.56
	Ref 741	A Jaques – litter picking	£53.65
	Ref 742	WDBC – dog bin servicing	£64.90

16. **Urgent Matters at the Chair’s Discretion** – Nothing to report

17. **Any Other Business**

17.1 Follow up the possibility of erecting a bus stop sign outside Lords Restaurant

PUBLIC SESSION – Nothing to report

Next Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.10 pm

The next Parish Council meeting will be at **7.30 pm MONDAY 10 February 2014** in the **Community Centre, Prinetown**

There is a standing apology for Paul for Monday meetings due to Fire and Rescue commitments

David will chair the meeting.

List of Sub-Groups and Special Interests

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

Signature of Chair

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