

**DARTMOOR FOREST PARISH COUNCIL****Minutes of the Council meeting held on Monday 12 April 2010  
in the Village Centre, Princetown at 8.00 pm****Present****Princetown**

Ms Emma Derham  
Mr Cliff Palmer  
Mrs Wendy Stones  
Mr Paul Turnbull  
Mr David Worth

**Postbridge**

Mr Dave Fisher (Chair)

**Hexworthy/Huccaby**

Ms Alison Geen

**Apologies****Princetown**

Mr Gary Easton  
Ms Sarah Ruffles

**Postbridge**

Mrs Wendy Watson

**Hexworthy/Huccaby****Absent without Apology****Princetown**

None

**Postbridge**

None

**Hexworthy/Huccaby**

None

**In Attendance**

PCSO Mark Canvin  
Serena Rouse (DNPA)  
Councillor Philip Sanders, DCC

3 members of the public

**A G E N D A**

|    |                                                                 |
|----|-----------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1  | To receive apologies                                            |
| 2  | Declarations of Interest                                        |
| 3  | Report from Beat Manager                                        |
| 4  | To accept the minutes of the meeting held on 1 March 2010       |
| 5  | Matters arising from the previous meeting and not on the Agenda |
| 6  | Parish Planning                                                 |
| 7  | Play Area Development Group                                     |
| 8  | Update on Highways jobs                                         |
| 9  | Reports from Committees                                         |
| 10 | Reports from meetings with other groups                         |
| 11 | Correspondence                                                  |
| 12 | Financial management                                            |
| 13 | Planning applications                                           |
| 14 | Urgent matters at the Chair's discretion                        |
| 15 | Any other business                                              |

**1. Apologies**

There were apologies from Gary, Sarah and Wendy W.

Date: 10 May 2010

Signature of Chair

## 2. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

David W had a change to his circumstances and the amendment form was completed and signed

## 3. Beat Manager's Report

Mark said that a troublesome young person, whose family formerly lived in Princetown, had been seen recently in Tavistock. Although not banned from the village, it was unlikely that he would return.

Vehicle theft is on the increase, with five cases being reported in one day alone. Police believe that a professional thief from Exeter is currently operating in the area. There had been a car break-in outside the East Dart Hotel.

Mark said that the multi-agency Moorwatch scheme had started for the season and he brought some car stickers for information. This year the scheme includes activities designed to discourage livestock theft. Officers would be working with farmers to check livestock transfers. This did not pose a threat to bone fide farmers, but would send out a message to would-be thieves that Police are carrying out checks.

The case of sheep worrying involving a resident in Sheepstor had come to court and the resident had pleaded guilty. This sends a message to members of the public that the Police take such matters very seriously.

Flytipping is on the increase on the Moor. There is particular concern about a tradesman who is dumping bathroom fittings and materials. Residents were asked to be watchful and to report any useful information to the Police.

Mark said that an initiative had started to train local residents to use a speed gun. Motorists found to be speeding would receive a letter of warning. Residents would operate the gun outside their own Ward of the Parish to avoid any possibility of conflict.

On 12 March Wendy S and Dave F had attended the drop-in at Okehampton Police Station, at the invitation of Superintendent Sharpe. They said that it was a good session, with Officers giving information on the types of pressures under which they operate.

Mark reminded those present that Devon was still the second safest place to live in England

## 4. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of 1 March were signed as a true record

## 5. Matters arising from the previous Meeting and not on the Agenda

- 5.1 **DNPA Workshop Notes** – Notes had been received from the workshop on 23 February that was devoted to the Landscape Character Assessment of Dartmoor. Alison took the papers
- 5.2 **Access Track in Postbridge** – the Duchy completed works to deal with the drainage issue affecting properties in Postbridge. The track has been levelled and additional stone has been laid

Date: 10 May 2010

Signature of Chair

## 6. Parish Planning

The Community Council of Devon (CCD) has suggested that the first anniversary celebration of the Village Centre on 24 April would present a good opportunity to introduce Parish Planning and to gather information from residents.

**ACTION:** Clerk to contact Audrey Vigni to organise this

Residents from Postbridge and Hexworthy were considered unlikely to attend the event so the Clerk will ask CCD for advice on collecting Parish Planning input from these residents.

## 7. Play Area Development Group (PADG) (Gary)

DCSF grant funding has been confirmed as £35,000

Sarah had offered to check out the contract with DCC that the Council is required to sign. The Clerk will be the signatory, as agreed at last month's meeting.

Tom Stratton had confirmed in a letter dated 17 March that the Duchy is undertaking the necessary work to stabilise the footpath adjacent to the Village Centre that is subject to stone being washed out. It was noted that the broken drain, which was the root cause of the problem, had been repaired that day.

Closure of the Tavistock entrance to the play area and removal of willow and the post and rail fence will be carried out at the same time.

## 8. Update on Highways Jobs

### 8.1 **New Jobs**

- The granite sets are moving in Tavistock Road and Two Bridges Road, causing the pavements to ripple and allowing puddles and ice to form
- Lack of proper signage to Princetown from Rundlestone to be raised again with Highways
- The "No Through Road" sign in front of The Forest Inn has disappeared
- There is a drain problem on the Postbridge/Widecombe road
- Speed repeater signs are missing on Tavistock Road and Two Bridges Road
- Loading/unloading is being carried out on the piazza outside the Creativity Centre, rather than at the rear entrance [this may require a letter to the Duchy rather than Highways]

Copies of letters to Highways to be sent to Councillor Sanders

### 8.2 **Existing Jobs**

The Tavistock Road sign has been fixed to the wall of the Creativity Centre

Date: 10 May 2010

Signature of Chair

## 9. Reports from Committees

### 9.1 School (Wendy W)

Nothing to report in Wendy W's absence

### 9.2 Playground (Gary)

Reported at the Annual Parish Meeting

### 9.3 Cemetery (Dave)

Reported at the Annual Parish Meeting

## 10. Reports from Meetings with Other Groups

### 10.1 Southern Parishes Link Committee

Paul and Dave F were unable to attend the meeting on 25 March

## 11. Correspondence

11.1 **DNPA Monthly Meeting** – calling papers for the meeting on 9 April had been received

11.2 **DNPA Director Vacancy** – with the departure of Chris France, DNPA has announced that Colin Jarvis will be Acting Director of Development and Sustainable Planning and Phil Markham will be Acting Head of Development Management. The Authority has made it clear that it is not a foregone conclusion that the Director's role will be filled in the present difficult financial climate

11.3 **General Election Notices** – A notice calling for parliamentary nominations will be posted in notice boards in the next few days

11.4 **Commoners' Council Elections** – A notice calling for nominations to the Council has been posted in all notice boards

11.5 **Dartmoor Ultra Marathon**– The event takes place on Saturday 5 June and the usual notices have been placed in the notice boards

11.6 **NHS Newsletter** – The March newsletter from the Royal Devon and Exeter NHS Foundation Trust had been received

Mark Canvin left the meeting

## 12. Financial Management

### 12.1 Summary for March

|                                     |         |                                       |           |
|-------------------------------------|---------|---------------------------------------|-----------|
| <b>Payments made</b>                | Ref 450 | M J Williams – litter picking         | £49.66    |
|                                     | Ref 451 | Postbridge Village Hall hire          | £15.00    |
|                                     | Ref 452 | HMCA – hire of hall for PADG meetings | £57.00    |
|                                     | Ref 453 | DAPC – New Councillors' courses       | £58.75    |
| <b>Receipts</b>                     | Ref 449 | Santander dividend payment            | £8.61     |
| <b>Balance in bank<br/>31 March</b> |         |                                       | £3,927.22 |

Date: 10 May 2010

Signature of Chair

| To Receive |         |                                                     |         |
|------------|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------|
| To pay     | Ref 454 | L D Parr – Posts for PNW                            | £180.00 |
|            | Ref 455 | Allianz Insurance – annual premium                  | £653.83 |
|            | Ref 456 | DPFA – annual membership fee                        | £35.00  |
|            | Ref 457 | Community Council of Devon – Village Green magazine | £6.50   |
|            | Ref 459 | WDBC – NNDR for cemetery                            | £83.52  |
|            | Ref 460 | HMCA – hire of hall for meetings                    | £50.00  |
|            | Ref 461 | Duchy of Cornwall – rent for land in Princetown     | £29.38  |
|            | Ref 462 | M J Williams – litter picking                       | £50.27  |

### 12.2 Final Position for 2009/10

The quarterly budget management report for the 2009/10 year was distributed. There had been a number of relatively significant variances from the budget during the year. The end result had been that the Council's spend had been approximately £600 below budget. This was largely due to progress on improving the Play Area taking longer than was originally planned, resulting in the budget of £500 not being spent. This has been carried forward to the current year.

The cash position at year-end was £3,927 against a budget of £3,307

### 12.3 Roundabout Parish Magazine

The magazine will shortly become free of charge.

**DECISION:** It was agreed to pay an annual donation of £60 in June, at the same time as the Parish Link donation is made

## 13. Planning Applications

13.1 The following planning application correspondence was received in March

| DNPA Ref. & Application Type  | Description                                  | Location                         | Comments                                                                                                                                                                |
|-------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 10/0151<br>DPP                | Silage clamps to replace two existing clamps | HMP Dartmoor                     | Papers were distributed for comment                                                                                                                                     |
| 10/0065<br>Prior notification | Erection of porch extension                  | Hillside Cottage<br>Merrivale    | Refused on the grounds that it clearly contravenes national guidance on design standards. Design will lead to further loss in the traditional character of the property |
| 10/0062<br>LBC                | New vestry and car park extension            | St Raphael's Chapel<br>Hexworthy | Granted                                                                                                                                                                 |
| 10/0061                       | New vestry and car park extension            | St Raphael's Chapel<br>Hexworthy | As above                                                                                                                                                                |

13.2 **DNPA Development Management Committee** – calling papers for the meeting on 9 April had been received

Date: 10 May 2010

Signature of Chair

#### 14. Urgent Matters at the Chair's Discretion

- 14.1 **Fire & Rescue Turnout** – David W had been asked by a resident to query the apparently excessive turnout of Officers and vehicles to fires on the Moor. Serena Rouse said that the objective is to prevent the spread of fire and the turnout will reflect this
- 14.2 **Sweeping up Broken Glass** – Residents had queried why the roadsweeper does not pick up glass. Councillor Sanders will find out

#### 15. Any Other Business

- 15.1 **Dog Litter Bin** – Paul said that there was a need for a bin in Bellever Close, by the school wall  
**DECISION:** It was agreed that a bin should be purchased
- 15.2 **Litter Bin** – there is a need for a litter bin to be installed on the corner of Woodville Avenue  
**ACTION:** Clerk to make a request to WDBC, giving Wendy S as the contact in the event of query
- 15.3 **Lower Bus Shelter, Princetown** – Wendy S said that the bus shelter needed painting  
**DECISION:** It was agreed that paint should be purchased. Emma volunteered to help with the painting
- 15.4 **WDBC Refuse & Recycling Contract** – Councillor McPhie had sent a report in her absence saying that there would be a delay in starting the new contract with FOCSA due to the refuse collection vehicles not being ordered early enough  
**ACTION:** Clerk to contact Councillor McPhie to request assurance that the new vehicles will be able to negotiate the difficult bridges in the Parish (e.g. Huccaby), as this was a problem when the previous fleet of vehicles was purchased

#### **PUBLIC SESSION**

1. There is some confusion over the extension of the free bus journey period from 9.30 am to 9.00 am. The Local Authority is still in negotiation with the bus companies on this matter
2. Serena Rouse will provide a report for next month's meeting, and will send a list of jobs to be undertaken by the Authority in the current financial year
3. The DNPA website currently has a consultation on the restructuring of the Ranger service  
**ACTION:** Clerk to send a letter to Kevin Bishop expressing the Council's concern and asking for further information

#### Next Meeting

There being no further business, the meeting closed at 9.15 pm

The next Parish Council meeting will be at **7.30 pm on Monday 10 May 2010** in the **Village Centre, Princetown**

Date: 10 May 2010

Signature of Chair