



# Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

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12 August 2014

## Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting at 1930 on 11 August 2014 in Princetown Community Centre.

Hexworthy/Huccaby Ward:	Princetown Ward:	
Cllr Alison Geen	Cllr Emma Derham	Cllr Wendy Stones
Postbridge Ward:	Cllr Jackie Gee	Cllr Paul Turnbull
Cllr Wendy Watson	Cllr Gregg Manning	Cllr David Worth
Cllr Val Greatrex	Cllr Cliff Palmer	

There was one member of the public present.

### 1. Apologies.

There were apologies from Cllr Alison Geen, Cllr Paul Turnbull and Cllr Wendy Watson.

### 2. Declarations of Interest

No amendments were reported.

### 3. Minutes of the last meeting.

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed and signed by the Chair.

### 4. Police Matters.

Holne New Bridge had been closed without prior notification to the Council, which had been customary in the past. DCC Bridge Maintenance has apologised and Cllr Alison Geen is liaising with the contractor's customer liaison office to ensure we get prior notification in future.

A bunch of keys belonging to a Youth Worker enabling access to buildings in Princetown, Plymouth and a vehicle went missing during the Youth Club Fair on 3 August.

There has been vandalism of parked cars in Hessary Terrace: in one instance a car was 'keyed' and in another an incorrect key was broken off in a door lock.

An attempt was made to gain access to the Community Centre using an incorrect key, which broke off in the lock resulting in significant repair costs by a locksmith. The perpetrators were seen by a group of children and names were passed to the Police.

### 5. Repairs, Maintenance & Highways

The work to replace the metal gutter outside the Post Office in Princetown is provisionally booked in for the end of September, but DCC Highways states this might change due to budgetary issues, weather etc.

Councillors were frustrated at the delay in repairing potholes on the approach to the DNPA car park. These are now deep and some cars have been damaged when they have hit the holes.



## 6. Dog Control Orders

The Council had been consulted about the proposed WDBC Dog Control Orders in March and at the time was content, but had not appreciated that the definition of coverage would include all open moorland. The recent public consultation has highlighted that the proposed Fouling of Land By Dogs Order would introduce an £80 fine for any failure to remove dog faeces from the moor. The only exemption is Forestry Commission land. The Council considered this unreasonable and was critical of the letter from WDBC published in the Tavistock & Princetown Times Gazette suggesting enforcement would be selective and the order might only be enforced in some areas if there is a problem. The Council considered it poor policy to impose regulations that: are ambiguous in their applicability; will not or cannot be enforced; or where enforcement policy can legitimately change without consultation.

The Clerk is to write to WDBC withdrawing support for this order unless there is a further exemption for open moorland in the Parish.

### FIRST PUBLIC SESSION

Nothing was raised.

## 7. Reports from Committees, Sub-Groups and Special Interests.

**Community Centre.** Ian Morgan has been re-elected as Chair. The Community Centre is awaiting prisoner to be assigned for cleaning duties. Maz Forbes has done a lot of investigation into lower cost utility suppliers, but this is still ongoing. The installation of sensors in key areas has been proposed and quotes are being sought. The Pre-School issue remains ongoing and solicitors are currently waiting for instructions from the Community Centre Committee. The Charity Shop quarterly cheque was to the value of £506.30.

On 23 August the Community Centre will host a Royal British Legion Poppy Picnic in aid of Help for Heroes. This will include a BBQ and children's activities; with a Disco and Beer Festival in the evening with contributions from five local breweries.

**Pavilion Youth Club.** The Youth Club Fair on 3 August was a great success.

**Parking Committee.** Nothing to report.

**Princetown Primary School.** The school is on summer holidays. An OFSTED inspection is scheduled for the next school year and the management team are working closely with the LEA to understand the new inspection requirements.

**Emergency Planning Sub-Group.** Nothing to report.

**Public Library Sub-Group.** All submissions and letters in support of the plan to keep the library open were submitted on time by registered post. All children in Years 4 and 5 had written individual letters in support.

**Parish Plan Sub-Group.** Owing to unforeseen circumstances the sub-group was unable to attend the Youth Club Fair to seek the views of Parishioners.

**Play Area Sub-Group.** Cllr Cliff Palmer has inspected the Play Area and all is in order. He will repair the climbing frame with wood generously donated by Anton Coaker Ltd. The Council agreed to support the Tarrant family's choice of site for a memorial tree on the North West side at the end of the existing line of trees.

**Princetown Toilets Sub-Group.** Nothing to report.

**Postbridge Village Hall.** Gerald Smerdon has stepped down as Chairman and his replacement is expected to be appointed at the next committee meeting. The committee is fundraising for a new borehole as the water lease expires in 3 years.

**Fire & Rescue Service.** The Princetown team is hoping to recruit new members as the crew is down to 8 when it has the potential for 14. Recruits with availability during the day time are particularly sought. The crewmembers are committing as much time as possible to keep things running smoothly. Anyone interested in joining should go to the station on a Monday evening and speak to Matt Head or Andy Steele.

**Food Bank.** No-one attended any of the four Food Bank openings in Princetown, although it is known Princetown residents have attended the Tavistock Food Bank. The Food Bank Committee intends to persevere to save people the cost of getting to Tavistock and plan a leaflet drop followed by two further openings, before reviewing this facility.

**Emergency Committee.** No activity has been needed.

**1914 Commemoration Garden.** The Council agreed to pay for the mortar needed by volunteers from the Womens' Institute to mortar in the granite setts around Princetown War Memorial.

## 8. Reports from other meetings

Nil.

## 9. Progress reports on previous actions, not on the Agenda

**Defibrillators.** The telephone has been removed from Hexworthy telephone kiosk and the kiosk will be transferred to the Council in the next week or so. The existing cabinet will be installed here. After the bureaucracy is complete to upgrade the TAP fund cabinet, the Council will face around £18 surcharge. No action has been taken to arrange for the Postbridge defibrillator installation at the shop owing to the Smerdon family's personal circumstances. This defibrillator will remain at Middle Merripit at least until the second cabinet arrives.

**Dartmoor Classic Sportive wash-up.** The letter has been sent and acknowledged by DNPA and Mid Devon Cycling Club. Both organisations are attending a meeting of the Teignbridge Safety Advisory Group (TSAG) which is holding a periodic review of the event. DNPA will inform the Council of the outcome in due course.

**Christmas tree lights.** Two strings have been purchased as agreed at the last meeting. Following problems with the previous purchase from this company the Clerk bought them personally and sought reimbursement.

**Banking arrangements.** The Co-Operative Bank will not permit the Council to hold the accounts discussed at the last meeting. The Clerk is still in discussions with various banks to try to find the best option.

**Traffic Regulation Order.** This is progressing. It was advertised in the Tavistock and Princetown Times Gazette on 31 July. The consultation period lasts until 21 August. A Civil Enforcement Officer was on duty in Princetown recently.

**Planning application for Football Club.** DNPA have returned the planning application seeking greater details on the proposals. The Clerk is developing these with the Club.

**Grass cutting contract.** Contracts have not been exchanged as the Clerk is still waiting on a quote from Mike Druett for churchyard subsequent cuts. Sections of the churchyard have been cut by volunteers but the majority remains overgrown.

**Investigate grants for a skate park.** No further action has been taken by the Clerk, although two children have approached Cllr Wendy Stones about writing a letter to the Prince of Wales seeking land for a skate park.

**Outline plans for Play Area improvements Phase 3.** Phase 3 will focus on the 11-12 year age group and potentially will include a high slide, a goal post and a netball hoop. Detailed planning will commence when Cllr Emma Derham becomes available.

**Approach local businesses for chargeable links and adverts.** A notice was included in the August Parish Link and Around & About advertising this facility on the Council's website. Direct approaches to local businesses will take place when the Clerk's workload permits.

## 10. Planning applications

a. The current status is:

With the Parish Council	0400/14	Erection of agricultural building Dunnabridge Farm
<i>Neighbouring Parish, potentially impacting DFPC</i>	0351/14	<i>Blackdown Piper Farm DFPC has objected</i>
Recent DNPA decisions (all conditional approval)	0272/14 0320/14 0319/14	Demolition outbuildings & single storey extension, 29 Blackbrook Installation of 2 transmission discs on mast, North Hessary Tor Retrospective for 4mx3m field shelter, Oakery Bridge
With DNPA		
Awaiting enforcement action	0164/07	Beardown Farm un-authorized chalet. Clerk is awaiting update from Jo Burgess.

The Council agreed to support the application at Dunnabridge Farm.

## 11. Correspondence

Correspondence has been uploaded to the website. The more significant papers are:

The public right to record and report Council Meetings is now law

Ward Boundaries

DNPA Planning Update

War Memorials Trust

Citizens Advice Bureau update

Community Council of Devon

WDBC 'Our Plan' update

West Devon Homes

Exminster Neighbourhood Plan

Broadband website

Devon Senior Voice 'Everyone's Tomorrow'

Healthwatch Devon 'Voices'

West Devon Polling Review

South West Water drains

National Rural Crime Network

**12. Financial management**

a. Cheques approved this month:

789	A Jaques Litter Picking	£ 53.65
791	Nigel Tigwell - Tree Lights & Admin Expenses	£ 204.94
792	Nigel Tigwell – WDBC Southern Link Expenses	£ 150.00

**b. Bank Reconciliation.**

Balance on July Statement	£ 21156.50
Outstanding Income	£ 0.00
Nil	
Outstanding Cheques	
1121 - DNPA - Planning App Football Club	£ 97.50
Reconciled Total	£ 21059.00

c. **Forecast of Outturn.** This is shown in the tables and graphs attached.

**13. Urgent decisions since the last meeting**

None.

**14. Any Other Business**

The South Hessary spade head mark will be replaced on 17 August.

The candlelight service by Princetown War Memorial to commemorate the centenary of the outbreak of the First World War was attended by around 60 parishioners and went well.

The annual Dartmoor Arts and Crafts Show hosted at Princetown Primary School has numerous arts and crafts for sale as well as a quilt exhibition with work from across the South West. The Womens' Institute are doing refreshments with proceeds going towards the OAP Christmas Party.

A Facebook Group called 'What's Happening In Princetown? Advertise You Village Activity Here' has been started by parishioners detailing forthcoming events in the village. It can be accessed on: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/742792675759688/?fref=ts>

Residents in Station Road have expressed concern over public use of the private lane by the Jubilee Field as the gate to the field is blocked.

**SECOND PUBLIC SESSION**

Nothing was raised.

**15. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting will be at 1930 9 September 2014 at Princetown.