



Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

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10 September 2014

Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting at 1930 on 9 September 2014 in Princetown Community Centre.

In attendance:

Hexworthy/Huccaby Ward:	Princetown Ward:	
Cllr Alison Geen	Cllr Jackie Gee	Cllr Wendy Stones
Postbridge Ward:	Cllr Cliff Palmer	Cllr David Worth
Cllr Val Greatrex		

Cllr Alison Geen chaired the meeting.

There was one member of the public in attendance.

1. **Apologies.**

There were apologies from Cllr Emma Derham, Cllr Gregg Manning, Cllr Paul Turnbull, Cllr Wendy Watson and the Clerk. Ann Inman took the minutes in the Clerk's absence

2. **Declarations of Interest**

No amendments were reported.

David Worth declared an interest in the planning application for the proposed Duchy development in Bellever Close as this included detail of changes to his property

3. **Minutes of the last meeting.**

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

4. **Police Matters.**

The Clerk had spoken informally to PCSO Mark Canvin who had made it clear that the former structure of neighbourhood policing was now at an end. PCSO numbers had reduced significantly through natural wastage and a ban on recruitment, and those PCSOs that remained spent much of their time in support of their police colleagues. Mark could not commit to providing a monthly report or to attending meetings. He was aware of recent issues discussed by DFPC.

The unscheduled closure of Holne New Bridge had been due to an emergency, for which notice was not necessary. No further action required.

Motorcycles are racing up Plymouth Hill heading to Yelverton without check, due to a lack of police presence in the area. The problem is particularly noticeable between 1600 and 1800 and at week-ends. The matter is to be reported to Mark and a response is to be requested

A caravan had reportedly disappeared from Lords Restaurant car park and had then re-appeared



5. Repairs, Maintenance & Highways

A resident in Station Cottages had written to the Parish Council asking for the road from the war memorial to the boundary with private land to be properly repaired. It was noted that, despite Highways denying responsibility for the upkeep of this road, they had a track record of repairing potholes, line painting and gritting the road. This matter to be taken up with John Doswell

The Traffic Order for surface dressing the B3357 had been published and repairs were in hand, but it would be unlikely that this work would be completed before the Tour of Britain came through

It was noted that the Lengthsman page on Highways' new website was blank

Councillors declined to attend the annual Highways' conference

Councillors were undecided about writing a letter to South West Resilience supporting increased investment in the transport network

Highways have acknowledged ownership of the problem with blocked ditches near Dury Cottage on the B3212 in Postbridge. Work will be carried out in October to investigate the blockages and to make a definitive diagnosis

The area adjacent to number 25 Burrator Avenue is litter strewn and unkempt. A previous Councillor had led the work to investigate improving the area, and had left comprehensive notes, including the name of the organisation responsible for keeping the area tidy. These notes to be used as a start point for seeking improvements

There had been complaints from several residents that black plastic refuse bags were accumulating at the bottom of the alley behind properties in Burrator Avenue and were being ripped open by foxes. It was reported that the root cause of the accumulation was residents putting out their bags on the wrong day. It was noted that wheelie bins would not provide a suitable solution as the collection vehicles used for Princetown lacked the loading/unloading mechanism to empty the bins. The Parish Council will contact WDBC to seek options for resolving the problem

6. Review of Code of Conduct

This was carried forward to October's meeting

7. Vodafone OPEN SURE SIGNAL

Vodafone currently had an offer to enable 3G connection for rural communities, but this was dependent on the community having 4Mbps broadband speed. Councillors to use the Vodafone website to ascertain whether the solution would work in their area. The offer is open until 14 October

8. FIRST PUBLIC SESSION

Nothing was raised.

9. Reports from Committees, Sub- Groups and Special Interests.

Community Centre

- Help for Heroes BBQ & Family Fun Day on August 23rd 2-4pm. Race Night 7-11pm. Over £500 raised.
- Electrician notified re corridor and outside lights to be repaired.
- CCTV discussed after locksmith having to be called out on 4th August due to vandalism. Everyone agreed that costings be sought.
- Gas and electricity suppliers have been changed. This should give a saving.
- Pre-school remains ongoing.
- Ian Morgan asked that he be sent copies of Council Meeting Minutes.
- New volunteer cleaner from HMP now in post.

Pavilion Youth Club. Next meeting will be in October

Parking Committee - There is no date yet for implementation of the Traffic Order in Tavistock Road

Princetown Primary School. Nothing to report

Public Library Sub-Group. Next meeting will be in October

Parish Plan Sub-Group. Nothing to report

Play Area Sub-Group – Repair to the climbing frame was complete. The grass in the area was unacceptably long

Princetown Toilets Sub-Group – Nothing to report

Postbridge Village Hall.

- New Chairman voted in – Paul Hammett
- Duchy has offered the V.Hall a 3 year Water Licence at the end of which the water must be disconnected from Lydgate Farm and the V. Hall have a stand alone supply. A borehole was thought the best option. The cost could be around £6,000 and it was hoped to raise some government funding and apply for funding from the National Park Dartmoor Communities Fund.
- The Hall has received £400 from the Parish towards a new V.Hall sign (the money is now ring-fenced.) Quotes are still to be revised and it was suggested that the sign could wait until next year to allow for raising money for the hall.
- A motion was passed to change the constitution of PVH to have a 3yr max. term of office with a third of elected and appointed c.members retiring and having a year break before re-election. This is to encourage new members to join the Committee. These changes will be presented to the village giving 14 days notice of a Special General Meeting where the changes can be discussed.
- A questionnaire is being distributed to every household for their views on the future of the V.Hall. To be handed into the shop or collected by Committee Members by Sept 8th.
- A fundraising quiz in the form of a pasty, pudding and quiz night will take place on Fri Oct 31st. Cost £8 per person – guests to bring own drinks.
- V.Hall Fabric: A v.hall manual is being assembled for users of the hall. Gerald Owen is to be asked about works which he has done and the issue of Certs of Completion. VG

will follow up the blocked pipe running outside the Parsonage and V.Hll with W.Devon. This needs to be done before the car park can be completed. S.Agnew to contact tradesmen re the sliding door and lock, the stink pipe and the loft damp.

- AOB A production of 'Allo Allo' Christmas at Cafe Rene will be on Sat. Nov 22nd. Tickets £12.50 per person including a hot meal. This will be performed by the Moonstone Theatre Co.
- Planning application for the extension was granted in 2011, but this had now expired and must be resubmitted from scratch. Consideration was given to the Parish Council acting as Applicant for the new application, which would reduce the fee by 50% to £97.50. It was agreed that the reduced fee route should be followed with DFPC meeting the cost, but that it should be made clear to the PVH Committee that this would be the Council's final financial contribution to the extension project
- **Fire & Rescue Service.** The Parish Council extended thanks for hosing down the telephone kiosk

Princetown Food Bank. It had been confirmed that delivery of food to an individual property was outside the constitution of the organisation running food banks locally. Food was given only on presentation of vouchers. No-one had come forward to claim for vouchers at the recent sessions held in the village. Another meeting was due soon

Emergency Committee. No activity had been needed.

1914 Commemoration Garden – Wendy Stones agreed to purchase the mortar on behalf of the Council and that the WI would carry out the work

10. Reports from other meetings

Southern Link

- Councillors were satisfied with the current content of meeting agendas and did not identify any changes/additions
- Councillors supported the applications for Vehicle Activated Signs for Chillaton and Lifton; and the contribution to the Ward and Chowen Digital Archive project
- The next meeting will be held on 18 September. Paul Turnbull is unable to attend

11. Progress reports on previous actions, not on the Agenda

Defibrillators. The telephone kiosk in Hexworthy was now leased to DFPC and the cabinet will be installed as soon as possible. The Clerk will organise making and installing the necessary window stickers. The second cabinet had been received on the Parish Council's behalf by Bere Ferrers Parish Clerk and was ready for collection. The siting of the second machine was yet to be agreed

Dartmoor Classic Sportive Wash-up – The organisers were now fully aware of the extent of the impact that the event has on local communities. The Parish Council will field representative(s) to be involved in the planning of next year's event at the appropriate time

Banking arrangements. No action since last meeting

Traffic Regulation Order. The consultation period ended on 21 August but there had not been any feedback from Highways as yet

Planning application for Football Club. See agenda item 12

Grass cutting contract. There had been no action since the previous meeting and no invoice had been received from Mike Druett, who had also failed to respond to messages left for him. It was confirmed that a contract was still in place with him for delivery of the service. There was now concern about the length of the grass in the play area. Complaints had also been received regarding the length of grass in the churchyard and the church's keyholder, in the absence of responses from the Parish Council and HMP, had made efforts to cut the grass around specific graves to improve their appearance for visitors. The keyholder had also pointed out that the current situation was untenable, and closure of the churchyard might need to be considered. Urgent action was required to regularise the situation and Mike Druett needed to be contacted, in the first instance. The possibility of approaching HMP for help in cutting the churchyard was raised. It was also noted that supervised prisoners had been seen recently cutting grass around the immediate vicinity of the Community Centre, which is within the scope of Mike Druett's contract

Investigate grants for a skate park. No further action to date

Outline plans for Play Area improvements Phase 3. As planned, no further action pending Emma Derham's availability

Approach local businesses for chargeable links and adverts. No action since last meeting

Training. The current planned training programme is shown in the table below. The Clerk was now unable to attend the finance course on 17 September. Councillors declined to take up the place on the course

Date	Time	Event	Provider	Attendees	Venue	Status
19/03/14	-	Certificate in Local Council Administration	SLCC	Nigel Tigwell	Distance Learning	Ongoing
17/9/14	1900-2100	Finance for Local Councils	Southern Link	Nigel Tigwell	Tavyside	Planned
22/10/14	1900-2100	Management of parks, open spaces, sports pitches, children's play parks plus halls	Southern Link	Cliff Palmer Emma Derham Nigel Tigwell	Tavyside	Planned
12/11/14	0930-1600	Cemetery management	Southern Link	Val Greatrex Nigel Tigwell	Tavyside	Planned

12. Planning applications

a. The current status is:

With the Parish Council	0459/14	Improvements to Princetown football pitch
<i>Neighbouring Parish, potentially impacting DFPC</i>	0351/14	<i>Blackdown Piper Farm DFPC has objected</i>
Recent DNPA decisions (all conditional approval)		
With DNPA	0400/14	Erection of agricultural building at Dunnabridge Farm
Awaiting enforcement action	0164/07	Beardown Farm un-authorized chalet. Clerk is awaiting update from Jo Burgess.

The Council agreed to support application 0459/14. The suggestion to link the PCC and PFC car parks was deemed not to be feasible

The letter from the Duchy summarising applications for developments in Princetown was noted. Comments will be made when the formal application papers are received from DNPA

13. Correspondence

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

- Community Council of Devon Village Green
- DCC Road Warden Scheme – Councillors declined to become involved
- Lack of applications for grants –
 - Message passed to Warren Homden for Football Club
 - Alison Geen will pass information to Emma Derham (Phase 3 play area)
- Moretonhampstead Hospital.
- Our Plan Town & Parish Workshop 26 September – Councillors declined to attend
- Strategic Housing Land Availability Assessment – This does not cover Princetown
- Teignbridge Community Infrastructure Levy Charging Schedule
- WDBC Mobile Website

14. Financial management

a. Cheques approved this month are shown below. Due to a lack of signatories at the meeting, Wendy Stones undertook to obtain signatures

793	A Jaques Litter Picking	£53.65
795	Wendy Stones – postage expenses	£7.15

b. Bank Reconciliation.

Balance on August statement	£21,059.00
Outstanding Income	
Precept paid 2 Sep '14	£8,679.50
Outstanding Cheques	
Nil	£0.00
Reconciled total for September	£29,738.50

c. **Forecast of Outturn.** This has not been updated this month, but is within £7.15 of the forecast reported last month.

15. Urgent decisions since the last meeting

None.

16. Any other business

- The Clerk had established that Jackie Gee can remain in place, representing Princetown, until the General Election next year
- An agenda item for October's meeting is to consider improvements to the track from the old station stables out to the former railway line, in furtherance of Princetown as a cycling Hub
- The summer Art and Craft event in the primary school attracted 1,500 visitors over the ten day period that it was open
- HMP's carol service will be held on Wednesday 17 December

- The absence of WDBC Cllr Philip Sanders was being felt.

17. SECOND PUBLIC SESSION.

It was suggested that the publicity attaching to the Tour of Britain passing through Princetown should be used as an opportunity to market the Parish Council

18. Date of the next meeting

The next meeting will be at 1930 on Monday 13 October 2014 in Princetown.