



Members Present:

Cllr Mark Williams (Chair)

Cllr Brenda Cotterill

Cllr Lian Edis

Cllr Alison Geen

Cllr Carole Murray

Cllr Elaine Smerdon

Cllr Hazel Williams

In Attendance: Mrs A Horn (Clerk) Mr Cole (Lengths man) 1 member of the public

33 Chairs Welcome

When the DNPA Visitor's Centre decided to leave Princetown last year, we were in big trouble. Thankfully, the Duchy, the Parish Council and Princetown Business Network and partners really tried hard to regenerate the sadness that was left. Many months of work has gone into this, and now we are coming to a point where regeneration of our local area is looking positive.

- Gather and Moor – fantastic effort by the Duchy. Re-opening potentially 70k or more footfall into the village.
- Youth Club being revamped by Duchy, with a new roof and internal improvements
- LOVE project – money from Charity Shop and potentially more money again for further improvements. Watch this space!
- The Plot – fantastic effort. Needs more volunteers, but it's looking great. Lots of potential for improving mental health for both little ones and old ones. Our One Show award last year recognized the benefits for young and old.
- Sensory Garden – underway. Thank you to the National Lottery. It will be a fantastic attraction for visitors and locals alike. It will be designed to appeal to all ages and will be a great, peaceful attraction to the village, especially with the war memorial and dedicated memorial phone box nearby.
- Duchy – painting shops in the village, such an uplift!
- New picnic benches for the park and new swing seats and chains, again thanks to the National Lottery from DFPC
- Parish Council – painting the bus shelters and keeping Princetown looking it's very best
- Parish Council – moving the Memorial to the centre of the village, and revamping the damaged old Memorial damaged by bad weather
- Jack Wigmore garden – being looked over by DNPA and DPA. Another tourist attraction
- Tidy Princetown – needs more volunteers but is a fantastic Council-led project
- The Playpark itself is well maintained by DFPC and well used
- The Parish Council look after our wards, Postbridge and Hexworthy, to the best of our ability
- As a Council, we are trying hard together to improve our community.

If I have forgotten anything, I do apologize. I am totally proud of our Council who work so hard to make our Parish into a great Parish. You should also be proud of yourselves as Councillors for what you are doing.

34 Apologies for Absence

On the proposition of Cllr M Williams and seconded by Cllr Geen it was **RESOLVED** to accept Cllr Watsons apologies for personal reasons. Cllr Renders WDBC and Cllr Fife Cooks DCC apologies were noted.

35 Public Forum

None

36 Declarations of Interest

36.1 Declarations of Interest

None

37 **WDBC, DNP and DCC Reports**

No reports received

38 **Minutes of the previous meeting**

Cllr Cotterill resigned and left the meeting.

On the proposition of Cllr M Williams and seconded by Cllr Geen it was **RESOLVED** to approve and sign the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 23rd June 2026

39 **Princetown ward vacancy**

It was noted the Martin Grover had resigned so there were 2 vacancies.

No applications were received

40 **Finance**

40.1 **Finance Report**

On the proposition of Cllr M Williams and seconded by Cllr Geen it was **RESOLVED** to agree the bank reconciliation dated 30th June 2026 and the budget monitoring report.

40.2 **Payments**

On the proposition of Cllr Geen and seconded by Cllr Edis it was **RESOLVED** to approve the payments schedule noting the payment of £99.95 made under delegated authority to purchase defib pads.

41 **Planning**

41.1 **Ref: 0220/26**

The Old Vicarage Tavistock
Road, Princetown, Yelverton,
Devon, PL20 6RE

On the proposition of Cllr H Williams and seconded by Cllr Smerdon it was **RESOLVED** to support the application.

42 **Local Government Reorganisation and Consultations**

42.1 **Dartmoor Local Plan 2026 (emerging) local plan 2026 scoping consultation**

It was agreed to send in responses as individuals as it was not possible to create a parish council response.

42.2 **Joint South Hams and West Devon Local Plan.**

It was noted that the consultation was open, and councillors could submit a response as an individual.

42.3 **Local Government Reorganisation**

The reorganisation was discussed and it was **RESOLVED** to send a letter in support of a judicial review to West Devon Borough Council and Devon County Council.

43 **Bellever close plantation plans**

It was agreed that the council would be available for a joint drop-in session on the week of 17th and that it would be suggested to hold it in the Old Duchy Hotel.

44 **Projects**

44.1 **Sensory Garden**

- a) On the proposition of Cllr H Williams and seconded by Cllr Geen it was **RESOLVED** to agree the proposed garden design outcomes and deliverables.
- b) It was agreed that the construction and planting budget for the garden was £ 18,175.00
- c) It was noted that design elements that could provide an opportunity for local groups to create were the Parish Councils responsibility and that they could be approached

in preparation to avoid delaying the completion of the project.

- d) On the proposition of Cllr M Williams and seconded by Cllr Geen it was **RESOLVED** that Burbage GWC would dig the trench for the water connection.
- e) Cllr Edis expressed concern regarding the project and the management of the project given that Cllr H Williams had stepped away as the project lead, she felt that a project lead who was on site which the clerk could not facilitate was needed.
- f) On the proposition of Cllr M Williams and seconded by Cllr H Williams it was **RESOLVED** to purchase 2 swing replacement sets and not the 4 quoted for.

44.2 The Plot

Cllr H Williams reported that half the polly tunnel had been planted but more volunteers were always welcome.

44.3 LOVE Project

On the proposition of Cllr H Williams and seconded by Cllr Geen it was **RESOLVED** to purchase a wooden planter to go by the Village Shop.

44.4 Community Emergency Hubs

It was noted the Fire Station was willing to host the emergency hub and that an expression of interest had been submitted.

45. Policies

45.1 To agree and adopt the listed policies

On the proposition of Cllr Geen and seconded by Cllr Edis it was **RESOLVED** to adopt the following policies with the addition of:

training for the Lengthsman in the Training Policy and the removal of reference to 3.2 which did not exist in the same policy.

- Financial Regulations
- Grants' policy and application form
- Publication Scheme
- Training Policy
- Health and Safety policy
- Death of a Senior Figure

46. Reports

46.1 Tidy Princetown Sessions

Cllr Edis reported that these were still taking place but needed more volunteers

46.2 Defib Checks

It was noted that the Defib at Venville had been out of action due to use but new pads and a spare set had been purchased. Cllr Geen reported that the defib at Hexworthy had had an error but a firm shut of the door had cleared it.

46.3 Playpark and Litter Picking

It was reported that the park was looking very smart and that not much litter had had to be collected. It was noted that the trees on the edge of the park were overhanging the road and needed trimming, the clerk would contact the Duchy to see whose responsibility it was.

46.4 Gardening in the Grounds

It was reported that The Payback Team were coming to help with some work.

47. **Meeting start time**

It was agreed to defer this item until the next meeting as the August meeting had been advertised at 7pm at Postbridge.

48 **Lengths man Report**

Mr Cole reported that he had completed repair work in the playground and he had been to see the Duchy about a new area of grass they wanted cut.

49 **Items Brought Forward**

Planters at the welcome signs

Meeting start times

50 **Date of Next Meeting**

25th August at Postbridge Village Hall at **7pm**

Meeting closed at 8:05pm