

# Dartmoor Forest Parish Council



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## Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting at 1930 on 28 January 2020 in Princetown Community Centre

Present:

<b>Hexworthy/Huccaby Ward:</b>	<b>Princetown Ward:</b>	
Cllr. Alison Geen*	Cllr. David Worth**	Cllr. Nigel Tigwell
<b>Postbridge Ward:</b>	Cllr Mark Renders	Cllr. Wendy Stones
Cllr. Julian Greatrex	Cllr John Druett	Cllr Gregg Manning

\* Chair, \*\*Vice-Chair

4 members of the public were present.

1. **Apologies.** The Clerk, Cllr Watson. In the Clerk's absence, Cllr Worth took the minutes. The Chair reported to the Council that Cllr Bishop had resigned his position and that a replacement would be sought.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** None received.
3. **Minutes of the Last Meeting.** Accepted as being a true record and signed by the Chair.
4. **Precept Planning 2020/2021.** The council received the finalised Precept budget from Cllr Tigwell and put it to a formal vote.

**Action.** By a unanimous vote the Council resolved to set a precept of £17, 619 for the financial year 2020/2021

5. **West Devon Town Centres Meeting.** Councillors discussed the briefing note put forward by Cllr Tigwell as an approach to the meeting with Mr. Tom Jones from West Devon Borough Council at the Council's February meeting. It was agreed that the Duchy of Cornwall were the most significant partner organisation that should be involved in discussions concerning future developments in Princetown. Cllr Geen asked for submissions from other Councillors to be sent to her as a matter of some urgency for incorporation into a document for consideration by Mr. Jones before the next meeting.

**Action:** Councillors to make their submission to Cllr Geen within two days

6. **Skate Park Consultation.** Cllrs Manning, Stones, and Worth attended a meeting with the DOC concerning the future planning of the skate park. A report of the meeting was given to the Council. The summary of the meeting was that there was a great deal of planning to be carried out before firmer detailed plans were put before the Parish for consultation.

28<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Signature of Chair



This planning would also include such items as carrying out soil sampling to confirm that there had not been any tipping of hazardous waste such as asbestos on the site.

**Action:** It was agreed that reports would be passed on to the Council as and when actions were completed.

7. **Nomination for WDBC Mayoral Award.** The Council considered if it wished to make any nominations for this award.

**Action:** The Council did not wish to make any such nominations.

8. **Disposal of Ride on Mower.** It was agreed that such outlets as eBay, Gumtree, and Facebook Marketplace would be used as potential selling sites for the old machine.

**Action:** Cllr Tigwell to progress.

9. **Parishscapes Grant Opportunity.** This scheme was discussed as a possible source of funding for various projects. It was generally thought that the timescale was too short for any of the Council's ongoing projects in the current financial year.

**Action.** No action to be taken.

10. **Princetown 4X4 fire Appliance.** The Council have been made aware that a replacement vehicle has been found from within the existing fleet to be placed at Princetown. The state of repair and suitability for use of this vehicle has been questioned. It was reiterated that the Council felt that promises had been made to the Council that had not been honoured in terms of continuation of 4X4 service.

**Action.** It was agreed that the Council will continue to press it's complaint with the Fire Service Ombudsman. It was also agreed to involve the Office of Geoffrey Cox M.P. In the pursuit of this matter.

11. **Planning Applications.** No applications were received this month.

**Action:**

#### FIRST PUBLIC SESSION.

A member of the public queried the status of the improvement works in relation to the flooding problem on Plymouth Hill in the area of Mr. Pengelly's property. Cllr Worth responded that this was ongoing and would be addressed as soon as practicable.

Councillor Sanders was able to provide further detail on the state of the repair of the wall adjacent to the Prison entrance. The repair is unlikely to take place until 2021/2022 and will cost in the region of £1.5m.

12. **Financial Planning.** Cllr Tigwell supplied the following report:

#### From Financial Briefing Notes to Councillors – January 2020

Cheques to be signed this month:

Ref	Chq No	Date	Payee & Details	Amount
1281	1547	17/12/19	Bere Ferrers PC (Cemetery Management Course) (see1289)	£55.00

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1290	1540	28/01/20	Nigel Tigwell – Expenses – Honda ride-on mower and Stationary	£3,217.26
1291	1541	28/01/20	Princetown Community Center – Room Hire	£135.00
1292	1542	28/01/20	Postbridge Village Hall – Room Hire	£30.00
1293	1543	28/01/20	WesternWeb Ltd - upgrade DFPC computer to Windows 10	£72.00
1294	1544	28/01/20	Steve Cox (Clerk's Pay and expenses)	£417.62
1295	1545	28/01/20	David Cole (Lengthsman's Pay and expenses)	£1,247.88
1296	1548	28/01/20	Harry Hooper-Noulton (Litter picker fee)	£63.73
1298	1549	28/01/20	St Rapael's Churchwarden's - Room Hire 2018, 2019 & 2020	£45.00
1299	1550	28/01/20	Duchy of Cornwall - Village Green/Play Area half year rent	£42.00

Note: The cheque for Bere Ferrers Parish Council is to replace that authorised last month as the original invoice had erroneously charged VAT.

#### Other Movements In-Month:

a. Donation from Charity Shop for new Skate Park - £500.00 - opened a new Skate Park allocated reserve.

b. Transfer from General Reserve to Grass-cutting Reserve to cover the cost of the new Honda ride-on mower. Proceeds from the sale of the old mower will go to the General Reserve.

A grant funding application has been made to the Highway Maintenance Community Enhancement Fund to cover some of the Lengthsman's costs for ditching. This includes work already completed in Tor Royal Lane and Postbridge, and the required work in Huccaby, Postbridge and Bellever. The applications is for £567.80 but it is unclear how much we will get. The scheme requires match funding by the Council and volunteer involvement. Decisions on grants will not be made before March and will be dependent on whether funding is still available.

#### Other Liabilities:

This remains as briefed last month:

The strimmer will need servicing and a new head fitted – cost to be determined.

Election costs – no change from last month – from reserves.

New website – no change from last month – from reserves.

Possible replacement printer - no change from last month – from reserves.

**13. Project Progress Reports.** Cllr Manning gave a report on the CCTV project. The crowd funding phase of funding has now been closed and up to this meeting the total fund stood at £3160. Cllr Phillip Sanders very generously offered to provide funding of a further £1000 from his locality funding, so that the total now stood at £4160. Cllr Manning also gave a

report on the Speedwatch project, pointing out that very few motorists were repeat offenders with only one person receiving three letters in the 418 who had received any sanction.

**14. Committees. Sub-Groups & Special Interests.** Cllr Stones provided an update from the Youth Club which had now re-opened. Due to an uplift in the status of the relative deprivation of the ward, it was now becoming more difficult to get grant funding

**15. Reports from other meetings.** Cllr Manning provided an update on the Moor Crime initiative. This is an initiative initiated by the DNPA and the Police and over the next 12 months there will be a greater Police presence on moorland roads.

**16. Other matters requiring decisions.**

a. As noted earlier, Cllr Bishop has resigned his position and a new Councillor is to be sought. Also the current litter picker has moved out of the village and a new holder of the position is to be sought. It was agreed that best practice should be followed and the Councillor and litter picker positions should both be advertised. Given that there seemed to be interest from multiple candidates for the Councillor position it was agreed that there should be a informal candidate presentation from each of the potential candidates to the Council explaining why they wish to join the Council. The Council would then decide which candidate they wished to co-opt. Cllr Stones pointed out that Cllr Bishop had agreed to serve on the board of the Youth Club, given the lack of time left, it was agreed that discussion would be put forward to the Council's February meeting.

**Action:** Cllr Geen to action producing advertisements. Cllr Worth to put posters up.

**17. Urgent Decisions Since Last Meeting.** None

**18. Exchange of Information.** Cllr Worth explained that the Princetown Xmas tree lights were now beyond repair and new lights would need to be purchased. Did the Council wish to consider alternative arrangements for future festive lighting? Cllr Stones was strongly of the opinion that the current arrangements should be continued with. It was agreed that this matter would be re-visited at a later date in the year.

A query was raised as to which body was responsible for the upkeep of the hedge adjacent to the playpark and the road leading to the Community Center. Cllr Geen to write to J. Bearchell of the Community Center Committee to seek clarification.

Cllr Stones asked who had given permission for the wreaths to be removed from the Princetown War Memorial over the Christmas period. The Council was also reminded that it had been agreed that the protocol for the retention and handling of the wreaths had been agreed to be discussed. This matter to be added to the Council's February Agenda.

#### SECOND PUBLIC SESSION.

**19. Date of the next Meeting.** The next meeting of Dartmoor Forest Parish Council will be at 7.30pm on the 25<sup>th</sup> of February 2020 at Princetown Community Centre.

