



# Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

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07 February 2019

**Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting at 1930 on 24 January 2019**  
**in Princetown Community Centre**

Present:

<b>Hexworthy/Huccaby Ward:</b>	<b>Princetown Ward:</b>	
	Cllr. David Worth**	Cllr. Gregg Manning*
	Cllr. Justine Colton	
<b>Postbridge Ward:</b>	Cllr. Mark Renders	
Cllr. Julian Greatrex		
		* Chair, **Vice-Chair

The meeting was chaired by Cllr. Gregg Manning.

There were 7 members of the public present.

Abbreviations used: **DFPC**: Dartmoor Forest Parish Council, **DNPA**: Dartmoor National Park Authority, **WDBC**: West Devon Borough Council, **DCC**: Devon County Council.

- 1. Apologies Received** Cllr. Alison Geen (pantomime), Cllr. Wendy Watson (pantomime), Cllr. Paul Turnbull (fire service), Cllr. Wendy Stones (Illness).
- 2. Declarations of Interest** No further declarations of interest.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 20 December 2018** the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.
- 4. Planning** Sam Hill, Dartmoor National Park Authority, presented the proposed plans for the redevelopment of the Visitor's Centre in Postbridge. The council resolved to support this application.

Ref.	Address	Description	Received	Reply Due	Meeting Targeted	DFPC View
0013/19	Dartmoor National Park Visitor Centre, Postbridge	Erection of single storey extension, new entrance and ground floor exhibition space	15/01/2019	01/02/2019	24/01/2019	Supported



0019/19	Peat Cot Farm, Princetown	Conversion of an existing outbuilding to music room	19/01/2019	07/02/2019	28/02/2019	Supported (Provisional decision)
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As 0019/19 Peat Cot Farm was too late to add to the agenda this will be formally ratified at February's meeting. The Clerk will provide DNPA a provisional view that the council support this application.

5. **Princetown Public Toilets** It was noted that WDBC are likely to reject DFPC's offer of continuing the contribution towards the cost of the public toilets and these will be closed. However, as this decision has not yet been made it was resolved approve v0.2 of the budget and request a precept of £17,975.
6. **Dartmoor Local Plan** It was agreed that the following points should be submitted to the consultation:
  - Princetown Settlement Profile – lists a bank. However, this closed here many years ago.
  - Postbridge settlement profile – the parish council would welcome some form of protection and recognition of the value of the post office & village store which is the only such amenity for a large geographical area.
  - Hexworthy – is recognised as open countryside, however there still remains some need for local, affordable housing for the farming community to be sustainable. The plan should recognise this.
7. **Councillor Recruitment** Cllr. Davies resigned in December 2018 and Cllr. Colton is due to stand down before the May 2019 elections. Nigel Tigwell, former clerk to the parish, has indicated his interest in standing for council. National Association of Local Councils have produced posters to promote standing for council. It was resolved that this are circulated around the parish.
8. **Parish Council Meeting Night** Following a request from Cllr. Manning to change the night of the meeting from a Thursday it was agreed that the Clerk circulate a form to all councillors asking for them to express their preference.
9. **Anti-social driving initiative** CCTV quotation has been delayed. Clerk has chased on a few occasions and advised it will be received this week. It was also confirmed that all letters on this issue have been delivered in Princetown and included in the parish magazine in Postbridge.

**FIRST PUBLIC SESSION** No issues raised.

## 10. Financial Management

- a. Cheques authorised this month were:

Ref	Chq No	Date	Payee & Details	Amount
1202	1469	24/01/19	Steve Cox (Clerk's Pay)	£ 405.95
1203	1470	24/01/19	Harry Hooper-Noulton (Litter-picking)	£ 63.96
1204	1471	24/01/19	Steve Cox expenses - defibrillator service & pads, mileage, Xmas lights	£ 282.49

1205	1472	24/01/19	Princetown Community Centre (room hire)	£ 135.00
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- b. Monthly Report of Accounts was considered and accepted.

**11. Project Progress Report** Cllr Manning provided an update on Speedwatch.

**12. Committees, Sub-Groups & Special Interests**

Cllr Worth submitted the following report on **Emergency Planning:**

The Met Office have not issued a long term (three month) forecast since before my last report. However, as you may recall, at that time the Met Office were forecasting that the months of January, February, and March were likely to be colder than average. After a relatively benign period during the first part of January, we are now approaching a period of colder weather. After a briefly warmer period this weekend, we are likely to see a period of maybe four weeks of colder weather with the winds likely to be dominated by an easterly airflow. There is no immediate sign of any significant snow event, however, if as appears likely, the pool of cold air above the UK gets settled, any weather fronts that approach from the west will be likely to produce some significant snowfall. In a weather situation like this, there is likely to be little in the way of rainfall.

The Environment Agency rainfall report for January states that 132% of the average rainfall fell during December. As a consequence, the level of water in the regions reservoirs has been raised from 58% to 79%.

During this current, albeit brief, cold spell, the DNP car park has been padlocked closed at night, and we have already deterred a number of anti-social drivers from making use of it.

Our stockpile of salt remains healthy at three tonnes, and should any Councillor wish to take some away for stockpiling in their own wards, please let me know.

**13. Reports from other meetings**

- a) **'Operation London Bridge'** meeting of Cllrs. Manning, Worth & Greatrex and Clerk to review and update protocol for marking the death of a senior national figure. It was noted that the Jubilee Lamp, outside the Visitor's Centre in Princetown, would be a suitable location for the public to lay flowers. Also, additional photos and pages for the condolence books would be purchased.
- b) **Princetown affordable housing** Clerk has discussed the next steps with Alex Rehaag, WDDB and she would like to organise a drop-in session in the village to discuss the potential scheme on land near Moorland View. The council recommended the school as a suitable venue on Saturday morning to attract a good turnout.

**14. Urgent decisions since last meeting:** Due to public concern over the illegal rave in Bellever on 26/27 December, the Clerk has been asked to change the venue of February's meeting to Postbridge. Alison Kohler, DNPA and a representative from the local Devon & Cornwall police service will be in attendance. Geoffrey Cox MP has also written to Inspector Sloman, Devon & Cornwall police service. It was resolved that the meeting venue be changed for the meeting of 28 February to Postbridge Village Hall.

**15. Exchange of Information** Limited to the exchange of information & items for next meeting. **Issues for the Clerk to investigate need to be raised directly to the Clerk prior to the meeting.**

- a) David Cole was thanked for his excellent work repairing the wall around Postbridge cemetery.
- b) Geoffrey Cox MP has offered to meet the parish council on Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> March at 12pm in Tavistock to discuss the illegal rave at Bellever. The council agreed to accept the offer of a meeting and would confirm the names of attendees shortly.

**SECOND PUBLIC SESSION** No issues raised.

**16.** The next meeting of the Parish Council is **19.30 on 28 February 2019 at Postbridge Village Hall.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 20.51.