



# Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Mr S J Cox,  
Middle Woodley, Sydenham Damerel, Tavistock, PL19 8QU  
Telephone: 018218022 258549, 07775 561855

Email: [clerk@dartmoorforestpc.net](mailto:clerk@dartmoorforestpc.net)

Website: [www.dartmoorforestpc.net](http://www.dartmoorforestpc.net)

9 November 2020

**Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting at 1930 on 27 October 2020**  
**Held using Zoom remote video conferencing**

Present:

<b>Hexworthy/Huccaby Ward:</b> Cllr. Alison Geen*	<b>Princetown Ward:</b> Cllr. David Worth** Cllr. Stephen King Cllr. Phil Henson	Cllr. Nigel Tigwell Cllr. Wendy Stones Cllr. Emma Byrom Cllr. Gregg Manning
--	---	--

\* Chair, \*\*Vice-Chair

There were 3 members of the public present, including Cllr. Philip Sanders (DCC & DNPA), Cllr. Mark Renders (WDBC & DNPA).

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. Julian Greatrex (technical issues), Cllr. Wendy Watson (technical issues)
- 2. Declarations of Interest** Cllr. Geen declared an interest in item no. 7 as she is a commoner.
- 3. Minutes of the Parish Council Meeting 22 September 2020** the minutes were accepted as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.
- 4. New Councillors – Declarations of Office** Cllrs. King, Henson and Byrom, confirmed their Declaration of Office having been co-opted to the position of councillor to Dartmoor Forest Parish Council.
- 5. Councillor Identification Card** Cllr. King proposed that an identification card would be useful when undertaking public duties, notably when inspecting the Princetown play area. It was therefore resolved that an identification card should be issued to councillors. Cllr. Geen and the Clerk to develop identification cards. The council have high visibility tabards that are also available to councillors if required.
- 6. Princetown CCTV Project** Cllr. Manning updated the council on status of project. The project had been placed on temporary hold due to the COVID pandemic, however prior to then the council had raised approximately £2,400 towards the cost of the project and had received a number of quotations from specialist CCTV contractors. One contractor had proposed a 'modular' type approach where cameras covering certain areas could be added at a later date. It was resolved that the project should be re-started with an aim to try and get a solution in place before the anti-social driving starts in winter conditions. Cllr. King to join the project group with Cllr. Manning & Stones. Clerk to support project.
- 7. Natural England's proposal to reduce grazing on Dartmoor** Cllr. Tigwell circulated a draft letter, detailing concerns at Natural England's proposals to reduce sheep grazing on Okehampton Common and potential implications across the wider moor. This letter was approved (see appendix A) and it was resolved that the Clerk should send this to the following organisations: Tavistock Times, The Moorlander, Farmer's Weekly, Dartmoor Magazine, Western Morning News, Natural England, the Duchy of Cornwall, Dartmoor National Park Authority.



- 8. DALC Briefing Paper on COVID – 19 Local Outbreak Management Plan** to support the community through the ‘lockdown’ period in March 2020 the council had produced a list of local volunteers and shops that could support the more vulnerable members of the community in Dartmoor Forest. It was agreed that the list of volunteers should be updated and re-published. Cllr. Geen to contact those who had previously offered to help to confirm they were still willing to assist.
- 9. Dartmoor Local Plan – Settlement Profiles** Cllr. Worth agreed to review the settlement profile for Princetown and the Clerk will ask Cllr. Watson and Cllr. Greatrex to review the settlement profile for Postbridge. Findings can then be reviewed at November’s meeting and provided to DNPA, prior to the 3<sup>rd</sup> December deadline.

**FIRST PUBLIC SESSION** Issues raised:

- A member of the public asked where the Agenda Summons had been published. Although it had been placed in the Princetown Notice Board, the Clerk advised that he had not posted it on the new parish council website. This was an oversight and it will be done for future meetings.
- It was confirmed that any drains identified as blocked in the recent flooding had now been cleared by DCC and the culvert on the track to North Hessary tor was also due to be cleared.
- Cllr. Sanders advised that he had not yet managed to convince DCC Highways that they needed to replace the no parking cones at Two Bridges but discussions on a longer-term solution were ongoing.
- Cllr. Sanders reported that the moor remains busy with visitors and problems of overnight parking by motor homes and irresponsible camping continued.
- Cllr Sanders has continued to lobby government on the issue of post Brexit food standards and shares concerns raised earlier in the meeting about Natural England’s approach to sheep grazing.

- 10. Planning – Government White Paper ‘Planning for the Future’** The council reviewed the draft response to the consultation and some minor changes were agreed. The final document (Appendix B) was submitted by the Clerk.

**11. Financial Management**

I. Cheques authorised this month were:

Ref	Chq. No	Date	Payee & Details	Amount
1363	1609	27/10/2020	WDBC - Dog Bin Emptying - Summer 2020-21	£71.76
1365	1610	27/10/2020	Western Web Ltd - New Website & Domain 1 Year	576.00
1366	1611	27/10/2020	Steve Cox - Pay & Expenses - Weebly domain	446.19
1367	1612	27/10/2020	David Cole – Pay & Expenses	£588.00
1368	1613	27/10/2020	Josh Cook – litter pick fee	£40.00
1372	1614	27/10/2020	David Worth expenses – Christmas Tree Lights	£170.49
1373	1615	27/10/2020	Wendy Stone expenses - RBL Poppy Wreath	£18.50

1374	1616	27/10/2020	Chris Worth - Princetown Noticeboard	£73.65
------	------	------------	--------------------------------------	--------

- II. Monthly Report of Accounts was considered and accepted. Key considerations are the Princetown toilets which have not yet been invoiced by WDBC. Clerk & Cllr. Tigwell to prepare the 2021-22 draft budget for review by the council at the November meeting.
- III. Cllr. Henson was approved as a cheque signatory on the council bank account.

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

- a) **Princetown Youth Club:** Cllr. Stones updated the meeting that the club had been deep cleaned and had new wipe clean furniture. It was planning to open to small groups of six children/youths.

**13. Reports from other meetings:** Cllr. Tigwell reported back on the Southern Link meeting. As expected, this was dominated by the impact of COVID-19 pandemic.

**14. Other Issues Requiring Decisions** It was agreed that Cllr. Henson would lay the wreath on Remembrance Day on behalf of the parish council.

**15. Urgent decision since last meeting** None.

**16. Exchange of Information** Limited to the exchange of information & items for next meeting

- a) Parking at Two Bridges continues to be a major safety concern. Ally Kohler, Director of Conservation and Communities, Dartmoor National Park Authority to be invited to attend November's meeting to discuss the issue.
- b) Concern raised at the length of time the road from Merrivale to Rundlestone was closed by DCC Highways for repair work. However, it was noted that there was a significant amount of work for the contractors to complete and therefore this length of time may be reasonable. Road closure duration to be monitored and any concerns to be raised to the Clerk.
- c) Speeding on Two Bridges Road. Devon & Cornwall Police may measure speeding through use of detector cable on road.
- d) Hedge by Princetown play area & community centre needs cutting back. Cllr. Geen to investigate who is responsible for maintenance.
- e) New village notice board has been installed. The council thanked Chris Worth for his work and for donating the cost of his labour to the project. Cllrs. Worth & Byrom to source new internal cork board.
- f) New sandbags have been delivered.
- g) Cllr. Stones has trained Cllr. King on play park inspection and will be training Cllrs. Byrom and Henson. Rota for remainder of year and 2021 to be drafted.
- h) Concern raised about absence of dog waste signs in the in DNPA carpark. Cllr. Renders to raise with DNPA.

**SECOND PUBLIC SESSION** No issues raised.

**17.** The next meeting of the Parish Council is **19.30 on TUESDAY 24<sup>th</sup> November 2020 via Zoom Remote Video Conferencing. The Chair closed the meeting at 21.40**