



Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

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15 February 2021

Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting at 1930 on 26th January 2021
Held using Zoom remote video conferencing

Present:

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

* Chair, **Vice-Chair

There were 3 members of the public present, including Cllr. Philip Sanders (DCC & 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), Cllr. Mark Renders (WDBC).
- 2. Declarations of Interest** Cllr. Geen declared an interest in 9. planning application for Jolly Lane.
- 3. Minutes of Last Meeting(s):** The minutes of the meetings of 15 December 2020 and 12 January 2021 were accepted as a true and accurate record and were signed by the Chair.
- 4. HMP Dartmoor** the Chair reported to the meeting on her letter to the Governor raising concerns about the noise and abuse from prisoners that had been reported by a member of the public. The Governor had advised that prison officers and prisoners on the wings affected had been spoken to. It had been reported there has now been a significant reduction in the noise levels.
- 5. COVID-19 Impact on Public Transport** it was reported that an additional new service is planned for this year from Plymouth to Postbridge and Exeter to Postbridge. Concern raised that buses from Princetown are not early enough for students attending college in Plymouth to catch a connection in Tavistock.
- 6. WDBC Housing Strategy** Cllr. Geen & Clerk to respond on behalf of council.
- 7. Dartmoor Snow Tourist Issues** As much of the CCTV work has now been completed, the Clerk will be able to prioritise this initiative. Agreed that a sub-group of Cllrs. Geen, Manning & King & the Clerk will lead on this initiative.
- 8. Princetown CCTV Project** The following updates were provided to the Council:
 - Installation completed 19th January 2021; system to be commissioned by installer and the manufacturer to get best possible footage. In addition, Cllrs Manning, Worth & Clerk will be trained on how to use system.
 - Devon Highways approved signage and locations. Signs have now been installed to ensure system is compliant with data protection obligations. Additional, larger, visible 'CCTV' signs will also be installed shortly.
 - Dartmoor Forest CCTV Policy – the council resolved to approve this document.



FIRST PUBLIC SESSION A member of the public thanked the council for closing the gates of the Visitor's Car Park in Princetown to deter anti-social behaviour/dangerous driving. Incidents have decreased in car park; however, it was noted that DNPA had installed boulders in Cadover Bridge car park as a deterrent. Clerk to write to DNPA to ask them to consider undertaking a similar action in Princetown.

9. Planning Cllr. Geen handed over the chair to Cllr. Worth and left the meeting due to her declared interest. Council resolved to OBJECT to planning application 24/21 Jolly Lane Cottage, Hexworthy on the following grounds:

- a) Highway Safety – concern that the increase in roof height may make driving on the adjacent road more difficult.
- b) Layout & density – that this application may result in the outbuilding dominating the original historic cottage.

Cllr. Geen returned to the meeting after the council's resolution and vote.

Application 27/21 HMP Dartmoor – work to the retaining wall, could not be discussed as the documents had not been made available. Deferred to next meeting.

10. Financial Management

a) The Council RESOLVED to approve the 2021-22 Budget of £22,910 and Precept of £17,995.

b) Cheques authorised this month were:

Ref	Chq No	Date	Payee & Details	Amount
1393	1632	26/01/21	Josh Cook - Litter Picker fee	£ 40.00
1394	1633	26/01/21	Steve Cox - Pay	£ 397.55
1395	1634	26/01/21	David Cole - Pay & Expenses	£ 528.00
1396	1635	26/01/21	Castle CCTV Ltd (75% of installation & equipment costs)	£ 3,465.00
1397	1636	26/01/21	BCW Office Products Ltd (CCTV Signs)	£ 203.57
1398	1637	26/01/21	Torrige, North, Mid and West Devon Citizens Advice Bureaux	£ 60.00

c) Monthly Report of Accounts was considered and accepted. Key consideration remains the Princetown toilets which have not yet been invoiced by WDBC. Also, Clerk to follow up with church wardens at St Raphael's Chapel, Huccaby to find out the status of the car park extension.

11. Committees, Sub-Groups & Special Interests: None.

12. Reports from other meetings: None.

13. Other Issues Requiring Decisions None.

14. Urgent decision since last meeting None.

15. Exchange of Information Limited to the exchange of information & items for next meeting:

- a) Cllr. Sanders was thanked for the media coverage on the access and visitor issues at Wistman's Wood.
- b) Clerk confirmed David Cole had started ditching work.
- c) It was reported that the electricity sub-station in Princetown will shortly be moved due to the distillery construction.
- d) Pot hole in Tavistock Road had been reported to Devon Highways (ref: W201370673), however it was not large enough to warrant any repair work.

- e) Princetown School – Cllr. Byrom, in her role as head teacher, provided an update on how the school is coping during lockdown. It is a challenging situation; however, the school and children are doing well and have sufficient IT resources for every child.
- f) Issue with culvert under school and responsibility for clearing and repairing. Cllrs. Worth, Byrom and Stones to meet separately to discuss.

SECOND PUBLIC SESSION Cllr Sanders reported from Devon CC that the Scrutiny Committee of Children's & Adult's Services was proposing an increase in budget. Concern had also been raised about the increased levels of domestic violence during lockdown.

16. The next meeting of the Parish Council is **19.30 on TUESDAY 23rd February 2021 via Zoom Remote Video Conferencing.**

The Chair closed the meeting at 20:56

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