

# Dartmoor Forest Parish Council



Parish Clerk: Vacant

C/O Great Sherberton, Hexworthy, Yelverton, PL20 6SF Telephone: 01364 631276

Email: [clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk](mailto:clerk@dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk) www: [dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk](http://dartmoorforestparishcouncil.gov.uk)

## Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting at 1930 on 23<sup>rd</sup> November 2021 at Princetown Community Centre

Present:

**Hexworthy/Huccaby Ward:**

Cllr. Alison Geen\*

**Postbridge Ward:**

Cllr Wendy Watson

Cllr Julian Greatrex

**Princetown Ward:**

Cllr. David Worth\*\*

Cllr Wendy Stones

Cllr Emma Byrom

Cllr. Nigel Tigwell

Cllr Gregg Manning

*\* Chair, \*\*Vice-Chair*

5 members of the public attended.

1. **Apologies.** Cllr Henson. In the Clerk's absence, Cllr Worth took the minutes.
2. **Declarations of Interest.** None declared.
3. **Acceptance of Minutes.** The minutes of the previous meeting were signed as a true record.

4. **Meeting with Duchy of Cornwall re Sitka plantation and skatepark site.** There remains uncertainty as to the ownership of the planned meeting between Dartmoor Forest Parish Council, the Duchy of Cornwall, and the wider community. The Chair re-iterated that the felling of the plantation was a separate matter to the planned skatepark. There was agreement by members of the public that the plantation was in a dangerous state and that felling was advisable. A member of the public suggested that an extraordinary meeting of the Council may be appropriate to discuss the matter more fully. A member of the public raised the question of lighting an area for football and could the skatepark be lit? This question to go on the Agenda for the December meeting.

**Action:** DFPC to continue to press for arrangements for the public meeting with the DOC.

5. **Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service - draft Community Risk Management DFPC response.** There was much comment from the Council that given the previous responses from DSFRS to discussions with the Council there was little that DFPC wished to submit. However, the Council felt that there may be some merit in putting forward a response with



regard to the type of vehicle required within the Parish.

**Action.** Cllr Geen to respond via email.

**6. Recruitment of Parish Clerk.** There have been two applications for the post, the notice for which closes on Friday (26<sup>th</sup>)

**Action:** Cllr Geen to arrange for interviews to take place.

**7. Recruitment of new Councillor.** There being no candidates for an election to take place, the Council is able to move forward to co-option. It was requested that a page of information be added to the Council website for new and prospective Councillors.

**Action.** Cllr Manning to investigate.

**8. DCC Winter Community aid funding.** This is funding available from Devon County Council for potential funding during any potential COVID related lockdown for the forthcoming winter. It was not felt that the Council wished to apply.

**Action.** None.

**9. DFPC risk review.** Cllr Tigwell explained that having an adequate risk review procedure is part of the audit process and that he had produced a Council Risk Register that provides a template of known risks that the Parish Clerk could use to check against on a regular basis.

**Action.** The Council voted to accept the Register to be added to the Council's procedures.

**10. Purchase of Jubilee mugs.** Cllr Greatrex reported that a meeting had taken place to discuss the purchase of suitable mugs. At the meeting had been representatives from the School, the Pre School, the Women's Institute, DFPC, Princetown Community Centre, and the Youth Club. It was felt that it was essential for Hexworthy and Postbridge to be involved in the project. A number of other events to mark the Jubilee had been discussed and further ideas were welcomed. Cllr Byrom had questioned whether the purchase of mugs was the most appropriate way of marking the event from a financial point of view. A purchase price of approximately £6.00 was noted with an estimated number of 136 required.

**Action.** Another meeting has been arranged for the 8th of December at Princetown School to discuss this matter further.

**11. Appointment to Fundraising Committee.** Due to the resignation of Cllr Renders, this committee is no longer quorate. Cllr Byrom agreed to sit on the committee.

**12. Burial procedure update.** Cllr Tigwell has written a new procedure to cover this event with input from several sources including a previous Clerk.

**Action.** The Council voted to accept the procedure.

**13. Snow Tourism progress update.** No progress. Awaiting Richard Drysdale to take up his post with Dartmoor National Park Authority.

**14. Lengthsman training.** Awaiting replies from training Agencies. DCC have stated that only a refresher course is required.

**15. Purchase of Uninterruptible Power Supply for DFPC CCTV system.** Cllr Worth reported that the new UPS has been delivered, and that the system supplied came in at a figure lower than what had been budgeted for. When the system is fitted, a list of the serial numbers of the Council's equipment will be taken.

**Action.** Cllr Worth to progress.

**16. Warmer Healthier Homes update.** No reply has been received to an email from Cllr Geen to Kate Royston trying to progress this matter.

**Action.** None

**17. Skate Park Fundraising and update.** No progress at this time and there is unlikely to be any movement until after the Xmas period.

**18. Planning.** The Council voted to approve Planning Application 0570/21 Forest Inn, Hexworthy, partial change of use with the comment that "The Council is very keen to see the Forest Inn remain as a Public House and does not wish to see it converted wholly to residential use". The Council voted to oppose Planning Application 0572/21 Emergency service tower, Lakeland Hill, Bellever on a number of grounds. Cllrs Greatrex and Watson had carried out an on-site visit and felt the Planning Application contravened a number of material planning considerations.

**Action.** Cllr Worth to forward the Council's decisions to DNPA.

#### **19. PUBLIC SESSION.**

The Council's Lengthsman reported that a Christmas tree had been obtained for the usual display in Princetown's Duchy Square.

A member of the public noted that the lights approaching the Community Centre were not lit again.

**21. Financial management. Payments to be approved; bank reconciliation; FOO.** Cllr Tigwell provided a report. News was awaited on funding from Vision Zero South West. Precept planning was discussed. There were a number of variables in DFPC proposed spend that were yet to be finalised. There was a discussion of the potential Council partial funding of Princetown's public toilets. The potential for applying for using 'mopping up at the end of the financial year' funding from various bodies was discussed. The Council approved the following cheques:

Ref	Chq No	Date	Payee & Details	Amount
1463	1670	23/11/21	Nigel Tigwell - expenses - gloves, stamps, envelopes, certificate paper, burial plot marker	£ 64.04
1464	DD	23/11/21	ICO - renewal with DD discount	£ 35.00
1466	1671	23/11/21	Alison Geen - expenses - dongle	£ 31.98
1467	1672	23/11/21	David Cole - Pay	£ 528.00
1468	1673	23/11/21	Tindle Newspapers - advert for Clerk	£ 172.80
1469	1674	23/11/21	Josh Cook - Litter Picker fee	£ 40.00
1470	1675	23/11/21	Steve Cox - expenses - Vinnicombe funeral	£ 32.40
1471	1676	23/11/21	Vinnicombe funeral overpayment refund	£ 100.00

**Action:** Cllr Tigwell to investigate the possibility of installing benches in public spaces with the possibility of one of them being designated a 'chat bench'.

**22. Reports from Committees, Sub Groups and Special Interests:** Cllr Stones has submitted reports that are available for Councillors and the public to view online. Cllr Manning reported on a meeting that he had attended concerning the Councillor Advocate scheme and that Devon and Cornwall Police were making a concerted effort to reduce the number of road deaths in the area. A report on Speedwatch activity was also received.

**23. Urgent decisions since the last meeting.** None

**24. Exchange of information:**

Cllr Geen reported that she was following up on the No Parking sign for the road to Station Cottages.

Cllr Geen reported that she was following up on the request for more visits by the Civil Enforcement Officer and the re-painting of lines outside the Post Office, but this was unlikely to happen before next year.

Cllr Tigwell reported that a new paying-in book had been requested so that it could be placed in the Post Office to receive donations for the upkeep of St. Michael's churchyard.

There has been no movement on the 'Tidy Princetown' effort.

Cllr Renders explained that a request had been made for a memorial bench to be placed in one of the public areas of Princetown, and asked on what the best way to progress this was. It was agreed to put forward this discussion to a later meeting.

Cllr Geen reported that she had written to the DNPA and the DOC regarding electric car charging points in the Princetown and Postbridge car parks and that she had received no reply.

Cllrs Greatrex and Tigwell indicated that they may be 30 minutes late for the next Council meeting.

Cllr Manning requested that the question of whether the Parish Council would be willing to 'adopt' Speedwatch as a Parish Council initiative to be added to the Agenda for the next meeting of DFPC. It was agreed that this was acceptable, and that Councillor Manning would forward a provisional statement to the Council before the next meeting.

Cllr Manning reported that there was a disclaimer published on the website covering any recommendation made for local businesses advertised on the Council's website.

Cllr Manning reported that a concern had been raised concerning the state of the window of the old library in Princetown (Claremont House). This matter seems to have been missed in the change over between Clerks. Cllr Geen asked for concerns to be forwarded to her for collation and forwarding.

## 25. SECOND PUBLIC SESSION

Cllr Sanders reported that there were major issues developing with the relationship between Devon County Council and the selected contractor charged with the repair of the County's roads.

Cllr Sanders reported that there were many issues arising from the rush of memorial benches being placed across Parishes in the county, including the type of bench and where they were placed.

**The next meeting to be held on Tuesday 14th December at 19.30 at Princetown Community Centre.**

**Meeting Closed at 21:27**