

Dartmoor Forest Parish Council

Parish Clerk: Vacant

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Minutes for the Parish Council Meeting at 1930 on 14th December 2021 at Princetown Community Centre

Present:

Hexworthy/Huccaby Ward: Cllr. Alison Geen*	Princetown Ward: Cllr. David Worth**	Cllr. Nigel Tigwell
Postbridge Ward: Cllr Wendy Watson Cllr Julian Greatrex	Cllr Wendy Stones Cllr Emma Byrom	Cllr Gregg Manning
<i>* Chair, **Vice-Chair</i>		

Also attending : Cllr M. Renders (West Devon Borough Council)

3 members of the public attended.

- 1. Apologies.** Cllrs Byrom, Manning, and Sanders. 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. Co-option of new Councillor** – Him being the only candidate Mr Mark Williams was Co-opted onto the Council and was welcomed.

Action:

5. Recruitment of new Parish Clerk – The position of Parish Clerk has been offered to Miss Jackie Bennetts who will attend the meeting as an observer with the intention of starting in the role from 1st January 2022. Ms. Bennetts was formally introduced to the Council and welcomed by the Chair.

Action:

6. The Old Library Building. Having reflected on the matter it was agreed that a direct approach to the owners would be more appropriate. This matter to go forward to the February meeting.



Action. Cllr Geen to write to the owners.

7. Devon and Somerset Fire & Rescue Service CRMP response. Cllr Geen presented a draft response and the Council made some suggested amendments.

Action. Cllr Geen to incorporate amendments and submit response.

8. Princetown Parking Issues. Cllr Geen reported as follows:

- i. Increased frequency of Visits by Civil Enforcement Officers – More frequent visits have been requested. This request highlighted the restricted parking area outside the Post Office and shops and also the double yellow lines outside the school. Cllr Stones reported the CEO had been seen in the village on the morning of the meeting (14th)
- ii. No Parking sign – no update received from Dartmoor National Park Authority

9. Fundraising for St. Michael’s Churchyard – A paying in book has been placed at Princetown Post Office

Action. A sign of the Council’s design is to be placed in the porch of St. Michael’s alerting the public to this facility for donations.

10. Jubilee celebration, organisation, fundraising and souvenir – Cllr Greatrex has had to withdraw from this committee due to family commitments. Cllr Henson has volunteered to join the committee. Cllr Stones reported that souvenir mugs were the preferred gifts among the other bodies involved with the celebration. Cllr Stones gave an estimate of a figure in the region of £1000 for the purchase of the mugs and suggested that local bodies such as DNPA, district Councillors and the Duchy of Cornwall could be approached for donations.

Action. Cllrs Stones and Henson to progress.

11. Climate Change declaration – A reply has been received from Andrew Watson at DNPA as per below:

“We completed the civils works at Postbridge in readiness for the installation of a twin EV charger when the Visitor centre was extended. We are going to be doing some monitoring of energy consumption / load on the building over the next couple of months to determine whether we can accommodate an EV charger – if we can we would hope to have this in place for the next visitor season.

A few years ago we looked at the feasibility of installing EV chargers at Princetown VC car park – that is still our intention subject to funding being available and probably done on the back of the completion of the Duchy’s distillery development.”

Action. Awaiting action from DNPA.

12. Vision Zero South West Partnership grant distribution – Cllr Tigwell reported that the Council had been successful in its’ application for a grant and that £6306 had been made available for various road protection measures such as reflective cattle collars, improved

signage and a new Vehicle Activated Sign for Leedon Tor Car Park. Risks were discussed and a sub-committee was formed to steer these activities. Cllrs Tigwell, Manning, and Geen to form this committee with input from other stakeholders such as DNPA, Burrator Parish Council, and Devon Highways.

Action. Cllr Tigwell to prepare for the first meeting and carry out first steps.

13. Play Park Zip wire repair – During an inspection Cllr Stones found that the seat had been removed from the zip wire and that a new one would need to be ordered. A replacement has been ordered at a cost of £65.

Action. David Cole to fit replacement seat when it is delivered.

14. CCTV system repair and UPS update. Cllr Worth reported that a complicated situation was developing. One of the cameras of the Council's system installed by Bob Castle in the Information Centre has failed and that the camera manufacturers are unwilling to replace it as this would be the second unit that has failed within a matter of months suggesting that there is a fault with the installation. Obviously, this represents an entirely unacceptable situation where the Council would be facing an endless series of replacement camera purchases at £475 (plus VAT) per unit. Power supply regulation via a UPS may be a factor that would help to ameliorate the situation. The UPS that was previously purchased by the Council may not be of the correct type and may need to back to the vendor. It was suggested that other users of the same system (Callington Town Castle) were contacted to see if they were encountering similar issues.

Action. Cllr Geen to check on the terms of the original contract. A check to be carried out to see if a UPS was specified.

15. Play Park lighting. This item was suggested by a member of the public at a previous meeting where it was noted that there were no lighted areas of the village where children could play football during the darker winter evenings other than the streets.

Action. Cllr Worth to investigate the possibility of providing lighting,

16. Purchase of memorial bench. Cllr Renders reported that he had been approached by a member of the public who was keen to have a memorial bench placed in the village in remembrance of a family member. This person was willing to provide a sum of money for the permanent upkeep of the bench to be placed with the Council.

Action. The Council to co-ordinate design and location with those proposed for a possible Parishscape grant application and advise the family via Cllr Renders.

17. Adoption of Speedwatch by DFPC. In the absence of Cllr Manning whose proposal this was, it was agreed to defer discussion and any decision to the Council's January meeting.

18. Planning. Although there were no planning applications to discuss, notice had been received that a site meeting involving the DNPA Management committee was taking place at Lakeland Hill, Bellever, to discuss the plans for an emergency services mast that the

Council had objected to. Cllrs Watson and Greatrex to attend this site meeting to represent DFPC.

19. Postbridge cemetery records. Cllr Tigwell explained his previously circulated report concerning the state of Burial records for Postbridge Cemetery. A number of corrections to the records and procedures has been made. Thanks were expressed to Cllr Tigwell for his work in ensuring that future Clerks will have a much better system to deal with.

20. Parishscapes grant application. No action taken this month. Discussions were had concerning the purchase of benches.

First Public Session.

A member of the public pointed out that during the last Jubilee a tree had been planted on Princetown village green which had been protected by a tree cage. 10 years having passed an inspection ought to be carried out to inspect this and determine if any action was required. It was agreed to put this forward to a later meeting.

Comments were made about the situation with the Council's CCTV system expressing concern over the frailty of the system purchased.

Praise was expressed for the School's Nativity play.

A report was received that some litter picking events had been organised by members of the wider community. Cllr Renders reported that he may be able to provide some litter picking tools and safety clothing.

David Cole was thanked for supplying and erecting the Princetown Christmas tree.

21. Financial management. Payments to be approved; bank reconciliation; FOO.

The Council approved the following cheques:

<u>Ref</u>	<u>Chq No</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Payee & Details</u>	<u>Amount</u>
1474	1707	14/12/21	Nigel Tigwell - expenses & allowances - dividers	£ 31.69
1475	1708	14/12/21	David Worth - allowances	£ 18.00
1476	1709	14/12/21	Alison Geen - allowances	£ 7.50
1478	1710	14/12/21	Josh Cook - Litter Picker fee	£ 40.00
1479	1711	14/12/21	David Cole - Pay	£ 1,001.69
1481	1712	14/12/21	HMRC NI D Cole	£ 68.29

Cllr Tigwell provided a report on the Council's financial management, identifying a possible underspend of £1000 on the years budget. There were no significant risks identified to the Council's financial position.

22. Precept 2022/23 The Council reviewed Cllr Tigwell's draft budget for the forthcoming financial year, the figures for which indicate that there should be no increase in the Council Precept (0% rise).

The Council voted to accept the draft budget.

Action:

23. Reports from Committees, Sub Groups and Special Interests: Cllr Tigwell reported that he had taken part in a remote Super Link meeting, and he had previously circulated a report with a link for any Councillor who wished to view the meeting.

Cllr Stones reported that an urgent meeting was being sought to address a problem with the Youth worker for the Youth Club

24. Urgent decisions since the last meeting. None

24. Exchange of information:

There being no progress on the Warmer Healthier Homes project, it was agreed to drop this from future Agendas.

Cllr Geen reported that changes to legislation were being investigated should the need for meetings to happen remotely arise again.

A resident had reported to Cllr Stones that loose tiles were being blown from the roof of the old Prison Officers Club. Cllr Geen to report this matter to the Duchy Of Cornwall via telephone.

Carol singing to take place around the Princetown village Christmas tree on Friday 17th December at 6pm.

SECOND PUBLIC SESSION

After a request by a member of the public Cllr Tigwell supplied an explanation of how the Precept sat in the setting of Council Tax.

The next meeting to be held on Tuesday 25th January at 19.30 at Princetown Community Centre.

Meeting Closed at 20:50