

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council held at
Endecott House on Monday 9th February 2015**

Present: Cllrs: Bleakman, Coombe, d'ArchSmith, Mrs. Haxton, Mrs. Hill (Chairman), Lloyd Hill, Parrott, Sampson, Shears, Miss Stead, Ms Thorn and Williams.

Apologies: no apologies were received.

399. DECLARATION OF INTEREST

Cllr: d'ArchSmith declared an interest in Minute 408

400. CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES

- a) The Minutes of the Regular Meeting held on Monday 12th January 2015 were confirmed and signed as a true record.
- b) The Minutes of the Extraordinary Meeting held on Monday 26th January 2015 were confirmed and signed as a true record.

401. Rev. Paul Seaton-Burn – Chair of Governors, Chagford Church of England School, Chagford.

Rev. Paul Seaton-Burn was invited to the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council to update members on the proposed changes at the School.

Chagford Primary School has been awarded much needed funding worth around £2.6m to improve the school which is due to be completed in September 2016.

The EFA have started the Tender process for a new build and refurbishment options.

Once the EFA have selected the contractors and architects the School Governors will be inviting the Community to help with the design, resources, position of the School etc.

It is hoped that the PTFA will set up a Community based forum to deal with these issues.

It is also hoped that the School will have resource for the Community in a Multi Surface Sports Area and a Helipad for the Air Ambulance.

402. Cllr: James McInnes – Devon County Council

Cllr: McInnes was invited to the Regular Meeting of the Chagford Parish Council to update members on plans of Devon County Council.

This year 2015/16 a further saving of £47 million is required as a result of the Government's latest Comprehensive Spending Review, which will mean a rise in Council Tax.

Cllr: McInnes urged the public to go on the Devon County Web Site and visit the "Tough Choices" where there are consultations for people to comment on

and influence the outcome. For example there is presently a consultation on Public Transport.

There was much discussion regarding the parking in Chagford and the Traffic Enforcement Officers that visit Chagford. It was generally thought that there was a problem with the on street parking in Chagford and businesses were losing trade due to the problem.

Cllr: McInnes will speak to the Highways Officer and arrange a meeting with the Parish Council and local businesses.

403. MATTERS ARISING

Swimming Pool Lease (Min: 364 (a) refers)

Cllr: Sampson reported that the new Swimming Pool Lease had been agreed and he was waiting back for a response from the Swimming Pool with regard to the inclusion of the Sir George Hayter-Hames Charity. **Noted.**

GROUP/REPRESENTATIVES REPORTS

404. Grant of Conditional Planning Permission

0631/14 Rushford Mill Farm, The Old Piggery, Chagford.

Excavation of land and installation of farm production facilities and ramp; erection of toilet structure (part retrospective). Subject to conditions. **Noted.**

GENERAL PURPOSES AND POLICY MATTERS

405. Masterplan Update

The Chairman reported that she had heard from David Lohfink from CG Fry confirming that he is preparing the pre-application for a meeting with DNPA which will include discussion regarding the toilets, the open space, car park and the business units. A plan of the street lights will also be available.

Mr. Dan Janota DNPA will be reverting to his principle role as strategic planner and no longer be taking the lead on the Masterplan. Mr. Stephen Belli DNPA Planning Director will now be taking over this role. **Noted.**

FINANCIAL MATTERS

406. Approval to pay Chagford Combined Charity for the Hire of Endecott House for six months 1st October - 31st December 2014 and 1st January – 31st March 2015. **Resolved: to approve payment.**

407. Approval to pay DALC for the attendance of the Clerk on the course "Preparing for Election". **Resolved: to approve payment.**

Cllr: d'ArchSmith left the meeting.

408. Approval to pay J. d'ArchSmith for the repair of the Community Seat in the Square which had been damaged by a large vehicle, hence the seat had to be taken to pieces and repaired. **Resolved: to approve payment.**

Cllr: d'ArchSmith returned to the meeting.

409. Approval to pay Mr. B. Pell for Street Sweeping and Gully Cleaning on 14th January 2015. **Resolved:** Councillors requested full details of the work carried out on the 14th January before approving payment. The Clerk would also request Mr. Pell to inform her when he is going to carry out any works.

410. Approval to pay the Clerk for the reimbursement of an ink cartridge.
Resolved: to approve payment.

ENVIRONMENT

411. **Jubilee Field Inspection Report – Cllr: Coombe**

Cllr: Coombe reported that he had repaired a panel on the Wooden Train which is becoming very rotten. The See Saw is moving below ground and the surface is lifting when the See Saw is in use.

The Jubilee Field was very tidy however it has had little use due to the weather. **Resolved:** the Clerk would contact South West Play for advice regarding the See Saw.

412. **Public Convenience Inspection Report – Cllr: Coombe**

Cllr: Coombe reported that the Public Convenience was in good order and the door handle which was broken had been replaced. **Noted.**

413. **TAP Funding – Rural Skills Tender**

The Chairman reported Tenders are being sought for a Rural Skills worker to work one day per month in Chagford and SouthTawton. TheTenders close on 21st February at 12 noon. **Noted.**

414. **Meeting with CELT regarding Skate Park**

A meeting will take place on 14th February 2015 with representatives from CELT to discuss ideas on how to use the funds to improve the Skate Board Park. **Resolved:** Cllrs: Coombe and Williams will represent the Council and report back at the next meeting.

CLERK/CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

415. **Future of Parish Office**

The Clerk has been available in the Community Room at the Fire Station for the last few months for parishioners to call in for a chat about any issues in the town. However this opportunity had not been taken up, and it was recognised that the Clerk is isolated when in the Fire Station. **Resolved:** The Clerk would speak to WDBC to see if it is possible to have a presence at Connect in Chagford Library when they come to Chagford on Fridays twice each month.

416. **Chagford Youth Cricket**

The Chairman reported that she had spoken to Chagford Youth Cricket regarding the grant which they had requested earlier in the year for a new mobile cricket net. **Resolved:** Chagford Youth Cricket had secured funding from TAP funding and therefore a grant is not necessary this financial year.

417. The Closure of the Post Office

The Chairman reported that she had received a copy of an e-mail from the Post Office Authorities with regard to the fact that currently none of the businesses in Chagford wish to incorporate the Post Office into their premises. Concern was expressed by the Councillors as this means that Chagford is very likely to lose all the Post Office facilities, not only the financial over the counter transactions but the inability to post or collect parcels.

The Council wish to encourage the local community and businesses to rally around to try and find alternative premises for the Post Office.

Resolved: The Clerk to write to the Business Association and the Chagford Community Trust expressing the Council's concerns and seeking support and ideas of how this may be solved.

418. Inscription for War Memorial

The PCC have considered the Parish Councils proposed inscription for the War Memorial and they are very happy to support the inscription subject to a minor amendment. **Resolved:** the inscription would now read "Remembering also all those from Chagford who served and returned home". The Clerk would inform the Diocese.

CORRESPONDENCE

419. Citizens Advice Bureau.

A request has been received from Torridge, North, Mid and West Devon Citizens Advice Bureau to consider making a donation to this service.

Resolved: to give a donation of £75.00 to the Citizens Advice Bureau.

420. Public Transport Review

Devon County Council is consulting on how to reduce its public transport budget in the coming financial year. View the proposal and submit your response at <http://new.devon.gov.uk/publictransportbudget/>. The service which will affect Chagford is the 178. **Noted.**

421. Fare Car F19 Service

There will be a need to alter the times for the Fare Car Scheme from Monday 23rd February as Western Greyhound are finishing on the 510 and Stagecoach will be running the service instead as service 6/6A, with some times being revised. This would leave only the 0650 from Chagford and the 1730 from Whiddon Down unchanged, the new timetable will be:

Fare Cars from Chagford 0650: 0815: 0930:

Fare Cars from Whiddon Down 1650: 1730: 1835:

Noted.

422. The Francis Chichester Trust Bursaries for 2015

The Trustees would like to offer fully funded places on an Outward Bound Skills for Life Award Course to young people. The opportunity is for young people that live in Devon and are aged between 16 and 19 during summer 2015. **Resolved:** to pass this on to Wez Cutler, Youth and Community Worker.

423. Parish/Town Council Workshop

DNPA are holding a workshop on Wednesday 11th March 2015 to discuss a number of items including: Superfast broadband, changes to planning policy, rights of way, DNP Community Fund. **Resolved:** the Chairman and Clerk will attend the workshop.

424. Thank you

Letters of thanks have been received from Chagword and St. Michael the Archangel for the grants which Chagford Parish Council has given. **Noted.**

425. DALC Update – legal updates and briefings

NALC welcome the Government's moves to make a law that allows local councils to be able to send agendas electronically. **Noted.**

Transparency Code for Smaller Authorities – the Government has published the final version of this Code which replaces the need for external audit for parish councils with turnovers less than £25,000. The Councils will still have to provide end of year accounts for public scrutiny. This will provide taxpayers with a clear picture of the Council's activities. **Noted.**

426. DALC E- bulletin

Elections – with fewer than 100 days until the Election, please encourage people to register to vote. **Noted.**

Community Road Warden/Self Help Scheme – Communities are being encouraged to come together and help each other to deliver much needed minor maintenance works occurring due to service reductions as a result of declining local maintenance budgets. **Noted.**

DCC Consultation: Public Transport Review – Devon County Council is looking to save £1.7m from their annual public transport budget. Read about the consultation and give feedback on their website <https://new.devon.gov.uk/publictransportbudget/> **Noted.**

A small task group is speaking to people across Devon to understand what makes strong communities. The report and recommendations will help to shape the County Council's future policy. **Noted.**

Devon Countryside Access Forum – the forum is a statutory local access forum under the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000. It advises on the 'improvement of public access to land for the purposes of open-air recreation and enjoyment'. DCC is currently appointing members and would like to receive applications from anyone with an interest in recreational access. **Noted.**

427. Chagford Church Sign

An email has been received from the Churchwarden showing detailed plans of a proposed new noticeboard at the Main Gates of the Parish Church. **Noted.**

428. The Woodland Trust

The Woodland Trust will begin a series of talks for 2015 at the Fingle Bridge Inn on 5th February 2015, the first talk being archaeology as the theme.
Noted.

429. Our Plan Consultation/Neighbourhood Planning Event

Following approval by Council West Devon will shortly be going out for public consultation on the draft "Our Plan". During the consultation period several events will be held in the main towns and local centres.

Alongside the "Our Plan" consultation there will be an event on 19th March for towns and parishes who are considering developing their own neighbourhood plan to be held at Bridestowe Village Hall. **Noted.**

430. West Devon is running with the Black Horse

WDBC has moved its banking business to a new bank and is appealing to its residents and businesses to update their records. Particularly those paying by internet banking. The new details are: Lloyds Bank, Account Name: West Devon Borough Council, Account number 40072360, Sort code: 30-98-69.
Noted.

431. Local Government Finance Settlement

No town or parish councils have been made subject to the referendum threshold of 2% increase on the precept for 2015/16. No mention is made of council tax support funding which means that Parish and Town Councils are not having their precepts capped for 2015 – 16. **Noted.**

432. ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

The following accounts were approved for payment:-		£
a)	Direct Debit – BT Telephone and Broadband Service	35.84
b)	003288 Mrs. S. Curtis – Salary	478.75
c)	003289 Mrs. S. Curtis – Clerk's Expenses	20.00
d)	003290 Chagford Combined Charity – Hire of Endecott Hse	174.00
e)	003291 DALC – Clerk's Training	25.00
f)	003292 J. d'ArchSmith – Repair of Community Seat	232.29
g)	003294 Mrs. S. Curtis – Reimburse for ink cartridge	17.99
h)	003295 Mrs. G. Hill – Chairman's Allowance	500.00
i)	003296 Donation to Citizens Advice Bureau	75.00

THE MEETING CLOSED AT 9.47 P.M.

Dated **Signed**