

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF YEALMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD REMOTELY ON  
ZOOM ON MONDAY APRIL 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 AT 7.00 PM**

Present:	Cllr Thomas (Chairman)	*	Cllr Healy	*
	Cllr. Endicott (Vice Chair)	*	Cllr Baldry	*
	Cllr Craddock	*	Cllr. Tucker	@
	Cllr Cooper	@	Cllr. Barton	*
			Cllr Hyrdziuszka	*
	* Denotes attendance		@ Denotes absence	

Also attending:	Members of the public	7
	County Councillor	1

**This meeting was held remotely on Zoom as Coronavirus outbreak has forbidden public meetings.**

**The Chairman opened the meeting by expressing YPC condolences to Queen Elizabeth on the loss of her husband, the Duke of Edinburgh.**

**1. APOLOGIES** – Cllrs Cooper and Tucker.

**2. DISTRICT COUNCILLOR REPORT**

Cllr Baldry reported:

- SHDC has agreed to spend £600,000 on business recovery in the South Hams.
- The government are still giving recovery grants (administered by SHDC)
- Councillors are to be given £3,000 for local projects for the “climate change emergency”.
- SHDC is not able to hold meetings in Follaton House because no room big enough for social distancing post May 7<sup>th</sup>. May use Kilworthy House in West Devon if appeal to Secretary of State for “zoom” extension is not successful.

**3. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR**

Cllr Hosking reported:

- Condolences to the family of the Duke of Edinburgh, the ‘grandfather’ of the nation.
- COVID-19 incidents in South Hams are declining
- Salt usage has doubled over last winter in spite of the lack of snow – just very frosty nights.
- Nick Colton has the Brixton dip flooding in hand.
- “My Devon” reports are only removed from the computer file if an inspector deems the problem fixed or not up to the “urgent” specification.

Hosking

- Councillor Hosking was asked why our roads are being dug up again for broadband cabling when Gigaclear did this work two years ago. To be investigated.

Hosking

- Councillor Hosking agreed to investigate why contractors were not working to agreed Road Closure times/programmes.

Hosking

- Councillor Hosking agreed to get another survey of the road condition in Yealm Park. In the current financial year, neither funding or contractors are available.

Hosking

- Councillor Hosking agreed to chase the DCC solicitor to reply to YPC 's request for interpretation of the Silverbridge Way contract review due in December.

Hosking

- The Clerk advised that Nick Colton was following up the question of inadequate hedge trimming between Hillside Drive and Two Crosses.

#### **4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.**

None.

#### **5. MINUTES OF THE MARCH COUNCIL MEETING**

Cllr Craddock proposed and Cllr Baldry seconded "that the minutes of the March 8<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting be approved as an accurate record". Passed. Chairman to physically sign at a later date.

#### **6. REPORTS ON ALLOCATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY**

**6.1 WORKS:** a) The door lock of the Parish Room has been repaired.

b) Stray Park recreation ground. The success of the new play equipment has been beyond expectation. However, this success has created a problem in the "kiddies" area with the carousel which is being used by all ages. It was considered to be a safety hazard with all the older children using the same equipment as the 3-year-olds. Cllr Baldry proposed and Cllr Endicott seconded that "Cllrs Thomas and Barton to choose another piece of suitable equipment for the "kiddies park" and move the carousel to the main area. A ceiling of £4,000 to apply." Passed with 1 abstention.

Thomas/  
Barton

#### **6.2 HIGHWAYS:**

- Newton Ferrers road (B3186) from 30 mph de-restriction up to Owl Cross needs to have the hedge trimming improved. DCC are investigating.
- Speedwatch can now proceed/resume. Registration and approval and training is now done "on-line". One volunteer has resigned leaving only 2 plus Cllr Healy. Only 2 persons needed to operate the speed-watch. Cllr Barton was asked to advertise for new volunteers on the village Facebook page. Cllr Healy to organise a new session.

Clerk

Barton  
Healy

#### **6.3 COMMUNICATIONS:**

A) Discussion on Broadband speed upgrade for the village:

- Faster speed required by local businesses and those working from home.
- Suggestion that Yealmpton should create a "community fibre partnership" with Openreach/BT. The government are giving out grant vouchers to individuals so that they can create 'local partnerships'.
- Cllr Thomas agreed to send more information to Councillors about this.

Thomas

Thomas  
All Cllrs

- Cllr Thomas agreed to advertise this project in Yealmpton Facebook page.
- B) Yealmpton Directory to be updated. Changes to Cllr Craddock please.

#### 6.4 FOOTPATHS:

Barton

a) FP18. A Sink hole has reappeared in the stream bed. Cllr Barton to ask Cllr Tucker to fill the hole with rocks and sandbags.

Barton

b) FP25. Cllr Barton to report dangerous bottom step to DCC. Can Cllr Tucker remove danger?

Barton

c) FP24. Cllr Barton to report dangerous top step to DCC.

Barton

c) River bridge at Pimple Rock. Concern raised about safety of this bridge and its handrails. Cllr Barton to report to DCC.

Barton

d) Purchase of new map literature holder was approved.

#### 6.5 ENVIRONMENT. Mr Abbott (Chairman, Subcommittee) reported

- All groups are very busy at present with strategic planning, environment planning and emergency cases.
- Green spaces & Verges. Working on planting regimes and sorting out the mowing schedules.
- Footpath Group. Flowers for FP20. Himalayan knotweed reviews.
- Tree group. Low activity at present.
- Rivers/water quality. 'Yealm east to moor' project.
- Carbon group. 'Net zero' carbon in schools.
- Logo design under consideration.

The WI have obtained permission to plant a centenary tree on the grass in front of Milizac Close. The Chairman asked if the ongoing maintenance of the tree could be the responsibility of the "tree group".

Craddock

Cllr Craddock asked Mr Abbott whether his new group was considering the emerging body of evidence regarding other factors. References to be sent to Mr Abbott.

#### 6.6 EMERGENCY PLANNING. Nothing to report.

#### 7. LOCAL ISSUES

Clerk  
Clerk

**7.1 Efford Farm.** Highway flooding issues have been reported to DCC.

**7.2 Mountain biking update.** Notices have been agreed and will be put up this week.

#### 7.3 Kitley Estate

STATEMENT BY MR SPIKE BASTARD REGARDING USE OF HIS LAND ALONG THE YEALM ESTUARY.

The existing arrangement for residents of Yealmpton and Brixton to have recreational access to the old railway track alongside the Estuary whilst providing land for the off-road Silver Bridge Way link between the 2 villages alongside the A379 works very well. We at Kitley don't see any advantage changing this arrangement agreed with DCC and supported by both communities.

In particular we oppose turning what is a quiet and peaceful stroll along the estuary bank into a hectic cycle highway.

Some places are best enjoyed on foot and this is surely one of them.

Mr Spike Bastard, March 17th, 2021

**7.4 Use of Bakery Square.** A request from the café owners to use Bakery Square for their tables from April 12<sup>th</sup> was approved. The proviso is that access through the square is not impeded and safety is always under consideration.

**Clerk**

**7.5 Council vacancy.** The Clerk reported that a by-election has not been called. The “casual vacancy” to be advertised in the May edition of the Yealm Press with a closing date of May 21<sup>st</sup>. Interviews to take place during w/c May 24<sup>th</sup>. Appointment and co-option to be ratified at Council Meeting on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

**7.6 Footpath 19 (Shire Horse land).**

**Barton**

Cllr Thomas proposed and Cllr Hrydziuska seconded that “Cllr Barton be invited to set up a working group to prepare a Schedule 14 application to DCC for a new public Right-of- Way from the Toll House to Yealmpton Village alongside (and to the south of) the River Yealm on Shire Horse land”. The proposal was passed unanimously. This application will be based on the fact that parishioners have walked this path, unimpeded, for over 20 years.

Separately, if the landowner wishes to amend the route of the existing FP19, he will need to apply to the DCC ‘Definitive mapping’ team.

## **8. PLANNING MATTERS.**

The following decisions are noted:

- 10 The Borough. Rear extension. Conditional approval.
- 18 Riverside Walk. Extension to rear and above garage. Conditional approval.
- 37 Market Street. Replace garage slates to Listed Building. Approved.
- Little Copse, New Road. Single storey rear extension. Conditional approval.
- Splatt. Multi-purpose agricultural building. Conditional approval.
- Little Acre. Discharge of condition on building materials. Approved.

YPC is considering the following new applications:

- House in redundant reservoir at Gnaton. No objection subject to visibility & drainage considerations.
- 10, Gardeners Lane. Music Room in garden at rear. No objection.
- New England Quarry. Vary condition 3 from “diving use only” to “holiday accommodation”. Decision awaited.
- Yealmpton Manor. Tree works. Decision left to SHDC experts.

## **9. FINANCIAL MATTERS.**

Cllr Endicott proposed and Cllr Craddock seconded that the financial statement of £38,721.96 be approved. Unanimously approved.

## **10. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

The date of the next remote meeting is Monday, May 3rd at 7.00 pm.

This will take the form of the Annual Parish Meeting followed by the YPC AGM.

The meeting was closed at 9.00 pm

M J Stickland, Clerk to Yealmpton Parish Council

13/4/2021

**Notes (these do not form part of the Minutes).**

1. A parishioner raised his concern that our lanes were being dug up again for the installation of high-speed broadband. Why were Barden Engineering not using the cables laid by Gigaclear 2 years ago?
2. A parishioner thanked Council for changing the “speed checker” device on Ford Road to gain more data of car speeds between the bridge and the narrows. He requested that a new location is tried to get better data. (This will require DCC Highways approval).