

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF YEALMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD
ON MONDAY SEPTEMBER 13th AT 7.30 pm.**

Present: Cllr Thomas (Chairman) * Cllr Healy *

Cllr. Endicott (Vice Chair) * Cllr Baldry *

Cllr Craddock * Cllr. Tucker *

Cllr Durman * Cllr. Barton *

* Denotes attendance @ Denotes absence

Also attending: Members of the public 4
County Councillor 1

1. FAREWELL. The chairman advised that he had received the resignation of Alan Cooper on health grounds. He thanked him for the work that he had done on Council over the last years and for his wise advice.

APOLOGIES. None

2. DISTRICT COUNCILLORS REPORT

Cllr Baldry reported:

- The Council is still having trouble with the waste collection service and 'green waste' collections are still suspended until further notice. The contractor, FCC, still cannot recruit enough drivers to cover the whole fleet. SHDC has been advised that they cannot cancel the contract and sue FCC for inadequate service as the contract was badly written. Cllr Baldry apologised for the poor communication to parishioners but with an ever-changing scene, letters to 47,000 dwellings would never be up-to-date.

3. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR

Cllr Thomas reported:

- **Covid-19.** The 'Bad' News – an Enhanced Response Area (ERA).
On August 27th, DCC received the news that Devon (along with Plymouth, Torbay, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly) was now designated an ERA due to high cases. This means that the government has prioritised the 'far' South West for additional support to reduce case rates. It doesn't mean another local lockdown, but it does mean that authorities across the south west have more flexibility to introduce additional public health measures if considered necessary, to those in other parts of the country.

The advice from County Hall is to

- limit your social contacts to stop the virus spreading
- meet others outside, because that's safer than meeting inside
- continue to wear face coverings when indoors in public places
- wash your hands properly and regularly

- have the jab if you are an adult and haven't yet had it
- self-isolate if told to do so by NHS Test and Trace
- self-isolate and arranging a PCR test if you show any symptoms of having the virus

The good news:

- Uptake of the vaccine has been high

- **Connecting Devon and Somerset**

This scheme, to improve mobile phone coverage in rural parts of Devon and Somerset, is being expanded. Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) has announced that its Mobile Boost Programme, which aims to upgrade indoor 4G coverage in "not-spot" areas, now includes a greater choice of equipment. It's targeting small businesses and households in rural communities who currently have inadequate coverage or have access to only one provider and are currently struggling with connectivity. Businesses and households can apply for a voucher of up to £1,200 towards the cost of a mobile signal booster from a registered supplier. For a list of registered suppliers and an application form, visit

www.connectingdevonandsomerset.co.uk/the-cds-mobile-booster-voucher-scheme-guide/

Clr Durman raised concern that the project may remove some land line access and therefore no ability to dial 999 for Emergency Services if a household has no mobile phone signal.

Thomas

- **Dartmoor National Park Authority**

A consultation is about to begin on updating the Park's byelaws. Headlines include a restriction on the number of dogs a person may walk, camping policy, drones and use of fires/BBQs.

Clr Craddock asked about the multiple road closures on Bowden Hill. A compliance audit had been promised by Cllr Hoskins and he wanted to hear the conclusion. Utility companies can apparently issue closures as required but YPC are no longer getting official notifications from DCC. The system needs reviewing and clarifying.

Thomas

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST.

Clr Tucker on item 9.1

5. MINUTES OF THE JUNE COUNCIL MEETING

Clr Endicott proposed and Cllr Tucker seconded "that the minutes of the June 21st council meeting be approved as an accurate record". Passed.

6. REPORTS ON ALLOCATED AREAS OF RESPONSIBILITY

Craddock

6.1 WORKS: a) Rusty railing on FP24 (?) was discussed. DCC property but unlikely to be maintained by them. Cllr Craddock to find a contractor to repaint. B) Defibrillator training needs to re-commence post Covid. Cllr Craddock agreed to select 2 suitable dates for advertising in Yealm Press.

Craddock

6.2 HIGHWAYS: a) Cllr Healy complained that DCC were not repairing the road surface in Elm Tree Park in spite of reporting on MyDevon. The Clerk reminded the meeting that if inspections do not meet the set criteria for repair, then they are deleted from the Action List. B) Cllr Tucker reminded the meeting to be observant about dead elm and ash trees and report problems either to the landlord or Devon CC on MyDevon.

Barton **6.3 COMMUNICATIONS:** a) A road closure program as indicated by DCC on our website would be a useful reminder. Cllr Barton to provide suitable link .

Barton **6.4 FOOTPATHS:**

- Cllr Barton was congratulated on the upgrade of the Walks leaflet. To be reprinted.
- FP25. To be closed when steps to be repaired. Cllr Tucker to advise Cllr Barton about the date for the necessary work so that DCC can be advised accordingly.
- FP19. Shire Horse fields. Cllr Barton advised that questionnaires had been returned by 27 parishioners about their historic use of these grounds. All have used this facility for more than 20 years with 11 using the same route. 25 are happy to be involved with any enquiry set up by DCC.

Thomas Cllr Thomas awaits a response from Kitley Estate regarding the possible creation of a “permissive path” through the orchard adjacent to Riverside Walk and the river.
Cllr Thomas thanked all those parishioners who are helping with this project.

6.5 ENVIRONMENT

The Five Parish Alliance. The chairman reminded councillors that this had been set up by Cllr Chown at Brixton some time ago to co-ordinate activities between Brixton, Holbeton, Newton & Noss, Wembury and Yealmpton parishes. We had not formally agreed to join. Cllr Endicott proposed and Cllr Durman seconded that “Yealmpton Parish should formally join the Alliance”. Passed by 7 votes with 1 abstention.

6.6 EMERGENCY PLANNING.

Cllr Durman’s report had been circulated prior to the meeting and was taken as read.
Thanks given for preparing this report in advance.

Clerk

- Flooding. The storms in June had given problems of flooding in Stray Park and Church Lane. The reality of the situation is that the drainage and sewage pipe network was not designed for 4 weeks rain delivered in 1 hour!! Flooding is inevitable. Clerk was asked to check the old statement made by SWW about the adequacy of the holding tank at the sewage works although this may be irrelevant to the flood problem.

Durman Cllr Tucker has completed the agreed works to minimise the Stray Park problems.
Cllr Durman to write to Sir Gary Streeter about getting surface water and sewage piping separated in our Parish and amend the contract with SWW to require remedial action if sewage enters the garden adjacent to someone’s house.

7. LOCAL ISSUES

Thomas Endicott Durman **7.1 Village survey.** It was agreed that Cllrs Thomas, Endicott and Durman would write the draft brief for the planned new Parish Survey for discussion at the next meeting.

Thomas Craddock **7.2 MUGA responsibilities.** Cllr Craddock recommended that YPC and YCA no longer have any interest in the management of the MUGA. Before this is agreed, a meeting to be held between Cllrs Thomas, Craddock and the Mr Pepper, the head of school. Cllr Thomas to arrange. The maintenance responsibility rests with the school.

7.3 Public transport. DCC sent out a questionnaire to which Cllr Baldry responded as follows:

- The ticket costs are prohibitive – especially for those on low income and without own transport
- Please can there be integration between bus companies so that return tickets can be used on another bus provider service.

Thomas

7.4 Motion to support AONB Environment policy. Postponed until October meeting.

7.5 Medical provisions. A) Cllr Durman had been concerned that Covid test kits were not available in the village but this has been rectified with availability at the Post office.

b) Cllr Durman has written to the surgery regarding the trivalent offering which is not recommended.

Clerk

7.6 Handrail for FP24. Clerk to write to landowners for permission to mount railings on their walls. If approved, quote required.

Thomas

7.7 Councillor vacancy interviews. To be agreed when number of applicants is known.

8. PLANNING MATTERS.

The following decisions are noted:

- Winsor Farm. Conditional approval
- Riverside Walk. Extension. Conditional approval
- May Cottage, Dunstone. Orangery at rear. Conditional approval
- Longbrook Farm. Storage barn. Conditional approval.
- New England Quarry. Change of use. Refused.
- Lolesbury Cross. Revised application. Refused.
- Kitley Farm buildings. Conditional approval.

YPC is considering the following new applications:

- West Pitten Barns into 2 dwellings. Objection raised.
- 3 Ploughman Way. Extension. No objection.
- Yealmbridge Forge. Additional bedroom. No objection.
- 15, Church Way. Roof extension. Cllr Thomas review at SHDC.
- The Piggery, New England Road. Agricultural building. No objection.
- Mr March. Application for 'certificate of lawfulness'. Refused by SHDC.
- Waye Farm. Under review by subcommittee.
- Stag Lodge. Roofing slate approval. No objection.

Baldry

Nelli's café application is overdue since April 14th and promised for this week.

9. FINANCIAL MATTERS.

9.1 Cllr Baldry proposed and Cllr Endicott seconded that the financial statement of £3214.60 be approved. Approved with one abstention.

Clerk

9.2 Cllr Craddock requested an updated budget expenditure sheet for next meeting.

10. Date of next meeting.

October 11th at 7.30 in the Community Room.

11. Correspondence.

Clerk

- Letter regarding overcrowding in corner of Memorial Garden. Clerk to review.

Clerk

Clerk

- Letter from Torr Bridge Park residents regarding return to normal grass mowing programme (i.e. monthly) for 2022. For discussion at October meeting. Agenda item.
- Complaint about smells from sewage works. Please report directly to SHDC Environment officer by telephone at the time of complaint. Also agenda October.

The meeting was closed at 9.32 pm

M J Stickland, Clerk to Yealmpton Parish Council

14/9/2021

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

1. A member of the Yealm Estuary Trail action group spoke about the review of the Silverbridge Way Agreement and their desire to see the estuary route developed. They need a better route to be able to meet the government's "active travel" programme.
Cllr Thomas responded by advising that the DCC solicitor has stated that the only reason for not positively reviewing the agreement was if one of the parties severed the agreement. It will be reviewed in December.
2. The above member also requested that if the Collaton Cross development is approved that it should include a 'traffic free' route down to the A379.
Cllr Baldry advised that he has asked that the application should include a subsidy for public transport into Yealmpton and beyond. A traffic free route would involve two landowners and would be difficult to achieve.
3. A representative of the '20/20 for Yealmpton' group spoke about speeding in the village. He has been analysing the data from the Council's speed signs on Ford Road and the A379. His conclusion is that an unacceptable percentage, whether in lockdown or not, are exceeding the 35 mph tolerated by the police in a 30mph area. He requested that Council seriously study these figures.
Cllr Thomas thanked the parishioner for his work on these statistics.
4. A resident raised a complaint about a hole left in a public footpath by a utilities contractor which caused an injury to a parishioner.
Cllr Thomas advised that this had nothing to do with the Parish Council. It is the responsibility of the Utility Company for any due compensation.

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