

MINUTES OF THE MONTHLY MEETING OF YEALMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD IN THE YCA COMMUNITY ROOM ON SEPTEMBER 12th 2022 AT 7.30PM

Present: Cllr Thomas @ Cllr. Baldry @
Cllr. Craddock * Cllr Mackay *
Cllr. Endicott * Cllr. Tucker *
Cllr. Healy * Cllr. Barton *
Cllr. Durman * Cllr Hopkins @

* Denotes attendance @ Denotes absence

Also attending: Members of the public 1
County Councillor 0

The Chairman opened the Council Meeting with the following statement:

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II 1926 - 2022

On behalf of Yealmpton Parish Council and our Parishioners, we are saddened to hear the news of the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and send our condolences to the Royal Family.

Queen Elizabeth’s reign of 70 years has been the most admired in history and she will be remembered by most of us as the only monarch in our living memories.

God save the King.

The Chairman then invited those present to stand for a one minute silence.

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence from Cllrs Baldry, Thomas and Hopkins.

10.b Correspondence

The Chairman asked the Clerk to read his letter of Resignation and Retirement.

“It is with a heavy heart that I write this letter to you to tender my resignation and retirement from the post of Clerk to the Council as from December 31st 2022. After nineteen years of service to the Council it has been a very difficult decision. It would have been great to clock up the 20 year target but I am putting realism before sentiment !

I promised to give the Council 3 months’ notice of my retirement in order that you can have time to find a suitable replacement. If you have not achieved this by January 1st, I am willing to continue as Clerk until the situation is resolved. I am also prepared to work for 25 hours a month in 2023 as an overlap “training” period for the new incumbent.

I wish to thank YPC for all the support that I have received from councillors over these years. It has been a pleasure working for the community and I will greatly miss the camaraderie and the challenges of this job.

Yours very sincerely, Mike Stickland

The Chairman thanked Mike for his years of service to Council and said that his wise council will be missed.

2. REPORT FROM COUNTY COUNCILLOR THOMAS

Finance

In a budget update paper going to Cabinet after the Period of Mourning, DCC Director of Finance and Public Value, Angie Sinclair, outlines the position and the urgent action being taken to respond across the authority. While the overall overspend is estimated at £35.6 million, £18.6 million in savings and income are being proposed by officers who have joined forces from all Council services to identify ways to safeguard County finances. Therefore a £17 million overspend is currently predicted for this financial year ending March 2023.

Locality Budgets

As part of the above process, Locality Budgets have been unilaterally suspended by Cllr Hart until further notice. I am hopeful that he will choose to reverse this decision, not least because it contradicts the County Strategic Aim to help Communities to be strong, connected and resilient.

Avian Flu

If you're out and about in certain parts of Devon you might have noticed some 'Animal Disease Control Zone' signs on our roadsides.

They are there because there are some cases of bird flu currently in Devon, and the government's Animal and Plant Health Agency (APHA) requested that a protection zone be set up around outbreak areas so that people living in or visiting the area can take extra care to help reduce the risk of it spreading.

Animal disease control sign, on roadside

A map of the Avian Influenza Prevention Zone is available on the government's website. The risk to public health from the virus is very low and the Food Standards Agency advice remains unchanged, that avian influenzas pose a very low food safety risk for UK consumers. Properly cooked poultry and poultry products, including eggs, are safe to eat.

3. REPORT FROM DISTRICT CLLRS BALDRY & THOMAS

1. A reminder that in addition to our traditional Localities Budget, there is the Climate Change and Biodiversity budget. Dan and I share the fund. It needs to be spent before the end of this financial year.

2. SHDC has created a budget for community composting. It was launched in April and no applications have so far been received.

3. There is a proposal to end the current garden waste brown bin collection at the end of October. Full Council is being asked to approve charging for garden waste from the Spring. £49 per household for 11-month service every 2 weeks is proposed. A letter will be sent to all households inviting them to apply.

4. SHDC is taking the waste service back in house from 3 October. We are making sure that the service is safe, legal and compliant from 3 October.

In parallel to this work, we are looking at "collection rounds" data, to see if there are any small improvements that can be made in the short term, with an aim to deliver longer term improvements as soon as we can. We will be asking Parish Councils for suggestions on known error and recurring errors in collection arrangements.

The District Council will inherit the same problems as FCC on day one; the same rounds and the same staff shortages.

It isn't just the waste collection service being taken back. It is also the trade waste, bulky/clinical waste collections and the recycling banks, along with the street scene services such as litter bins, street and toilet cleaning services. There is a communications plan in place, so we can share the latest updates with residents as and when they happen.

** With reference to the Composting Scheme, it was agreed that Cllr Barton would contact YAGA to explore any interest in the scheme which covers 'set up' costs only.

Barton

4. COUNCILLORS DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

None

5. MINUTES OF PARISH COUNCIL MEETINGS

It was proposed by Cllr Durman and seconded by Cllr Endicott that the minutes of the July 11th, 2022 Council Meeting be signed as a true record. Carried. Action points discussed are minuted in the relevant sections below.

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

a) Works.

Cllr Craddock to set a schedule for ongoing asset maintenance.

b) Footpaths.

1. Paperwork to be submitted to DCC for new PROW in Shire Horse Centre land.
2. FP10. Clerk to chase DCC for action.
3. FP24. Cllr Endicott to visit complainant about path surfaces.
4. FP18. Safety signs to be designed and erected regarding Karst holes.
5. FP48. To be strimmed by our contractor.
6. Cllr Barton to review path numbering on posts.
7. A list of new P3 volunteers has been made.
8. FP24 steps. Clerk to chase DCC for promised action.
9. FP32. SHDC has done the agreed gate work.
10. FP20. Cllr Tucker to carry out 2 days work on the west end of FP20 at an approved cost of £1400. (Proposed by Cllr Endicott and seconded by Cllr Barton)

c) Highways.

1. Cllr Tucker again raised the problem of A379 flooding to the east of Dunstone Cross. The Clerk asked that he report the problem on "My Devon". The Clerk also agreed to speak to DCC highways engineer.
2. Cllr Tucker raised concern at the lack of hedge cutting on private properties in the village. It was agreed to write an article for Yealm Press 1 to remind residents of their legal responsibilities to keep pavements and highways clear of foliage. Clerk to write article for publishing.

d) Environment.

1. The YEG met in August and are concentrating on tree planting and the recruitment of a Tree Warden.
2. We now have 30 water quality testers in the village. SWW are under pressure for not allowing access to ????????????
3. Cllr Craddock advised that there was a smell/odour problem to the north of the village. We will seek to obtain details of the site license and check if SWW are compliant and what may be done to mitigate future problems.

e) Emergency.

1. Cllr Durman's report circulated prior to meeting.

Craddock

Barton

Clerk

Endicott

Barton/Cradoc

Clerk

Barton

Clerk

Tucker

Tucker

Clerk

Clerk

Durman

2. The winter inoculation season for flu and Covid boosters begins in Oct.
3. Fuel poverty. Awaiting details regarding Government relief package.
4. Sherford flooding. There has been a breach of planning conditions leading to flooding and soil pollution of local streams. SHDC officers are reviewing the options.

f) Communications.

All Cllrs

1. Cllr Barton has issued new instructions for “dropbox” use. It was agreed that only the last 12 months data be uploaded.

g) Speed signs.

1. The new devices have yet to be reset to new parameters.
2. All devices are having changes to settings and recharging rules.

SHDC/Clerk

Clerk

Durman

Barton/Hopkin

Clerk

Thomas

Clerk

Barton

Clerk

7. LOCAL ISSUES

1. Vandalism in Stray Park. Both the trampoline and bridge are to be repaired. Cllr Durman is to contact the local Police Complaints Commissioner about anti-social behaviour in the village. Clerk to get quotes for private security at Stray park.
2. Flower tub maintenance. Cllr Barton to speak to Cllr Hopkins about obtaining volunteers.
3. Clerk to obtain price for additional waste bins from SHDC.
4. Transport survey. Most of the actions require DCC Highways input. Input required from Cllr Thomas.
5. Stray Park fencing. A quote of £925 + vat has been received from our contractor to repair and upgrade the damaged fencing. Price for steel “weldmesh” fence is awaited.
6. SHDC has approved that we may advertise for a new Councillor. The advert will appear in the next Yealm Press edition and on the website and notice boards on October 1st.

8.PLANNING MATTERS

The subcommittee made the following decision for ratification:

1. 50 Stray Park. Side/rear extension. No objections raised.
2. Egerton House, Tor Lane. Extension above garage. No objections. Cllr Endicott proposed and Cllr Tucker seconded approval of these proposals. Passed unanimously.

For information only:

1. Sunlounge extension at House Barton, Dunstone withdrawn.
2. Riverside. Garage application for ancillary accommodation refused.
3. Little Acres, Worston. Use of garage for secondary accommodation passed by SHDC Development management committee.

9.FINANCIAL MATTERS36

Cllr Craddock proposed and Cllr Barton seconded the acceptance of September expenditure of £7,002.07. Agreed unanimously.

10.CORRESPONDENCE

1. The Clerk advised that a letter had been received from the owners of Butland House expressing concern at the accident rate on the A379 by their house. This has been referred to DCC Highways.
2. Devon Air Ambulance are seeking agreement from the Athletics Club for the creation of night landing facilities on the Recreation Ground.

11.DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Next meeting is on Monday, October 10th 2022 at 7.30 p.m. in the Yealmpton Community Centre.

The meeting was declared closed at 10.03p.m.

M J Stickland, Clerk to Yealmpton Parish Council

September 14th 2022

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Open Forum.

Note: These notes do not form any part of the Council minutes.

1. A parishioner complained about the colour and excessive use of the lime mortar used in the refurbishment of the Toll Keeper's Hut at Dunstone Cross. A photograph to be sent to the Chairman for further investigation.