

Minutes of Yealmpton Parish Council

9th October 2023 at 7.30pm in Yealmpton Community Centre

Present: Cllr Craddock (Chair), Cllr Endicott, Cllr Tucker, Cllr Hopkins, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Guy-Fierens, Cllr Baldry and Cllr Barton.

In attendance: District Councillor Tom Edie and Sasha Walton-Jackman (Clerk)

Members of the public: 2

Open Forum - No discussion.

- 1) **Apologies.** None.
- 2) **Recruitment of councillors.** Council voted unanimously to co-opt two new Councillors. Rachel Wilson and Roderick McKay.
- 3) **Report from County Councillor Thomas.** Reporting that the Scrutiny Committee had agreed to refer the decision to shut all mobile libraries back to Cabinet for reconsideration. It felt that insufficient consideration had been given to alternative schemes to overcome the capital requirements for updating the vehicles, for example leasing vehicles as an alternative. Hopefully some good will come of this referral as it is recognised that mobile libraries are a valuable resource, particularly in rural communities.
- 4) **Report from District Councillor Edie and Councillor Thomas.**
 - a) Consultation around Corporate Strategy – consultation in relation to the new corporate strategy is taking place until 30th November 2023. All are encouraged to read and respond to the consultation. <https://ourcorporatestategy.commonplace.is/proposals/lets-talk/step1>
ACTION - Clerk to ensure the link is publicised on Facebook page and circulated to Councillors.
 - b) Waste Container roll out. It is hoped that this can be finalised by the end of the year. Most of Yealmpton has the new 6 box system. It is hoped this will improve recycling rates across the South Hams.
- 5) **Councillors' Declaration of Interest.**

Cllr Tucker declared an interest in an invoice to be paid by the Parish Council in relation to resurfacing work undertaken on a footpath.
- 6) **Minutes of the Council held on 11th September 2023** - Approved and signed.
- 7) **Councillor Hopkin's extended leave and appointment of deputies.** Council voted to agree a 9 month sabbatical for Cllr Hopkins. Cllr Thomas will represent the Parish Council at events for Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm. Other areas of responsibility will be deputised as follows; Press liaison – Cllr Craddock, Yealmpton Press Liaison – Cllr Barton, Environment – Cllr Wilson, Grass Cutting – Cllr Guy-Fierens,5 Parish Alliance – Cllr Wilson.

8) **Report from Councillors/clerk in respect of responsibilities/ actions arising from previous meetings:**

- a) Sir Gary Streeter had responded to our letter setting out our concerns regarding the proposed changes to planning regulations. He indicated that they were being fiercely debated and may be subject to further policy changes.
- b) Damage to Wall in Village Car Park – South have repaired this at no cost to YPC.
- c) Yealmbridge debris following bridge repairs – this has been removed.
- d) MUGA access – **ACTION** Cllr Craddock to report at next meeting following a meeting with the YCA.
- e) Data Management Plan – Council voted to adopt the new policy.
- f) Parish room – A new agreement was entered into with YCA in 2020, this is a rolling 6 month contract and therefore no action is required to issue a new agreement. An invoice for the Men's Shed share of utilities between the period from January 2021 to present is being prepared. Cllr Craddock will conduct a review of relevant suppliers and report back at next meeting.

ACTION - Clerk – finalise draft Invoice for consideration at next meeting. Cllr Craddock – review existing suppliers and consider alternatives.

9) **Reports on allocated areas of responsibility, where matters arise.**

- a) **Works** - It is felt by many that the village is looking untidy. A sub-committee will look at how best to address this. It is recognised that there are many volunteers in the village who may be able to help with this but Chapter 8 accreditation will be required for any works along the road.
ACTION Cllrs Barton, Baldry, Tucker and Craddock have formed a sub-committee and will meet and report at the next meeting.
- b) **Public Rights of Way** – Cllr Baldry, Cllr Thomas and Cllr Barton are to meet with relevant landowners and Newton and Noss Parish Council to discuss the possibility of a Permissive Path connecting Yealmpton with Collaton. **ACTION** – Cllr Baldry to arrange meeting and report back. Cllr Barton has received a report that a footpath gate at Yealmbridge had been padlocked.
ACTION – Cllr Barton to approach the landowner and ask for the padlock to be removed.
- c) **Roads and pavements**- The footpath between the Villa and Yealmbridge is restricted by the overgrown hedge. This is making it difficult for people to use the pavement safely.
ACTION- Cllr Tucker is asked to arrange for the hedge to be cut back to enable the required remedial works to be assessed, consent from the landowner having been obtained.
A complaint has been received about the overhanging vegetation along Underhay.
ACTION – Clerk to write to landowners and ask them to cut back the vegetation.

d) **Environment**

YEM have requested some funds from next year's budget to be made available now to enable the tree nursery to be developed. Council approves this request.

ACTION – Clerk to liaise with YEM in regard to this.

ACTION – Cllr Craddock to obtain an update from Linda Durman for the next meeting.

e) **Emergency** - Cllr Guy-Fierens a message has gone out in the Yealmpton Press regarding being ready for winter.

ACTION – Cllr Tucker to inspect salt bins to determine whether they need to be replaced with new salt if the existing salt has hardened too much to be of use to residents.

f) **Comms & Data Management**

ACTION - Cllr Barton – to update the policies in dropbox.

g) **Speed issues** - Cllr McKay to become the Speed Watch co-ordinator.

ACTION – to complete the required training as soon as possible

10) **Planning Matters**

- 3124/23/FUL Mr Bernie Serpell, The Piggery, New England Rd, Plympton, PL7 5BA. Temporary agricultural workers dwelling (resubmission of 1910/23/FUL (Support))
- 3105/23/CLE Mr A Calcott, 105 Speculation, Underhay, Yealmpton, PL8 2JU. Certificate for lawfulness for existing works, works have been carried out to implement the permission (in accordance with section 56 (2) & (4) of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 (as amended)), purpose of this action is to safeguard the permission granted under Decision Notice 62/0062/13/F. (Undecided)
- 2715/23/LBC Mr Bastard, Kitley House, Yealmpton, PL8 2NW. Listed Building consent for removal and replacement of existing ceiling. (Support)
- 2820/23/FUL Mr Sebastian Barnett, Waye Farmhouse, Ermington, PL21 9NU. Change of use of barn to dwelling, extension of residential garden to include new access & garage. (Object)

ACTION – Clerk to update the planning portal

11) **Financial Matters**

a) Payments for September were approved and will be paid with online banking.

ACTION – Cllr Craddock to set up payments and arrange second authorisation

b) Consideration will be given to transferring reserves into a higher interest bearing account. Lloyds have an account which may be suitable. Not all savings accounts will accept Parish Council funds. A settlement figure is being obtained for the PWLB loans on the Parish Room. Council agreed that repaying this loan early was a good use of reserves.

ACTION – Cllr Craddock to report on investment options at the next meeting

ACTION – Clerk to obtain details of donations previously committed to local groups to be gathered for discussion at next meeting.

- 12) **SHDC Consultation** - Littering, dog fouling and fly tip enforcement. Cllr Baldry expressed disappointment that people who persistently fail to pick up after their dog will only “be spoken to”. Cllr Baldry will respond in a personal capacity and encourages other to do the same.

13) **Appointment of River Yealm Harbour Association Representative**

Cllr Endicott agreed to continue to be the Parish Council representative.

ACTION – Clerk to respond to the RYHA confirming Cllr Endicott’s continuation as representative.

14) **Grass cutting update**

ACTION – Clerk to send maps to Cllr Thomas for him to liaise with SHDC regarding the cutting of the required verges.

- 15) **Remembrance Sunday Road Closure** – Cllr Tucker and the Clerk will close and re-open the road on Remembrance Sunday. Any new signage required will be ordered.

ACTION – Clerk to order sign boards.

- 16) **RBL Bench** – Cllr Tucker confirms he has taken delivery of the bench and a suitable location for its installation in Bakery Square has been agreed. The Square will need to be tidied and swept before the unveiling.

ACTION – Clerk to update the insurance policy with details of the bench and liaise with Brixton’s Clerk regarding the unveiling date. Cllr Craddock agreed to sweep and tidy the square ahead of the unveiling. Cllr Tucker to install the bench shortly before the unveiling.

17) **Training**

- a) Online training for the Clerk is agreed.
- b) Online or in-person training to be offered to newly appointed Councillors

ACTION – Clerk to circulate details.

18) **Correspondence**

A Parishioner had sought help from the Parish Council in obtaining a SLOW sign on the road to Yeo Park. **ACTION** – Cllr Thomas to respond.

The Parish Council were notified by Devon Wildlife Trust about the temporary closure of New England Nature Reserve due to Ash die-back. This information has been put on the website and Facebook.

Meeting closed at 9.25pm

Date of next meeting: 13th November 2023