

MINUTES OF YEALMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY 2024 AT 7.30 PM AT THE COMMUNITY ROOM, STRAY PARK, YEALMPTON.

Open Forum

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

In attendance: Sasha Walton-Jackman (Clerk)

Cllr Hopkins on approved period of leave.

Members of the public: 0

No.	Minute	Action
1)	Apologies: Cllr Barton, Cllr McKay and Cllr Edie	
2)	Report from County Council – Cllr Thomas (written report below, summary given in the meeting) <u>Proposed transfer of powers and funding to local government</u> The Minister for Levelling Up, Jacob Young, was at the EPIC Centre in Torbay last week to sign a ground-breaking deal that could transfer significant decision-making powers and funding, from Whitehall to local government in Devon and Torbay. The proposed Deal could mean that more decisions can be taken locally by people who know their areas best, and on things that matter to local people, such as building more affordable homes, investing in new quality jobs and skills, and improving public transport. Mr Young was joined by the Leaders of Devon County Council and Torbay Council, two local MPs, and the Police and Crime Commissioner for Devon, Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. But before the proposal can be confirmed, it first needs to be supported by the two councils, followed by a six-week public consultation. <u>So what is the Devolution Deal?</u> The 40-page proposed Deal sets out in detail proposals that could see the transfer of powers and funding to a Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority, subject to public consultation. The proposed Combined County Authority would be a partnership made up of Councillors representing the councils of Devon and Torbay, including District Councils, and representatives from business and education. Together, that partnership would deliver on a jointly agreed programme, working alongside a wide range of local stakeholders to tackle key local priorities. The Government has chosen Devon and Torbay as one of only a small number of local authority areas in the country to form a Combined County Authority (hereafter CCA), that will not require an elected Mayor or changes to the current structure of local councils. <u>What would the Deal allow the local councils to do?</u> It would allow important decisions to be taken locally by people who know their areas best, on things that matter to local people, such as building more affordable homes, investing in new quality jobs and skills, and improving public transport. Here's a summary of the highlights: • under the proposals, the CCA would have direct control of adult education to create up to 50,000 new training and retraining opportunities by 2030 • it would create a stronger relationship between employers and schools, colleges and universities to provide the skilled workforce the local economy needs for the future	

	• it would see the Government transfer over £16 million to invest in new green jobs, homes, skills, and business growth, and accelerate Devon and Torbay's transition to a net-zero economy • there would be a stronger partnership with Homes England to create a joint local action plan for affordable housing schemes for local people, and reduce homelessness • it would lead to even closer working between Devon and Torbay to improve the efficiency and co-ordination of public transport. There is an ambition to introduce a single ticketing system for travellers and investment in services to provide greater access to public transport • Devon and Torbay would be responsible for developing, designing and delivering the next stages of the UK Shared Prosperity Fund from 2025 • there would be a significant boost to high growth business sectors in Devon and Torbay, such as advanced marine engineering, defence, photonics and digital For more information on the Devolution Deal, there is a website: www.devontorbaydeal.org.uk
3)	Report from District Council – Cllr Edie (written report) <u>Garden waste service</u> South Hams residents can sign up to or renew their subscription for our garden waste collection service from 15 February. The fee is going up this year to cover costs, though we're offering a discount to those who sign up early. Anyone who signs up between 15 February and 1 April 2024 will pay a discounted fee of £52 for a year-long subscription running from April 2024 that covers collections for one brown wheelie bin. There is a maximum of two subscriptions (which would cover two bins) per household. Anyone who signs up after 31 March will pay £55. This is an increase on last year's fee, but it is necessary to cover rising costs. We're offering the discount so officers have the time required to plan the round routes to be as efficient and possible. The quickest and easiest way for residents to sign up is on our website: www.southhams.gov.uk/gardenwaste - the website is also full of information and useful FAQs on the service. Alternatively, residents can call us on 01803 861234, though we encourage everyone to use the website as it's easier and quicker. For current subscribers who renew by 1 April, there will be no changes to their service, and they can continue to use their brown bin with no interruptions. Subscriptions for the 2023/24 year close on 14 February. We will be promoting subscriptions to residents with social media, e-mail newsletters, print advertising and a press release. <u>Free IT and digital training courses</u> Our partners Learn Devon have a range of free courses to choose from to help residents build on their digital skills. They could help with things like accessing digital banking, connecting with loved ones online and accessing job and training opportunities. Courses include help with the first steps to getting online, building computer confidence to gaining a nationally recognised 'Award in Digital Skills'. Please spread the word about these free courses.

4)	Councillors' Declaration of Interest: none declared	
5)	Minutes of 8 th January 2024 agreed and signed	
6)	Planning matters a) 4143/23/FUL – Erection of a covered yard, Treby Farm, Yealmpton, PL8 2LJ. <u>YPC decision SUPPORT</u> b) 4146/23/FUL- READVERTISEMENT Erection of Sprayer wash down area (amended red line boundary), Treby Farm, Yealmpton, PL8 2LJ. <u>YPC decision SUPPORT. Comment - YPC support this on the understanding that all bio hazard wash down runoff will be dealt with in a Bio Bed locally.</u> c) 0129/24/FUL – Agricultural Silage Building, Treby Farm, Yealmpton, PL8 2LJ. <u>YPC decision SUPPORT</u> d) 0092/24/HHO - Householder application for replacing existing detached garage and block sheds with attached garage and utility room. Ashleigh, Yealmpton, PL8 2JX. <u>YPC decision SUPPORT</u> Recent SHDC planning decisions relating to the Parish noted.	Clerk – to update portal with YPC decisions and comments where applicable.
7)	Environmental update. No significant update since the report provided for January 2024 meeting and therefore Dr Linda Durman, Chair of Yealmpton Environmental Group has outlined the process which YEG is using in grant applications for Parish Council funding; Grants for funding from Yealmpton Parish council (previously described as Section 106 funds) Application process. Recommended format for applications will be: - description of project (what it is; why it is needed, aims) - how community will be involved and informed of results - costs and date payments due - bodies that will provide funds/proportion requested from Yealmpton PC - who will report on progress and when - community benefits – see later. First tranche of applications was submitted to June 2023 council meeting for funding to end of March 2024. Second tranche will be submitted March or April 2024. Third tranche to be submitted November 2024 (for following financial year (2025/6). Note: this excludes application for funding for projects initiated through River Yealm Water Quality Group, as requests for funding are sent from the Group's secretary (Brixton Parish Council Clerk) to all parish councils in the Yealm catchment. Community benefits 1. Contribution to meeting Parish Council Policy objectives on biodiversity and climate change - reducing adverse impact of high rainfall events - reducing reliance on fossil fuels - improving quality of land/soil and river - working towards improved air quality and food security - minimise waste/improve recycling - encourage healthy lifestyles	

	- maintain and improve ‘the nature conservation value of the Yealm estuary and surrounding landscape’. 2. Generating information on local wildlife and wild plants and publicising this information (village survey request) with the aim of preserving and improving biodiversity. 3. Involvement of members of the community as volunteers in sustainability and biodiversity projects. 4. Increasing local skills and knowledge about sustainability and biodiversity. 5. Increasing enthusiasm and skills of younger generation for sustainability and biodiversity. 6. Measuring plant and wildlife already present, so as to avoid doing harm when making changes.	
8)	Active Travel update Cllr Barton will attend the stakeholder zoom meeting later this month and report back. The proposed routes were considered during the meeting. Members of the Council raised concern that they may not be the most logical routes for cyclists to take and this should be fed back during the stakeholder meeting.	Cllr Barton to report following stakeholder meeting.
9)	Traffic Engineer Report Council agreed to commission a report to consider options to improve road safety on New Road and Ford Road and to provide cost estimates for potential measures. Council considered the fee estimate from Callidus. It was considered that the Optional fees were essential to obtaining an effective report. Council unanimously agreed to proceed with obtaining the report.	Clerk – to instruct Callidus to commence preparation of the report.
10)	Collaton Construction Management Plan meeting report. Cllr Baldry reported that representatives from YPC had met with Pillar Land on 9th January 2024. Pillar Land Securities want the Construction Management Plan to take account of the needs of Yealmpton. Contractors will be made aware of and expected to adhere to the following requirements (although not legally binding); • Vehicles from the East and larger vehicles from the West to use New Road. Smaller vans and cars will probably choose to use Torr Hill. • No vehicles to use the Yealmpton- Smithaleigh Road. • Speed to be limited to 20mph passing through the village. • No vehicles to travel via Puslinch Bridge. • If possible, movement on and off the site (apart from personal transport) to be restricted to 0900 to 1500 Monday to Friday and 0900-1300 Saturday. No Sunday working.	
11)	Community Composting – Report on viability Cllr Baldry reported that representatives from YPC and Newton and Noss Parish Council attended a meeting to discuss the possibility of a joint community composting scheme. The owners of the site are now likely to pursue commercial composting which would be open to Yealmpton residents to use on a paid basis. Residents of Yealmpton are asked to get in touch with YPC if they consider there is a demand for a community composting service in our village and also to indicate if they would be willing to volunteer to help the service operate. Cllr Tucker will approach the South West Composting in Brixton to	Clerk to arrange for a notice in the Yealmpton Press. Cllr Tucker to report.

	explore whether any arrangement could be made with them (subject to planning consent as required).	
12)	Urban Grass Cutting Scheme – Devon County Council YPC is currently part of the Urban Grass Cutting Scheme with Devon County Council. These obligations are passed on to South Hams District Council. If SHDC confirm they are able to fulfil the obligations of the agreement on behalf of YPC it is agreed that YPC will continue in the scheme.	Clerk – to check with SHDC as to whether they can fulfil the obligations of the agreement on behalf of YPC.
13)	Fire Alarm and Emergency Lighting at the Parish Room. Following a recent review of their charges and the obligations that YPC has in respect of the fire alarm and emergency lighting Council agreed to continue to instruct KK Controls for the next financial year.	Clerk to confirm to KK Controls.
14)	Annual Parish Meeting 8 th April 2024 It was agreed that Pillar Land Securities will be invited to provide a presentation to the village outlining the opportunities for local people and the village in respect of the Collaton development.	Cllr Baldry to liaise with Richard Pillar and advertise the topic of the Annual Parish meeting in the Yealmpton Press.
15)	Road Closures – to note upcoming Road closures; a) A379 - Orchard Hill to Western Lodge Cross (26.02.2024-01.03.2024) b) A379 – Red Lion Hill to Underhay (04.03.2024-08.03.2024) c) Surface dressing in 2024 Torr Lane (precise dates not yet released) d) Wilburton Cross ZC199 to A379, Ermington (05.04.2024). This is a short closure of a few hours on 05.04.2024 The poor standard of pothole filling was discussed. Cllr Thomas reported that a private contractor Milestone is instructed to undertake these works on behalf of the Council. Dissatisfaction with the standard of work has already been outlined to the County Council.	
16)	TRAYE – Yealmpton Youth Club There is no further update at this stage on the viability of weekly meetings. It will be suggested to TRAYE that support for a weekly meeting is canvassed. It is noted that the Memorandum of Understanding has been signed and returned for the financial year 24/25.	
17)	Yealmpton Tidy Village Group update A meeting will be proposed to volunteers that have come forward for 7pm on 29 th February. Cllr Guy-Fierens will clarify with SHDC advice concerning the use of less toxic weedkillers. It is noted that a member of the parish has expressed concern at the proposed use of weedkiller by the group and they will also be invited to attend. Cllr Craddock will invite the YPC contractor who undertakes maintenance work in the village. YEG will also be invited to attend.	Clerk – to arrange meeting and send invites. Cllr Guy-Fierens to contact SHDC regarding weedkiller.

18)	Devon Air Ambulance Landing Site The draft Memorandum was considered by Council. It was noted that the landowner is currently not a party to the agreement. It would be wise to include them. YPC is happy to remain a party.	Clerk to contact DAAT and seek the landowner is included a party.
19)	Report from Councillors/clerk in respect of responsibilities/ actions arising from previous meetings: a) Report regarding Vacancy for a Councillor. No requests for an election have been received and therefore we can progress to advertising for co-option of a new Councillor. b) Report regarding Permissive Path between Yealmpton and Collaton – Cllr Baldry reported that initial contact has been made with N&NPC. It is proposed by them they the proposed route is walked in the spring. The landowner in question may wish to consider any grants that are available. c) To consider the costs estimate and plan for the proposed footpath between Dunstone Cross Bus Shelter and the Toll House– Cllr Tucker reported that the proposed footpath is likely to cost in excess of £5,000. Therefore YPC will need to obtain three quotes. Cllr Tucker reported that he has recently cut the grass path. Cllr Tucker to prepare draft specification against which quotes can be sought. d) Pavement running from the East side of the Village to Yealmbridge. Cllr Tucker has recently cut the hedge back. Vegetation/stones/soil at the edge of the pavement needs to be cleared away to improve access. This is likely to cost between £300-£400 and will be a full day's work for two workers. Cllr Tucker is asked by Council to undertake this work. It is noted that further work to improve this footpath will be undertaken in August 2024. e) Christmas Tree in Bakery Square. Cllr Thomas had thought that this had been removed but it is still in Bakery Square.	Clerk to arrange for advert to be placed in the Yealmpton Press, on the Website and on the Notice Board in Bakery Square. Cllr Tucker to clarify location of underground cables with Western Power and prepare specification. Cllr Endicott to identify whether planning consent will be required. Cllr Tucker to arrange work. Cllr Thomas to arrange removal.
20)	Reports on allocated areas of responsibility, where matters arise a) Works. Cllr Craddock reported that the contractor has undertaken various works around the village. b) Public Rights of Way - Clerk confirming that Cllr Barton has received the P3 survey and completed it. It will be submitted after half term. YPC wishes to pass on their thanks to all the footpath volunteers who have walked their paths and reported back to Cllr Barton. Cllr Barton has also been in touch with the DCC Footpath Warden and is arranging a meeting for the inspection of some footpaths in the Parish and for some new signage to be put up. c) Roads and pavements. Cllr Tucker – nothing further to report	Cllr Barton and Clerk to file return.

	beyond matters outlined at 19 above. d) Environment. Cllr Barton – nothing beyond the above at 7 above. e) Emergency. Cllr Guy-Fierens – updated Plans are being distributed to sites around the village. f) Comms & Data Management. Cllr Barton – nothing to report. g) Speed issues. Cllr Craddock to contact Cllr McKay about the status of Speedwatch.	Cllr Craddock to discuss with Cllr McKay
21)	Financial Matters Councill considered receipts and payments for the period 01.01.2024-31.01.2024 and approved upcoming payments of £1,178.54. The introduction of an Investment Policy was raised and further consideration of whether we need one is required.	Clerk to arrange payments Cllr Craddock and Clerk to report back at next meeting.
22)	Correspondence a) To consider a request for a new bench in memoriam in Bakery Square. b) Clerk reported that we have now heard back from SHDC regarding substituting two of the babys wings with junior swings in the small playground. Alternative sources of funding to be explored. Costs are likely to be between £400-£500. c) We have received an email concerning damage to the road and gully between two crosses and Dunstone at Byeways. DCC are aware of the damage and have requested it is repaired. The contractor has higher priority jobs at present so no timescale can be given. d) Thank you letters have been received following YPC donations from; Dementia Friendly Parishes, Samaritans, Community Action South Hams, South Hams Citizens Advice, Ivybridge Ring and Ride. Close meeting 9.30pm	Cllr Craddock to liaise with Nellies Café and report to Council. Clerk to make an application to Cllr Thomas' County Council Locality Fund. Cllr Craddock to report to Parishioner.

Date of next meeting: 11th March 2024