

MINUTES OF YEALMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY, 13th MAY 2024 at 7.30pm at the COMMUNITY ROOM, STRAY PARK, YEALMPTON.

Present: Cllr Baldry (Chair), Cllr Endicott, Cllr Tucker, Cllr Craddock, Cllr Barton, Cllr Thomas, Cllr Guy-Fierens and Cllr MacKay. Cllr Street co-opted during the meeting.

In attendance: Sasha Walton-Jackman (Clerk)

Members of the public: 3

Open Forum (these do not form part of the official minutes) issues raised;

1. A parishioner responded to an article in the Yealmpton Press about the Tidy Village Group and indicated a willingness to become involved, if the remit of the group was clearly defined. Concerns were also raised in relation to the lack of grass cutting in the village which was contributing to the untidiness. This would be referred to SHDC.
2. A parishioner reported that the speed detection monitor on Ford Road is working well. The monitor on Underhay appears to be malfunctions due to overgrowth of trees, the monitor at Garage is not working. Two Councillors agreed to be involved in Speed Watch activities.

No.	Minute	Action
1)	Election of Chairman Cllr Craddock stood down as Chairman, proposing Cllr Baldry as the new Chairman, this was seconded and unanimously agreed. Cllr Baldry thanked Cllr Craddock, on behalf of the Parish Council for his years of service and dedication to the roles he has undertaken.	
2)	Election of Vice Chairman Cllr Endicott was unanimously elected to the role of Vice-Chairman.	
3)	Apologies for absence Cllr Hopkins (approved long period of leave) and Cllr Edie	
4)	Co-option of New Councillor Council unanimously approved the co-option of James Street as a new member of the Council.	Clerk – arrange the filing of Declaration of Interest and Acceptance of Office with SHDC.
5)	Election of Committees and Outside Representation A list of committees and outside representation was reviewed. Cllr Street became a member of the Planning Sub-Committee. Speed Watch responsibilities have been formally transferred to Mr Brian Rowe. The Parish Council thanks Mr Rowe for taking on this responsibility.	Clerk to update the website.
6)	Election of Auditor Mike Cosby has offered to continue to be the Internal Auditor. This appointment was unanimously agreed. The Parish Council thanks Mr Cosby for his work as Internal Auditor for the financial year 2023/2024.	Clerk to confirm the appointment with Mr Cosby.
7)	Review of areas of Responsibility The areas of responsibilities were reviewed at point 5 and remain the same.	
8)	Approval of the minutes of 8th April 2024 Unanimously approved and signed by the Chairman.	Clerk to update the website.

9)	Report from County Council. Cllr Thomas Councillor Thomas provided an update in relation to the proposed devolution deal for Devon and Torbay. A six week consultation period has concluded. The results of this consultation were considered at the end of April. The Liberal Democrats, including Cllr Thomas abstained from voting for the deal, as although they support devolution, they do not support the details of this deal. A final proposal has been submitted to the government by Devon County Council. A further update is expected in the Autumn.
10)	Report from District Council. Cllr Thomas/Cllr Edie PCC election results SOSA HERNANDEZ, Alison Selina, Conservative 6,995 LODGE, Stephen Robert Lib Dem 3,945 STEEL, Daniel John Labour 4,804 The number of ballots rejected was as follows: The total number of verified ballot papers available: 15,902 The total number of rejected ballot papers: 158 The total number of valid votes: 15,744 Community Safety Partnership update The end of the financial year is always a busy time for the CSP team, as it is for so many people. At the beginning of March we hold our annual priority setting meeting, where we get together with our lead members and partners from a number of agencies to take a look at the intelligence we have and agree what the priorities of the CSP should be for the coming year. These priorities include a mix of statutory duties such as the Domestic Homicide Reviews, along with additional local priorities. Sadly the intelligence shows us Devon has seen a rise in suicides. As a result of this, suicide prevention and awareness will be one of our priorities for the coming year. You will also see we have recently been publicising the need to be aware of rogue traders. This has been as a result of some recent incidents in Devon and we will also be looking at carrying out more awareness work around rogue traders and the online space. Our overarching priorities for the coming year are domestic violence and sexual abuse, violence prevention and violence against women and girls, problem drinking and drug use, exploitation and hate crime, changing youth culture and anti-social behaviour. If anyone would like to know more about the work we are doing to address these priorities, please do not hesitate to contact me. In addition to the priority setting meeting, we held our annual forum. For the first time in many years this was a hybrid option so was a great opportunity to network with our partners face to face. The forum gives an overview of some of the work carried out by the CSP and its partners over the year. We are looking at the possibility of holding it face to face again next year. Preventing exploitation session for professionals South Devon and Dartmoor Community Safety Partnership are hosting a FREE online session for professionals on Thursday 16 May, focused on preventing exploitation. Attendees will hear from speakers from a variety of agencies including Devon and Cornwall Police and Devon County Council and will cover topics such as radicalisation, criminal exploitation, sexual exploitation, preventing exploitation in adolescents and supporting parents along with how to report any concerns. There will also be a 15 minutes at the end where speakers will be happy to take any questions. Please help spread the word and anyone interested can book a space by registering online.

11)	Councillors' Declaration of Interest: Cllr Craddock declared an interest as a neighbour to one of the planning matters and abstained from voting.	
12)	Planning matters a) A brief summary of an ongoing application was given to Council. YPC confirmed authority for the Planning Sub-Committee to comment on a previously discussed application at Waye Farm, which the Council opposed and to agree whether to ask Cllrs Thomas and Edie to call SHDC Officer's conditional approval recommendation to the Development Management Committee b) Previously a referral had been made to SHDC to investigate an alleged breach of planning regulations in the village. The enforcement officer has now concluded their investigation and found that there has been a breach of planning regulation, however, due to its nature, it is not considered in the public interest to take any enforcement steps and the matter is now concluded. c) Application 1112/24/HHO – the details of the application were discussed and YPC agreed to support the application with no comment being given. Cllrs Thomas and Craddock abstained.	Planning Sub-Committee to respond on behalf of YPC when all details had been reviewed. Clerk – to update the portal with YPC response.
13)	Environment report May 2024 Environmental science and education In April, Sustainable South Hams hosted " Taking Action Together " – an event to consider how schools might be activators of positive change within a community and how the wider community can support schools with sustainability. Representatives of YEM were actively involved, describing work with the seven schools in the six parishes in the River Yealm catchment, undertaken in partnership with Parklife and Devon Wildlife Trust. - Tree Seed Sunday and tree seed nurseries - enabling schools to establish orchards, bird and bat boxes, hedgehog homes, wildflower meadows includes provision of booklets and growing guides - the YEM catchment school Art Challenge - participation in the A level Environmental Science course at ICC, part of which involves students learning research methods and collecting their own data at Ruby's Wood. YEM, Parklife and ICC are building a study into the research programme that will compare data from Ruby's Wood with that from the New England Devon Wild Life Trust reserve. Overall YEM was welcomed as a template for good practice. Water quality River Yealm Westcountry Rivers Trust have provided their report on the first year's data from the continuous water monitor (Yealm Sonde). The report is being sent out to Parish Councils and Councillors via the RYWQG and will also be linked via the YEM website. Additional monitoring equipment has been ordered for of the River Piall, tributary to the Yealm: two temperature/light data loggers and two trail cameras and security equipment. The temperature probes and cameras were purchased by the RYWQG and funded with thanks by Cllr John McKay from the SHDC Climate Change & Biodiversity allocation. The Piall	

	is vulnerable to discharges from the china clay works in the near area and is the subject of an ongoing Serious Incident investigation by the EA. A project proposal was made in early April by Plymouth Marine Lab in partnership with YEM and Surfers Against Sewage entitled 'Understanding Vibrio Bacteria Risk using Earth Observation (uViBREO)'. This is supported by both the RYWQG and YEM and the project will take place on the Yealm and involve sampling by our CSI volunteers, if approved. Biodiversity and tackling run-off As part of Ruby's Wood biodiversity project there have been wild flower and tree surveys. In the woodland 48 wildflower species, 16 tree species and 5 fungi species have been recorded. In the glade, 27 wildflower species recorded and two additional tree species have been recorded. The pond area supports overall 19 species. Four bat detectors have been purchased and placed. The project is now involving Yealmpton Primary School as well as Ivybridge Community College. Events planned for this year include running a bat walk/survey, running a moth evening and starting a longer term dormouse study. Non-farming landowners with riparian fields to the Yealm have been invited to a DWT 'Drop-in Day' on 8th May with three talks on species rich grassland, support for changing practices, grants available and help with applications. A grant application for funding by Yealmpton Parish Council for continuing work with our non-farming landowners, is attached for approval. In addition, the next phase of Kitley Tree Nursery requires some one-off funding for the coming year – application also attached for approval. Trees Hedgerow planting (500 holly bushes) to improve screening from the sewage treatment plant was accomplished during April. Active travel Consultation has now moved to June 24. Linda Durman Chair, YEG 3 May 24	
14)	Active Travel update As Noted in Dr Durman's report, the consultation has been moved to June.	Cllr Barton will attend and report the outcome to Council. Clerk – to email Gemma Bristow to see if there is a date for the consultation
15)	Yealmpton Tidy Village Group update a) Council approved the renewal of the Flower tub contract with Fordbrook Nursery. It will be requested that the tubs are planted with native species and pollinators. Dr Durman (YEG) will liaise with Fordbrook Nursery. The existing volunteers will be approached to see if they can continue watering the tubs. The Tidy Village Group will assume responsibility for the rest. b) A further litter pick took place on 27th April. This was attended by 14 volunteers. Some signs around the village were also cleaned. It was not possible to get around all the village but further cleaning will take place at the next meeting. Thanks to all those who attended.	Clerk to instruct Fordbrook Nursery. Dr Durman – liaise regarding the species to be planted.

	7 brown bins were donated by members of the village. These are being stored by Cllr Tucker. Further equipment is still to be purchased in due course. The finer details of the remit of the Tidy Village Group will be confirmed in the form of Terms of Reference and approved at the next meeting. The village works contractor had agreed to co-ordinate the street clearing actions of the Tidy Village Group. Cllr Tucker identified some areas that need to be maintained that are beyond the scope of the volunteers. An external contractor will be asked to undertake this work. There are four additional volunteers from Kitley Place who would like to join the Tidy Village Group. It was noted that the sign entering the village from the West is very faded. This will be reported to DCC.	Cllr Craddock – to circulate the TOR to Council for approval at the next meeting. Cllr Tucker to liaise with Cllr Craddock and the Clerk about the instruction. Cllr Street will provide the Clerk with details. Clerk to report to DCC and request a replacement.
16)	Registration with Information Commissioners Office. Agreed and the fee of £40 approved.	Clerk to complete registration.
17)	Land Registry Search. PN1- it was agreed that we would undertake this search to ensure our Asset Register reflects all land owned by YPC. Land Registry fee of £11 is approved.	Clerk to undertake search.
18)	Hearing Loop. Enquiries had been made regarding the potential installation of hearing loops in the Parish Room and/or the Community Room and the potential costs were in the region of £2,000-£2,600 for each room. A grant that may be available had also been identified. Before a grant could be applied for a detailed survey is required. Cllr Thomas invited an application to his District Council Localities fund. The survey is c.£140 plus VAT. Wider community views of potential benefit of hearing loops is welcomed.	Clerk – to apply to Cllr Thomas' District localities fund.
19)	Funding request from; a) YEG and YEM - Nature Recovery Advisory Visits. Council noted that this request is in addition to the £12,000 of grants approved in June 2023. Discussion took place in relation to the use of s.106 monies from the local solar farms. This grant application was accepted and approved by majority, with one Councillor voting against. b) YEG and YEM - Tree Nursery in Kitley Woodand It is noted that this is a continuation of a project previously funded by YPC. This grant application was accepted and approved by majority, with one Councillor voting against. c) Yealmpton and Brixton Community Friendship Provision had been made in the budget for a donation of the amount requested. The donation will be made now rather than after the second instalment of the pre-cept.	Clerk to arrange bank transfers

20)	Village Library/Phone Box conversion Council agreed to purchase of a moveable book case. An application is approved to Cllr Thomas' localities fund for some match funding to purchase a second book case. Cllr Barton has placed an advert in the Press seeking a volunteer/volunteers to refurbish the Phone Box and a book exchange/jigsaw exchange will be installed.	Clerk to arrange purchase and application.
21)	Options to improve the surface of Footpath 20 following consultation with ParkLife CIC. This matter will be considered at the next meeting when further details of the options are available.	
22)	To consider moving one of the Parish Council's speed detection indicators to Yealm Bridge. A request has been received to move a speed monitor to Yealmbridge following recent accidents. Cllr Thomas to look into accident reporting and determine which direction the vehicles were travelling at the time.	Cllr Thomas to approach Nick Colton of DCC for permission to locate a speed monitor and gather information about which direction it should be located.
23)	Insurance Renewal. The renewal offer was considered. It was agreed by Council to accept the three year offer, to save costs. New items need to be added to the Schedule – items requested by RYWQG and the new speed monitor.	Clerk to accept renewal quote and add additional items.
24)	Dementia Friendly assessment of the Parish Room and implementation of recommendations. The recommendation of the report were reviewed and it was agreed that we would implement all the immediate recommendations where possible. Cllr Craddock to arrange the purchase of necessary items up to the value of £250.	Cllr Craddock to purchase necessary items.
25)	Report from Councillors/clerk in respect of responsibilities/ actions arising from previous meetings. Cllr Barton asked Cllr Thomas to obtain an update regarding the claim for a new footpath over the former Shire Horse Centre fields. All Clerk's actions completed apart from Wild flower map. Cllr Tucker still to undertake Chapter 8 training. This will be considered at the next meeting.	Cllr Thomas to report at next meeting. Clerk- to liaise with YEG and Cllr Barton regarding a map.

26)	Financial Matters a) Report following Internal Audit Council noted that the Internal Audit had been completed and the report was reviewed. Thanks to our Internal Auditor Mike Cosby for undertaking this task. b) The AGAR documentation has now been completed ready for submission. All Form 3 documentation including Explanation of Variances and Bank Reconciliation were reviewed by Council. i) Section 1 of Annual Governance Statement 2023/2024 was considered by Council and unanimously agreed and approved for submission. This was signed by Cllr Baldry (Chair) and Sasha Walton-Jackman (RFO) ii) Section 2 of Accounting Statements 2023/2024 was considered by Council and unanimously agreed and approved for submission. This was signed by Cllr Baldry (Chair). Sasha Walton-Jackman (RFO) having signed before being presented to Council. c) Fixed term investment matures 21/05/2024, Cllrs Craddock and Endicott are authorised by Council to review the options relating to reinvestment and take necessary steps to reinvest funds. d) Consideration of accounts to end April 2024 Council noted receipts and payments made. e) Consideration of proposed payments due totalling £4,158.81 were approved for payment.	Clerk to submit documentation and display the Notice of Public Rights. Cllrs Craddock and Endicott. Clerk to arrange bank transfers
27)	Correspondence a) Council received a letter from a parishioner who is seeking that YPC take responsibility for the maintenance of a Sycamore tree on unregistered land in Elm Tree Close. The individual had recently paid for the tree to be crowned and sought a reimbursement. Council considered the request and voted against reimbursing 100% of the cost. After further discussion it was agreed by majority, that 50% of the cost would be offered to the individual. It is noted that it is in a prominent position in the village and there is some wider community benefit. This reimbursement will not necessarily be repeated and the YPC are not assuming responsibility for this tree or the land. b) The Traffic Engineers Report on Ford Road and New Road has been received. It was received after the Agenda had been finalised and will be considered at June's meeting. c) The British Gas fixed contract on the Parish Room is due to expire soon. A broker had been approached and Council agreed that quotes would be considered by the Chairman and Vice Chairman and a new contract entered into. d) The new Devon Air Ambulance Landing Site has been approved at the Yealmpton Athletics Association site. The	Clerk to contact the individual and offer payment of 50% Clerk to include this item in June's Agenda. Cllr Baldry and Endicott to consider the contract.

	Parish Council pass on their thanks to the land owner and the Athletics Association. e) A request has been received from a parishioner for a 20mph speed limit to be imposed on Bowden Hill. This request was noted. Any future application to DCC will be considered in due course. Meeting closed at 9.45	
	Sasha Walton-Jackman - Clerk to Yealmpton Parish Council Date of next meeting: 10th June 2024	