

## MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF YEALMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON

MONDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> July 2024 AT 7.30 pm at the COMMUNITY ROOM, STRAY PARK, YEALMPTON.

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

**In attendance:** Sasha Walton-Jackman (Clerk) and Dist. Cllr Edie

**Members of the public:** 4

### PUBLIC FORUM

Two members of the public spoke. One in advance of a planning application that was being considered and one in relation to the speed monitors around the village.

| No. | Minute                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | Action |
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| 1.  | Apologies: Cllr McKay and Cllr Hopkins                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |        |
| 2.  | <p>Report from County Council</p> <p>There is no formal report this month because of the pre-election period. Cllr Thomas stating he had seen on the village Facebook page that there was discussion about the Callidus traffic report that the Parish Council has commissioned and about the prospect of giving a priority to traffic from one direction through “the Narrows” on Ford Road. He is not of the opinion that this would be sensible as he considers that it would encourage one direction of traffic to travel faster.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |        |
| 3.  | <p>Report from District Council. Cllr Thomas/Cllr Edie</p> <p>Dogs need ID too!</p> <p>Over the last few weeks, our Localities Team have picked up several lost dogs across the South Hams who don't have an ID tag.</p> <p>Because of this, reuniting a dog to its owner can take far longer, and can be a stressful time for both the furry friend and its family.</p> <p>We are reminding residents to keep their dogs safe by making sure they wear an ID tag.</p> <p>Under the Dog Act 1992, the legal requirements are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• A dog must be licensed and microchipped.</li><li>• A dog must wear a collar with a name/ID tag (exemptions apply for some working dogs).</li></ul> <p>Please share this information with your residents and direct them to the Blue Cross website for information and tips on keeping dogs safe.</p> <p>Grant News</p> <p>Individuals and Families</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The Dickie Bird Foundation provides grants for disadvantaged children for sport equipment and sports clothing. The Dickie Bird Foundation considers grants for all recognised sports.</li><li>• Mark Edwards Foundation offers financial assistance to young people with sporting ambitions for items such as clothing, equipment and club membership fees.</li><li>• Auto Cycle Union Bikesport GB supports individual members and their families during times of extreme hardship. For UK (except Northern Ireland).</li><li>• The Family Action Welfare Grants programme will reopen on 10th July 2024. It funds essential personnel and household items to individuals and families on means tested benefits.</li></ul> |        |

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|    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Applications will open in September 2024 for The Churchill Fellowship's two new programmes. It offers funding for 4 to 8 weeks learning from innovators in your chosen field. Open to all UK adult citizens regardless of qualifications, background or age. These are offered in the fields of promoting long life health and supporting engagement in education.</li> </ul> <p>Community</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Henry Smith Charity will be reopening its Holiday Grants for Children programme on 12th July 2024. Organisations, schools and youth groups organising holidays for disabled children under 13 years or holidays for children who live in an area of high deprivation may apply.</li> <li>The Ironmongers' Company offers funding support for projects that provide opportunities for disadvantaged children and young people under 25 years. Projects must deliver educational benefits including Special Educational Needs, or foster social, emotional or life skills. Closing date: 31st July 2024.</li> </ul> <p>Grassing cutting around the village had not been carried out by South Hams District Council in accordance with the agreement between YPC and SHDC. Cllr Thomas would be holding a site meeting with the Head of the Grass Cutting Team at SHDC to resolve matters.</p> <p>Thanks to Cllr Barton and her husband who had cut the verges at Stray Park. Thanks to Cllr Endicott who had cut footpath 24 between the Rose and Crown carpark and Elm Tree Park.</p> |                                       |
| 4. | Councillors' Declaration of Interest: None declared                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                       |
| 5. | Minutes of 10th June 2024 were approved and signed by the Chairman.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                       |
| 6. | <p>Planning matters</p> <p>a) An update was given in relation to existing applications relevant to the Parish.</p> <p>b) The following applications were considered and responses were approved by Council (Cllr Thomas abstained).</p> <p>i) 1800/24/HHO – Support with comment</p> <p>ii) 1805/24/HHO – Support with comment</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Clerk – to update the planning portal |
| 7. | <p>Financial Matters</p> <p>a) Accounts to the end June 2024 were considered.</p> <p>b) Proposed payments totalling £2,449.15 were approved.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Clerk – to arrange payment            |
| 8. | <p>Report from Yealmpton Environment Group</p> <p>River Yealm water quality</p> <p>RYWQG has purchased two automated water temperature monitors and two wildlife cameras, funded from SHDC Climate Change &amp; Biodiversity allocation, to be owned and insured by Yealmpton Parish Council and placed upstream in our catchment in consultation with the EA.</p> <p>YEM is collaborating with WRT, WATER and Friends of the Dart re trialling the MolEndo kit to quantify Escherichia coli and other enterococci. A proposal to measure human pathogenic bacteria using water quality tests in the River Yealm, has been submitted by Plymouth Marine Laboratory. The aim is to develop algorithms from satellite data to forecast bacterial abundance throughout our catchment. Surfers Against Sewage (SAS) are involved.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |                                       |

An Environmental Information (EIR) request was submitted to South West Water in April 24 asking for on-off times for all overflows of untreated sewage on our river. That request was refused and RYWQG has appealed that decision. A Scrutiny Group that arose from SuSH pulls together expertise and capacity to pursue information from SWW by legal means if necessary and will assist with representations to SWW.

RYWQG is concerned about pollution arising from Lee Mill Industrial Estate. SHDC has provided a map of drainage points within Lee Mill Industrial Estate, but this did not include information on source of drainage or destiny of foul water. SHDC claim that they do not hold that information. Since it seems likely that such information would be required for planning consent, we have sought assistance from Cllr Thomas to clarify the matter.

CSI volunteers for the Riverfly Survey received the next stage of training by professional staff from WildFish SmartRivers on 21 May 2024. This aspect of the RiverFly project involves standardised sampling methods and microscopic identification of larval forms of invertebrates in the Yealm at six sites with known pollution issues. Two microscopes have been donated to us by WildFish as part of our package for becoming a SmartRivers hub for the Riverfly Survey.

#### Catchment scale remediation

YEM is in discussion with the EA and WATER re a scoping study towards mapping soil type, agricultural practice and surface water drainage throughout both the Yealm and Erme catchments so that mitigating schemes that will help cleanse that runoff can be developed.

Emerging areas of concern relating to water quality have been identified from our first year's measures from the CSI. This may lead to grant applications for regulation and remediation in collaboration with RYCCP, working with WRT, RYWQG, DWT, DNP, FWAG, NE, YEMG, South Devon AONB, SWW and others.

#### Trees.

Trees in the Lodge Gate Field nursery are now in root trainers. They need daily watering in hot weather and we have a rota of volunteers for this. Veterans Outdoors have planning consent for buildings/shipping containers on Lodge Gate Field but not yet sufficient funding.

Planting of holly bushes to screen the sewage treatment plant from nearby tracks and footpaths has been completed.

Worston Mill planting of 1500 trees took place 20th March with Plymouth & South Devon Community Forest, Parklife and volunteers. Ewells Wood planting of 5000 trees will take place in the autumn, with Plymouth & South Devon Community Forest.

Milizac and Stray Park orchards continue to do well.

#### Biodiversity/schools

A two day field work programme on Research Methods for ICC students on the Environmental Science 'A' level course will take place in late June. It will compare the habitat which has remained untouched for a considerable amount of time (Rubies Wood) with the adjacent DWT reserve which has been open to the public. Students will learn:

- standardised water quality testing assisted by some of our existing adult CSI volunteers
- observation of Himalayan Balsam as an example of invasive species
- land based research methods; transect and quadrant surveys, door mouse traps, camera traps and possibly bat and moth surveys. Students will also learn about terrestrial non native species and might observe a Australian flatworm which is thriving in the reserve.

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|     | <p>YESS is a long-term community project aimed at delivering measurable improvements in biodiversity and species abundance, water quality and flood resilience in the river catchments of the Yealm and the Erme. This is being achieved by providing advice, assistance and financial support for nature recovery projects to Non-Farming Landowners (NFL's). A report will be available in due course. The local Landscape Recovery Plan relies on initiatives of this sort and longer term funding for the Yealm catchment is anticipated.</p> <p>Invasive species<br/>Four sites have been identified and prepared (brush cutting) for Himalayan Balsam removal will take place along the Yealm. The first pull of this year will take place in early July with volunteers. Plants should be pulled and crushed before the seed sets. Permission of the riparian landowners has been secured to go on their land to do this.</p> <p>Budget<br/>2023/4 final budget has been agreed with Parish Clerk<br/>Additional spend 2024/5 approved by Parish Council May 24:<br/>£3,000, which will fund six Nature Recovery Advisory Visits (NRV's) and works in Yealmpton Parish at £500 per visit<br/>Polytunnel - A 10ft x 8ft polytunnel with work benches – to propagate tree seedlings - £600.00<br/>Anti-vermin frames x 2 – built for us by the Yealmpton Men's Shed at cost - £160.00<br/>Compost – 20 bags from Moor Trees @ £8.60 each - £172.00<br/>Total request - £932.00<br/>YEG members expressed thanks to Yealmpton Parish Councillors for their support.</p> |                                                                                                                            |
| 9.  | <p>Hearing Loop/Audio Equipment<br/>A personal listener had been trialled by two members of the public at various times over the last month, including at this month's Parish Council meeting. The reports on effectiveness were good, although there was feedback through the device, it still significantly improved ability to hear during meetings. Council unanimously agreed to purchase one device and Cllr Thomas agreed to fund the purchase of a second through his County fund.<br/>Thank you to the members of the public who have taken part in the trial.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | Clerk – to arrange the purchase of one device and apply to Cllr Thomas' fund.                                              |
| 10. | <p>Village Library and book exchange<br/>a) YPC had received a quote for the refurbishment of the telephone box. It was agreed that due to the size of the quote, we would obtain a further quote.<br/>b) A book case had been ordered for the Parish Room library. We need to put out a call for good quality books.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | <p>Clerk – to obtain for consideration at the next meeting.</p> <p>Clerk – to liaise with Cllr Barton to request books</p> |
| 11. | <p>Yealmpton Tidy Village Group update<br/>Last month's meeting was a success. The next event will be on 13<sup>th</sup> July.</p> <p>A piece will be put in the Yealmpton Press asking people to help with the efforts to improve the look of the village by cutting back and clearing away any vegetation, overhanging footpaths and roads, that interferes with vehicles or pedestrians use. Also to clear weeds from around the pavements near their homes, if they are willing and able to</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Clerk – to liaise with Cllr Barton about a piece for the Yealmpton Press.                                                  |

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|     | do so.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| 12. | <p>Road Closures – to note upcoming Road closures;</p> <p>a) Yealm Park – at some point between 01.08.2024-31.10.2024 for footway works. This is unlikely to cause too much disruption but may temporary alter the one way system around Yealm Park.</p> <p>b) Wilburton Cross ZC199to A379 (near Waye Farm) 09.30-15.30 on 26.09.2024. This is likely to effect few residents.</p> <p>c) Yealmpton Show 31<sup>st</sup> July. There will be a one way system.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | Clerk – post details on Facebook                                                                                                                                                    |
| 13. | <p>Report from Councillors/clerk in respect of responsibilities/ actions arising from previous meetings.</p> <p>a) Meeting with DCC – a date is still awaited for YPC to meet with DCC to go through the report.</p> <p>b) Flooding in the village. A meeting will be held with SHDC to look at the stream along the footpath that joins Ford Road and Rockdale Road.</p> <p>c) Active Travel – a date is still awaited for the consultation.</p> <p>d) Speed monitor relocation. The speed monitor from the garage will be relocated to Yealmbridge. The contractor has submitted an acceptable quote and he will be asked to move the monitor and change the speed warning setting as that area of road has a 40mph limit.</p> <p>Cllr McKay had submitted a request for YPC to fund further speed monitors. This will be considered as an Agenda items in September’s meeting.</p> | <p>Clerk – to continue to try to set up the meetings.</p> <p>Clerk – add item to September’s Agenda.</p>                                                                            |
| 14  | <p>Reports on allocated areas of responsibility, where matters arise</p> <p>Works – Cllr Craddock will liaise with our contractor who undertakes ad hoc jobs in the village and review regular tasks.</p> <p>Footpaths – Cllr Barton will be meeting with the DCC footpaths warden to review options for footpath 20 and the proposed new stiles on footpath 19.</p> <p>Footpath 30 has a lot of overhanging vegetation from the neighbouring house. A letter needs to be sent to the owner asking them to clear away the vegetation. It is also on a contractor’s list.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Cllr Craddock – meet with contractor</p> <p>Cllr Barton to report following meeting.</p> <p>Clerk – to contact landowner and our contractor to arrange for it to be cleared.</p> |
| 15  | <p>Correspondence</p> <p>Sustainable South Hams – inviting Cllrs to participate in a consultation and attend a meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> October at Follaton House.</p> <p>PN1 search from the Land Registry had come back and it does not show that YPC own various areas that it was thought we did. Clerk to make further enquiries and searches.</p> <p>Gardening for Wildlife – downloadable booklet now available on the website.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p>Cllr Guy-Fierens, Cllr Barton and Dr Durman (YEG) to see if they can attend.</p> <p>Clerk – searches</p> <p>Clerk – to publicise on Facebook</p>                                 |

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|  | <p>5 Parish Alliance – we had received an email seeking everyone’s views on the future of the 5 Parish Alliance. Dr Durman (YEG) and Cllr Hopkins were asked to consider this and give a recommendation for discussion in September’s meeting.</p> <p>Meeting closed at 9 pm</p> | <p>Clerk – Agenda item for September</p> <p>Cllr Hopkins and Dr Durman to report.</p> |
|  | Date of next meeting: 9th September 2024                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                       |

Sasha Walton-Jackman

Clerk to Yealmpton Parish Council