

Yealmpton Parish Council
Annual Parish Meeting Minutes

14th April 2025, 7pm

The Community Room, Yealmpton Community Centre, Stray Park, Yealmpton PL8 2HF

No members of the public attended.

Minutes

1. Approval of minutes of Annual Parish Meeting 8th April 2024

The minutes of the meeting on 8th April 2024 were unanimously approved.

2. County Council Report. Cllr Thomas reported;

Local Government Reform (LGR) had been announced. This topic would be further discussed below.

Localities fund

Cllr Thomas reported that he had allocated £1,150 to the Parish in the last financial year, supporting projects in the Community Room, the Parish Archive and the refurbishment of the phone box into a parish library.

Highways

Various Road Repairs had been arranged in the Parish. Yealm Park resurfacing had been arranged.

Flooding

The flood resilience officer had been active in the Parish, working with the Parish Council and those affected by flooding.

3. District Council Report. Cllr Edie reported;

Over the past twelve months we have seen much progress across the district with South Hams District Council forging ahead in delivering on manifesto promises. Key policies in delivering affordable housing for local residents, second home tax rises, backing projects to tackle climate change are underway alongside the day-to-day work in delivering public services.

The District Councillors, Tom Edie and Dan Thomas, continue to work with and for Yealmpton Parish Council across matters arising. They have provided financial support including Yealmpton Community Association and Dementia Friendly Parishes and Climate Change targeted funding to groups including Yealmpton Estuary to Moor.

Following recent announcements on devolution it is likely the next year will see a new local government landscape set out for the future with South Hams District Council unlikely to be continuing in its current form beyond 2027. Tom and Dan will continue to assist Yealmpton Parish Council as best they can during these changing times.

Environmental Initiatives

Cllr Thomas was asked how much money SHDC had spent on the woodland project at South Brent. Cllr Thomas confirmed approximately £2,000 had been spent. There had been a central government grant used to purchase the land and the trees had been donated by the Woodland Trust.

4. Parish Council Report. Cllr Baldry reported;

A successful year in which the Parish Council continued to improve the facilities and services of the Parish.

Most of the money we spend on your behalf comes from a small share of the Council tax. For 2025-26 this will be £65 a year for an average home. Some of the larger items are to pay for every house to receive a free copy of the Yealmpton Press. This could not be done without the team of volunteer delivers. Thank you. We also fund the weekly Youth Club for which we fund Totnes based TRAYE.

Because of cuts in District and County Council spending the Parish Council is increasingly doing the work that these two bodies formerly did.

During the year, thanks to the work of Sasha Walton- Jackman, the Parish Clerk, the Village Tide group has weeded and litter picked.

We are concerned about road safety in the village. We commissioned a report from the expert organisation Callidus.. Devon County Council are the legal authority responsible for Highways. We have discussed with them what can be done. It has been slow progress. My personal experience is that they use regulations more as a reason to prevent action rather than to help. Some of their charges and costings seem to me to be ridiculously high.

The Community Speed Watch team is led by Brian Rowe. The team of Speed Watchers includes two Parish Councillors along with 4 other volunteers.

Speed monitoring is led by Cllr. McKay.

I have been a Yealmpton parish councillor for more than 25 years. Until recently we had a report and usually an attendance at our meetings by the police. Despite big increases in the tax paid for the police, we never see a report at our meetings.

We are grateful for the attendance at our meetings of District and County councillors. Cllrs Dan Thomas and Tom Edie consistently give helpful advice and work on behalf of Yealmpton.

Early in the year James Street joined the Parish Council. Thom Guy Fierens stood down in the summer. Thank you Thom. We miss your contribution. Simon Riley joined the Council in January.

We are statutory consultees for planning applications. Cllr Endicott leads the planning sub committee and gives helpful advice to the Council.

Cllr Barton leads the Council on footpaths. The footpath beside Torr Farm has been repaired. The most used footpath is the one from the church to Puslinch Bridge. Improvement is needed.

Cllr Tucker's knowledge of local matters is invaluable, in particular on highways. He works well with the DCC Highways Officer.

Dr. Linda Durman gives us helpful and interesting monthly updates on the work of the Environment Group, including the River Yealm Water Quality Group. They are doing innovative things some of which are recognised as leading the way in South Devon. Cllr Hopkins and Bee Wild are continuing to be active but reducing their workload.

Following the ending of the DCC Mobile Library service, Cllr Barton has initiated the opening of a lending library in the Parish Room. This has been extended by book exchange in the Market Street phone box.

Cllr Craddock co-ordinates the works programme. This includes maintenance of bus shelters and benches. The benches in Bakery Square and the Memorial Garden have been replaced. Work has been required to the Parish Room.

Responsibility for some of the grass cutting previously done by South Hams DC has been passed to the Parish Council. We obtained 3 quotes and placed the contract with South Hams Garden and Property Service.

We continue to make donations to organisations which benefit our residents.

We have held talks about the possibility of a foot and cycle path between Collaton and Yealmpton. Discussions have been with the main landowner, Newton and Noss Parish Council and South Hams DC and this Parish Council. All of us are keen to progress, but we have not been able to identify a source of funding.

The Council has purchased 2 devices for use at meetings for those who need hearing enhancement.

The announcement of Local Government reorganisation in December came as a surprise. Whatever the outcome we are assured that Parish Councils will continue and may be asked to take on extra responsibility. I am sure we will try to do whatever is needed, but other authorities may need to be reminded that unlike District and County councillors we are unpaid volunteers.

My enormous thanks to my fellow Councillors and especially to the indefatigable Sasha Walton-Jackman, our Clerk.

5. Yealmpton Tidy Village Group. The Clerk reported;



The Tidy Village Group was formed because the Parish Council had received complaints from people in the village that the village was looking scruffy. The parish council placed a notice in the Yealmpton press and a wonderful group of volunteers responded. The aim of the group are;

1. Tackle pavement weeds and gutter mud.
2. Keep road signs clean.
3. Collect litter.

So far the pavement weeding team has worked on the location shown on the map here are some before and after shots.



There has been a huge improvement in the areas that hope we have worked on so far and we are hoping the village will look much smarter this year. Last year we did some road safety training and purchased a set of signs to ensure we are working safely.

Another success of the group has been the litter picking Team. Last year we collected at least 22 sacks of litter from around the village.



Thank you to the volunteers who have attended the sessions over the last year and those who go out regularly themselves and collect litter. Finally, thank you to Cllr Tucker who delivers and stores our equipment.

6. Local Government Reorganisation. Cllr Thomas reported on the interim proposals that had been submitted by the various stakeholders;

Plymouth City Council



Parish	Population
City of Plymouth	267063
Bickleigh	4084
Shaugh Prior	839
Cornwood	1090
Harford	-
Ugborough	2708
Sparkwell	1475
Ivybridge	11891
Ermington	935
Holbeton	637
Yealmpton	2412
Brixton	2858
Wembury	2912
Newton and Noss	1829
Total	300733

South Hams District Council and the other District Councils in Devon



4: South Hams, West Devon, Teignbridge and Torbay

5: East, Mid, North Devon, Torridge and Exeter

1: Plymouth City Council

Devon County Council had submitted 5 options

Option 1

Two unitary authorities:

- Plymouth with existing boundary – shown in yellow.
- Devon - combining the areas of the current 8 districts and Torbay shown in green.



Indicator	Plymouth	Devon	England
Population: Total	268,736	972,893	-
Population aged 0-15	46,112 (17.2%)	151,697 (15.6%)	18.5%
Population aged 16-64	172,023 (64.0%)	565,920 (58.2%)	62.9%
Population aged 65+	50,601 (18.8%)	255,276 (26.2%)	18.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: Total	+ 3,047 (+1.1%)	+ 44,969 (+4.8%)	+3.2%
Population Change 2018-2023: 0-15	-546 (-1.2%)	+1,105 (+0.7%)	+0.9%
Population Change 2018-2023: 16-64	+612 (+0.4%)	+24,764 (+4.6%)	+2.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: 65+	+2,981 (+6.3%)	+19,090 (+8.1%)	+6.9%
Area Size (sq. km)	80	6,627	-
Population Density	3,366	147	434
Council Tax Base (all)	123,273	466,757	-
Gross Value Added	£6.97 bn	£24.46 bn	-
Gross Value Added per worker	£57,315	£59,972	£73,390
VAT Reg Business	6,280	42,820	-
VAT Reg Businesses per 100 people	2.3	4.4	4.1
Income deprived (%)	14.8%	10.8%	12.9%
Annual Housing Completions vs Target	25.1% (324/1,290)	59.9% (4,353/7,272)	62.1%
Average FT Salary to House Price Ratio	6.7 (£31.6k/£210.6k)	9.7 (£31.8k/£307.8k)	8.3 (£35.1k/£290.0k)

Option 2

Two unitary authorities:

- Plymouth with existing boundary – shown in yellow.
- Devon – combining the areas of the current 8 districts and Torbay shown in green.



Indicator	Plymouth	Devon	England
Population: Total	268,736	972,893	-
Population aged 0-15	46,112 (17.2%)	151,697 (15.6%)	18.5%
Population aged 16-64	172,023 (64.0%)	565,920 (58.2%)	62.9%
Population aged 65+	50,601 (18.8%)	255,276 (26.2%)	18.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: Total	+ 3,047 (+1.1%)	+ 44,959 (+4.8%)	+3.2%
Population Change 2018-2023: 0-15	-546 (-1.2%)	+1,105 (+0.7%)	+0.9%
Population Change 2018-2023: 16-64	+612 (+0.4%)	+24,764 (+4.6%)	+2.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: 65+	+2,981 (+6.3%)	+19,090 (+8.1%)	+6.9%
Area Size (sq. km)	80	6,627	-
Population Density	3,366	147	434
Council Tax Base (all)	123,273	466,757	-
Gross Value Added	£6.97 bn	£24.46 bn	-
Gross Value Added per worker	£57,315	£59,972	£73,390
VAT Reg Business	6,280	42,820	-
VAT Reg Businesses per 100 people	2.3	4.4	4.1
Income deprived (%)	14.8%	10.8%	12.9%
Annual Housing Completions vs Target	25.1% (324/1,290)	59.9% (4,353/7,272)	62.1%
Average FT Salary to House Price Ratio	6.7 (£31.6k/£210.6k)	9.7 (£31.8k/£307.8k)	8.3 (£35.1k/£290.0k)

Option 3

Two unitary authorities in South West and North East Devon:

- South West Devon includes Plymouth, South Hams and West Devon – shown in blue.
- North East Devon includes Exeter, East Devon, Torbay, Teignbridge, North Devon, Torridge and Mid Devon – shown in green.

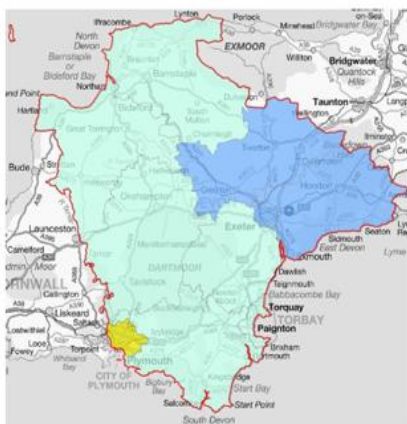


Indicator	North/East Devon	South/West Devon	England
Population: Total	786,143	407,210	-
Population aged 0-15	129,091 (15.7%)	68,718 (16.4%)	18.5%
Population aged 16-64	482,232 (58.6%)	255,711 (61.1%)	62.9%
Population aged 65+	211,974 (25.7%)	93,903 (22.4%)	18.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: Total	+36,884 (+4.7%)	+11,122 (+2.7%)	+3.2%
Population Change 2018-2023: 0-15	+640 (+0.5%)	-81 (-0.1%)	+0.9%
Population Change 2018-2023: 16-64	+21,214 (+4.6%)	+4,162 (+1.7%)	+2.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: 65+	+15,030 (+7.6%)	+7,041 (+8.1%)	+6.9%
Area Size (sq. km)	4,581	2,126	-
Population Density	180	197	434
Council Tax Base (all)	391,955	198,075	-
Gross Value Added	£21.03bn	£10.39bn	-
Gross Value Added per worker	£60,541	£57,111	£73,390
VAT Reg Business	34,415	14,685	-
VAT Reg Businesses per 100 people	4.2	3.5	4.1
Income deprived (%)	11.1%	12.9%	12.9%
Annual Housing Completions vs Target	58.5% (3,462/5,919)	46.0% (1,215/2,643)	62.1%
Average FT Salary to House Price Ratio	9.4 (£31.8k/£299.8k)	8.2 (31.9k/£261.0k)	8.3 (£35.1k/£290.0k)

Option 4

Three unitary authorities in Plymouth, Greater Exeter, and the rest of Devon:

1. Plymouth with existing boundaries – shown in yellow.
2. Greater Exeter, including Exeter, East Devon and Mid Devon – shown in blue.
3. Rest of Devon, including Torbay, Teignbridge, North Devon, Torridge, South Hams and West Devon – shown in green.

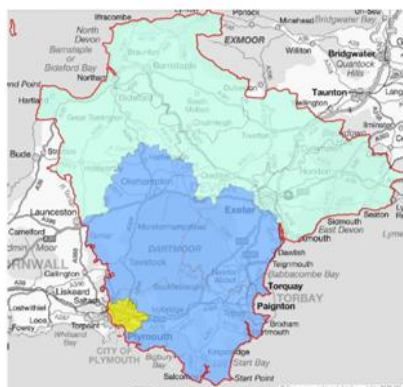


Indicator	Plymouth	Greater Exeter	Rest of Devon	England
Population: Total	268,736	377,365	595,528	-
Population aged 0-15	46,112 (17.2%)	58,488 (15.5%)	93,209 (15.7%)	18.5%
Population aged 16-64	172,023 (64.0%)	229,148 (60.7%)	336,772 (56.6%)	62.9%
Population aged 65+	50,601 (18.8%)	89,729 (23.8%)	165,547 (27.8%)	18.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: Total	+ 3,047 (+1.1%)	+25,598 (7.3%)	+19,361 (+3.4%)	+3.2%
Population Change 2018-2023: 0-15	-546 (-1.2%)	+1,727 (+3.0%)	-622 (-0.7%)	+0.9%
Population Change 2018-2023: 16-64	+612 (+0.4%)	+17,558 (+8.3%)	+7,206 (+2.2%)	+2.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: 65+	+2,981 (+6.3%)	+6,313 (+7.6%)	+12,777 (+8.4%)	+6.9%
Area Size (sq. km)	80	1,774	4,853	-
Population Density	3,366	213	123	434
Council Tax Base (all)	123,273	174,430	292,320	-
Gross Value Added	£6.97 bn	£11.80 bn	£12.65 bn	-
Gross Value Added per worker	£57,315	£75,653	£50,256	£73,390
VAT Reg Business	6,280	15,690	27,130	-
VAT Reg Businesses per 100 people	2.3	4.2	4.6	4.1
Income deprived (%)	14.8%	8.9%	12.0%	12.9%
Annual Housing Completions vs Target	25.1% (324/1,290)	70.7% (1,809/2,560)	54.0% (2,544/4,712)	62.1%
Average FT Salary to House Price Ratio	6.7 (£31.6k/£210.6k)	9.3 (£34.1k/£318.5k)	9.9 (£30.5k/£301.0k)	8.3 (£35.1k/£290.0k)

Option 5

Three unitary authorities in Plymouth, North East Devon and South West Devon.

1. Plymouth with existing boundaries – shown in yellow.
2. North East Devon, includes Exeter, East Devon, Mid Devon, North Devon and Torridge – shown in green.
3. South West Devon, includes Torbay, South Hams, Teignbridge and West Devon – shown in blue.



Indicator	Plymouth	North/East Devon	South/West Devon	England
Population: Total	268,736	546,738	426,155	-
Population aged 0-15	46,112 (17.2%)	85,572 (15.7%)	66,125 (15.5%)	18.5%
Population aged 16-64	172,023 (64.0%)	324,922 (59.4%)	240,998 (56.6%)	62.9%
Population aged 65+	50,601 (18.8%)	136,244 (24.9%)	119,032 (27.9%)	18.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: Total	+ 3,047 (+1.1%)	+31132 (+6.0%)	+13827 (+3.4%)	+3.2%
Population Change 2018-2023: 0-15	-546 (-1.2%)	+1453 (+1.7%)	-348 (-0.5%)	+0.9%
Population Change 2018-2023: 16-64	+612 (+0.4%)	+19608 (+6.4%)	+5156 (+2.2%)	+2.7%
Population Change 2018-2023: 65+	+2,981 (+6.3%)	+10071 (+8.0%)	+9019 (+8.2%)	+6.9%
Area Size (sq. km)	80	3,844	2,783	-
Population Density	3,366	142	153	434
Council Tax Base (all)	123,273	257,864	208,893	-
Gross Value Added	£6.97 bn	£15.74 bn	£8.72 bn	-
Gross Value Added per worker	£57,315	£68,085	£49,349	£73,390
VAT Reg Business	6,280	24,450	18,370	-
VAT Reg Businesses per 100 people	2.3	4.5	4.3	4.1
Income deprived (%)	14.8%	9.7%	12.2%	12.9%
Annual Housing Completions vs Target	25.1% (324/1,290)	67.8% (2,637/3,889)	50.7% (1,716/3,383)	62.1%
Average FT Salary to House Price Ratio	6.7 (£31.6k/£210.6k)	9.4 (£33.0k/£311.5k)	10.0 (£30.4k/£303.1k)	8.3 (£35.1k/£290.0k)

Each authority would need to submit one proposal for government consideration by 28th November 2025. The government will then decide which proposal to adopt. The timetable is set out below;

★	Surrey LGR	★	Elections
★	DPP devo	★	LGR – DPP and other 2 tier areas

Indicative LGR Timelines for Surrey, DPP & all other 2-tier areas

Potential planning assumptions for ambitious timetabling.
Actual timings will be dependent on proposals received

January - April 2025		May - August 2025		September - December 2025	
★ Government consults on Mayoral devolution (Feb – Apr)	★ Government receives interim LGR plan from all areas (21 March)	★ DPP CCA decisions post consultation	★ Govt. announces final DPP areas (Spring) ★ Govt. publishes consultation results summary (Spring)	★ DPP CCA legislation laid with local consent	★ Govt receives final LGR proposals from other 2-tier areas (28 Nov)
★ Govt. issues statutory invite for LGR proposals (5 Feb)	★ Govt receives Surrey LGR proposal(s) (9 May)	★ Govt consults on Surrey LGR proposal(s)	★ Govt receives Surrey LGR proposal(s) (9 May)	★ Govt receives LGR proposals from DPP areas (26 Sept)	★ Govt. decision on Surrey LGR proposal(s)
	★ May 25 local elections			★ Surrey LGR legislation laid	
January - April 2026		May - August 2026		September - December 2026	
★ CCA legislation approved by parliament and legislation in force (DPP)	★ Consultation on other 2-tier area LGR proposals	★ Mayoral election to CCA (DPP)	★ Govt decision on proposals for other 2-tier areas following consultation	★ LGR legislation prepared and laid for DPP and other 2-tier areas	
★ Govt. decision on DPP LGR proposals		★ Election for Surrey 'Shadow' Unitary(s)			★ Any transitional legislation for Surrey unitary(s)
★ LGR legislation approved for Surrey		★ May 26 local elections			
April 2027		May - December 2027		April 2028	
★ Surrey Unitary(s) Go-live (April)		★ Any transitional legislation needed prepared and laid		★ New unitaries Go-live	
		★ Shadow unitary elections (as soon as possible)			

7. Open Forum – no members of the public attended.

Meeting was closed at 7.50pm