

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF YEALMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 9TH FEBRUARY 2026 AT 7.30PM AT THE COMMUNITY ROOM, STRAY PARK, YEALMPTON.

Members of the public present: 3

Public Forum

No members of the public chose to speak.

Councillors Present: Cllr Baldry, Cllr Craddock, Cllr Tucker, Cllr Riley, Cllr Barton and Cllr MacKay. Dist. Cllr Edie was in attendance until after item 7.

1) Apologies and absences

Apologies were received from Cllrs Endicott, Hopkins and Thomas.

2) County Council Report

The Local Government Reorganisation consultation would be dealt with in the District Report.

3) District Council Report

(Written report provided by Cllr Edie at the end of the minutes)

Local Government Reorganisation Consultation - <https://www.devonlgr.co.uk/> (to be completed by 26th March 2026)

Devon Libraries Consultation - [Have Your Say Today - Shaping Devon's Library Service - Commonplace](#) (to be completed by 22nd February 2026)

4) Councillors' Declarations of Interest

Cllr Tucker declared an interest in items 10 and 11.

5) Previous Minutes

The minutes of the previous meeting, held on 12th January 2026, were approved and signed by the Chairman.

6) Exclusion of the Public

No matters required the exclusion of the public.

7) Planning matters

- a) No update was given in Cllr Endicott's absence
- b) The following responses were agreed;
 - i) 0203/26/LBC 1 Bowden Farm, Bowden Hill, Yealmpton, PL8 2JX

"Support - YPC support this application on the understanding the SHDC Heritage Officer underwrites the application positively."

- ii) 3318/25/HHO 6 Yeo Park, Yealmpton, PL8 2LP

"Support - YPC offer our support with the proviso the proposed Garden Room to the rear is finished in a similar way (cladding) to that stipulated of the rear extension in the 11/2020 approval. We are sceptical that the area in front of the shed on the front drive will be suitable for parking. "

iii) 3688/25/FUL Black Torrs, Chapel Road, Yealmpton, PL8 2LZ

“Support – No Comment.”

8) Financial matters

- a) The accounts to the end of January 2026 were noted
- b) Payments totalling £1,803.40 were approved.

9) Proposed Speed Reduction from the national speed limit to 40mph on A379 between Brixton and Yealmpton

- a) 53% of Yealmpton residents who responded to the consultation in the Yealmpton Press were in support of a reduction, (54% if the non-Yealmpton Resident's response is included). 41 responses had been received in total. Anonymised comments had been circulated to Councillors and a summary of those comments, for and against the speed reduction was read out.
- b) The Safer Travel Strategy and Programme Officer at Devon County Council had been asked to comment on whether they felt there would be any “knock on” impact on speeds of driver existing the 30mph gateway to the East of the village or for pedestrians using the pavement to access Silverbridge Way. No negative impacts were anticipated by the officer.
- c) Councillors spoke in favour of a reduction and against. The speed limit reduction was proposed, seconded and in total received three votes, with three votes against. The Chairman used his casting vote to vote against the speed reduction, leaving the limit unchanged. The Chairman said he was convinced by the argument that it was wrong for Yealmpton taxpayers to pay for a change on a road mainly used by non Yealmpton residents.

10) Silverbridge Way Extension

- a) Cllr Tucker had declared an interest in this matter, as he had quoted for the initial clearing. He left the room for the duration of the discussion of this item. Council decided not to undertake any initial clearing of the route at this stage. It is anticipated that the extension will require planning permission for both the height of fencing and the laying of a track through agricultural land. A member of the working group had a telephone consultation with a planning officer on 19th February. It was commented by some members of the Council that the overall costs of the extension did not represent a good use of public money and this should be conveyed to members of the working group.

11) Footpath 19

- a) A meeting had taken place between the landowner and members of the Parish Council. It is hoped that an agreement can be reached whereby there will be an additional footpath along the river with a variation to the route of the existing PROW. A meeting is being arranged for members of the Parish Council to walk a proposed new route with the landowners. Conclusion of this matter is likely to still take some time.
- b) Cllr Tucker had declared an interest in this matter, as he had quoted for the laying of hardcore. He left the room for the duration of the discussion of this item. It was agreed that three quotes would be sought for hardcore to be placed on the lane of the PROW to keep it easily passable. It was noted that P3 funds could be used for this purpose.

12) Grass Cutting agreement with DCC 2026/2027

It was agreed that Yealmpton Parish Council would continue to be part of the scheme. The Clerk was to sign and return the agreement.

13) Grant Applications

- a) Receipts had been reviewed for the refurbishment of the Bowling Club House. It was agreed that the grant would be released and the Clerk was to ask for members of the Council to attend the Club House to see the refurbishment.
- b) A grant request had been received from Crimstoppers South West Region. Grants were considered in January's meeting and had to be received by 1st December each year. It was agreed that Crimstoppers would be referred to our Grant Giving Policy and invited to apply in December.

14) Yealmpton Environment Group Projects

- a) A response had been received from YEG stating that non-farming landowners were not eligible for grants for hedging and tree planting on their land. Council approved the projects that YEG proposed were funded for 2026/2027.

15) Local Government Reorganisation

- a) Councillor Thomas had provided a written report, stating that the meeting on 21st January 2026 had been well attended by Parish and Town Councillors. The government consultation on LGR that had been anticipated at this meeting had now been announced and individuals as well as the Parish Council were encouraged to provide a response.
- b) The response from government to the LGR letter was noted, it was essentially an acknowledgement of the views of the signatories to the letter.
- c) A meeting had been arranged for Tuesday 17th February 2026 at 7pm for the Councils who were included in the Plymouth City Council Growth Area Proposal to consider whether to make a joint response.

16) Emergency Plan

- a) The updated, redacted plan had been circulated to Councillors. Cllr Riley was thanked for his work in reviewing the plan. It was agreed that it would be appropriate for each member of the Parish Council to hold a hardcopy of the unredacted Emergency Plan for use in the case of an Emergency. The redacted version would be placed on the website.
- b) Yealmpton Parish Council was now part of the Snow Warden Scheme and Cllr Riley was the Snow Warden. Two new grit bins would be sought through the scheme, to be placed near the Kitley Place development and Hillside Drive.
- c) A draft Home Emergency Plan was reviewed and Cllr Barton agreed to format the document, with a view to quotes being obtained for it to be delivered to every house with the Yealmpton Press. A quote for the printing would be obtained when it was formatted.

17) Report following the Code of Conduct Training

- a) Some Councillors had attended the DALC Code of Conduct training and felt it was worthwhile. The training recommended using the National Model Code of Conduct for Local Councils. Although it was noted it was in very similar terms to the existing Yealmpton Parish Council Code of Conduct, it was agreed that this recommendation should be taken up.

18) Policies and Procedures Review

- a) New Data Protection Policies were reviewed and approved; Appropriate Policy Document, Data Protection Impact Assessment, IT Policy, Data Protection Policy, Data Security Policy, Data Breach Policy and Rights Request Policy. It was agreed that Cllr Barton was appointed as the IT Manager for the purposes of the policies. Cllr Barton would also work with Councillors to ensure that their email arrangements met recommended standards.
- b) A new Code of Conduct using the National Model was approved in accordance with the recommendation from the DALC training.

19) Facebook page for the Parish Room

- a) Council felt it was unnecessary to create a new page, but a post could be made on the Yealmpton Parish Council Facebook page advertising that the room is available for hire.

20) Holocaust Memorial Day

- a) Councillor Baldry had attended and represented Yealmpton Parish Council at the event at the Plymouth Guildhall. It was an interesting event and Plymouth City Council had conducted the ceremony well.

21) Report from Councillors/Clerk on actions arising from previous meetings;

- a) The Clerk reported that we were still waiting for a meeting with SHDC to discuss the purchase of the village car park. We had been informed that it was more likely that a lease would be offered, rather than a sale of the freehold.

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

- a) Councillor Barton and the footpath volunteers were surveying the footpaths for the P3 return to Devon County Council.
- b) It was agreed that the Annual Parish Meeting will be held on 13th April 2026 at 7pm, with the April Parish Council Meeting to follow. Local groups, clubs and associations will be invited to give a very brief overview of their activities. Tea, coffee and cake will be provided by the Parish Council for attendees.

23) Correspondence

- a) YEM had offered replacement trees for the park. The park was managed by SHDC, the offer would be passed to them. Although it was agreed that Council did not want a hedge to be planted around the park as in the past this had hidden antisocial behaviour.
- b) South West Water – the response to Council's questions regarding the capacity of the Yealmpton Village Sewage Works was reviewed. It was felt that the response was inadequate and Councillor Riley agreed to draft some further questions.
- c) The Clerk had received a complaint regarding the stream that was flowing down the side of Bowden Hill. The Clerk had reported this to Devon Highways, with a request to review the size of the culvert and it had also been referred to Devon Highways Flood Risk Management team.
- d) The thanks of YAA was noted for the grant they had received.
- e) No notification that there have been any requests for an election has been received, so assuming none have been received the Clerk was asked to advertise the Councillor vacancy for co-option.

Meeting closed at 9.35pm

Date of the next meeting: 9th March 2026

(Minutes prepared by the Parish Clerk)

District Council Report

SHDC – February 2026

LGR Government consultation

The Government has now launched its formal consultation on Local Government Reorganisation proposals in Devon.

- The consultation will run for seven weeks, closing on Thursday 26 March.
- A single website containing all the proposals can be found at www.devonlgr.co.uk
- Please help to spread the word and encourage people to submit a response to the consultation.
- Feel free to share our [press release](#) and [video with Cllr Thomas encouraging people to take part](#).
- We plan to arrange all member briefings to keep you informed of what is happening, with an initial discussion on the rising of full Council on 12 February.

Shape the future of Devon's libraries

Devon County Council (DCC) is asking residents to help shape the future of the county's 50 libraries.

It's running a consultation until Sunday 22 February 2026 to find out what residents think about proposals to change opening hours in libraries across the county.

Financial pressures mean DCC must now look at how services are delivered and have come up with a number of options including opening hours, the use of technology, and the potential for community-managed libraries.

Libraries are more than just a place to lend books - they now offer a wide range of services and are key community hubs offering warm spaces for residents as well as activities for all ages.

Message for Residents:

- Please read [the information about the changes being proposed](#) before you complete the consultation.
- Have your say on Devon County Council's proposals before 22 February 2026
- Young people can [complete the survey for young people](#).
- Printed copies of the survey are also available in all libraries and Devon County Council reception areas (County Hall in Exeter, Taw View in Barnstaple and Follaton House in Totnes).