

MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF YEALMPTON PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON MONDAY 13TH JULY 2026 AT 7.30PM IN THE COMMUNITY ROOM, STRAY PARK, YEALMPTON.

Meeting commenced at 7.30pm

Members of the public present: 1

Councillors Present: Cllr Baldry, Cllr Endicott, Cllr Tucker, Cllr Barton, Cllr Thomas, and Cllr Taggart.

1) Public Forum

A resident from Yealm Park spoke concerning the overgrown trees in Yealm Park and urged Council to make those with legal responsibility for the trees cut them back. The Clerk informed Council and the resident that Devon Highways had already visited Yealm Park and raised an order for the trees to be cut back.

2) Apologies for absence

Cllrs Riley, Hopkins, MacKay, Craddock and District Cllr Edie sent apologies.

3) Councillors' Declaration of Interest

Cllr Tucker declared a Personal Interest in the appointment of a contractor for the works on Footpath 20 to be considered at item 11. Cllr Tucker knows the two contractors who had provided quotes for the works. He would abstain from voting, but remain in the room to assist with technical discussions concerning concreting.

Cllr Barton declared an interest as the Editor of the Yealmpton Press in an item that would be raised in correspondence at the end of the meeting. She would refrain from discussions on this item.

4) To agree and sign the minutes of the Council held on 8th June 2026

Approved and signed by the Chairman.

5) Exclusion of the Public

No matters required the exclusion of the public.

6) County Council Report

Cllr Thomas confirmed that New Road would be patched on 20th July. It would not be the whole road, just the parts that required patching.

The decision on Local Government Reorganisation was expected on Wednesday 15th July.

7) District Council Report

(Cllr Edie provided the written report, see Appendix 1)

8) Planning matters

- a) A brief update was received on applications within the Parish.
- b) The following response was agreed in respect of application 1536/26/HHO Bartel, Boldventure, Yealmpton, PL8 2LX; *Support with comment; YPC support this application on the proviso SHDC do a much more thorough examination into foul and storm water drainage from this site and assess its capability and suitability.*

- c) Council noted that a new utilities mast would be installed at the telephone exchange on Yealmbury Hill. It was larger than the existing mast. The Council was not being invited to comment on the application, it was for information only.
- d) Authority was delegated to the Parish Clerk to submit any planning responses on behalf of the Council required prior to the next Parish Council Meeting on 14th September.

9) Financial matters

- a) Accounts to the end of June 2026 were reviewed.
- b) The bank reconciliation to the end of June 2026 was reviewed by Cllr Endicott and signed as accurate.
- c) The actual spending against budget was noted.
- d) The payments totalling £5,147.23 were approved.

10) Yealm Park Grass Cutting

- a) Cllr Thomas proposed that the Parish Council add maintenance of the five grass verges around Yealm Park to the Parish Council's Grass Cutting Schedule. Council unanimously agreed the proposal. The Parish Council's Asset Maintenance contractor and Grass Cutting contractor had reviewed the site and their estimated costs were agreed and they would be asked to commence work.

11) Footpath 20

- a) Four quotes had been obtained for the concreting work. Two contractors had withdrawn following further question being raised. Cllr Tucker had made enquiries with a local concrete manufacturer concerning the appropriate composition of the concrete and their advice was accepted and their recommended product would be ordered. It was agreed that the area to the east of the railway bridge would be included in the first stretch of concrete as there was evidence the river washed in before the bridge. May Groundworks Ltd. was awarded the concreting contract and W.M. Daniels Ltd was awarded the bank restoration contract. The concreting work would take place in September after the school holidays and would require a footpath closure and the bank restoration work which could take place while maintaining access would commence as soon as W.M. Daniels could commence work.
- b) In addition to the P3 funds from Devon County Council for this project and Council's budgeted expenditure for this project, Council agreed that a further £2,500 of unallocated reserves could be used for this project. The Clerk would manage the new budget for this project within the new total.
- c) Councillors had received a draft of the article to go in the Yealmpton Press and it was noted.
- d) Footpath Closed signage would be purchased that could be used for future closures.

12) Silverbridge Way Extension

- a) The Planning Authority have stated the proposed extension of a surfaced new route is not within the Parish Council's permitted development rights. An unsurfaced permissive path would not require planning permission. The Working Group will consider this at a meeting.
- b) Following consideration of the advice from the Planning Authority, it is not considered that Permitted Development Rights under Part 12, Class A apply to the creation of this path.

- c) It is noted with thanks that Yealm Community Energy has provided the sum of £2,000 to cover the ground works in connection with the new internal hedge.

13) Footpath 19 – Definitive Map Modification Claim

- a) A meeting has taken place between members of the Parish Council and the landowners of footpath 19. A variation of the route of the existing public right of way and the creation of a new public right of way was being discussed. Council supported the principle of the variation and new route proposed subject to full details being determined. The Clerk was asked to send the details of the route to the landowner's solicitors and discuss progressing the matter to a detailed proposal for Council to consider.

14) Road Safety Scheme

- a) Draft costings had been received from Devon County Council. The proposed costs were within the amount allocated in the budget. The Clerk has asked to progress the order.

15) The Parish Room

- a) A budget was agreed for the replacement of the heating within the Parish Room. Cllrs Thomas and Edie would contribute from their respective locality funds.
- b) A request from an NHS Social Prescriber to use the Parish Room had been withdrawn as an alternative venue had been found.
- c) It was agreed that the Parish Council would use the Parish Room for their monthly council meetings in the summer months.

16) Yealmpton Environment Group

- a) Council approved YEM's request for the Parish Council to be listed as an interested stakeholder in their application for South West Water's Nature Recovery Fund.
- b) The Clerk would agree a response with the Chairman to Yealmpton Environment Group's June Report clarifying the Parish Council's powers in respect of runoff.

17) Report from Councillors/Clerk on actions arising from previous meetings

- a) An initial meeting had taken place with volunteers for the Pot Hole Gang. Training would be arranged.
- b) The Clerk had been informed that the Cockington Trust had been liquidated and assets sold. These may have included the mechanical workings from the old Apple Press. It appears unlikely that these can be recovered.

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

- a) Grass Cutting – The contractor had reported that dog waste was frequently left on the verge by the A379 at Elm Tree Park. This area was covered by Londis' CCTV. A sign would be placed on the verge asking dog owners to pick up after their dog and stating the area was covered by CCTV.

19) Correspondence

- a) The YCA would be hosting an Apple Day on 19th September. Permission to use Bakery Square was granted. The Parish Room should be hired in the usual way.
- b) Reports of overgrown vegetation in the Ford Road area and Yeo Lane area had been received. The Clerk would send letters to the relevant properties.

- c) The Editor of the Yealmpton Press had received a suggestion that the Yealmpton Press undertake a survey of readership as the Parish Council provided a donation enabling the magazine to be circulated for free. Council discussed this and asked the Clerk to write to the Editor setting out Council's response. It was felt that the free Yealmpton Press was a benefit to the whole community, ensuring those not online are still able to be kept informed of community events and news. The summary of the Parish Council news supports transparency of Parish Council decisions and Councillors consider that the costs are proportionate to the benefit gained by residents. If the author of the request wished to discuss this further, they are welcome to contact the Parish Clerk or attend a council meeting to discuss this with the Council as a whole.
- d) The draft Lease of the Market Street Car Park had been received. Cllr Taggart would review the lease and provide an explanatory note to Council. An extraordinary meeting would be called when the Lease was ready to be signed if this was significantly in advance of September's meeting.

Meeting closed at 9.22pm

Date of next meeting 14th September 2026

Minutes prepared by Sasha Walton-Jackman

Clerk to Yealmpton Parish Council

Appendix 1

SHDC – July 2026

Be Water Aware

There's nothing nicer than having a refreshing dip in water to cool you down when you're hot. However, sadly many of the water incidents we hear about on the coast and in rivers, quarries, reservoirs and lakes are preventable.

Please help by sharing this information to help emergency services keep everyone as safe as possible.

- **Cold water shock** - what is it and how does it happen and how can you fight the panic that sets in?
- **Slips and falls near water** - around 55% of people who drown slip or trip near water.
- **Phone, Float, Throw** - would you know how to help if someone was in trouble in the water?
- **Float to live** - lifesaving advice which can help you regain control until you can get help or help yourself.
- **Alcohol and water don't mix** - entering water while under the influence can lead to drowning.

Devon Local Nature Recovery Strategy: Opportunities and events

Devon Local Nature Recovery Strategy (LNRS) is hosting events, including introductory webinars, for those interested in learning more and supporting nature.

- These will be held online on 15 July at 1:00 p.m. and 20 July at 7:00 p.m. You can sign up for these events [here](#).
- LNRS are also launching a new round of ambassador recruitment and training and are looking to grow their network of volunteers across the county. Please [click here](#) for more information.
- To prepare the new ambassadors, online training sessions via Microsoft Teams are taking place on the 15 July at 7:00 p.m – 8:30 p.m. and 20 July from 12:00 p.m. - 1:30 p.m. Anyone interested can sign up [here](#).
- Our ongoing support of the LNRS reflects our commitment to making a positive impact on climate and biodiversity within our community.