

**MINUTES OF THE 2011 ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON 14 MARCH  
2011 AT 7.30 pm IN THE YCA COMMUNITY ROOM**

Cllr Yonge in the Chair.

Apologies Cllr Frampton., Michael Stickland

Present: 8 parish councillors, one member of the public.

In the absence of the Clerk, Keith Baldry agreed to take the minutes

**Item 1. Approval of the minutes of the 2010 AGM was proposed by Cllr Ebbutt and seconded by Cllr. Craddock. All agreed.**

**Item 2. Chairman' Annual Report**

This year has been particularly busy with a number of the projects which we started four years ago coming to or near completion. We have been able to achieve this by councillors taking forward the projects which have involved a considerable amount of time albeit I hope enjoyable.

Development control as always has been busy and in particular where Geoff took responsibility for the Viridor application and put in a very good response with the help of other councillors and at least two members of the public.

We have kept a tight rein on our finances but the taking over of the parish room meant we were unable to keep a zero tax increase this year. We have very little room for cost saving and feel the services we provide are appreciated by our parishioners.

The emergency committee is now well established but James Whitford Robs on has taken over the role of Mike Thomasson who helped us establish this service. Whilst the harsh winter did not create a situation that triggered action we feel we can do better and will be working towards a response in future.

Whilst the A378 footpath is still only on a map we have now received an outline agreement with the landowners and with considerable help from Dee we hope initial work will start in the late summer after the bird nesting season.

One of our big aims was for a cleaner and tidier village. This year all the grass was cut on a regular cycle and we hope to achieve the same next year even though Dee have withdrawn some funding. Our streets and roads are appreciable tidier and cleaner. I must take the opportunity to thank our clerk for the work he has done in monitoring and badgering the relevant authorities to play their part.

The play area in Stray Park has been improved with the help of SHDC and a consultation with neighbours and users. We are now looking at ways to make the area dog free. We are also working with the Primary School to develop an outdoor multi use play surface. The progress of this will very much depend on finding funding.

As I mentioned earlier we have assumed control of the parish Room. Sally Morton in the Village Stores manages the bookings and has achieved a considerable increase including one on Christmas Day. The Public Conveniences continue to be expensive and have intermittent problems which the new council will want to address

So an excellent year and the end of an excellent council term. I must thank all councillors, the clerk and others from outside in helping to achieve this. We can go into to the election cycle knowing we have set a high standard.

There were no questions

### **Item 3. County Councillor's Report**

**Cllr Mumford updated the meeting on the Brixton- Yealmpton proposed path. Both county councillors have agreed to contribute to funding.**

**A revised New England Quarry incinerator application has been tabled.**

**He agreed that the county will put a sign at the end of Boldventure warning drivers about the unsuitability of the road for long vehicles. He was not hopeful it would be successful.**

**He said he did not see that the county council could do any more to prevent speeding in Dunstone.**

**In answer to a question, Cllr. Mumford spoke about the county council budget problems which had led to the late decision to reduce cutting of county owned grass to twice a year. The decision was regretted by parish councillors.**

### **Item 4. District Councillor Report**

**I am nearing the end of my 4 years as District Councillor. Thank you for your support. I have greatly enjoyed the privilege of representing Yealmpton.**

**I see my role as representing the needs of individuals and the parish collectively. Here are some of the activities during 2010-11.**

- I was able to recommend financial support for the pre school, the junior football team and the twinning association from the District Locality Fund.**
- The Local Plan up to 2016 was approved by a government inspector. This allows 50 dwellings and employment land in the area near Milizac Close. Under South Hams rules 55% of these will be 'affordable'.**
- A further 50 dwellings will be allowed by 2026**
- The application for 22 houses at the former Shire Horse Centre was refused.**  
**There are currently suggestions that the site may revert to some kind of tourist attraction.**

- **The wood chipping company at Yealmbridge ceased operation as a result of South Hams District Council action.**
- **South Hams, Devon CC and Yealmpton Parish Council have worked together to improve the appearance of the village.**
- **I have been active on the joint South Hams and West Devon Steering group to ensure maximum savings from joint working and sharing services by the two councils.**
- **Following the retirement of David Incoll, a new South Hams District Council Chief Executive, Richard Sheard has been appointed.**
- **I am pleased to report that there will be no increase in South Hams District Council tax this year.**

There were no questions

#### **Item 5. Why Vote, Why Stand**

**In the absence of any interested members of the public, the prepared presentations were not given. Keith Baldry spoke about the process of applying and stressed the closing dates for nominations.**

#### **Item 6. Any Other Business**

**Cllr Ebbutt spoke about the possible introduction of public operated speed guns, to reduce traffic speed. He was aware of the use of this equipment in Dartington. There was a discussion, but no conclusions were reached.**