

MINUTES OF THE 2017 YEALMPTON ANNUAL PARISH MEETING HELD ON MONDAY 10th APRIL AT 7.30 pm IN THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

Cllr Craddock in the Chair.

Apologies from Cllrs Blackler and Healy

Present: 9 Parish Councillors and 20 members of the public.

Item 1. Approval of the minutes

Approval of the minutes of the 2016 Annual Parish Meeting was proposed by Cllr Baldry and seconded by Cllr Barton. All agreed.

Item 2. Annual report from Cllr Craddock, Chairman of Parish Council

The past year has seen a number of projects either come to fruition or be newly initiated. These include:

1. Completion of the MUGA – YPC contribution £11,500.
2. Fencing around the playground in Stray Park
3. A major renovation of the Memorial Garden including the provision of a picnic table and clearer signage so residents know it is there. Grant funding of £4,500 was secured. Also renovation of the stone wall along the path to the Church.
4. A new notice board has been installed in Bakery Square and the garden areas by the adjacent car park will be undergoing a makeover later this month.
5. The reinstatement of damage to Silverbridge Way following repairs to the A379 after subsidence.
6. Additional tarmac to improve the resilience of Silverbridge way to flood erosion is imminent, funded by TAP grant.
7. Attempts to improve access to the Post Office and other shops in Coronation Buildings.
8. A successful bid for funds to purchase a flashing 30mph speed sign to be shared with Ermington and Ugborough. This will move around the villages for best effect.
9. A successful bid to secure funding to improve the resilience to flood erosion on FP20 along the river Yealm.
10. Continued lobbying for permission to install a zebra crossing to safeguard children walking to the village school. Councillors have helped with pedestrian surveys to evaluate the need.
11. Weed killing now being done twice a year by our contractor.

Plans to set up a Speed Watch in the village have not yet succeeded as we have not been able to recruit the necessary four volunteers but we continue to hope that those who complain about speeding will come forward to enable us to do something about it.

Keeping our footpaths and pavements in good order has become an increasing challenge in recent years as the cutbacks in government funding have meant severe reductions in what the County and District Councils can do for us. The footpath along the A379 towards Yealmbridge was finally cleared by DCC contractors after repeated complaints about how dangerously narrow it had become but it was not possible to get any assurance that the western end of the village would receive similar treatment in the foreseeable future. To at least in part compensate for the shortfall, we have arranged a trial project with Community Payback (formerly the Probation Service) for supervised workgroups to undertake tasks that can no longer be done by council staff. The initial project was to clear the footpath from the Farm Shop along to the entrance to Silverbridge Way and we are pleased to report that the job has been done well with the removal of accumulated debris giving twice the pavement width in some areas. Using Community Payback is not free to us as we have to pay the costs of the supervisor and transport but it is surely better that offenders contribute positively to society than cost us money keeping them behind bars. We hope to set up an ongoing programme of maintenance to fill in the gaps in future services.

Our budget for the coming year has increased by about £4,000, largely to cover the increasing costs of maintaining the appearance of the village and, for the first time in many years, it has been deemed prudent to set a parish precept equal to our net costs rather than further erode our reserves.

The increased precept for the coming year of £39,000 is still below the average figure for parishes in the South Hams. Since expenditure on local amenities by parish councils is about 3% of our total Council Tax, it means we will all be paying an extra 0.4% overall.

We welcomed a new councillor, Jane Jordan, in January and she will be helping Cllr. Pritchard with ongoing work on the Emergency Plan and other environmental matters. I would like to conclude by thanking all the councillors – and, of course, our Parish Clerk – for all the time and effort they have contributed over the past year.

Item 3a. Annual report from District Cllr Baldry

This is nearing the end of second year as District Councillor for the 2 member Yealmpton – Newton Ward.

I am the Leader of the Opposition and am on the following Committees: Overview and Scrutiny, Licensing, Budget Setting, Waste and Refuse.

There have been by elections during the year with the election, John Birch (Lib Dem) and Beth Huntley (Lib Dem). The latter was caused by the resignation of the Deputy Leader of the Council Lindsay Ward.

During the year I have recommended payments from the SHDC Locality Fund to 5 organisations within our parish: the Pre School, Rainbows, the Brownies, YAGA, Junior Table Tennis.

The joint DCC/SHDC TAP fund allocated £4500 to Silverbridge Way and £1800 to Yealmpton Caring.

SHDC has arranged for Yealmpton people to use Plymouth CAB

The scheme for SHDC Locality Officers has in my view been a success and they are able to give on the ground advice and service to our villages.

Dog fouling is on the increase and I have pushed for the Localities team to give this a higher priority.

The idea to create a Local Authority Controlled Company, effectively privatising the bulk of South Hams work has been dropped.

As usual I have dealt with local planning applications.

‘Fusion Lifestyle’ has taken over the 3 Leisure Centres, including Ivybridge.

Last month the Plymouth and South West Devon Joint Local Plan was approved by SHDC and is in a consultation period with the public. The purpose of the JLP is to provide a framework for growth in our area up until 2034. Inter alia it covers housing, employment land and transport. I voted against the adoption. I feel the Plan is approving the building of vast numbers of houses which are outside the price range which can be afforded by those whose employment is essential for the provision of local services.

Item 3b. Annual report from District Cllr Blackler

Devon and Cornwall housing owns 23300 homes, 3700 in the South Hams, they hope to build more including some for the open market to help pay for the affordable housing ones. Their starter homes hopefully will be in the price range £120/140000.

121 affordable houses will be in the first phase of Sherford.

The number of empty houses in October in the South Hams was 600 now reduced to 350.

In 2017/18 the replacement vehicle fleet will cost approx £594,000 at South Hams.

The Joint Local Plan is now out to consultation for the public until 26th April.

SHDC has been awarded £1.881m from community housing fund for affordable housing.

Devon County Elections will be held this May.

Item 4. Annual report from County Cllr Hosking

1. The County Council elections take place on 4th May 2017 and will select Devon County Councillors for the next four years to 2021. The Boundary Commission have made significant changes to the boundary of the Yealmpton Division, at the same time as reducing the number of Councillors in the County from 62 to 60. The new South Brent and Yealmpton Division will include the Parishes of Ermington, Holbeton, Newton Ferrers & Noss Mayo, Ugborough and Yealmpton from the previous Yealmpton Division, to which are added Dean Prior, Diptford, Holne, North Huish, Rattery, South Brent and West Buckfastleigh from the previous South Brent and Dartington Division, making a total of twelve Parishes. Please ensure that you vote.
2. The Budget has continued to dominate policy at County Hall with a further reduction of £23 million in the Central Support Grant paid by Central Government in 2016/17. The majority of services we now provide are statutory and cannot be cut. The budget for Adult Social Services has been increased by 9.7% in 2017/18 as a response to increased demand and an increase in the unit cost of provision of care. We plan to draw £14 million from our reserves next year, and the level of our reserves is such that we must manage our cash flow carefully. The Chancellor's budget on 8th March provided very welcome relief in the form of a £2 billion allocation for Social Services to help the "Living Well at Home" integration of social services with NHS nursing care in the community over the next 3 years. For Devon this translates to £15 million for the 2017/18 financial year. The fund is targeted but we are hoping that it will relieve pressure on our reserves.
3. The roll out of Broadband by Connecting Devon & Somerset continues with the award of the Phase II contract to Gigaclear, who are providing a fibre to the premises solution with Ultrafast speeds of up to 100 Gbs per second in some areas. Phase II is the next 5% of premises in the programme which follows Phase I which has made Highspeed Broadband available to about 90% of premises in the two Counties. The objective of the programme remains to make Highspeed Broadband available to all premises in Devon & Somerset by 2020. Airband have introduced Microwave technology to Dartmoor and Exmoor, and this and Satellite technology offer many remote premises alternatives to the Phase I & II Schemes. The Voucher Scheme has provided for some a £500 grant towards an alternative technology connection for those not included in Phase I & II who have a download speed of less than 2 Mbs per second.
4. Devon County Council is responsible for about two thirds of the schools in Devon, the remainder of which are Academies and Free Schools who receive their funding direct from Central Government. About 93% of the County Council maintained schools have an Ofsted rating of Good or Outstanding which is an excellent record. This is even more remarkable in the light of funding for Devon's Schools being £290 below the national average. Much has been made in the local press about a "cut" of £33 per pupil from School funding, however this is not a cut but a reallocation between the three budgets provided by the Dedicated Schools Grant from Central Government. This reallocation is in accordance with a Central Government Code of Practice to offer children with Special Education Needs a better deal. To fund education from County Council funds would set a dangerous precedent and reduce what we have available for social services, transport and our roads. Devon County Council believe that the £290

per pupil deficit in average funding to Devon's Schools is inequitable and we are lobbying our MPs hard to redress this imbalance in the Fair Funding Review.

5. The County has successfully closed its nursing homes in the 2016/17 year and now provides this service by commissioning Care Home beds in the Private Sector. This has reduced cost and released capital for reinvestment in infrastructure and capital projects.
6. The Library service in Devon has been transferred to a new Public Service Mutual which will be eligible for additional funding and has fiscal advantages for the 50 existing libraries. There are about four new and planned libraries in the pipeline in the County. Unlike some other Counties Devon has succeeded in retaining all of its libraries by adopting this model. The County retains ultimate responsibility should any of the voluntary organisations run into difficulty.
7. Andrew Moulding the County Chairman opened Ivybridge waste recycling centre in early March and I hope you agree this provides an excellent new and easier to use facility for the locality.
8. The County have awarded a new Highways Term Maintenance Contract to Skanska who will be trading as Devon Highways. The Tender produced a potential 7% saving on the cost of Term Maintenance which will be used to maintain the condition of more roads. The Highways team have been successful in winning funding by competitive bidding to secure an additional 11 million to supplement a budget which is currently running at significantly less than the annual cost of maintaining our roads in good condition.
9. The County Council is very grateful for all assistance provided by Parishes whether through Road Warden, Snow Warden, Parish Lengthsmen or other contribution that help the County maintain its roads through this period of budgetary austerity.
10. Thank you for making me welcome at your Parish Council over the past three years since the by-election of 2014. I have enjoyed being your representative at County Hall, believe there is much more I can achieve and very much hope that I will have this opportunity after 4th May.

Item 5. Annual report from PCSO Andy Potter

- Making off from petrol station without payment 10, Theft 6, Dwelling burglary 2, Non dwelling burglary 3, Damage to motor vehicle 3, Theft of motor vehicle 1, Theft from motor vehicle 2, Assaults 10, Drink/drive offences 3, Dog not under control 8, Nuisance phone calls 4, Public order offences 5, Drunk & Disorderly 1, Blackmail 1.
- Total 59 compared to 45 last year.

Item 6. Community First Responders by Dr Dick Page

Dr Page gave us a short presentation regarding the need for volunteers to be trained up as "First Responders" in the villages of Yealmpton. Whilst a Defibrillator is available in the village (outside the surgery building), it needs to be understood that if an individual has a heart attack or heart malfunction, **then only 4 minutes** are available before death is likely due

to oxygen starvation to the body. First Responders trained in CPR (cardiopulmonary resuscitation) can extend this time period until the Defibrillator is brought to the site.

Dr Page appealed to those present to consider becoming First Responders for our community.

Item 7. Reports from Village Clubs and Organisations.

A. Rifle Club report by John Alexander.

Yealmpton & District Rifle Club has had another successful year.

We won the Plymouth & District Winter League for the ninth consecutive year. In that time we have shot 92 matches in that League, winning 90. Coincidentally the two matches we lost were both held on a December 1st. - in 2006 and 2016. For 8 of the last 9 years, the P&D Individual Championship has also been won by Yealmpton members.

Eleven of our members have represented Devon at some time over the last year. Another member has shot in the national Civil Service team.

Our Club Champion in Prone Rifle won the County “Champion of Champions” competition and we also have the current LSR County Champion.

Many members also shoot outdoors and half a dozen or so go to the National Championships at Bisley each year, bringing back many Championship Medals between them. One member has twice been invited to the preliminary trials for the GB team. The top 40 go forward to the final trials with the top 20 becoming the team. Unfortunately our man was 21st in the final trials.

In the Civil Service Leagues, our ‘B’ Team won Div.4 of the Summer League 2016. They then beat all other Divisional winners to win the Hayes Cup. They have now won Div. 4 in both the Winter League 16/17 and the ‘Vickers Bowl’ League. Our “A” team was runner up in Div. 1 of both Leagues.

11 Yealmpton members each shot in different Divs. of the Civ. Serv. Individual Winter League. There were 6 winners and 2 runners-up. Another won the Bench-rest Div.2

In the Dorset League, our “A” team won Div.2, the “C” team won Div.4, and the “B” team was 3rd in Div 3.

There are 60 teams competing in 6 Divisions of the Devon County League and both our “A” and “B” teams are in Div. 2. The “A” team finished in 2nd place. They could have won, but they lost to the “B” team in round 17 having drawn with them Round 8.

Yealmpton also organises an Annual International match between the Plymouths of the world. Now in its 17th year, the Plymouths taking part have included Plymouths in New Hampshire and Indiana USA and New Plymouth in New Zealand.

The top 6 scores from each Plymouth form their ‘A’ team, the next six their ‘B’ team and so on. For the last few years the UK Plymouth team has had five of its ‘A’ team coming from Yealmpton! (Plymouth UK has won 14 of the 16 matches held so far)

The club supports the Yealmpton Sports Gala each year, with an Air Rifle competition.

B. Brownie report by Lesley Mackay.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to be able to thank Yealmpton parish council for the funding support received for the group. It was very much appreciated especially the Rainbow group who struggle to make ends meet because it is a smaller group.

I'd also like to thank Councillor Baldry for his support for the groups which led to us to receiving some funding via the South Hams Sustainability Grant. The groups rely on termly subscriptions from the parents and carers of the girls who are members of the groups.

There has always been a tradition of Girl Guiding in the parish. At the present time I am the Volunteer leader in charge of Rainbows and Brownies. I have a team of volunteers who support the Brownie group in particular. Parents are really helpful in running the Rainbow group. We also have 3 girls who are doing their D of E awards who come along and help regularly as part of their community service.

Girl Guiding UK has been around a long time! It is a charity registered organisation with a unique set of values; the commonality linking all groups being the promise. It is also a movement just for girls across the UK.

Between the age of 5 and 7 you can be a Rainbow. At the moment there is a thriving group of 14 and a list of girls waiting to join once they become 5. Rainbows look, learn laugh and love. These are the common themes around all they do. The emphasis is on fun and they wear distinctive T shirts and their metal promise badge. We get out and about – especially appreciating the fenced off play area in the local park where they can play safely. We sing, we cook, we make things, we play games and most of all we love chatting! It is a mad hour every week during term time! The funding received has helped buy equipment and high quality resources for the girl's activities. As we are a small group (just coming up to be open for a year) balancing the finances is tricky especially as we have to pay an annual subscription to Girl Guiding each year – (that was £29.50 per girl/adult volunteer last month!) So any additional funding donations to this group are greatly appreciated!

Between the ages of 7 – 10 (often 11 as they don't usually want to leave!) you can be a Brownie.

This group is considerably oversubscribed at the moment as the group is full - overfull! There will be between 25 and 30 girls at any one time attending every week next term and the term after. This group is run by a team of volunteers of mixed ages and I am very grateful to them. The girls have involvement in choosing the activities we do. They love to earn badges and they too wear a distinctive uniform and yellow promise badges. They love to chat and make decisions about what they want to do in "Pow wow" time around the toadstool! They play games; love being outside, do arts and crafts, learn about life skills and from time to time do community activities such as fund raising for a chosen charity or beach cleans. We try and have an annual campfire, (Thanks to the school we used the orchard last summer) and annual sleepover and also do joint activities with our Brownie friends from Modbury. We are

planning another sleepover and campfire before the summer holidays. We are also hoping to go off site and get involved in other adventurous activities in the future. Additional funding for this group means we can buy high quality resources and those all important badges that the girls love to earn. As with the Rainbows an annual subscription has to be paid to Girl Guiding UK. Once the girls are 10 they should move on to Guides. (Often they stay until they are 11!) There isn't a Guide group here at the moment so they have to go outside the area either to Plymstock, Plympton or Ivybridge. So there's an opportunity for someone with some time energy – get a Guide group up and running again!

I hope that my report gives you a flavour of what we get up to each week and at other times. Again I must say how grateful for all the help and support I have from the volunteers and parents who come each week and help make it all happen for so many girls in the local area.

C. Bridge report by Terry Leadbetter

Yealmpton Bridge Club has met in the Community Centre every Tuesday evening since September 2011.

The club is essentially a very informal gathering, happy to play a few friendly games over a couple of hours. We do not offer instruction but offer an ideal opportunity for those learning the game to practice in an atmosphere of low-level competition. No subscription is charged and a table fee of £2 per person per evening covers our room rent and overheads.

We have organised a local version of the game (aptly named Yealm Bridge!) which allows people to join in without needing to bring a partner. Our membership reflects this in the number of single, elderly players, mainly from the village and adjoining areas.

D. Dementia report by Maxine Kennedy

Dementia support started in the Yealm Villages in 2012. 68 families are now being supported across 5 villages. Awareness sessions have been held this spring and will restart next spring. Support groups have been set up for 'Arts & Crafts', 'Gentle Exercise', 'Reading', 'Singing', 'Monthly tea sessions' and 'Special 1-to-1' sessions.

We have national and international recognition and are part of the Prime Minister's "Challenge for Rural Dementia". Thanks to YPC for their continued support. Cllr Fiona Pritchard is our link for the 5 parishes.

E. Yealmpton Athletics and Recreation Association by Peter Cook

The Athletics Association holds a long lease for the sports field courtesy of The Kitley Estate. The facility is situated opposite Riverford Farm shop.

The Association objective is to maintain the sports field and promote its use for the benefit of Yealmpton and the surrounding area.

The Association members are currently The Cricket Club, The Bowls Club, The Rifle Club and Youth of Yealmpton. It is entirely voluntary and self funded.

Yealmpton Cricket

The cricket team has a senior team which plays twenty over cricket on summers evenings and 40 over cricket on Sundays. All standards are welcome as we have fun fixtures and also more serious fixtures in our programme. Contact Simon Caunter 07767 350870

We also run three junior teams for under 11's, under 13's and under 15's. Contact Helen Atkinson sanjhel@talktalk.net

Club nights from this year will be Fridays where we will be including a BBQ and licensed bar for people to enjoy when this year's long hot summer arrives.

Yealmpton Bowls Club

It is a friendly and successful village club formed to encourage the playing of flat green bowls by young and old alike and to foster the fellowship which is an important part of the game.

New members of any age are always welcome and will be given free coaching. Please contact the Honorary Secretary – Fred Lewis 01752 872058 or Club Coach – Colin Burgess 01752 880472.

Yealmpton Rifle Club

The sports field also has a rifle club with an indoor rifle range. For details contact jonalex@supanet.com

Football

There is currently no Yealmpton Football club but we have a long term relationship with Chaddlewood Miners FC who play Saturday senior Football. Contact for Chaddlewood FC is Paul Solomon 07980 863792.

We have recently had an enquiry from a local Youth football team who would like to use the pitch from next year.

We welcome recreational use of the field and see many walkers and children enjoying the beauty that surrounds us. We do suffer from some careless dog owners and ask everyone to care of the facility for the benefit of everyone.

Fund Raising and maintainance. Our main fund raising events are the Duck Race which is held in July and The Sports Day held in September and we ask you to continue your generous support as it cost us several thousand pounds each year to maintain the facilities.

Hire of facilities

The club house and field is available for hire and it makes a great venue for children's birthday parties. The local Rotary club and others have also used the facility for day time social events such as BBQ's. Call Peter Cook on 07834 986307 for details.

We are always keen to see local people enjoying our wonderful environment and joining our local sports club. So why not get yourself active and call one of the contacts above.

F. 1st Brixton and Yealmpton Scouts by Bob Sheldrake

Group has been going for over fifty years. We meet at the Scout Hut in Brixton. Hut was a Second World War first aid hut from Callishan Cross. Land owner allows us the use of the land for a peppercorn rent.

Beavers, age range from six to eight years and currently we have 14 boys and girls.

Cub Scouts, age range from eight to ten and a half and currently we have 27 boys and girls.

Activities for Beavers and Cubs over last twelve months, not including their general scout activity work and proficiency badges, includes: Parent and child camp, Rock Climbing, Surfing, Kayaking, Shooting, Coastal walk and not forgetting BBQs and parties.

Scouts, age range to fourteen and a half and currently we have 8 boys.

Activities, again in addition to their general activity work and proficiency badges , includes: Craft skills with wood and clay, Engineering (working on Lawn mower engines), Week long summer camp, General hiking, one over two days with night under canvas, Shooting, Backwoods and outdoor cooking and again not forgetting BBQs and parties. We have one boy putting himself forward to attend next World Scout Jamboree in USA.

We also support Remembrance Service in either Brixton or Yealmpton

We are a voluntary organisation. Self funding all our activities as well as maintaining premises and equipment. Feoffe have been good to us with a few grants, but generally money is hard to come by. Leaders, always a problem even though at moment we are blessed with keen, young people. Not only front line but support as Treasurer, group executive etc. Main problem is hut. Old, difficult to heat, surrounding mud during winter also damp etc.

Benefits/opportunities for young people are enormous. Look at what we have done and movement has much more to offer. Basically nothing on offer that scouting does not cover. Scout training is beneficial if joining services and employers are now recognising that Queen Scout Award is of higher standard than D of E. This in addition to teaching young people life skills.

Finance. Always a problem. But then we get by as we have done for well over one hundred years.

G. Twinning Association report by Tim Bishop.

Formed to promote goodwill between Yealmpton and Milizac (in France). Founded in 1988, we now have 69 members. Fund raising for our 30th anniversary has been a big task for this year as we need about £2000 to provide full hospitality to our guests next year. We will be hosing 20 families in August 2018. We welcome new members and need more under 60 !!

H. Yealmpton Woodland Burial Association by Mike Cosby.

Set up 15 years ago by Linda and Roger Durman when the churchyard was closed. There is a 199 year lease on the 9 acre field known as “Lower Hedddon” off the Puslinch to Newton Ferrers road. The company is now limited by guarantee. The burial site is non-denominational and accepts burials, ashes burial and ashes scattering.

Recent improvements have been the provision of a field shelter and a track around the whole field area.

You may join the Association at any time and receive a certificate for later use.

I. Yealm Art Society report by Sue Denny

Yealm Art Society is in its 20th year and continues to thrive. We have approximately 70 members who come from the riparian parishes of the Yealm and other neighbouring communities. Membership is £12 per annum.

During the year we hold member sessions on Tuesday evenings when we invite artists to come along to demonstrate techniques. We sometime show films with artistic content and participation evenings when we experiment in different mediums.

Workshops take place on Saturdays in the Community Centre in Yealmpton when tutors, some who are very well known artists, instruct us in improving our skills and opening our eyes to different mediums and processes. These sessions are open to members and non members and are very well supported.

Two painting groups use the Parish Room to paint together on Mondays. We are very grateful for this ideal venue.

Every year the society holds an exhibition of members work. It is to be held at the village hall Noss Mayo over the coming Easter weekend. We expect a large number of visitors as the area attracts many visitors to over the holiday period.

If you would like any further information do have a look at our web site or contact a member of the committee.

J. Yealmpton Agricultural Show Society by John Brookes.

The show is held annually on the fields adjacent to Kitley House by kind permission of the Bastard family. James Bastard is the current President. It is held on the last Wednesday in July and this year will be the 130th show. There will be a special flower display to celebrate this birthday.

The success of the show is very dependent on the weather and a fine morning is a pre-requisite! It costs about £50,000 to run the show of which about half is to set up all the marquees etc. 2016 was financially successful.

Continued success needs new members and volunteers and we always need younger blood.

The purpose of the show is to demonstrate country life to all the attendees. Interests covered are: crafts, shooting, riding, cattle, sheep, goats, small animals, food hall, flower shows and even vintage machinery. There is always something to interest everyone.

K. Yealmpton & Brixton WI by Christina Stapley.

The Yealmpton and Brixton WI is a thriving women's group, who meet once a month in the Methodist Hall on the 1st Wednesday of each month at 7.30pm. The group is a member of the Devon Federation, and the National Federation of Women's Institutes.

Membership

The current total membership is 78. WI numbers have been consistently between 60 and 80 people during recent years, and it is interesting to note that there were 60 members when the Institute started in January 1921. Approximately 60 persons usually attend each meeting. Membership is open to all ages. Our oldest member is 90 years young. Members are all active members of the community and consider themselves to be in the prime of life, but it would be nice to encourage a few younger members of the two villages to join.

Activities

The monthly meeting is both a social gathering, and an educational and informative platform, when many local issues are discussed, proposals put forward and plans made for members to take part in community and individual pursuits. There is usually a guest speaker, and the many varied and interesting topics covered during the past twelve months range from 'The Solar System', 'The Queen's Private Jewellery', The History of Lawson's, Acupuncture History and Benefits, Paignton Zoo Then and Now, A Lidl shopping experience, and Children's Hospice (SW) 25 years. Future talks include "One woman, one harem and one thousand cows", 'The Ups and Downs of managing an hotel' 'Dartmoor Search and Rescue', and 'Story Book Dads HMP Channings Wood'. Although the WI is a women's group, male attendance is always welcome if particular topics are of interest.

There are several smaller groups who take part in regular activities. These include a craft group, a choir, two walking groups, as well as skittles and quiz teams.

The Craft Group meet on Tuesday mornings at Brixton in the Community Room and is limited to 20 persons because of the space available. The group is currently full.

Many members have recently taken part in a Devon initiative crafting individual poppies, which will be displayed at the Devon County show in May. The target of 11,000 poppies, each one representing a person from Devon who died in WW2 has already been reached.

The choir meets on Thursday afternoons in the Methodist Hall. They regularly entertain at various groups and care homes in the area, as well as performing at concerts.

The walking group is divided in two, both meeting on a Monday once a month. The Happy Wanderers for those less able to walk far tend to go on short less strenuous strolls in the local area, while the more active walkers go for a 4 to 5 mile hike and all frequently use their bus passes (as most members are eligible) to go further afield. Recent walks have been to Dartmouth, Ermington, Slapton, Totnes, and Dartington.

There is also the annual Spring Snowdrop walk around Yealmpton followed by a soup and a dessert lunch when other WIs' are invited to participate. This is a very popular event, and always well supported.

The WI members also take part in a number of fund raising events and volunteer organisations, offering practical and financial support. WI members are represented in such projects as Dementia Friendly Parishes, the Village Emergency Plan, and Brixton Neighbourhood Plan. Members regularly drop in to the Yealmpton and Brixton Caring coffee mornings on a Friday.

A number of charitable organisations such as St Luke's Hospice, Syrian Refugees, Children's Hospice (SW), Dementia Friendly Parishes, have benefited from fund raising events such as coffee mornings, table top sales, collections, etc. In November each year the WI holds a coffee morning for a named charity. Over the past 12 months over £750 has been donated to good causes.

Other activities, in which members have taken part during the past 12 months are, a two day visit to London and Buckingham Palace, a tour of Sharpham Vineyard, and attendance at Denman College near Oxford, which is owned by the Women's Institute National Federation and provides an extensive and varied ranges courses. Two bursaries of £200 are offered each year for members to attend a course of their choice.

Conclusion

Yealmpton and Brixton WI continues to be a vigorous and thriving women's group, which supports the two villages and the wider community and offers interesting and social activities for all ages.

L. Yealmpton Bowls Club by Bryan Parsons.

The club has members from Yealmpton, Brixton, Newton & Noss and Holbeton. Members play in competitions all round the country but the principle activity is based on the Evening League and the Saturday League.

Currently there are 68 members but we need new members. So come along and try it out on a Tuesday morning at 10 am. Flat shoes please !

M. Yealm Harbour Authority and Estuary Management Group by John Endicott.

Yealmpton Parish Council has representation on the River Yealm Harbour Authority and the Yealm Estuary Management Group. Both these bodies have websites for further information.

RYHA <http://www.yealmharbourauthority.co.uk/#1>

YEMG <http://www.southdevonaonb.org.uk/coast-countryside/estuaries/yealm-estuary/yealm-estuary-management-group-meetings>

RYHA (River Yealm Harbour Authority)

It is the duty of the authority to administer the harbour in the interests of those who use it in accordance with relevant acts and bylaws.

There are monthly meetings where monetary control is maintained and all other aspects of managing the harbour are dealt with. The annual meeting, open to anyone, is on Thursday 20th April 2017 @ 1800 in Noss Village Hall.

- Last year saw visitor numbers up but like most local harbours activity is quiet.
- Harbour dues were maintained at pre-2008 levels
- Mooring licence fees also remained unchanged
- A new harbour master has been appointed and starts shortly due to the retirement of Bob Dearn.
- A new camera system was commissioned for 24/7 surveillance of the pool area.
- Theft unfortunately is an issue in this estuary.

YEMG (Yealm Estuary Management Group)

1. The group is all about “The care and management of the Yealm Estuary”
2. Primarily to promote awareness and appreciation of the Yealm Estuary
3. There is a Yealm Estuary management plan (under review)
4. There are two meetings a year
5. Open to anyone

The group is supported by the AONB estuaries officer.

The last meeting discussed a wide array of activities concerning the estuary.

- AONB Planning Guidance progress.
- Bio-Security Action Plan (to do with invasive species).
- Pacific Oysters are major issue locally.
- How money that is collected from developers to cover environmental issues bought about by increased recreational demands is being spent locally.
- Report from Devon & Severn Inshore Fisheries and Conservation Authority. Issues about shellfish collection.
- N&N Neighbourhood Plan was introduced briefly.
- Wembury and Yealmpton sewerage works had issues discussed.
- WOLF mine workings are being extended and runoff has potential to enter the Yealm. This was discussed.
- Various illegal fishing activities were observed during the year. Unfortunately, no action could be taken.

N. Yealmpton Community Association (YCA) by Geoff Craddock

The YCA exists to provide facilities for the residents of Yealmpton Parish. The YCA building (attached to the Primary School) lets out rooms for all tyres of village and group activities. Until recently, all the rooms were booked every evening of the week but recently some evening spaces have become available.

The committee is seeking new members in all age groups.

ITEM 8. Any Other Business

1. Mrs Mears asked about gardening work currently in hand in Bakery Square and expressed concern that good plants were being removed. The Chairman agreed to contact Mrs Mears to answer her concerns.

The meeting was closed by the chairman at 9.30 pm.

Michael Stickland, Clerk to the Council

April 15th 2017