# YETMINSTER’S ANNUAL PARISH MEETING

# MINUTES

# Held At St Andrew’s School at 7.00pm on Wednesday 20th April 2016

Present: Cllr Gould, DCllr Lawrence, Cllr Goater, Cllr Plaice, Cllr Knight, Cllr Howes and approximately 10 members of the public.

### **INTRODUCTION** – Cllr Gould introduced the meeting and welcomed residents.

### **APOLOGIES** -Cllr Torrance, CCllr Bevan

3. **APPROVE MINUTES OF VILLAGE MEETING 15TH APRIL 2015**- The minutes were approved and signed by the Chairman.

### 4. **REPORT BY THE CHAIR**

This report covers the most important items discussed or agreed at Council Meetings. They are in no particular order. It is fair to say that it has been a busy year for the Parish Council and I would like to begin by thanking all councillors and the clerk for their help and support over the year.

**Parish Plan**.

This is now complete and was formally launched on May 18th 2015. Some actions have been completed – such as the new road signs – but recently follow up has been put somewhat on the backburner as the Neighbourhood Plan must take precedence in view of current planning applications

**Neighbourhood Plan**

Over the last 6 months the Plan Project Team have set up three ‘drop in’ consultation sessions on the proposal for a Neighbourhood Plan. Whilst the turn out and interest was not perhaps as high as the Council would have wanted, the sessions have resulted in 30 plus volunteers to help with the plan. The Council therefore have decided that there is sufficient support in the villages for such a plan and formal application has been made to the District Council for permission to proceed. This will be given within the month. It is important to note that from now on the project will be run by the community eg the volunteers, and not by the Parish Council. Residents will be consulted at every step. It is intended to complete the plan within 12 months as the further down the road we are with the plan the more weight will be given to it by the Planning Inspector at the Ryme Road and Folly Farm appeals.

**Planning**

After significant consultation between the developer and affected residents, the Croft Cottage application was reduced to one house. Whilst the Council continued to object the District Council approved the application. We look forward to the Leylandii coming down!

An outline application for 87 houses on land between the school and Folly Farm was objected to. This objection was supported by the District Council and the application refused. An appeal has recently been lodged. They have also put in a revised application about which there will be village meeting in early May if we can arrange one. This revised application will be rigorously resisted by the Council but we need plenty of backing from residents.

An outline application for 98 house on the North Side of Ryme Road has caused significant uproar in the village and resulted in over 100 objections from residents. The Parish Council supported by the local branch of the Campaign to Protect Rural England objected in forceful terms. The District Council had not made a determination within the statutory time so for procedural reasons Gladman’s the developer has gone to appeal. The District Council has subsequently determined that they will object and I understand that their objection has been judged sound by a QC. The Appeal will take place sometime in the summer/early autumn and I have asked that it takes place in the Jubilee Hall but if not it will be in Dorchester. We need to show a determined objection from many residents at this appeal as we do with the Folly Farm one.

Please note that every adult in a household can put in an objection to a planning application and if the application goes to appeal, objections can be amended or enhanced. Also additional residents may object.

An application for a house in Mill Lane was resisted by the Council who were supported by the District Council and the application refused.

**Road Works**

The recent trench works caused significant disruption in the villages. Unfortunately it was not something the Parish Council could have much influence on but the Chairman and others tried hard to get the contractors to ameliorate the disruption. Attempts are still being made to obtain some compensation for the disruption but are currently being met with silence by the contractor.

**Speed Cameras**

This continues, numerous speeders and users of mobile phones have been reported to the police. We now have 14 volunteers which is good. In addition the team has carried out a traffic census and established that on weekdays some 1400 vehicles use the road through Ryme and 2000 the Thornford Road.

**Precept**

It has been necessary to raise the precept by £600 this year. This is approximately £1 per household. The rise was necessary to cover extra expenses which arose last year and anticipated further extra expenses. A further rise may well be necessary next year.

**Jubilee Hall Car Park**

A grant of £3144 was made to the Jubilee Hall to assist in the costs of tarmacing the car park. This grant was S106 money – money provided by developers which can be used locally in certain circumstances

**Dog Fouling**

Once again I am including this in the report in the somewhat vain hope that the perpetrator’s owners might sit up and take notice. Quite frankly the amount of dog fouling in the village is a disgrace and some owners should be ashamed of themselves. Despite warnings, dog fouling on the Sports Field, which incidentally is illegal, continues. Warning Notices have now been placed and if the problem continues the Council will seriously consider banning dogs entirely from the field, except on the lead along the public footpath. I can only reiterate what I say with monotonous regularity. ‘Clean up after your dog’

**Village Clean Up**

A village clean up under the aegis of ‘Clean for the Queen’ was carried in both villages over a weekend in April. 22 people turned out for Ryme and 6 for Yetminster. I am sure Yetminster residents could do better!!. In any event let’s hope we can keep the villages clean from now on.

**Web Site**

This has been greatly improved and contains much useful information such as what’s going on in the village and police crime alerts. So I recommend its use.

**Councillors**

Councillor Lawrence has resigned from the Council and Mr Geoff Goater and Mr John House have been co-opted onto the Council. We are still short of councillors!!

5. **comments from ELECTORS, WITH PARTICULAR FOCUS ON THE neighbourhood PLAN**.

**Yetminster Fair** – report from Cllr Torrance. There will be a fair this year on Saturday 9th July and as well as stalls and entertainment in the high street we have some of the Boyles field where we will have children's rides and more stalls and a further stage.

The hall will have displays from local clubs and the scouts will do cream teas. There will be a display of restored cars in the hall car park and the church will be dressed with flowers. The white hart will be open all day and will host the traditional Pym's and hymns on Sunday. All the proceeds will go to local clubs and organisations

**Speed Camera** - Cllr Knight reported that there are now 24 members, 11 in Ryme. No one was aware of what the speed camera equipment in the village were for.

**DCllr Lawrence** – view from West Dorset County Council. DCllr Lawrence asked if anyone was interested in the Best village of the year, anyone can organise the event it is not just the remit of the PC. No support noted. Last October the Local plan for the WDDC and Weymouth & Portland was adopted by all members of the Council. In the draft of the local plan there was an issue of the number of houses to be built, the council demonstrated they have reached their numbers, so there is now a 5 year supply, with little to spare. The housing development focus on the towns but Yetminster is classed as a large village and cannot be ignored for development.

 Moving forward together in WDDC. Cllr Lawrence outlined the alternatives for the council formation, members have rejected the options for a single pan-Dorset. In a joint statement the leaders have agreed that a new approach much be found.

 The budget is balance for 2016/2017, the funding forecast for the next 3 years means changes in the future in how the council works. Reduction in costs have already taken place but there will need to be a reduction in costs by £11 million by 2020. The District Councils Partnership sees a single workforce but each council sets its own budget, council tax and maintains its own identity and sovereignty. This will come to full council late 2016 and later before parliament.

 Election Day is May 5th 2016. This will be for both Police and Crime Commissioner in Dorset and also a referendum on the management of WDDC.

 Dog owners as from 6th April will be required to be micro chipped.

 Right stuff right bin – kerbside recycling is now available across Dorset.

 Planning date for Folly Farm application is 14th May 2016.

**Cllr Goater** encouraged people to vote in the referendum on the 5th May – information on the website.

The Annual Parish meeting Closed.

**MEETING OF THOSE WHO OBJECTED TO RYME ROAD DEVELOPMENT'**

Cllr Gould explained that this meeting might not be beneficial as there had already been a previous meeting to cover questions. But due to timings and the difficulty of circulating information it was agreed to take questions on planning applications. The reason Gladmans was making an appeal was due to WDDC not making a decision within the allocated time scale. WDDC had requested further information. The meeting for this appeal will not be taken in public and therefore this meeting may serve no purpose.

 Mr M Powyles. – asked if people should write in and objection for the new application. Everyone could continue to write in and details of who to write to are on the website. It was emphasised that each letter should be individual not a circular.

 J Howes - asked how does Gladmans get away with the abuse of process? DCllr Lawrence felt that this would come up in the final report.

 A resident asked if the Planning inspectorate and WDDC would find it advantageous to take appeals at the same time? DCllr Lawrence responded that this could not take place as each application had to be taken on its own merits.

 There was a discussion regarding the benefit of the Neighbourhood Plan and if the appeal goes into later next year then the neighbourhood plan would be in place and have some weight.

 Mr M Powleys asked about Cllr Legg response to the weight of the inspector’s letter against the Local Plan. It was agreed that this was the key question that would be discussed within the appeal.

Carinna Vickers

Clerk to the Council