

The Annual Parish Meeting was held in the Village Hall on Wednesday 22nd April 2009 at 7.30 pm under the chairmanship of Cllr. Denham.

1. **Apologies for absence** were received from Cllrs Mason, Sellers, Whiting and Mrs Bint.
2. **Minutes.** The minutes of the 2008 meeting, as circulated, were adopted and signed.
3. **Police report:** There had been 39 crimes for 08/09 as against 30 in 07/08 – mostly shed burglaries and assaults. Parking obstructions and speeding were ongoing issues. The community messaging system has been introduced.
4. **Chairman's report:** The Chairman gave a wide-ranging report, paying tribute to new, existing and past members of the Council and the retiring Clerk, and thanking the Tree Warden, District and County Councillors for all their work on behalf of the Parish. She summarised planning issues for the year, the recently completed children’s playground, work on footpaths and the Emergency Plan. Affordable housing is at the planning stage, and at less local level, the Boundary Committee proposals and Regional Spatial Strategy were mentioned. A raised table outside the Village hall is in prospect, and a review of speed limits in the County was underway. The Millennium Copse could not be taken over owing to legal difficulties, but land already in the Council’s care is being well-tended. The possibility of part-night lighting was being investigated, and the revised waste collection arrangements have finally settled down.
5. **Committee for Uplyme Playground (CUP) report:** Cllr Clarke-Irons reported on both the successes (grants from Gemini Radio Trust, C Cllr Rogers, Grassroots Fund, Pre-School and Toddler group, installation of the big slide, gates and a playhouse) and disappointments (vandalism, safety defects and mole activity) of the past year. He was pleased to report how popular the playground was, with some parents coming from as far as Honiton.
6. **County Councillor’s report:** Margaret Rogers reported on Devon’s performance. Matters of specific interest to Uplyme included the repair of potholes, gritting, and HGV routes.
7. **District Councillor’s report:** Ken George’s report included EDDC’s legal case against the Boundary Committee., noted that a subsidy was available for moving to a smaller council house, and that public participation was encouraged at EDDC meetings.

Following this report, there was a heated discussion about the limited role of the Parish Plan in informing planning decisions and recommendations made by the Ward Member, and the lack of local (parish-level) democratic input into planning decisions, exacerbated by very restricted public notification on site.

The poor standard of decisions on tree applications was discussed at length. The disreputable appearance of the Lydwell House site was deplored, and the ongoing problem of spurious “for sale” signs in Burrowshot woods was noted for action by the District Councillor.

The efficiency of repeat visits to repair potholes in the same stretch of road was questioned by parishioners, and no discretion by the contractor seems to be allowed.

Signed
Chairman

Date