

## Notes from the monthly Council meeting, 10<sup>th</sup> July 2013

### Planning: Applications determined at the meeting:

- **Uplyme Village Hall Lyme Road.** Construction of verandah (*sic*) (covered canopy) on south west elevation. *The Parish Council does not object to this application.*
- **Fir View Harcombe.** Construction of replacement bungalow. *The Parish Council does not object to this application.*
- **Land North East Of Cheesecombe Cottage Harcombe.** The Council felt there was not enough information in this application to respond.

**Neighbourhood Plan:** at a recent meeting in Lyme, it was obvious that LRTC and WDDC are very keen to have a joint plan for Lyme Regis and Uplyme so that “the district and parish councils can work together effectively to plan for the necessary growth to meet the needs of both Lyme Regis and Uplyme communities” – but it was observed that most of the benefit would likely be to Lyme Regis which has very limited possibilities for expansion, and that it was hard to reconcile the needs of a rural parish with those of a town.

Councillors saw no reason to change their mind on “going it alone”, and await the decision of the EDDC Cabinet in August or September on whether to confirm Uplyme as a Neighbourhood Area

**East Devon Local Plan:** this is the next tier up from the Uplyme Plan. D Cllr Thomas explained that he hoped the Plan would be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate soon, following a recommendation to the Development Management Committee next week. In its absence, it is more difficult to resist inappropriate development. The Plan indicates that significant development to the very east of the district is planned to be concentrated around Axminster and Seaton, rather than in Uplyme. The draft for approval further confirms that the duty to co-operate with neighbouring authorities, but not necessarily to agree, had been completed. This will also be a requirement for any Uplyme and Lyme Regis neighbourhood plans.

**Floods:** At last (a whole year after the disastrous floods of July 2012), a survey of the central part of the village has been done by EDDC, and plans for gravel traps in the Carswell stream are being made. However, the inadequate culverts in Venlake, Cuckoo Lane and especially under the B3165 are not being addressed currently – they are the province of DCC and any replacement would be very expensive and disruptive. Uplyme has been identified as one of 17 communities most at risk in Devon, and there is an application for limited funding to start investigations on flood alleviation.

**Police report:** PCSO Wooster reported three crimes this month. A domestic burglary – an unoccupied property was broken into and a laptop, alcohol and jewellery has been stolen. Unfortunately, there is no forensic evidence and house to house enquiries proved to be negative. Harassment/alarm/distress – enquires are ongoing for the offender to be spoken to. Finally an attempted burglary – an attempt was made to break into a shipping container.

**Highways:** the lengthsman team has visited the parish, and to some hilarity and annoyance in equal measure, there were several reports of the contractors apparently spending the majority of their time in the cab reading the paper and drinking tea. Cllr Turner was disappointed not to have been able to arrange the meeting he hoped for with DCC representatives to discuss the way forward for a parish lengthsman. Other issues that were discussed included the aborted repairs in Springhead and tarmac relaid over newly painted white lines, and the imminence of milk waste spreading at Harcombe, which will be closely monitored by the Environment Agency.

**Cemetery:** Handrails have been installed up both paths to aid those who are less steady on their feet, and a lot of the grass growing on the lower path has been scraped off. Further improvement works are planned.

**Trees:** you'll notice that three native trees have been planted on the grass triangle by the church, to replace the horse chestnut. They are a Devon whitebeam, a double white hawthorn, and a pink crab apple, which should provide spring colour and nectar for insects, and autumn fruit for the birds. The Horticultural Society has kindly made a grant to cover the cost of the trees – the original tree was planted by them in 1963. Councillors Garland and Ostler did the donkey work, and Mr Allen Booth donated compost for the planting. Councillor Mason is on watering duty during the hot weather!

**Footpaths:** although the new handrails up the footpath opposite the village hall have been warmly welcomed by older residents, people with prams and pushchairs have found them a hindrance, and suggested the rails between the steps could be moved to one side as a compromise. Councillor Ostler was thanked for his efforts in strimming the footpath by the side of the school and behind Cooks Mead, as well as for filling the hole by the bridge from the playing field.

**Playground:** the Wendy House and bench should be back soon...



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