

Notes from the monthly Council meeting, 12th June 2013

Only a small audience turned out on a wet misty night for the June meeting.

Planning: No conventional applications had been received since the last meeting, an unusual occurrence. However, Councillors considered a review of mineral planning permission for Shapwick Quarry, and the Clerk will respond correcting a statement about which houses are affected by the site.

Applications decided by EDDC:

- **Pencroft Farm Woodhouse Lane.** Proposed change of use from existing stable block to single holiday let unit. *Withdrawn.*
- **7 Glebelands.** Garage extension and lowering of section of rear garden. *Approved with conditions.*
- **8 Cooks Mead.** Single storey rear extension with decking and steps. *Approved with conditions.*
- **Rhode Cottage Rhode Lane.** Construction of first floor extension. *Approved with conditions.*
- **Sunbeams Rhode Lane.** Construction of ground floor extension, decking, and 2 dormers to enable loft conversion. *Approved with conditions.*
- **Talbot House Rhode Lane.** Replacement balcony, balustrading and ladder for fire escape access. *Approved.*
- **Beech Grove House Rhode Lane.** Construction of car port. *Approved.*
- **Land adjoining Gore Lane.** Construction of dwelling and improvements to access. *Approved with conditions.*

The continued surface improvements to the unapproved track at Yawl Hill Lane, and the fact that no enforcement action could be taken until the application was decided by EDDC, were discussed.

Neighbourhood plan: there had been representations from WDDC about Uplyme's plan. Councillors decided that although co-operation with Lyme Regis TC was a good idea, a joint plan for both areas would not serve Uplyme well should there be any disagreements. (The plan must be put to a referendum before it comes into force, and Lyme's much larger population would inevitably dominate the result.)

Floods: Councillors and audience alike were very disappointed that despite numerous attempts to contact EDDC's Senior Engineer, it had not been possible to find out how the survey and design for flood works was progressing, and the Clerk will be writing to his superior. There had been no news from the Trustees of King George's Field about whether they were going to build a wall by the tennis courts, or dig a ditch down the side.

Emergency Plan: Cllr Turner has been doing work on flood preparedness with Kate Taylor from the Environment Agency. There will be a public meeting in September to inform residents, and also to recruit Flood Wardens for each affected area, who can co-ordinate self-help efforts. The new river level gauge is now installed for Uplyme's Flood Warning Service.

Sandbags: Residents are reminded not to store sandbags full of sand in the open, where they quickly rot and become useless. The Council has some supplies of sand and bags at Cllr Pratt's house in Venlake, and is investigating more modern re-usable gel-filled bags – it is hoped that some samples will be on display at the September meeting

Police report: PCSO Wooster reported a single crime this month: criminal damage to property, for which the offender has been spoken to and enquiries are ongoing.

Highways: the lamentable state of Cannington Lane was again discussed, and Councillors hope to arrange a meeting with the County Councillor and Devon CC Highways to point out the ditching and related works that are needed. The Council is still investigating ways to get funding for a parish lengthsman, perhaps in association with Musbury PC. Charmouth PC has reportedly found that that its own lengthsman is much more effective than the Dorset CC service.

Cemetery: Following the building of the smart new compound, path clearance and wall repairs, the Council is installing handrails up both sides of the Cemetery, to assist those who have difficulty with the slope. A new shrub has been planted at the right hand side of the circle in the new part of the cemetery, so if you are up there tending graves, please take some extra water with you and give it a drink! It is a *Cornus kousa* (Wedding Cake Tree), which when mature should light up with a mass of white flowers in May.

Churchyard: there was much discussion of the stated intention of the Church to request the Council to take over maintenance of the churchyard. The Council needs to discover exactly what is involved before it can decide whether to take this on, or pass the duty on to EDDC. Both approaches have their advantages and disadvantages, but with the limited information available from the Church and EDDC at the meeting, it was not possible to come to any immediate conclusions.



Lois Wakeman, Parish Clerk
01297 444707; clerk@uplymeparishcouncil.org
Horseman's Hill Barn, Gore Lane, Uplyme, DT7 3RJ
www.uplymeparishcouncil.org