

RIVER YEALM & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION

Registered Charity Number 262929

NOTICE & AGENDA OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING to be held at Newton and Noss Village Hall on Wednesday April 4th 2012 at 7.30pm.

1. **Apologies** for absence.
2. **Minutes** of the 2011 Annual General Meeting, 27th April 2011.
3. **Chairman's Address.**
4. **Adoption of the Accounts** for the year ending 31st December 2011.
5. **Appointment of an Honorary Auditor.**
6. **Election of Officers and Committee Members.**

Namely:	Chris Bradley	Acting Chairman
	Denise Marchant.	Honorary Secretary.
	Alan Lomax.	Treasurer & Membership Secretary.
	Peter Pritchard	Committee Member (Planning Brief)
	Eric Rodmell.	Committee Member (Directory)
	Suzanne Sparrow	Committee Member
	Kate Wood	Committee Member
	Richard Lunn	Committee Member
7. **Any other business.** All items to be delivered to the Chairman ten days prior to this meeting.
8. **Date** of the next Annual General Meeting early April depending on village commitments and to be held at the W.I Hall, Newton Ferrers.
9. **Following a quick Coffee/ Tea Break there will be:**

A brief update on Brookings Down Wood by Bob Styring.

A short talk on "How to Shape where you live" by Robin Hogg: Chairman of the Council for the Protection of Rural England (C.P.R.E) Devon.

We look forward to welcoming as many members and guests as possible to our AGM at 7.30pm on Wednesday 4th April. I thought it might be helpful, before the AGM to update you on a number of issues.

Chairman's Update

The Village Directory. One copy per household has been provided free of charge to R.Y.D.A members and a further 76 have been sold via village outlets. We are grateful for the generous support of Luscombe Maye towards production costs.

The Harbour Cleanup. This year the cleanup will take place on Saturday **21st April** 2012 taking advantage of suitable tides. This event is a major contributor to the appearance and safety of the estuary. We would like to thank **Charles Arkinstall** for his management of this ongoing project and please contact him to take part.

Boatwatch. Please offer your support by taking part in an overnight watch by contacting **Roger Hallet 872719** for details .Other estuary villages are envious of our community watch and the effect it has on the reduction of boat crime.

Affordable Housing. As most of you will be aware the site at Parsonage Road has made some progress towards the provision of affordable homes for residents with local connections. We hope that Tor Homes will start on site in 2012!

Planning. Your committee wrote to the Dept for Communities and Local Government, the Planning Inspectorate and the Prime Minister's office following a vote at last years AGM after many disappointments with planning decisions. (Copies of the replies were displayed on the RYDA notice boards during the summer.) You will remember that concerns expressed at the meeting related to:

- overdevelopment and lack of consideration for neighbours,
- excessive use of glass facades in a rural environment causing light pollution,
- scale and design,
- retrospective application for planning consent and lack of enforcement action by S.H.D.C

The coalition Government has enacted the 'Localism Bill' and has introduced the concept of the Neighbourhood Development Plan. This will be a very important document in future and we recommend that any attempt by the Parish Council to put such a plan in place should be supported by the R.Y.D.A. The document effectively takes over from Village Design Statements and goes much further ; if there isn't one in place the planning authority has to rely on old Local Plans or Core Strategies or the National Planning Policy which you may be aware has caused a great deal of concern .

Members will also be aware that Peter Pritchard has been working on building up an e-mail database of those members who wish to be included, for speedier communication on planning issues. There are 140 households registered so far .

Village Design Statement and Conservation Area It has emerged that there is no guarantee that if an amended Village Design Statement was produced that it would be adopted by S.H.D.C. and has been superceded by the proposed Neighbourhood Plans.

The Energy from Waste (E.f.W) Plant at New England Quarry. 'Viridor' has not been chosen as the preferred partner for the construction of the E.f.W plant at New England quarry has not been supported by the County Council. MVV came forward with an alternative proposal. to be provided at Devonport and this was supported by the S.W Devon Waste Partnership. Opponents of Incinerators are critical that the technology is outdated, that re-cycling rates should be improved before resorting to incineration and the proposed method of funding (Private Finance Initiative) is very expensive.

British Legion/ Remembrance Day. Suzanne Sparrow attended the ceremony and laid a wreath on behalf of the R.Y.D.A membership.

Joint working with NNPC and the Revelstoke Trust. There are successful examples of joint working in the community such as the provision of additional benches in both Newton and Noss. **Your committee would be pleased to receive ideas you may have for future projects.**

The Committee. There has been one co-option to the committee during the year. We are very pleased to welcome Brigadier Richard Lunn.

Alan Lomax has served over 20 years as Treasurer and Membership Secretary and asks if someone could come forward during the year to volunteer to take over from him in future. Please take the opportunity to speak to him before you leave the AGM.

The post of Chairman has not been filled and I have taken up an Acting Role until a volunteer is appointed. Please contact any committee member if you feel you could undertake and enjoy such a role.

Brookings Down Wood. **Bob Styring** will be giving a short brief on progress since the last AGM.

Membership. The membership of the RYDA averaged 350 -360 during 2011 we ask that you encourage new members to join so that a wide range of interests, ages and the whole of the Newton and Noss is represented.

Finances. The audited accounts for the year to 31st December 2011 are attached. These accounts reflect a sound financial position for your association. We have once again received financial support for our contribution towards the 2011 Public Liability Insurance that covers our annual harbour cleanup both from the RYHA and the NNPC whose continued support we appreciate. **We shall ask you to approve these accounts and to thank and appoint John Wilson as our Hon Auditor, a post he has generously offered to fill for yet another year.**

Chris Bradley, Acting Chairman.