

RIVER YEALM & DISTRICT ASSOCIATION
Registered Charity Number 262929
MINUTES OF A COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE RYDA.

To be held at 85 Court Rd, N. Ferrers at 7.30pm on Wednesday 30th May 2012

1. **APOLOGIES.** *The Acting Chairman Chris Bradley was away on holiday.*
2. **MINUTES OF AGM.** *The draft minutes of the AGM of the 4th April 2012 were approved (proposed by Kate and seconded by Alan)*
3. **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES:**

- **Robin Hogg.** *Robin made a number of observations about the Neighbourhood Plan during his talk at the AGM in April. He had recommended that the RYDA should ensure it had a member on any Neighbourhood Planning Group commissioned by the Parish Council. The committee supported this position, however, the Parish Council had not announced a way forward on this issue yet and under the legislation it has to head up this process. Peter Pritchard would keep a watching brief and report back at a later meeting if there was any movement on this item.*
- **Environmental issues.** *Lee Mill is on hold. The committee considered it needed more understanding and to have more knowledge about wind farms in order to produce a Policy Statement regarding subsequent planning applications .It was agreed that Alan Lomax would contact Richard Thompson at Plymouth University to assess whether a speaker could be found for next years AGM on this subject.*
- **Neighbourhood Plan.** *Peter Pritchard gave a presentation about Neighbourhood Plans and their importance.*

Local people could choose where development should be built and what new buildings should look like.

A Neighbourhood Development Order can implement a shared vision by granting planning permission for certain types of development without obtaining individual planning permission.

There could be a vacuum if no Plan is produced because if the local authority has no plan in place for your area the principles revert to the National Planning Policy Framework statement, which is of necessity a general statement of principals only.

50 % of the Parish have to support the Plan for it to be adopted.

The Local Planning Authority cannot control the Plan but it has money to distribute to help produce it.

The Plan should contain statements about the use and development of land and buildings, housing, business, transport, leisure and entertainment facilities, design of buildings and protection of open space and would span 15- 20 years.

It could address issues such as - affordable housing, the village development boundary, infilling policy, style guide, demographic change, traffic including parking, downsizing accommodation, property extension policy, parish assets, conservation areas, communal property, recycling, energy policy and a protected buildings register.

The Neighbourhood Plan differs from the Parish Plan in that it has a laid down eight step process which has to be documented, it has to have certain content and most importantly it is legally enforceable. It must have a sustainability appraisal (social, economic and environmental) and be subject to Independent examination. Crucially 50% of those voting have to support it.

The committee could see the benefits of a Neighbourhood Plan and hope that the Parish Council is prepared to coordinate its production.

Peter Prichard would speak to the Chairman of the Parish Council on this subject and report back to a subsequent meeting.

4. CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: -

- **New Chairman** – *Held until next meeting.*
- **AGM** *Peter Sims had written to the committee following the AGM expressing his disappointment at the low turn out by the membership on the 4th April. The committee was equally disappointed and identified some actions, which could be put into position immediately with the aim of improving the situation.*

Welcome Pack for any new resident

Better use of e-mail bulletins to the existing membership

Canvas new residents to take an interest in the RYDA

Produce an annual statement of actions taken by the committee eg planning consultations

RYDA Notice boards: post articles that raise interest in the area, try to keep up to date

Community website - contact Marchand Petit regarding recent problems with data display.

Peter Prichard would send a letter responding to Peter Sims.

5. SECRETARY'S ROUND-UP.

- **Planning Consultation.** *The secretary had been informed of a proposed scheme in Noss Mayo to the rear of the Round House that was the subject of brief discussion.*

6. TREASURER & MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT.

- **Directory sales and membership update.** *Of the 61 letters sent out in January asking for subs 11 were still outstanding. Membership stood at 345. Finances show £570 held at the bank and £1592 on deposit giving a total of £2162.*

7. PLANNING REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT.

- **Review of Planning Applications.** *There had been 8 applications of interest since last report; no objections had been made to these, as they were not considered to be contentious.*
- **Discussion Group-** *160 members have signed up to the e-mail list.*

8. ANY OTHER BUSINESS. *None*

9. DATE OF NEXT MEETING. *31st July 2012*

As there was no further business the meeting closed at 10.45pm.

**Denise Marchant
Hon Secretary RYDA**