

**Notice of a General Meeting of the Yealmpton Community Association
to be held at the Community Centre, Stray Park, Yealmpton at 7.30pm on Tuesday 26th February 2019**

A meeting of the General Committee will follow the General Meeting

Whilst records indicate that the Association has agreed several changes to its constitution over the past 33 years, these have either not been filed with the Charity Commission or been deemed unacceptable to the Charity Commission. Accordingly, the original Constitution dated 19th April 1985 stands as the current governing document.

Clause 3. Of the Constitution provides for membership to be open to numerous individuals, Affiliated groups, the Parish Council, 'Sections' (groups of individual members formed for the furtherance of common activities) and representatives of the aforementioned Affiliated groups. The presumption is that whilst membership is open to those members, some action should be taken for them to request and affirm their membership. To date that has not happened and there has not been any clarity of who are members and there has been no register of members. Clause 4. of the constitution provides for members to pay such subscriptions as the General Committee may from time to time determine.

Proposal A *(to be determined by the General Meeting since membership of the General Committee is yet to be clarified)*

'All individual members and affiliated groups shall be required to pay a nominal subscription of £1 per annum, payable from 1st April in each year. A register will be maintained of those members who pay the subscription and only they will be eligible to vote at any meeting.'

Proposals B, C and D below are to amend the Constitution and will be subject to acceptance by the Charity Commission

Proposal B

Purpose: Since 1985 the local communities have become more inter-connected with many shared activities and it is now inappropriate to draw a firm geographical boundary around the area of benefit.

The Objects clause 2.a. (notwithstanding the provisions of Clause 15 concerning alterations to the Constitution) shall be amended from;

'To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Yealmpton (hereinafter called 'the area of benefit') without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and provide facilities in the interests of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants;' to

'To promote the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Yealmpton *and adjoining parishes* (hereinafter called 'the area of benefit') without distinction of sex or political, religious or other opinions by associating the local authorities, voluntary organisations and inhabitants in a common effort to advance education and provide facilities in the interests

of social welfare for recreation and leisure-time occupation with the object of improving the conditions of life for the said inhabitants;’

Proposal C

Purpose: for many years it has proved impossible to attract more than a very small band of volunteers to serve on the General Committee. Numerous individuals and representatives of community groups are eligible to join the Committee but few have been willing to do so. Whereas the original constitution was intended to allow affiliated groups to appoint a member of the Committee, the Association has become more proactive in recent years and has established projects, managed by interested individuals, for which it has determined terms of reference in accordance with the existing clause 6. g. Because such projects are carried on as Integral parts of the Association itself with their assets and liabilities those of the Association, it is essential that they report to the General Committee so that the Committee is properly able to monitor and direct their actions. The minimum frequency of meetings is also reduced from four times to three times because three is now considered sufficient and it is difficult to convene more.

Clause 6., The General Committee, shall be amended to the following.

‘Subject as hereinafter mentioned the policy and general management of the affairs of the Association shall be directed by a General Committee (hereinafter called ‘the Committee’) which shall meet not less than 3 times a year. The proceedings of the Committee shall not be invalidated by any failure to elect or any defect in the election, appointment, co-option or qualification of any member. The Committee may appoint such standing committees as it may deem necessary and shall determine their terms of reference, powers, duration and composition.

The Committee shall consist of:

- (a) The Honorary Officers elected under clause 7 hereof.
- (b) One Yealmpton Parish Council member
- (c) One representative of each standing committee appointed by the Committee to manage the affairs of any project whose activities, assets and liabilities are those of the Association.
- (d) Up to four members co-opted by the Committee who shall serve for such period as the Committee may from time to time decide.’

Proposal D

Purpose: To remove ambiguity and clarify the number required to form a quorum at meetings of the Committee in terms of Committee members rather than Association members. To reduce the number of Association members required to form a quorum at General Meetings because it has not proved possible to attract twenty-five or one-third of the members to attend.

Clause 10. (b) shall be amended from:

‘One third of the members shall form a quorum at meetings of the Committee and all other committees. Twenty-five members or one-third of the members, whichever is the less, shall form a quorum at General Meetings of the Association.’ To

‘One third of the *Committee* members shall form a quorum at meetings of the Committee and all other committees. *Five* members or one-third of the members, whichever is the less, shall form a quorum at General Meetings of the Association.’

Sam Pillar

Hon Secretary

date