

**MINUTES OF MEETING OF PLYMTREE PARISH COUNCIL  
HELD IN THE VESTRY ROOM ON TUESDAY 24TH JUNE 2008, 7.30PM**

**PRESENT:** Mr A Clarke (Chairman), Mr C Fayers, Mrs K Rosser, Mr G Harris, Mrs F Batten, Mrs L Gallagher

Mr P Skinner – East Devon District Councillor  
Mr K Potter – Post Office Champion for EDDC

2 Electors from Plymtree Parish

1. **Apologies for Absence:** Mr S Edwards, PC C Vickery
2. **Minutes** – Minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> June 2008 were circulated prior to the meeting. It was proposed by Mr Fayers and seconded by Mr Harris that the minutes be approved and signed.
3. **Matters Arising** – There were none.
4. **Correspondence**

Letter had been received from Angela Browning regarding Post Office closures generally. Clerk would scan and circulate to Councillors.

Letter received from Plymtree PO and Stores objecting to the wording used in the template letter drafted by the Parish Council. This template letter had been distributed in the village and surrounds as an outline for persons to use objecting to closure of the Post Office. Mr Clarke in his capacity as Chairman had visited Mr and Mrs Bloomfield and discussed their concerns with them. It was not considered that a written reply from the Parish Council was now appropriate.

E-Mail of support objecting to the proposed closure of the Plymtree Post Office had been received from Clyst Hydon Parish Council.

Information on the Digital TV switchover roadshow dates had been received.

A letter outlining the changes in planning at East Devon District Council had been received. Planning information would become more electronically based over the coming months.

**5. Planning**

**Land at Mutterton** – Notice of the appeal decision had been received by the Parish Council.

**Chowns Pool** – Creation of vehicular access – had been granted

**Land at Little Clyst William Farm** - Conversion of agricultural buildings to holiday units had been granted.

No further applications had been received since the date of the last meeting

**6. Accounts for Payment**

The following accounts were confirmed as paid, proposed by Mr Clerk and seconded by Mr Fayers.

M Jarvis	£117.50	Cheque no. 255	Strimming of Parish Paths
EDDC	£117.50	Cheque no. 256	Emptying of Dog waste bin
Plymtree Parish Hall	£ 10	Cheque no. 257	Hire for public meeting
Clerks Salary	£218.75	Cheque no. 258	
Community First Insurance	£162.50	Cheque no. 259	Liability insurance
Audit Commission	£50	Cheque no. 260	Audit 2007/2008
United Reformed Church	£15	Cheque no. 261	Hire of meeting room for AGM
Plymtree Parish Hall	£14	Cheque no. 262	Hire for public meeting

**7. Proposed Closure of Plymtree Post Office**

**Parish Council letter of objection to Consultation team**

The final document had been circulated to Councillors and it was agreed by the Councillors present that it should now be sent to T Nikolls and the consultation team at the Network Change program.

**Action:** Mr Clarke to send document and covering letter.

The document and covering letters would also be sent to:-

- Postwatch
- EDDC – Chief Executive
- Angela Browning MP
- Neil Parish – Prospective MEP
- Ken Potter – Post Office Member Champion EDDC, Chairman of Exeter Area & North Devon Branch of National Federation of Sub-Post Masters
- Devon County Council – Chief Executive

#### **Other Action**

Petition had reached 350+ signatures. Petition to be sent under separate cover to the Post Office Consultation team.

**Action:** Mr Clarke to send petition

Mr Potter pointed out that petitions would not be taken into account in any decision. It was agreed by those present that it would still be sent to strengthen Plymtree case. Original to be sent to network Change Program with copy to Devon County Council.

Further details about Outreach service had been sought but nothing forthcoming.

Notification on the outcome of the consultation exercise should be received on or around the 22<sup>nd</sup> July. It was expected that notice would be placed in the Post Office and that the council would also receive notification of the decision.

Mr Potter summarised the background to the Post Office closures. Also emphasised the need to lobby MP's and government over possible changes to the Post Office Card Account. It is possible that Government will assign this business to another outlet thus removing further business from Post Offices. This in turn will cause further Post Office closures.

Thanks were extended to Mr Fisher in his assistance in preparing the detailed submission to the Consultation team

#### **8. Any Other Business:**

**Crime Report** – PC C Vickery had E-mailed clerk that between the dates of 21/01/008 - 23/06/08 only 1 crime reported. This was an assault ABH - Argument took place between neighbours over a bonfire which led to an assault.

Thanks extended to Councillor Skinner and Mr K Potter for attending the meeting.

#### **9. Date of Next Meeting**

Councillors agreed to meet after the result of the consultation was revealed.

**Meeting closed at 9.15 pm**