MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL ASSEMBLY OF SYDENHAM DAMEREL PARISH COUNCIL HELD ON 15TH JULY 2015 AT ST.MARY'S CHURCH, SYDENHAM DAMEREL

The Chairman thanked everyone for attending and welcomed new residents to the parish.

The Minutes of last year's meeting were read, agreed and signed.

Covering matters dealt within the parish during the past year, the Chairman confirmed we had dealt with 10 planning applications.

The parish council had experienced few problems on our roads but was particularly grateful for the Highway's Department in solving some flooding in Youngcott Lane.

Dog fouling had become a problem and many notices were put up throughout Sydenham Damerel. Regrettably a lot of these were torn down, but nevertheless the situation had noticeably improved.

Litter had also seemed worse but grateful thanks were conveyed to those members of the public who were seen to pick up items discarded in our lanes.

The new notice board now in place at Horsebridge had taken some time to get there as it had required planning permission. This was because it was placed outside a listed building.

With regard to planning, the parish council intends to communicate with West Devon in respect of a survey for housing needs. WDBC is working on a project called "Our Plan" which is a strategy for Managing Development for smaller villages, hamlets and local countryside.

Broadband: The Chairman was pleased to give the news that Milton Abbot Exchange was to be improved as far as Broadband was concerned which would also mean upgrading copper wire in Sydenham Damerel.

Though no longer in office Cllr David Whitcombe was thanked for his past attendance at many meetings and once again Cllr. Debo Sellis was thanked for her constant support in the parish.

Before closing, the Chairman reminded everyone of the current vacancy for a parish councillor.

Cllrs. Debo Sellis and Bob Baldwin were then invited to speak on their various posts within WDBC and DCC. Debo Sellis chose to explain the Boundary changes in West Devon taking place in 2017 and affecting Sydenham Damerel. Sydenham Damerel, with Lamerton will come under the Ward of Yelverton Rural. Bob Baldwin confirmed the changes taking place with the Planning Dept. which could possibly make planning matters easier for local needs as far as housing was concerned, though he did explain that rural applications would not always be as straightforward.

There followed some questions and answers, before the meeting closed.