

## **Calling All Neighbours! We need you to contribute to the Lympstone Neighbourhood Plan**

There was a loud sigh of relief in the village when the planning inspector chose to support our neighbourhood and dismissed the Courtlands appeal.

Over the last few months the Parish Council has been looking at ways that it can make sure that we get a much greater say in shaping our community. As part of the changes to the planning system the government is giving communities an opportunity to shape the place they live in for years to come by preparing a Neighbourhood Plan.

There is a very important reason why we should prepare a Neighbourhood Plan. New planning legislation will introduce a presumption in favour of development if we as a community have not indicated where we want development to happen. That means that we may not win, next time a scheme like Courtlands comes forward. On the up side, if we allow development to take place, we will be rewarded with community facilities and improvements that we want for the village.

To get things moving we are planning to hold a two hour village meeting on the Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> April in the Village Hall at 7.00pm. We will be asking Mark Robertson to facilitate this as it needs to be led by the whole community rather than the Parish Council. We will be discussing things like:

**Housing** – What sort of housing do we want and where should it go?

**Infrastructure** – What does the village need to function?

**Environment** – How do we take care of the village?

**Community** – How do we keep the village as a friendly place to live that meets the needs of all?

**Economy** – How do we ensure that our village remains a prosperous place to live, work and visit?

On the 18<sup>th</sup> April we will be collecting your ideas on these issues, and any others you think should be covered by the Neighbourhood Plan. The next stage will be to hold some smaller focus group meetings to examine people's suggestions in more detail. We will be looking for volunteers for these.

The result will be a Neighbourhood Plan that will be published for consultation later this year.

This is a great opportunity to protect the place that we love so much. Please don't miss your opportunity to be part of it.