



## RYDA Newsletter

### No 11/2017

## Eastern Hill Wood

As will be well known by now, the latest land acquisition that we have obtained for the benefit of the community is Eastern Hill Wood. After much hard work by volunteers we are pleased to report that the wood has been cleared and is open for visitors. The first task has been the clearance of an entrance to the top of the wood from Stoke Road together with the removal of an enormous volume of heavy rubbish, dilapidated vehicles and huts. The second was the building of a zig-zag path and steps where necessary all the way from Middlecombe Lane to the top of the wood.

As the Brookings Down Wood Management Group will be turning their attention back to their first love after Christmas we thought that now might be a good time to tell you a little of the history of Eastern Hill and how we have come to be its beneficiaries.

Mieczyslaw Borek was born in Poland in 1923. At the age of just 17 as Hitler was invading his homeland he came to Britain to seek refuge. Soon after he joined 304(Polish) Squadron RAF and flew missions over Germany in a Wellington bomber. He survived the war and made the transition to Transport Command where his new job was to fly food and medical supplies to Greece and Yugoslavia. Whilst doing this he was in an accident on a routine training flight. On 18th January 1946 the Vickers Warwick in which he was flying caught fire on landing at RAF Chedburgh, Sussex.



The pilot, W/O Bojarczuk, was killed but W/O Borek and W/O Zurek survived. Mieczyslaw was pulled from the burning aircraft with his clothes on fire. He suffered a badly broken right leg and the tendons in his right ankle were severed. He was sent to the convalescent unit at RAF Collaton Cross and here he met Bessie a young girl 3 years his junior who had lived all her life in Noss. Soon they were married and moved to the Bristol area to start a family - but not before Mieczyslaw came to the attention of Mr Wakeham, a local farmer. On hearing the young airman's story he promptly gave him Eastern Hill Wood for "coming here and fighting for Britain".

During their lives the couple and their growing family paid frequent visits to Noss, staying in the caravan in the woods. It was shortly before his death in 2013 that Mieczyslaw decided that he wanted to leave everything to the community, along with a sum of money to help with its restoration. Today we are truly grateful for all this young airman did for his adopted community and country.

For more pictures please click on the arrow to the right.



...not to mention a shed

## Newton and Noss Village Hall

Our Co-op runs a **Local Community Fund** and the Village Hall in Noss has just been selected as a potential beneficiary. The way this works is that every time you shop in the Co-op one percent of everything that you spend on 'own brand' products and services will be donated to the Village Hall for its upkeep. However this will only happen if you have joined the Co-operative Society and nominated the Hall to receive your funding.



This is easy to do and it will cost you just £1 to support this good cause. So please may we ask you to do it now. Just click on the buttons below and follow the instructions. Thank you.

Not a member? [Click here.](#)

## Nominate the Village Hall

## Planning Applications

48 Yealm Road

This application is to increase the height and volume of an existing house in Yealm Road, to incorporate a separate building to the rear and to build a new double garage by the roadside. A comparison in size of the existing and proposed buildings is shown in the diagram below.

Existing Elevations: Drawing No 17007/EX04





Architectural drawings of the proposed elevations for a two-story house at 1500 @ A3. The drawings include the South Elevation, West Elevation, East Elevation, and North Elevation. The house features a gabled roof, large windows, and a curved terrace. The drawings are dated 10/10/2018 and are for a project at 1500 @ A3, located at 1500 @ A3, 1500 @ A3.

Regarding the garage building in the front garden, there can be little doubt that this will alter the street scene. Although there are buildings equally close to the road on the south side there are none on this side of this stretch of road. It is only when one goes beyond Wrights Lane or to the bend in the direction of the harbour that there is any encroachment on the scene.

## Comment to SHDC

This application is for the removal of a condition that was imposed on a previously approved application (37/0518/15/F) to build 3 houses on the Briar Hill Farm site. It was stipulated that 2 of the houses were only to be used as holiday accommodation since that was the role of all the 'temporary' buildings on the site and the third house was for the sole use of the site manager and family. As explained in the applicant's Design and Access Statement at the time, the site as a whole had been approved under regulations concerning licensed camp sites and not planning regulations. Further the justification given in the documents was that the holiday accommodation would provide increases in both tourism and employment opportunities in our community.

As none of these considerations has changed in any respect since the application was made; as legislation (ie the NPPF) has not changed; as we have since completed a housing needs survey and it did not identify a need for these houses; as all of the houses lie outside the village development boundary (they are thus in breach of our neighbourhood plan which is now a material consideration), we can see absolutely no reason why the condition should be dropped. In fact it seems to us that this is a prime example of an attempt to circumvent the planning system through the use of incremental applications.

Any comment to SHDC should be made quoting 4131/17/VAR

[Application](#)

[Comment to SHDC](#)



This will be our final Newsletter of the year and so the Committee takes this opportunity to wish you a very Happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We also thank you for your support throughout 2017 and hope that this will continue through 2018 and beyond.

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River Yealm &  
District Association

The RYDA is a Registered charity (No 262929) being both a residents association and a conservation group.