Minutes for the meeting of Colyton Parish Council held on Monday 10th November 2025 at 7.00 pm in the Colyton Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs S Real, A Stenning, J Gardiner, A Parr, G Stephenson, J Hay, M Mann, J Watson and R Turner.
Also in attendance: EDDC Cllr H Parr and S Haines (clerk)
Members of public: 1

Cllr Parr congratulated George Richards and the Peace Memorial Playing Fields Committee on a spectacular bonfire and firework display on Saturday, it was very highly attended.

25/11/07 Receipt & Approval of apologies for absence. Cllrs Chesterton and Arnott.
25/11/08 Declaration of Interests. None.
25/11/09 Police Report. 4 crimes reported in September. 2 X violence and sexual offences 1 X criminal damage and arson, 1 X public order.
25/11/10 Approval of the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday 13th October 2025. Cllr Stenning proposed these be approved, seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all.
25/11/11 Matters arising from the Minutes. None.
25/11/12 Public Question time. A member of the public spoke of cars parking perpendicular to the curb at the junction of Lower Church Street and Dolphin Street. This is having multiple affects, it is partially blocking the junction and when there is a delivery for the pub, the lorry/van parks up and this totally blocks the junction, if cars were parked parallel to the curb then vehicles would still be able to get through. Also these cars are driving until their wheels hit the curb, this means that the end of the vehicle overhangs the curb making it difficult for pedestrians to use the pavement. There is a gentleman who lives along the road who uses a guide dog and the cars blocking the pavement makes it extremely difficult for him to safely use the curb. Clerk has reported this to DCC highways who have confirmed that they will conduct a site visit but the best option would be to put double yellow lines there which the Parish Council would not like to do.
25/11/13 Report from County Councillor – see appendix A
25/11/14 Report from District Councillors – see appendix B
25/11/15 Highway Matters
a) Complaint received regarding cars being parked perpendicular to the curb opposite the Kingfisher. Clerk to liaise with DCC highways.
b) Request to place 'Toad crossing' signs along Cownhayne Lane. Cllr Stenning explained that there is a section along Cownhayne Lane where toad cross during their breeding season and they are being squashed by cars – could we put some signs on the bridge. The clerk has looked into this and to do it officially you have to conduct a survey where you count how many toads cross and submit your findings, if the number is high enough then you can register for signs but you cannot just put signs up next to a highway.
c) TTRO2566574 Temporary prohibition of through traffic. Monday 24th – Wednesday 26th November. Road from Lily Lake cross to Three Sycamores. For drainage works.
d) TTRO2566293 Temporary prohibition of through traffic. Saturday 20th December between 08:00 and 18:00. Sidmouth Road from junction to The Butts to approx. 500m westwards. To complete Duct work and pole test.
e) TTRO2666479 Temporary prohibition of through traffic. Monday 23rd March – Saturday 18th April between 19:00 and 06:00. A3052 Road from Sunnygarth to Three Horseshoes. This if for resurfacing works.
f) Damage on South Street – South West Water leak, reports of pedestrians being splashed, risk of ice on road once temperatures drop, also noted that green algae is appearing. Works mare scheduled to repair this on 20th November but this section has been repaired multiple times and the same issue keeps happening. Clerk to contact South West Water and ask if they are planning on doing anything differently this time.
25/11/16 Report from Meetings Attended. Cllr Stephenson attended the AGM for the Allotment Society, the minutes of which have been circulated. The majority of plot holders have signed the petition to ban pesticides. Cllr Gardiner attended a meeting at the Beehive regarding the LGR, it was a good meeting but everything seems quite up in the air. The clerk attended a zoom on the same subject, slides can be shared with any Councillors who have signed up for a DALC log in.

25/11/17 Local Government Reorganisation. This has mostly been covered in Cllr Parr and Arnotts reports below.
25/11/18 Nomination for a Parish Council representative for the Feoffees. Noted, Cllrs to bring forward nominations to the next full meeting. There is one vacancy.
25/11/19 Land at Stafford Cross. Cllr Parr proposed a letter be sent to the Land Registry requesting that a restraint be placed on the land, seconded by Cllr Turner and agreed.
25/11/20 DCC Road warden scheme. Cllr Mann proposed that the clerk put himself and the handyman forward for this, seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.
25/11/21 Parish Council website. Cllrs Chesterton and Stephenson are working on this, hopefully new emails should be available soon.
25/11/22 Correspondence
25/11/23 Finance

Minutes of the finance committee meeting held Monday 27th October (appendix N) to be noted.
Accounts to be approved for payment.

DD Talktalk phone and broadband 40.77 VAT 8.15. **Total 48.92 pounds.**
DD British gas lite workshop electricity 13.55 VAT 0.68. **Total 14.23 pounds.**
BACS M.M Services Dolphin street toilet cleaning and materials. **Total £477.00 pounds.**
BACS Mr Fitzpatrick toilet caretaker. **Total £120.00 pounds.**
BACS Phil and Sarah Johnson compost for trough on Station Road. **Total 29.97 pounds.**
BACS Axminster Garden Machinery parts and service of mower 89.86 VAT 17.97. **Total 107.83 pounds.**
DD Waste managed waste management 151.00 VAT 30.20. **Total 181.20 pounds.**
BACS Halcyon cemetery maintenance 579.41 VAT 115.88. **Total 695.29 pounds.**
BACS Paul Millman works on lamp on Station Road 102.94 VAT 20.59. **Total 123.53 pounds.**

Cllr Real proposed the above payments be approved for payment, seconded by Cllr Parr and agreed by all.
a) Cheque received from the Feoffees for £1867.50 this is a donation towards two new defibrillators. Noted.
b) Payment of £449 received from the carnival committee towards the business rates at Rosemary Lane. Noted.
c) £57,917.50 CIL money received. Noted.
d) Quarterly audit due. Cllr Real volunteered to do this.

25/11/24 Planning

Minutes of the planning committee meeting held Monday 27th October (appendix O) to be noted.

a) <u>Planning application from East Devon</u>

b) <u>Planning decisions from East Devon</u>

c) <u>c) Planning correspondence.</u>

Variation of licence application from Londis to extend the hours for the sale of alcohol for consumption OFF the premises to: Monday - Sunday 07:00-22:00. No objections.
1 X memorial application for additional inscription circulated to all Cllrs. Approved.

25/11/25 Amenities

No amenities committee meeting held in October
a) Himalayan Balsam on the allotments. Cllr Mann to supply bins for allotment holders to pull up Balsam, he will dispose.
b) Bottom steps at the allotments. Handyman to repair.

c) Request to ban the use of pesticides and chemicals on the allotments. A petition has been received containing signatures of support from more than 2/3 of the allotment holders. Cllr Stephenson proposed that allotment holders be banned from using pesticides but if there is an invasion of weeds that will only respond to chemicals then the Parish Council be allowed to use chemicals at its discretion, this was seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.

d) Skate park/pump track. Cllr Chesterton has found a company who make pump tracks, clerk to request a quote.

25/11/26 Items brought to the CPC's attention after the agenda had been published to be noted.

Notification received confirming that the Neighbourhood Plan for Clyst St Mary and Sowton has been formally made. Noted.

Consultation event on Friday 14th November from 2-7pm at The Branoc Hall, Branscombe:

Consultation event for the proposed nutrient recovery project at Hangmans Stone on the A3052. This will be a chance to hear about the background to the project, view the development plans, ask questions and provide suggestions to the project team". Cllr Stenning will attend.

Quote received for A3 Alupanel signboard with full colour matt laminated print applied £35 plus VAT. This is a sign for the Dolphin Street toilets. Clerk to order three signs to include arrows.

25/11/27 Matters to be taken into Committee. None.

25/11/28 Dates of future meetings

Committee meetings – Monday 24th November

Full CPC meeting – Monday 15th December.

Meeting closed: 20:00.

Appendix A

Paul Arnott District and County Report November

Update on Local Government Reorganisation

- Devon CC has published its proposal for LGR we've published our proposal for a simpler, stronger and more sustainable Devon – Inside Devon - news
- It is a proposal for a new unitary council for the whole of Devon, also respecting the current unitaries in Plymouth and Torbay. This new unitary would include the county and the current Devon districts, and is known as the 9:1:1.
- This proposal will be debated in a Full Council at County Hall, livestreamed, on Friday 14th November, and advice from that council will be passed to DCC Cabinet, which then makes the final decision on Tuesday 18th November.
- The Devon County Council proposal makes a strong case that the most significant services, children's services and adult's services, will benefit from the scale of a large unitary, and that there is significant risk in breaking the current county area into smaller unitaries to their conservation and improvement.
- The Devon County Council concept also centres on Neighbourhood Area Committees in Localities across the county. Likely to be 16 committees with local populations of 50,000, these committees will include towns & parishes, the voluntary sector, NHS, Police, Fire Service, business, chambers of commerce and more. Each committee will have 6 or 7 unitary councillors,
- The committees could take on a number of powers but these are yet to be defined by government. The way they are funded will emerge as the consultation in the new year begins, but there would be a commitment to having a Cabinet member for NACs, IT support, democratic officer support etc provided by the new unitary. One of the key ideas underpinning the new NACs is to mitigate the democratic deficit caused by the loss of district councils. If done well, they provide for the first time a single forum for all tiers of local government.

- Ideas from across Devon must be submitted by 28th November. It is expected that the districts will put forward 4:5:1, county 9:1:1, Exeter a new expanded unitary, Plymouth an expansion on their current unitary. Torbay is not yet clear and political decisions are yet to be made. They certainly wish to retain their current footprint, but in recent days an idea has come forward for them to expand their boundaries.
- The Secretary of State then assesses which proposals he wants to put out for consultation in the New Year. This will be with other statutory consultees and not the public.
- In July he will make a decision as to the chosen option, but this date on previous evidence is likely to slip. Elections to an interim authority would be in May 2027, with the authority going fully live on vesting day in April 2028.

Appendix B

District Councillor Report for November 25- Helen Parr

1. Local Government Reorganisation-
There is no agreement amongst Devon Councils as to the best form of Unitary Government for Devon.
The 7 District Councils- in consultation with Torbay Council, propose the
4-5-1 Unitary set up for Devon-see
https://news.eastdevon.gov.uk/devon-councils-announce-proposal-for-new-local-government-structure-for-the-county/
E. Devon, Mid Devon and N. Devon to combine with Torridge and Exeter to form one unitary council [5];
W. Devon, Teignbridge, S. Hams and Torbay to form another [4];
Plymouth a Unitary Council [1].
This proposal was originally put forward by District Cllr Arnott, Leader of EDDC, along with the Leaders of the other DCs see https://news.eastdevon.gov.uk/letter-to-minister-of-state-for-local-government-and-english-devolution/

Devon County Council is proposing **New Devon Unitary Council + Plymouth Unitary Council and Torbay Unitary Council.**
All Devon Districts to merge with the County to form one Devon Unitary;
Plymouth and Torbay to remain as Unitary Councils.
This plan is being put forward by County Cllr Arnott, in his capacity as Lead Cllr for LGR and Deputy Leader at DCC.
https://www.devon.gov.uk/news/a-stronger-future-shaped-by-communities-devon-unveils-leading-option-for-local-government-change/

EDDC Cllrs will meet 26 Nov and will be asked to support the 4-5-1 proposal.
DCC Cllrs will also meet in November to make a final decision on their New Devon proposal.
Final proposals must be submitted by Fri 28 Nov '25.
NB Torbay, Plymouth, Exeter City and N Devon DC are also putting forward alternative proposals- see my Report for September.