Minutes for the meeting of Colyton Parish Council held on Monday 12th January 2026 at 7.00 pm in the Colyton Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs J Gardiner, A Stenning, M Mann, A Parr, G Chesterton, J Hay, G Stephenson, P Arnott, R Turner and S Real.
Also in attendance: S Haines (clerk)
Members of public: 0

26/01/50 Receipt & Approval of apologies for absence. Cllr Watson and EDDC Cllr H Parr.
26/01/51 Declaration of Interests. Cllr Hay declared an interest on planning application 25/2630/AGR Road Pitt Farm as the family are relations.
26/01/52 Police Report. 3 crimes reported in November. All violence and sexual aggression.
26/01/53 Approval of the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday 15th December 2025. Cllr Stenning proposed these be approved, seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all.
26/01/54 Matters arising from the Minutes. None.
26/01/55 Public Question time. No member of public present to speak.
26/01/56 Report from County Councillor. See appendix A
26/01/57 Report from District Councillors. Cllr Arnott's report is attached, he spoke of the tragic events in Colyford where a lady lost her life crossing the main road. This has promoted a reaction and plans are being made to reduce the risks crossing the main road. Cllr Gardiner mentioned that the Colyton Parish Council had been campaigning for years to get a crossing put in and was told in 2010 that £80,000 had been ring fenced to put in some sort of crossing. Cllr Arnott reported that unfortunately the previous administration had used that money.
Cllr Hay asked why Cllr Arnott did not vote on the proposals put forward by EDDC and DCC for the Reorganisation of Local Government. Cllr Arnott confirmed that he abstained because he believes both options can work and as leader of EDDC he cannot be seen to be taking sides. He did confirm that he will be speaking in London to urge the Government to rethink the whole idea and not go through with the Reorganisation as there is plenty of evidence that it has not worked in other places.
Cllr H Parr sent in her report – see appendix B
26/01/58 Highway Matters
a) Response form highways officer regarding the leak on South Street. Cllr Mann reported that the same thing will keep happening and there is a 'stand-off' between South West Water and Highways, it is SWW problem but the problem exists because Highways altered the road. Clerk to write to SWW.
26/01/59 Report from Meetings Attended. No meetings attended.
26/01/60 Future memorial applications for benches/trees. Cllr Watson sent in a piece of work he has completed along with a proposed policy, Cllr Parr thanked him in his absence and proposed this be put onto the next full Council agenda when hopefully Cllr Watson can attend.
26/01/61 Vote for a Parish Council representative for the Feoffees. Nominations are: Lee Clifford, Paul Millman and Richard Collier. It was decided that Lee Clifford will be awarded the position. Clerk to contact Feoffees bailiff. Cllr Parr and Turner did not vote as they are Feoffees.
26/01/62 EDDC Local Plan - 2nd stage of Regulation 19 consultation on the East Devon Local Plan is now live. This closes 12 noon on Monday 26th January.
26/01/63 East Devon Nutrient Recycling Plant proposal. Until there is a planning application or anything official to comment on there is not much for the Parish Council to do at this stage. It will remain on the agenda.
26/01/64 Correspondence
a)
26/01/65 Finance
No committees held in December
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 energy 14.68 VAT 0.73. **Total 15.41 pounds.**
BACS M.M Services Dolphin Street toilets cleaning and maintenance. **Total 477.00 pounds.**
BACS Cllr Mann Dolphin street toilets toilet seat plus delivery 55.50 VAT 11.10 toilet brush and cleaner set 6.91 VAT 1.38 heavy duty padlock 72.95. **Total 147.84 pounds.**
BACS Mr Fitzpatrick toilet caretaker. **Total 120.00 pounds.**
BACS AM Web design 1st Oct – 31st Dec. 2.216 hours. **Total 33.25 pounds.**
BACS Bradfords Safety equipment. **Total 17.10 pounds.**
BACS Source for Business dolphin street toilets. **Total 419.42 pounds.**
BACS Source for Business water at the cemetery. **Total 116.84 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.**

Clerk to contact Source for Business to ask for an allowance as there was a leak at the cemetery.
The above accounts were approved for payment this was proposed by Cllr Gardiner, seconded by Cllr Stenning and agreed by all.
a) An EDDC leisure officer has requested the PC consider helping with the cost to resurface the LED tennis courts at the Grammar School through CIL. A cost expected to be approx. £40,000 Cllr Gardiner proposed that the Council does not give any of its money to this cause as it has its own amenities that need repairing, this was seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all.
b) Budget for 2026 – 27 version 1. Precept request deadline is Wednesday 14th January. Cllr Gardiner proposed a 13.95% increase – this would allow for all necessary payments without dipping into reserves, this was seconded by Cllr Hay. Cllr Parr proposed a 5% increase which would mean dipping into the reserves to balance the budget but some figures may be overestimated so it won't be too much, this was seconded by Cllr Arnott. There was a vote with 7 in favour of Cllr Parrs proposal so this was carried and the budget was approved.
c) Third internal audit now due. Cllr Gardiner will complete.
d) VAT return completed for the third quarter. Noted.

26/01/66 Planning

No committees held in December

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

25/2630/AGR Road Pitt Farm Colyton – Mr M Hurford - An agricultural building to cover an open silage clamp to reduce fouled surface run of. *Comments due by 13th January,*
Cllr Real proposed this be supported, seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all.

25/2632/TCA St Andrews Church (footpath From Church Street to Lower Church Street) – J Mair - Hawthorn - overall canopy reduction by 1.5-2m. *Comments due by 26th January.*
Cllr Arnott proposed this be supported, seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.

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

25/2242/FUL Little Watchcombe Shute - Refurbishment and extension of existing lean-to on side of existing dwelling, all at ground floor. Approved with conditions.

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

1 X memorial application circulated to all Councillors. This was approved

26/01/67 Amenities

No Committees held in December

a)

26/01/68 Items brought to the CPC's attention after the agenda had been published to be noted.
The clerk has been contacted by the waste management company, they wish to cut their weekly collections to fortnightly and they will supply a second bin, the clerk has aired concerns over environmental risks during the summer, attracting pests and smell as examples. The Council yard is in a residential area. It was agreed that the clerk can agree to this with the condition that if issues do arise in the summer, the clerk can seek alternative options.
26/01/69 Matters to be taken into Committee. None.
26/01/70 Dates of future meetings

Committee meetings – Monday 26th January
Full CPC meeting – Monday 9th February.

Meeting closed: 19:45

Appendix A

District and County Report January 2026
Cllr Paul Arnott

Road Traffic Fatality on A3052
It is sad to report the death of a Colyford resident in an RTA the week before Christmas while crossing the road with a friend near the Memorial Hall. We will have to await the coroner's report, but last week I called a meeting of county officers, parish councillors, the vicar and others to discuss how to make progress with a new traffic management system. We meet again in a month.
With so much development scheduled for the green wedge between Colyford and Seaton, a full review of the A3052 and a new traffic scheme is now a matter of urgency.

Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution
All Devon councils submitted their ideas for LGR in Devon at the end of November, and expect to hear back in February as to which ideas will be scheduled by the government for further consultation.
Meanwhile, Cornwall believes it has been given permission not to join a Mayoral Strategic Authority with Devon, which leaves Devon with only one feasible route to a Mayoralty – if Plymouth joins the Devon and Torbay Combined County Authority, which could then apply immediately to upgrade.

Flamingo Pool Axminster
It has been a matter of great concern to hear of the troubles afflicting this much-loved and needed community pool. At East Devon, we are in final negotiations to bring it into the council's portfolio of assets, securing its future.

Library Consultation
The consultation by Devon County Council about the future of libraries continues into a third month and closes on 26th January

Local Plan Consultation
The East Devon Local Plan Regulation 19 consultation remains open until 23rd February.

END

Appendix B

EDDC Cllr H Parr District Report.

1. The second Regulation 19 Local Plan Consultation is now open and runs until Monday 26th January (closing at 12noon).

To take part, visit EDDC dedicated platform on **Commonplace**.
A 'tracked changes' version of the **second Reg 19 Publication Draft** (highlighting differences from the *first* Reg 19 version) of the East Devon Local Plan 2020-2042, alongside an updated **Evidence Library,** are available to view as part of this consultation.
The Local Plan **Sustainability Appraisal report**, and its **Non-Technical Summary**, are also available for consultation alongside the Local Plan.
Finally, an updated online interactive **Policies Map** has been published, which is the definitive version of the map.

2. Local Government Reorganisation- The Sec of State is expected to announce the preferred proposal for LGR to be consulted on in February.

END