Minutes for the meeting of Colyton Parish Council held on Monday 14th July 2025 at 7.00 pm in the Colyton Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs S Real, G Stephenson, J Gardiner, A Stenning, A Parr, J Hay, P Arnott, R Turner, M Mann and G Chesterton.
Also in attendance: EDDC Cllr H Parr and S Haines (clerk)
Members of public: 2

25/07/69 Receipt & Approval of apologies for absence. None – all present.
25/07/70 Declaration of Interests Cllr Hay declared an interest on planning application 25/1258/AGR Colcombe Abbey Farm as he is a friend of the family. Cllrs Stenning, Arnott and Parr declared an interest on planning application 25/0986/FUL Queens Haye. Cllr Stenning has family who are neighbours, Cllr Arnott is a neighbour and Cllr Parr knows the applicant.
25/07/71 Police Report. 7 crimes reported in the area in April 2025. 6 violence and sexual offences, 1 criminal damage and arson.
25/07/72 Approval of the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday 9th June 2025. Cllr Stenning proposed these be accepted, seconded by Cllr Gardiner and agreed by all.
25/07/73 Matters arising from the Minutes. None.
25/07/74 Public Question time. A member of public stood on behalf of Coly Link and requested a donation. They talked about the importance of Coly Link stating the split of custom between Colyton and Colyford is about 79% for Colyton. The Chair of Coly Link stated that donations had been made in the past and now they have a new online system which is fantastic but costs quite a bit to run, they are seeking a donation of £250. This will have to go onto the next agenda for consideration.
25/07/75 Report from County Councillor. Cllr Arnott circulated his report – see appendix B.
Cllr Stenning asked if the test areas for pothole filling are near here, Cllr Arnott confirmed that he was not sure as cabinet have only passed this recently but he would try to get a location plan. Cllr Arnott did confirm that he has held a traffic meeting with the highways officer and the Councils request for the double yellow lines near Green Bridge has already been approved, as has the request to time limit parking in certain areas in Market Place.
25/07/76 Report from District Councillors Cllr Arnott submitted a combined District and County report – see appendix B.
Cllr H Parr informed the Council that there is currently a public consultation open on the Reorganisation Order, Cllr Arnott echoed this and confirmed that it will not be the only one but everybody should fill it out.
25/07/77 Highway Matters
a) Highway concerns raised by Cllr Hay – see appendix A. Cllr Turner raised concerns on asking for a blanket 20mph limit on the whole town, Cllr Hay mentioned that the whole of Ottery has a blanket 20mph limit. Cllr Arnott mentioned applying for the '20 is plenty' scheme, it consists of advisory signage and is far cheaper for the County Council to implement so we would be far more likely to be accepted. They may ask the Parish Council for funding towards this. Cllr Arnott warned that the budget for 25/26 is completely gone and the 26/27 is mostly gone so it could be a while before realistically anything is done. It was agreed to go ahead with applying for the '20 is plenty' scheme and the other concerns were approved to be submitted to highways.
b) TTRO2563693 temporary prohibition of parking. Rosemary Lane – from junction with Dolphin Street to Roselands) Tuesday 26th August – Tuesday 2nd September to erect scaffolding,
25/07/78 Report from Meetings Attended
Cllr Stephenson attending a meeting at the Social Club, things are going well but their treasurer has resigned, there was talk of outdoor seating but the land outside is not owned by them and they don't want noise complaints.
Cllr Hay attended a meeting of the Reece Strawbridge committee, Caterpillars have requested exclusive use of the upstairs level Monday to Friday, this is for security reasons. The Youth Club is going well but needs more volunteers. The hall on the first floor needs redecorating.
Cllr Real attended a meeting of the Playing Fields committee, they have had to cancel Party in the Park this year as they cannot find a band. Financially they are doing ok and have received a grant for pitch maintenance. They are looking at buying two new sets of goals.

Cllr Gardiner spoke about the Kittles trust, they need another trustee, clerk to contact school parents.
25/07/79 Response from Land Registry. This was noted, it was decided to wait to see what happens next.
25/07/80 Co-option of a new Councillor. Joe Watson showed an interest before and he would be extremely good but is busy until September, Cllrs to keep an eye for potential candidates.
25/07/81 Defib machine. Clerk confirmed that the current machine is out of warranty and therefore cannot be available for the public to use. Feoffees have offered to take the responsibility off of the Council. Cllr Real proposed this be agreed and they also be asked to replace the one at the pavilion as that one is even older.
25/07/82 Parish Council notice board. Clerk produced a couple of options but has been asked to produce more so this will be on the next agenda.
25/07/83 Correspondence

a) The Rural Bulletin
b) Email from the Friends Of the River Axe (FORA) seeking support to place a poster at Chantry Bridge containing a QR code for people to log otter sightings.

25/07/84 Finance

Minutes of the Finance meeting held 23rd June 2025 (Appendix F) 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 energy 15.35 VAT 0.77. **Total 16.15 pounds.**
DD Biffa waste management 220.54 VAT 44.11. **Total 264.65 pounds.**
BACS Mr Fitzpatrick toilet caretaker. **Total 120.00 pounds.**
BACS Halcyon verges 130.00 VAT 26.00. **Total 156.00 pounds.**
BACS Bradfords tools, equipment and paint 99.40 VAT 19.88. **Total 119.28 pounds.**
BACS Hammetts audit 539.00 VAT 107.80. **Total 646.80 pounds.**
BACS Total Energies toilet electricity 103.27 VAT 5.16. **Total 108.43 pounds**
BACS Source for business water at cemetery 32.87 water at allotments 235.66 water for toilets 184.21. **Total 452.74 pounds.**
BACS K Underdown & son works at Umborne Business park 140.00 VAT 28.00. **Total 168.00 pounds.**
BACS Axminster Garden Machinery parts, spares and service on equipment 116.30 VAT 23.26. **Total 139.56 pounds.**
BACS Moleavon shovel 19.16 VAT 3.83. **Total 22.99 pounds.**

The above payments were approved for payment. This was proposed by Cllr Stenning, seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all.

a) Plans for CIL money. The clerk confirmed that quotes are still outstanding, this will be on the next agenda.
b) Lamp on Station road. Estimate quote of £450, clerk to ask if a local art group might take it on. Paul Millman to be asked to look at socket connection.
c) Clerk holiday and cover. Dates requested agreed, Cllr Parr to have cemetery books.
d) Dolphin street toilet – replacing vandalised equipment and cleaning costs. Cllr Mann to come up with a cost to include all expenses, this will be on the next agenda.
e) Energy contracts for Rosemary Lane store. Prices have come through but are too expensive, clerk to decline them and find others.

25/07/85 Planning

Minutes of the meeting held 23rd June 2025 – (Appendix G) to be noted.

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

25/0986/FUL Queens Haye Queens Square – Mr Fisher Crouch - Erection of three bay wooden carriage house. Amended plans for consultation. These amendments relate to:

Proposed site plan and amended location plan to indicate where the building will be sited. *Comments due by 17th July.*
Cllr Real proposed this application not be supported because there is no drainage plan for the surface water, the plan does not state the distance the carriage house is proposed to be built from the garden wall of 'Lauriston'. Also the carriage house is oversized and would loom five feet above the length of the garden wall of 'Lauriston' thus blocking the evening light and spoiling the amenity. This was seconded by Cllr Gardiner and agreed by all bar Cllrs Arnott, Parr and Stenning who all declared interests.

25/1258/AGR Colcombe Abbey Farm Colyton – Mr Voysey - Proposed addition of 3 more bays to existing covered yard for dairy herd and dry cows. *Comments due by 8th July. This is a 'prior notice' application and EDDC have only given 14 days to comment. We can make a comment outside of the consultation time but it may not be taken into account when making a decision.*
Cllr Real proposed this be supported, seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all bar Cllr Hay who declared an interest.

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

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

Notice of Licence application received by EDDC for Londis, Market Place, Colyton. No comment required.
2 X memorial application circulated to all Councillors. Approved
1 X application for additional inscription circulated to all Councillors. Approved.

25/07/86 Amenities
Minutes of the meeting held 23rd June 2025 – (Appendix H) to be noted.
a) Annual Parish Inspection findings. The handyman has the list and is working through.
b) Padel Court update. Cllr Chesterton reported that you have to be a member of the LTA to apply for a grant so unfortunately this is a non-starter.
c) Bus shelter at Coly Vale. Cllr Mann still awaiting prices.
d) Pump track update. Cllr Arnott had to leave the meeting so did not give an update on findings – this will go on the next agenda.
e) Suggestion for 'practice allotment plot' to go on Millfield behind fence. Clerk to suggest to allotment committee.

25/07/87 Items brought to the CPC's attention after the agenda had been published to be noted.

25/07/88 Matters to be taken into Committee

25/07/89 Dates of future meetings
Committee meetings – Monday 28th July
Full CPC meeting – Monday 11th August.

Appendix A – Cllr Hay traffic concerns:

1. 20mph speed limit to be introduced across whole of Colyton with signs moved back past Guernsey Corner, Sidmouth Road.

2. All yellow lines repainted and gap on South Street filled.

3. Double yellow lines to be installed at the following locations:

- **Green Bridge – river side back three car lengths**
- **Sidmouth Road – lines from cemetery gate to Burnards Field Road**
- **Queen Street / Church Street corner – Queen Street side.**
- **Colcombe Castle – Dolphin Street**
- **Market Square limited parking – both sides 30mins.**

4. Councillors report potholes.

5. Cownhayne Lane Lishams Drain drainage work repair and drains.
6. All drains in Colyton need clearing
7. Ridgeway Lane (Ridgeway Lodge) leat making its way under the highway.

Appendix B

Cllr Paul Arnott

County (and District if appropriate) report July 2025

DCC Cabinet chooses new plan for Devon's most vulnerable young people.

In a bold move away from the council's previous preference to commission, rather than directly deliver, residential places for children in its care, Cabinet has agreed to an ambitious multi-million investment programme to establish 12 new children's homes, 20 specialist foster places, and up to four new therapeutic schools, over the next 10 years.

'Growing Futures: Homes for children and young people in care in Devon' aims to provide new homes, support, residential therapeutic care, education and treatment for children with complex psychological, emotional and behavioural needs.

The plan will be delivered through a strategic partnership worth up to £156 million and aims to address deficiencies in current care arrangements. The new strategy will aim to reduce costs and improve long-term outcomes for children through more stable, local, and therapeutic housing and education options.

Pothole Repair Campaign and Roads Report

DCC highways teams will carry out a repair blitz on potholes in a few trial areas of the county following a decision by Cabinet. While approving an £83 million programme of capital funded highway maintenance schemes, Cabinet heard from Councillor Dan Thomas, Cabinet Member for Highways, who stated that the condition of Devon's roads is not up to scratch because the county is "grossly under resourced by central government".

Councillors backed proposals to trial areas where all potholes would be filled, rather than just dealing with safety defects. Although the exact details are still to be agreed, this pilot would be used to establish the budget implications of changing maintenance procedures.

Councillors also agreed that a task group from the Audit Committee should be formed to review the previous Cabinet's decision from last November on the future delivery model for highway maintenance.

The Cabinet at the time resolved that a procurement process should get underway for a Term Maintenance Contract to deliver core highway work such as safety defect repairs, gully emptying and winter service, supported with smaller "Framework Contracts" for additional patching, surfacing, drainage and other improvements.

It was also agreed to examine the costs of accelerating the remarking of white lines across the county. My Cabinet colleague Cllr Dan Thomas summed up the challenge as follows:

“We’re being very honest that the state of the roads is not as we would want; that’s our starting point. The one message that I would like the public to hear today is that every single member of the Highways Department, from the director to the neighbourhood highways officers that we deal with on a daily basis, are all acutely aware that we are not able to do the things the public wants us to do as quickly as we would like. It is simply because we are grossly under resourced by central government and I think we have to make that very clear from the start of this Council.

“We have a repair backlog of around £390 million, and to keep us in a steady state it costs around £102 million a year. We don’t have that, so whatever we do under the current funding formula, we’re not going to solve the problem – we have to be clear about that. We’re not alone in this, but that’s little consolation to residents in Devon.

“We’re asking for a trial in a few areas to fill all potholes, not just safety defects, when visiting a site. By asking to trial this change it’s a very different notion from where we were before and we want to establish what the cost implications are and how effective that would be on the lower category roads.”

Innovative new materials are being adopted for use. A new road repair material called Elastomac, which is partly made from recycled materials, is being used on our roads following successful trials on small to medium size patches. It reduces waste and carbon emissions while also being quicker to cure than traditional pothole repair materials, which reduces traffic disruption.

Road markings are being carried out using Methyl Methacrylate (MMA) which is applied cold, so it is safer to use than the previous thermoplastic product that has been the historic standard. It is more reflective, so improves road safety, and a three-year trial in Cheshire found a 62% reduction in collisions, while the longer lifespan of the product means fewer return visits are needed to repaint the lines, leading to a 50% reduction in network disruption and at least 10% cost saving over a 10-year period.

Around £56 million of this year’s highway maintenance capital budget will be invested in road maintenance and surface treatments, with the remainder being allocated to bridges and structures, street lighting, traffic signals, public rights of way and other highways assets.

To ensure principal roads across the county are retained in a condition where less than 4% require immediate attention, £8.7 million has been allocated for preventative treatments and resurfacing.

Local Government Reorganisation

In our area, both EDDC and DCC are giving residents the opportunity to contribute their view. The EDDC link is here [Have Your Say Today - East Devon Engagement Hub - Commonplace]() and the DCC survey is launched on Friday.

Natural Seaton Masterplan

EDDC Cabinet has approved The Natural Seaton Masterplan using funds held from the sale of the Seaton Jurassic building to deliver the various outputs of the masterplan. EDDC Countryside will be looking to use this strategic document as the foundations of a major grant application from National Lottery Heritage Fund for funding work at the southern end of the wetlands site to deliver habitat

creation, access and interpretive work to “complete” the Seaton Wetlands project. £80,000 from the sales receipts of the former Seaton Jurassic building are ringfenced for delivering outputs of this interpretive masterplan as detailed in table and further funding will be sought from a National Lottery Grants for Heritage application later this year.

Items include:

- Signage and Discovery Point improvements. Old signage remove and replace signage which references Seaton Jurassic and replace with elements which tell the Natural Seaton story £4,000
- The Wave New interpretation panel to better link the sculpture to the story £3,000
- The Prow Repair and refresh the structure and interpretation at this key location £5,000
- Orientation point. Develop new interpretation to sit in this piece of public realm furniture, and allocate a responsible body to maintain it £2,000
- The Stargazer Currently removed on safety grounds, replace with a wildlife-themed piece of substantial site furniture which is also wheelchair accessible £8,000
- The Portal Repair the sculpture and relocate to the seafront. Renew interpretation panel. £10,000
- Field shelter Replace a thatched basic shelter at Stafford Marsh with more purpose built structure with a locally sourced wooden shingle roof £10,000 £42,000
- Phase 2 New works Waymarking Marker posts for a circular discovery trail through the town, the high street and the seafront taking in all Discovery Points plus other points of interest and stakeholder locations £12,000
- The Natural Seaton Storybook A set of interpretive stories and characters which stakeholder businesses and groups can use to tell their own part of the Natural Seaton message £7,500
- Brand development Create an identifiable brand and marketing strategy for the Natural Seaton Offer £5,000
- Engagement and Events Develop a range of new engagement events running under the Natural Seaton brand led by officers and partnership organisations, to run over a trail 3 year period £15,000 £39,500* *This estimated cost of proposed outputs is in excess of the remaining budget from building sale, it is therefore proposed that this shortfall would be found through Stakeholder contributions in year three of the project lifetime.

Meeting closed: 20:20.