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

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

26/10/19 Receipt & Approval of apologies for absence. All present.
26/10/20 Declaration of Interests. None.
26/10/21 Police Report. There were 12 crimes reported in August. 4 X anti-social behaviour, 4 X violence and sexual offences, 2 X criminal damage and arson and 2 X "all other crime"
26/10/22 Approval of the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday 14th September 2026. Cllr Mann proposed these be approved, seconded by Cllr Stenning and agreed.
26/10/23 Matters arising from the Minutes. None
26/10/24 Public Question time. No members of public present to speak.
26/10/25 Report from County Councillor. Cllr Arnott spoke through his report. See appendix A. Cllr Hay asked what Cllr Arnott was doing about the failings of Southwest Water (SWW). Cllr Arnott confirmed that he has recently written to the Prime Minister stressing that the pressure to build new homes was concerning considering SWW are not providing adequate infrastructure to support these homes, he has also set up a 'water meeting' for November, this has never been done before.
26/10/26 Report from District Councillors See appendix B
26/10/27 Highway Matters
a) 20 is plenty scheme. Cllr Stephenson circulated a response to the 20mph request. The request will not go ahead, the Parish Council could self-fund this. Cllr Stephenson will keep trying.
b) Letter received from the highways officer in response to letter sent by Cllr Hay.
26/10/28 Report from Meetings Attended. No meetings attended.
26/10/29 East Devon Nutrient Recycling Plant proposal. No information has been released at present – this will remain on the agenda.
26/10/30 Correspondence
26/10/31 Finance

Minutes of the finance committee held Monday 28th September 2026 (appendix P) to be noted.

Accounts to be approved for payment.

DD	Talktalk	Phone and Broadband	35.83	VAT 7.17	**Total 43.00 pounds.**
DD	EDF	Dolphin st toilet electricity	63.05	VAT 3.16	**Total 66.21 pounds.**
DD	Fastnet	Website	14.99	VAT 3.00	**Total 17.99 pounds.**
DD	Waste managed	Waste management	229.83	VAT 45.98	**Total 275.81 pounds.**
BACS	Henry Fitzpatrick	Toilet Caretaker	120.00		**Total 120.00 pounds.**
BACS	M M Services	Dolphin st toilet maintenance	477.00		**Total 477.00 pounds.**
BACS	Halcyon	Cemetery cutting	579.41	VAT 115.88	**Total 695.29 pounds.**
BACS	Acculine Markings	Lines at playing fields	1329.00	VAT 265.80	**Total 1594.80 pounds.**
BACS	Fastnet	SSL certificate for website	120.00	VAT 24.00	**Total 144.00 pounds.**
BACS	Wicksteed Leisure	3 new bucket swings	447.56	VAT 89.51	**Total 527.07 pounds.**

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

a) New swings have been received and installed. Noted.
b) Quote received for a new slide. Cllr Mann proposed the slide be purchased without agreeing the cost of installation, seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.

26/10/32 Planning

Minutes of the meeting of the planning committee held Monday 28th September 2026 (appendix Q) to be noted

a) Planning application from East Devon

b) Planning decisions from East Devon

26/1654/FUL Great House South Street - Erection of workshop attached to existing garage, with associated roof replacement and renewable-energy installations. Approval with conditions.

26/1705/FUL 15 Grove Hill - Proposed porch and rendering of front and side elevation. Approval with conditions.

26/1639/TCA Queens Haye Queens Square - T1, T2 Sycamore: sectional fell to ground level. TPO not required.

26/1662/FUL Road Green House - Alterations to outbuilding to facilitate mezzanine, with inclusion of solar panels; new roof to existing sheds, addition of link infill between house and outbuilding; construction of detached shed, addition of dormer window on south facing roof slope and alterations to fenestration. Approval with conditions.

c) Planning correspondence.

26/1894/CPE Certificate of Lawfulness (Existing) Application Proposal: Lawful development certificate to confirm material start to approval ref 24/0738/FUL. The Studio Hooperhayne Colyton EX24 6SH. This application was supported by the Parish Council back in May 2024. If the Council have any further comments to add then it must do so by 22nd October.

26/10/33 Amenities

Minutes of the meeting of the Amenities committee held Monday 28th September 2026 (appendix R) to be noted

a) Queen Square and South Square lamps. We are still awaiting the report from DCC, this will remain on the agenda.
b) Parking bays and fencing at Road Green. Prices are almost finalised and there should be enough posts to to the PMPF car park at the same time.
c) Barriers for the PMPF car park. See above.
d) Email received and circulated to Councillors regarding various concerns at the PMPF. The concerns contained the cleanliness of the public toilet – this is in major need of an upgrade along with the pavilion requiring a structural engineer to assess the building. This could be a big project but hopefully will be completed. Other concerns raised included the size of the new parking bays – which are standard sizes according to the gov.uk website and these will not be amended. Finally concerns over the play equipment at the playing fields not being suitable for younger children. The existing equipment is safe for the age it is intended for and will not be amended in anyway as it would void any insurance. If existing equipment requires replacement then the Council will consider younger age targeted equipment but there are other parks in Colyton for younger children.

26/10/34 Items brought to the CPC's attention after the agenda had been published to be noted.
Cllr Mann asked that the following items be added to the next agenda for consideration:
Pavilion assessment
Extension of car park at PMPF – not tarmac
Improvements to picnic site entrance
Two more benches and three bins for the playing fields – two at the pump track and one to replace the little red on near the Reece Strawbridge centre.
26/10/35 Matters to be taken into Committee
26/10/36 Dates of future meetings

Committee meetings – Monday 26th October
FULL meeting – Monday 9th November

Meeting closed: 20:00.

Appendix A

Paul Arnott
County and District Report
October 2026
COUNTY

· Highways: Cabinet has approved a further £4 million to fund improvements to resilience routes, key roads which become heavily used when there are closures in the vicinity. Of particular interest to our area is £850k for Stockland Hill as key link between A30 and A35.

· Children's Services: Ofsted has recognised continued improvement in our children's services, highlighting stronger decision-making, effective early help services and increasingly joined-up support for children and families. The findings follow Ofsted's latest monitoring visit to Devon County Council's children's services in August, which focused on front door services, child protection responses, early help and our emergency duty service. Inspectors found that children and families are receiving a timely, well-coordinated and increasingly integrated response from practitioners and managers. They noted that leaders have taken deliberate and purposeful action to strengthen services, increase capacity, support staff and create the conditions needed for sustained improvement. The report highlights the way social workers, managers and partner agencies work together to ensure children receive the right help at the right time. Inspectors found that concerns are reviewed promptly, decisions are generally proportionate and informed, and children at risk of significant harm receive swift responses through well-established pathways. Inspectors also recognised improvements in how children move between services, noting that transitions from the front door into assessment and intervention teams are managed effectively, with children continuing to receive timely oversight and support.

· LGR: As has been well reported, this is currently paused for review. It remains unclear what this means, except that there will be District Elections as well as Town & Parish. Government suggests more news may come next week. However, Devon County Council's Judicial Review remains in play and county's position is that if government comes back insisting on the plans it chose in July, the JR process will. A full set of slides have been provided to parishes & towns recently with more detail following a briefing.

DISTRICT

Waste & Recycling the new EDDC owned Local Authority Trading Company (LATCO) began full, on street operations three weeks ago. Hopefully you will not have not noticed that your waste and recycling has been picked up for the last three weeks by Edenserve. We are pleased with the results so far. In the

medium term, Edenserve stands ready to expand and to offer its services to other councils and entities requiring waste disposal.

Local Nature Recovery Plan: East Devon District Council's Countryside Team have adopted a new, providing a clear framework to guide nature restoration, target investment and deliver biodiversity improvements across the district.
The plan translates the wider priorities of the Devon Local Nature Recovery Strategy into practical, place-based action for East Devon, helping ensure that local projects, land management decisions and Biodiversity Net Gain delivery contribute directly to county-wide nature recovery goals prioritised by habitats of importance to East Devon.
The plan identifies priority habitats, nature recovery networks and evidence-based opportunity areas where action can deliver the greatest benefits for wildlife, climate resilience and local communities. The framework focuses on protecting, restoring and better connecting key habitats including lowland heathland, wetlands, species-rich grasslands, woodlands, hedgerows and the urban setting, while supporting species recovery and improving access to nature.
Importantly, the plan provides a delivery focus for local schemes by combining county-wide strategic priorities with detailed local ecological data and mapping. This enables projects to be directed towards the areas where nature recovery will be most effective and where habitat creation, restoration and enhancement can provide the greatest impact for wildlife and people.
Initiatives such as the Wild About Seaton Masterplan demonstrate how this approach can be put into practice. By identifying priority habitats, improving ecological connectivity and focusing action where it can achieve the greatest gains, the plan provides a framework for delivering long-term environmental benefits across East Devon and unlock external funding. The Local Nature Recovery Plan helps the council meet its responsibilities under the Environment Act 2021 while ensuring that nature recovery is embedded across services, partnerships and future decision-making.

Sports & Leisure Services. LED East Devon District Council has awarded the contract for the future operation of its sport and leisure services to Sports and Leisure Management Ltd, trading as Everyone Active, following a competitive procurement process and approval by Cabinet.
The procurement exercise followed a comprehensive review of the council's leisure services and facilities which considered how provision could continue to be delivered in a cost-effective and resilient way for the future.
The council carefully evaluated all bids before reaching its decision and was supported by external experts in legal, procurement and the leisure industry. The process was designed to identify the most advantageous proposal for residents, considering service quality, social value, investment, financial sustainability and value for money.
The successful bid includes significant investment in East Devon's leisure facilities and services, alongside financial savings that will help support the long-term sustainability of leisure provision.
East Devon District Council’s leisure service is responsible for nine leisure centres, one theatre and several outdoor sports and recreation sites across East Devon. These leisure centres and recreational facilities play an important role in supporting health, wellbeing and community life across the district.
Everyone Active is expected to start delivering leisure services on behalf of East Devon District Council in January 2027.
My letter to the Prime Minister has been shared with parish members already. I concerns grave reservations about sewage and water infrastructure provision when EDDC members being obliged to identify future housing sites through the Local Plan process whilst lacking confidence that, as in Cranbrook, SWW do not plan for the future need.

Appendix B

Cllr H Parr
October District report.

LGR, Devolution & Transformation

The Government has paused **Local Government Reorganisation** and ordered a rapid Review and as result there is uncertainty.

However, **Devolution** of powers to the regions is a separate Government program which goes on.

There is a public Consultation re Plymouth joining the Devon & Torbay Combined County Authority- EDDC will respond.

The DTCCA is working towards converting to a **Mayoral Strategic Authority**. A Mayor would lead on devolved powers and funding in areas including transport, skills, housing and economic development.

EDDC is continuing **Transformation** work- basically to improve efficiency and cost of services. Any work which would be beneficial/ result in improvements under any future LGR arrangement should continue.

Work on collaboration with other councils continues, to deliver more efficient and cost-effective services jointly.