

**COLYTON PARISH COUNCIL**

**Feoffees Town Hall, Colyton**

**EX24 6JR**

**Tel (01297) 552460**

Minutes of the meeting of the Colyton Parish Council to held Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at 7pm in the Mortimer Room of the Town Hall.

**Present:** Cllrs B Collier, C Collier, A Parr, S Real, P Gibbins, J Hay, K Clifford, G Stephens, A Jarman, R Tattershall, R Turner, Dist Cllr H Parr, County Cllr M Shaw (for part of the meeting), 14 members of the public (7 for part of the meeting) & E Berry (Clerk).

*The Chairman requested that those who are recording declare so and conform to standing orders.*

**17/08/43 Receipt & Approval of apologies for absence:** Cllr C Pady

**17/08/44 Police Report - by email**

Violence with injury – 1

Violence without injury – 1

Burglary Dwelling – 2

Burglary non-dwelling - 1

Vehicle offences - 1

Other theft – 1

Criminal Damage – 4

Public Order Offences – 1                      12 in total compared to 5 last year    140% increase.

The 3 burglaries refer to sheds being forced open but nothing stolen and the theft of a chainsaw from an open garage. A vehicle at one of the addresses was also stolen from.

The violence and public order offences refer to domestic situations.

On another note, my successor has now been appointed: PC Adam Speers will be taking my place from Sep/Oct time (I leave at the end of Sep after 30yrs service) - I hope to introduce him to you in the near future.

**17/08/45 Public Question time** (maximum 15 minutes)

Mr West had written two letters about the way he felt he had been treated. He reiterated that he worked voluntarily and was unpaid for anything he was doing to promote the Parish, He commented that in a democracy he had the right to challenge decisions made if he felt there was a better solution. He asked for the unfounded accusations to be removed from the minutes and was surprised that no parish councillor had come to his defence.

Cllr Parr said his letter had been forwarded to all councillors and was on the agenda for discussion. Minutes had been accepted and signed and could not be amended. Paul Dean had apologised for the wording used.

A spokeswoman for the Cuthouse residents expressed their dismay that the playpark was still shut and that both the EDDC S06 office and Sovereign were giving them the run around. She felt they hadn't got a voice and were pleased that Cllr H Parr and the Parish Council were supporting them.

Cllr H Parr had received an email from Sulina Tallack (S106 Officer) which stated that Sovereign could open the playpark even if they say they are waiting for a S106 legal issue. The Legal team and the Enforcement Officer are meeting to resolve the issue.

Vicky Mills briefed the Parish Council on the Community Speed Watch initiative and gave a summary of the current situation. They have been out 209 times this year and on average over 50% of the vehicles monitored are exceeding the 30 mph speed limit through Colyford, They are promised a safe crossing with lights but are also looking at installing 2 Vehicle Activated Signs at either end of the village with support from the County Councillors Locality budget. Whilst they understand that the CPC's budget is set for this financial year they request that some financial help is offered in the next financial year to mitigate the costs of these signs.

Diana Nason reiterated her letter of complaint to EDDC Planning. The scaffolding remains in her garden and should be taken down by the end of August but the wall of the extension looms large from their kitchen window and she is bitterly disappointed at the decision to allow it to be built.

Jacque McCullough spoke in support of the Promote Colyton's call for a bike rack in the town and suggested one is placed on land below the bank, owned by the Parish Council or in the car park. The clerk confirmed that both Honiton & Budleigh Salterton had bike racks in their car parks.

On another note they had been in talks with the DCC Lighting department and confirmed the repainting of the Queen Street Light is approved.

**17/08/46 The minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> July 2017 were accepted and signed as being a true record of the meeting.**

**17/08/47 Matters arising from the Minute**

a) Response from John Golding (Strategic Lead Housing Health & Environment) re Unemptied recycling bags. Circulated to Councillors.

**17/08/48 Report from County Councillor – August report by email – circulated to Councillors – Appendix 1.**

Cllr Shaw went through his report briefly (Appendix 1) and was very disappointed at how the meeting to discuss the hospital beds had been conducted. The case was not seriously addressed and there is ongoing fallout from the meeting. Complaints had been made by members of the public and a report is being commissioned from the County Standards Committee. The future of Seaton hospital remains in doubt. The X52 bus routes were looked at by DCC but considered too expensive to subsidise. The service will be cut to an off-peak one only. Complaints had been received from residents in Colyford. There is a tentative proposal to extend the Hatch Green bus service but this is early days and needs further consultation. Traffic Group meeting will be split into two, one will discuss the Coly Valley and the other Seaton, Beer & Branscombe (next meeting 25<sup>th</sup> September).

Cllr Hay commented on the quality of Highway repairs throughout the Parish and described them as being in some places a bodged job that was not fit for purpose. Calls he had made to the Highway Officer were not being returned and nobody is taking responsibility. Cllr Shaw agreed that there was a problem and is working on improving the communication.

Cllr Parr asked what was happening with the promised double yellow lines – where are they?

Cllr Shaw couldn't say it will keep the pressure on.

**17/08/49 Report from District Councillors**

Cllr Parr had been in touch with the Planning department re the application for the lights for the night flying of the Air ambulance and could not understand their questions for further consultation, She felt that Sports England had got hold of the wrong end of the stick and further confused the issue which was confirmed by Cllr Turner.

Cllr Parr had received an email from the Enforcement Officer re the closure of Cuthouse Meadows and would be in discussion with the legal department to look at what could be done to get the park opened asap.

**17/08/50 Highway Matters**

- a) Details of road closure on Hillhead for Gas main replacement – 30/10/17 – 09/02/18
- b) Minutes of the meeting with Neil Parish & DCC Highways 14<sup>th</sup> July 2017. *Circulated to Cllrs.*
- c) Email from CSW member on lack of action by DCC & police to CSW reports & concerns (emailed to Cllrs). The council agreed that the situation is a problem, they support the work done by the CSW to highlight the problem of speeding traffic through the village. Cllr Real proposed that a letter be sent to both the Police and DCC expressing our frustration at the lack of action on the face of overwhelming evidence, seconded by Cllr Clifford and agreed by all.
- d) Queen St streetlight on Combe House. Letter read out from the DCC lighting department. The owner of the grade 2 listed house does not want the light put back on the house. Would CPC be happy not to have a light there as a pole on the pavement would restrict the width available to buggies etc. and prove a hazard? It was agreed that councillors would look at the light after the meeting and report back.

**17/08/51 Report from Meetings Attended - none****17/08/52 Correspondence**

- a) Publications e-mailed to councillors – Intouch/RsN etc
- b) Email from resident ( 24/07/17) wanting answers to his previous email re the Umborne Bridge recycling bins and the CPC stance on businesses using this facility. Cllr A Parr will draft a response from CPC but point out that most of these issues are an EDDC problem and the Parish Council still considers this to be the best site for them.
- c) Letter from Mr H West (dated 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2017) re the Parish Council meeting on 19<sup>th</sup> July – circulated to Cllrs. Cllr Parr replied that the person who made the comments is unfortunately no longer on the Parish Council. Minutes are a record of the meeting and once accepted and signed cannot be changed.
- d) Email request from Anne West for letters or emails to the Parish Council telling the Parish of Colyton, that something is on, or various other items of interest to the Parish (eg a questionnaire), to be email to her to be send out on the Colyford Round Robin. The decision was made to maintain the status quo.

- e) Letter from Colyton Memorial Social Club informing the CPC that they are intending to register the Club as a War Memorial – this was read out and supported by CPC as long as it is clear that the building is owned by the Parish Council.
- f) Letter from Promote Colyton Group with an idea to provide a bike rack in the town – possible Parishes Together project. Cllr Turner thought that there were racks there anyway.
- g) Email from Mr Morgan updating CPC on the X52 Jurassic Coaster bus service – *emailed to Councillors*. The CPC supports his action and feels that this service should be maintained.
- h) Letter request from Govers Meadow resident that the field hedge adjoining the playing fields and Ham Lane is cut back. The Clerk will write to the owners and ask them to cut the hedge back in September.
- i) Letter from Cuthouse Meadow residents – emailed to Cllrs. There was some discussion and the consensus was that this facility should be opened asap. The Clerk will write to both EDDC and Sovereign expressing this view.
- j) Invitation to free Working Together conference in Sidmouth – 29<sup>th</sup> September. *Emailed to Cllrs*.

### 17/08/53 Finance

Minutes of the meeting held Monday July 24<sup>th</sup> (Appendix H) to be noted

Cllr B Collier proposed these accounts to be approved for payment, seconded by Cllr Stephens and agreed by all

				VAT	TOTAL
DD	Opus	Electricity	£7.26	£0.36	£7.62
DD	Talk Talk	Telephone & Broadband	£23.69	£4.73	£28.42
3903	Infotone	Paper and Drum	£45.19	£9.03	£54.22
3904	NALC	LCR Magazine subscription			£17.00
3905	Living Memories C.I.C	Donation held by CPC from Locality Budget			£728
3906	MNR Mowers	Blade/Screw & strimmer head	£23.44	£4.68	£28.12
3907	Findlay & Butler Min ref 17/07/32(f)	Professional Charges re Library re building assessment	£90	£18	£108
3908	Cash	Toilet caretaker as per submission for July 2017			£100
3909	View from Newspapers (Cheque made out to The Sunday Independent Ltd) Min ref 17/07/30b	Casual Vacancy notice	100	20	£120
3910	Min ref 17/06/12j Blamphayne Sawmill	OSB Board and wood for gazebo repair	£55/76	£11.15	£66.91
3911	Viridor	Waste Collection	141.95	28.39	£170.34
3912	Information Commission	Renewal of data protection registration			£35

- a) Rebuilding cost of the library amended to £95000
- b) Verification of Insurance from Football Club.
- c) Receipt for Planning application 17/1612/FUL
- d) Proposal to install a community funded VAS on Swan Hill Road, Colyford: Financial year - 2017 - 2018 if funds permit or during 2018 – 2019. There was some discussion on this and the meeting was suspended so that Vicky Mills could brief the Council on the projected costs – about 2-3k depending on type of VAS and whether two are purchased, Cllr Gibbins proposed that this project is supported and money allocated towards one sign in the next budget discussions. Seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.
- e) Parishes Together projects - to be brought to the next committee meeting.

**17/08/54 Casual Vacancy update.** No response to the advert. EDDC confirmed that no call for an election had been made.

### 17/08/55 Planning

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 24<sup>th</sup> July – (Appendix I to be noted).

### **a Planning Applications**

#### **17/1568/TRE 17 Old Manor Gardens – Mr Powis.**

Oak – cut back and remove overhanging branches, remove dead and diseased wood.

**Comment after site visit - SUPPORTED**

#### **17/1612/FUL Erection of a 10m high emergency lighting column and associated emergency light fittings for use by DAA at the Peace Memorial Playing Fields – Colyton Parish Council**

*No comments at present*

As this is the Parish Councils application there is no comment.

#### **17/1750/LBC Old Court House, Queen Square – Mrs Nater**

Conversion and extension of garage to dwelling (C3)

#### **17/1749/FUL Old Court House – Mrs Nater**

Change of use and extension of garage to dwelling for holiday let/family accommodation/carer's annex.

*No comments at present.*

**NOT SUPPORTED**, proposed by Cllr Real and seconded by Cllr Parr. This was felt to be an overdevelopment of the site. The property's access onto King Street is difficult and the possibility of up to two additional cars either being parked in King Street or manoeuvring into the narrow turning provides an additional hazard in that area as its just below a blind bend.

#### **17/1577/FUL Colyford Level Crossing – Installation of two pole mounted CCCTV cameras – Mr Lee Taylor**

*No comments at present.*

**SUPPORTED** – proposed by Cllr A Parr, seconded by Cllr Real.

#### **17/1798/FUL Cider Barn, Blamphayne Farm, Northleigh – Mr Haley**

Extension to existing annex.

*No comments at present*

Defer to Committee.

#### **\*17/1823/FUL Leacombe, Station Rd, Colyton – Mr & Mrs Hollis**

Extension and refurbishment of existing house; including removal of existing outbuildings, ground floor extension to north east and alterations to existing south west terrace and balcony.

*No comments at present*

Defer to Committee.

#### **17/1849/FUL Land rear of Clarence House, The Butts – Mr Burgess**

Erection of dwelling and detached garage.

Defer to Committee

### **b Planning Decisions**

#### **17/1439/FUL Elwy, Cownhayne Lane Colyton Ex24 6HD – Mr J Ayre**

New entrance/drive – **APPROVED**

#### **17/1373/TCA – 21 Old Manor Gardens, Colyford.**

T1 Reduce and trim back by approx. 2 metres.

T2 Fell co dominant stem

**WORK APPROVED**

#### **17/0788/CPE The Cabin, every Hill, Shells Lane – Mr Palmer.**

Certificate of lawfulness to establish the construction and use of a cabin as a separate independent dwelling in excess of four years.

**APPLICATION REFUSED.**

### **c Planning Correspondence**

- 1) 17/1612/FUL Erection of a 10m high emergency lighting column and associated emergency light fittings for use by DAA at the Peace Memorial Playing Fields – Colyton Parish Council – Further information requested. Information obtained from Devon Air Ambulance and Colyton Football Club asked to provide the details for Sports England – Roy Turner is providing that info.

- 2) Copy of letter to EDDC (dated 24<sup>th</sup> July) from residents of 5 The Elms re planning application 17/0197/FUL – circulated to Cllrs for information.

**17/08/56 Update on Neighbourhood Plan**

Housing Needs Survey – to be distribute in Colyton by the Carnival Club with their carnival publication. Arrangements to be made with Colyford Councillors and local volunteers to distribute them in Colyford.

The evidence report document is on the parish website and a working party is arranged for September 13<sup>th</sup> in St Johns Hall from 2pm – 5pm to draw up aims and objectives guided by the consultant. It is hoped to have about 15 – 20 people which represent a cross section of the community.

**17/08/57 Update on Library - nothing to report.**

The clerk will contact the Friends of the Library and see if they can sign the lease so we can move forward with the license.

**17/08/58 Amenities**

- a) Night Flying – Devon Air Ambulance collection so far has raised £4200). The additional information for the planning department and Sports England is in hand.
- b) Cuthouse Meadows – Playpark closure since October 2016 – already discussed in the meeting.
- c) Allotments – a) Permission for filming requested by one tenant who is growing hops on his plot and being filmed by Gardeners World early in September. Cllr Gibbins proposed approval is give, seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.  
b) Vacant plot – to be advertised.
- d) Sandbag requirement – CPC to request 100 to be collected by Cllr H Parr.
- e) Receipt of registration of lease for Colyford Playpark

**17/08/59 Colyton Memorial Social Club**

**17/08/60 Reece Strawbridge Centre**

Cllr Hay had attended for only part of the last meeting because of a prior commitment. Discussion were underway about energy use but he left before anything was resolved.

**17/08/61 Items brought to the CPC's attention after the agenda had been published – to be noted.**

John on holiday as is Cllr Pady so we need a volunteer to empty the bins. Cllrs Turner and Gibbins will split the job between them.

**17/08/62 Dates of future meetings**

August F & P meeting – 21st August  
September CPC meeting – Monday 11<sup>th</sup> (Board Room)

The meeting closed at 8.45pm.

**APPENDIX 1**

**COUNTY COUNCILLOR AUGUST REPORT - Martin Shaw.**

**Community hospital beds**

When I stood for election in May, I promised to fight for the beds in Seaton and Honiton community hospitals. Sadly on 25 July, the Health and Adult Care Scrutiny Committee of Devon County Council decided by 7 votes to 6 not to refer the closures to the Secretary of State. This means that the beds will permanently close in September and October. The 7 councillors who voted NOT to refer the decision were county councillors Sara Randall Johnson (Broadclyst, Chair of the Committee), Richard Scott (Exmouth), Rufus Gilbert, Sylvia Russell, Paul Crabb and Ron Peart, and Cllr Paul Diviani (Leader of East Devon District Council, representing Devon district councils). All are Conservatives. The 6 councillors who voted against this motion, i.e. to refer the decision, were my fellow-Independent Claire Wright (Otter Valley), Phil Twiss (Honiton, Conservative), Brian Greenslade and Nick Way (Liberal

Democrat) and Hilary Ackland and Carol Whitton (Labour). Two Conservatives, John Berry and Jeremy Yabsley, abstained. Two other Tories, Jeffrey Trail (Exmouth) and Philip Sanders, gave their apologies. I spoke against the closures, as did Ian Hall (Conservative, Axminster) as well as six public speakers, Cllr Roger Giles (Independent, Chair of East Devon's Scrutiny Committee), Paul Arnott (Colyton), Cllr Jan Goffey (Mayor of Okehampton), and Cllr Mike Allen (Conservative), Bob Sturtivant and Stephen Craddock (all from Honiton) Claire Wright had prepared a detailed motion to refer the closures and had submitted it to the Chair before the meeting. However when debate began, Cllr Randall Johnson chose not to call Claire to speak but called Cllr Rufus Gilbert who immediately proposed the motion not to refer, which was quickly seconded by Cllr Sylvia Russell. This meant that the committee never considered point by point, as Claire's motion would have required it to, the 14 questions on which it had asked the CCG to satisfy it. The Committee basically abdicated its scrutiny role and blocked a referral without discussing most of the objections which had been raised. We are considering a complaint about how the meeting was handled. (The meeting is webcast on the DCC site.)

### **X52 bus**

In the County Council on 20 July, I asked a question about the proposed reduction in this service, the only direct route from Beer to Exeter and from Seaton to the RD&E, from 5 to 2 (off-peak) services in September. I asked for the County to consider support for peak services. Following the question and a supplementary, Cabinet Member, Councillor Roger Croad, said he would look into my request. (This meeting is also webcast.)

### **Speed calming in Colyford, Seaton and Wilmington**

On 14 July, I took part in a meeting organised by the community Speedwatch teams, to consider measures to calm speeding on the A3052 in Colyford and on Seaton Down Hill, Seaton, and also in Rousdon (which is outside our division). Chaired by Neil Parish MP, the meeting was attended by Councillor Stuart Hughes, DCC Cabinet Member, officers Tom Vaughan and Mike Jones, local residents and town and parish councillors. Highways offered to install a crossing in Colyford and a pedestrian refuge (island) on Seaton Down Hill, both of which were generally welcomed. After much discussion, officers also agreed to look again at the proposal to reduce the speed limit on Seaton Down Hill - including the junction with the A3052 - from 60 to 40. Colyford activists are also looking for further improvements, and I offered to part-fund a Vehicle-Activated Sign from my locality budget. It was agreed to meet again to discuss progress at the beginning of next year. At Widworthy Parish Council on 18 July, I agreed to join the council in a new approach to Highways England, to facilitate the overdue installation of crossings and other measures on the A35 in Wilmington.

### **Traffic orders**

On 24 July, I attended the East Devon Highways and Traffic Orders Committee (HATOC). Proposals for new waiting restrictions in Seaton, Beer and Colyton, which will be advertised in September, were noted. There may be scope for one or two additions to the list, if these are brought to me by parishes as soon as possible.

### **Traffic groups**

I have been consulting with parishes over how to meet to discuss traffic and highways problems. On 10 July, a traffic meeting for Colyton was held in Colyton Town Hall, and it was agreed that Farway, Northleigh, Offwell, Southleigh and Wilmington will be invited to attend further meetings, from the autumn. In the meanwhile a separate traffic meeting for Seaton, Beer and Branscombe will be held on Monday 25 September at 2 pm in Marshlands.

### **Wheelchair access at Seaton dentists**

I have been in discussion with my dentist, Fore Street, Seaton, about access for wheelchair users. One of my constituents finds this very unsatisfactory and I am informed that other patients, including frail people who are not using a wheelchair, find the access difficult. I find it unsatisfactory that in a town the size of Seaton, the only dentists should have such access limitations, and believe this problem deserves wider discussion.

Martin Shaw, 26 July 2017