

**Minutes for the meeting of Colyton Parish Council held on Monday 13th
June 2022 at 7.00 pm in the Colyton Town Hall.**

Present: Cllrs S Real, A Parr, C Pady, A Mills, A Jarman, K Clifford, A Stenning, J Hay, R Turner, J Gardiner and K Mills.

Also in Attendance: DCC Cllr M Hartnell and EDDC Cllr H Parr

Members of Public: 1

22/06/52 Receipt & Approval of apologies for absence. Cllr Denny (unwell) Cllr Arnott (prior commitments)

22/06/53 Declaration of Interests Cllr Hay declared an interest in planning application 22/1082/FUL as he is related to the applicant, and Cllr Parr declared an interest in the same planning application as he is a friend of the applicant.

22/06/54 Police Report. Not received.

22/06/55 Approval of the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday 9th May. These were approved for publication. This was proposed by Cllr Clifford, seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.

22/06/56 Matters arising from the Minutes. None

22/06/57 Public Question time. Member of public present did not wish to speak.

22/06/58 Report from County Councillor – see appendix A - Cllr Hartnell added that residents with privately registered panel vans (both small and large) or flat-bed vans need to apply free of charge for a permit for personal use trips to recycling centres from 4th July but can apply for one now. The permit allows twelve visits over twelve months, more than which incurs a charge.

Cllr Hay declared he had no faith in Highways and wanted to know when the meeting he had requested with “higher ups” was going to take place? Cllr Hartnell replied that he had had a meeting with Stephen Kelly of Highways addressing the poor state of roads in Colyton and, although repairs had yet to be conducted, if he was still unhappy once they were repaired then another meeting would be arranged between Stephen Kelly and himself (Cllr Hartnell). Cllr Hartnell has a meeting with Stephen Kelly in Farway on Thursday and will try to bring him to Colyton on the way back. He noted that nothing has been done about the potholes. Cllr Hay said that inefficient people were running Highways and that private companies can do the work more cheaply so why can’t Highways? Too many people to do so little work. Ditches need to be dug out then there wouldn’t be so many problems. Residents contribute a lot of money with nothing to show for it and they have to live with the potholes.

Cllr Real asked about the bollards (traffic cones) residents place outside their properties, some with their addresses inscribed on them. Colyton is being nicknamed “Coneyton” on Facebook. The highways are public property and no one can reserve parking spaces. Cllr Hartnell spoke of the possibility of Sasha writing to those residents concerned pointing this out to them, but as much as no one would like it there might have to be a ‘Traffic Review’. Hopefully we would have the result of 20mph request in July.

Cllr Turner asked when Chantry Bridge would be repaired as so many coping stones are now missing. A request for repairs was made over six months ago and the bridge continues to deteriorate. Cllr Hartnell replied he will raise this issue.

Cllr Clifford asked when the Queens Square Lamp would be replaced? Cllr Hartnell replied he couldn’t say as there is a waiting list, with Colyford waiting for two jobs to be done before us.

22/06/59 Report from District Councillors Cllr Arnott sent his report – see appendix B – and submitted a statement in his absence. “The Dolphin Street loos are fully re-opened and we are still awaiting news from Western Power re the car park lighting, although fortunately at this time of year this is less urgent.”

Cllr Parr will send her report to Sasha. She offered huge congratulations to the Jubilee Committee and all the volunteers responsible for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee Celebrations in Colyton & Colyford which had been a great success and enjoyed by all. The person who has the reference number for the Western Power request to fix the Dolphin Street car park light is on leave so she will have to wait until their return. LED will be sharing more of Colyton Grammar’s sports facilities including two netball courts, which will be refurbished - more on this in her report yet to come. Cllr Pady asked if down lighting was to be installed on the pitches and Cllr Parr replied, “Yes”.

22/06/60 Highway Matters

a) Ref: TTRO2245596 Temporary prohibition of through traffic from Monday 1st August to Friday 5th August between 08:00 and 17:30. Silver Street – this is to fit a new gas service.

22/06/61 Report from Meetings Attended Cllr Stenning reported she had attended the committee meeting of the Colyton Memorial Social Club and everyone has been sent the minutes. The committee had discovered who the trailer parked next to the Social Club for months on end belongs to: Andre Wells who has an empty driveway. Cllr Parr suggested the trailer was not taxed and that the Social Club Committee writes to Mr Wells about removing it.

22/06/62 Queens Jubilee – Cllr Clifford Cllr Clifford thanked all the volunteers involved in making the Queen's Platinum Jubilee Celebrations happen. A wonderful time was had by all who attended the events which he named. He asked for Cllr A Parr and Sasha to write to the main people involved to thank them, including Graham Pady for the beacon.

Cllr Turner mentioned someone phoned the Police to complain about noise from the 'Jubilee Party in the Park' but that they didn't stay long.

22/06/63 Update on the Dolphin Street car park street light. Awaiting update.

22/06/64 Dolphin Street toilets The toilets are now open and will remain so until April 2023 when EDDC relinquishes its responsibility for them. Cllr Pady is still waiting for a response to his FOI request re the car park. Cllr Stenning mentioned the possibility of a Lottery Grant, gleaning revenue from external advertising and proposed keeping the three toilets as they are but fixed up by EDDC before CPC takes them on next April. This was seconded by Cllr Pady and agreed by all. Cllr Gardiner thought the toilets should be demolished and replaced as they will need constant repairs. Cllr Parr pointed out we would need to wait until the result of the Colyford Community Governance Review in July as it could affect the precept and what CPC could afford to do. Cllr K Mills said CPC had already discussed the need for Colyton to provide WCs for tourists and residents alike. It was agreed to place the Dolphin Street toilets on the agenda for July after the results of the CGR are known.

22/06/65 Possible location for a memorial bench. Cllr Pady suggested a riverside bench at Green Bridge (Umborne Bridge) and Cllr Real suggested a bench between the two car parks at the Peace Memorial Playing Fields with a view of the fields on down to the river. Sasha to write and offer both possibilities.

22/06/66 Display signs around the Dolphin Street Carpark – do these want replacing? Cllr Parr will ask Jacque McCulloch to renew the signs.

22/06/67 Bath House – Cllr Clifford. Cllr Clifford talked about the dilapidated state of Bath House and how the owners were ignoring all attempts to contact them. Cllr Parr proposed asking Robert Edis at EDDC Planning Control to serve a Section 78 Notice of the Building Act 84 on the owners of Bath House as a matter of urgency for the protection of the general public. The protruding bay window hangs over a busy pavement and is in danger of collapse. This was seconded by Cllr Clifford and agreed by all.

22/06/68 Correspondence

- a) The Rural Bulletin
- b) EDDC Covid update
- c) Invitation from the Grammar School to attend their 475th Anniversary Festival on Saturday 2nd July from 1pm-5pm
- d) Minutes from the Social Club AGM held 18th May.
- e) Crime reporting – National Public Contact Survey
- f) Devon and Cornwall – Fire Arms Licencing Survey 2022

22/06/69 Finance

Minutes of the Finance meeting held 23rd May 2022 (Appendix D) to be noted.
Accounts to be approved for payment.

DD	Talk Talk	Broadband & Telephone	38.29	7.66	£45.95
DD	EDF	Workshop electricity	7.50	1.50	£9.00
DD	Biffa	Waste management	170.25	34.05	£241.03
		Collection of 660L bin	30.61	6.12	
BACS	Mr Fitzpatrick	Toilet Caretaker	120.00		£120.00
BACS	Parish Protect Insurance.	Renewal premium	1758.05		£1969.02
		Insurance premium tax	210.97		
BACS	Halcyon	Grounds Maintenance	526.75	105.35	£632.10

BACS	Mr Hurford	Hedge trimming – Track below picnic site, hedge at PMPF and hedge at Heathayne for tree planting. Total of 3 hours.	105.00	21	£126.00
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The above accounts were approved for payment. This was proposed by Cllr Parr, seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.

- a) Quotes received for installing a path to the tennis courts. Cllr Pady proposed accepting Eddie Dayment's quote, seconded by Cllr Gardiner and agreed by all except Cllr Turner who abstained as he is a friend.
- b) Tennis court maintenance and renewals. Quote not yet received.
- c) Quote from Halcyon to cut the Colyford Gateways monthly until the end of the growing season. Cllr Pady said the stretches need to be longer and need cutting immediately so will cut them himself this time and inform Sasha of the required length.
- d) Audit paperwork has been retrieved from the internal auditor. The relevant documents have been published onto the website and all the documentation has now been sent to PKF Littlejohn ahead of the deadline of 1st July. Noted.
- e) Bonus for Toilet caretaker for keeping the toilets open late for the Jubilee party? Cllr Parr proposed there should be no bonus as the work wasn't done and agreed by all.

22/06/70 Planning

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 23rd May 2022 – (Appendix E) to be noted.

a) Planning application

22/1082/FUL Wild Flowers Seaton Road Colyford – Mr Gibbins - Erection of a two storey 3 bed detached dwelling with means of access and associated works. *Comments due by 22nd June* Concern was raised by Cllr Stenning over the lack of visibility at the junction of Popes Lane and Seaton Road for emerging traffic from Popes Lane which would likely lead to conditions of danger for other road users. Cllr Stenning also noted that the dwelling would be sited well in front of the established building line on Popes Lane. Everyone agreed that something needs to be done about the hedge which completely obscures visibility of emerging traffic from Popes Lane. Cllr Gardiner proposed supporting the application, seconded by Cllr Pady and agreed by seven Councillors with Cllr Stenning voting against. Cllrs Hay, Parr and K Mills abstained.

22/1184/FUL Leacroft Touring Park Colyton Hill Colyton – Leacroft Touring Park Replacement lean-to side extension. *Comments due by 4th July*. Cllr Hay proposed supporting the application, seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.

b) Planning decisions from EDDC

22/0817/FUL Land At SY 22647 92588 Colyton Hill Colyton (Landfill Site At Whitwell Farm, Seaton) – Mr & Mrs Bennett - Siting of shepherd's hut for holiday accommodation. Refused.

c) Memorial applications

Design circulated to all for consideration – Drake memorial. As long as the size of the headstone complies to standard, Cllr A Mills proposed supporting the application, seconded by Cllr K Mills and agreed by all.

22/06/71 Amenities

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 23rd May 2022 – (Appendix F) to be noted.

- a) Potential footpath between Colyton and Colyford. Cllr Pady proposed deferring until Cllr Denny was present, seconded by Cllr Parr and agreed by all.
- b) Update on Nunsford Lane after site visit. – Report from Ros Davies of DCC circulated. The Parish Council is adamant that DCC takes responsibility for their own land and pay for any work undertaken

to prevent flooding and alleviate the flow of phosphates into the River Axe despite Cllr Pady's insistence that the Parish Council preempts any proposed work to be undertaken by expert DCC engineers in the eventuality of another flash flood this Summer prior to such work being undertaken and thus undoing the £4,000 worth of work already carried out by the Parish Council on Nunsford Lane.

c) Proposal from Cllr Pady that a letter of thanks be written to the keepers of the Western Gateway at Colyford. Request from MoP that letters of thanks be written to both Mr & Mrs Lawes of West View, Colyford, who cared for the Gateway for 10 years and planted many flowers free of charge, and Peter Clark who has now taken on the responsibility.

d) Annual Parish inspection findings. Parish Handyman Arthur Parsons notified of jobs that need doing. Cllr Stenning mentioned what a fantastic job he had done on removing the graffiti from Colyford Play Park.

22/06/72 Items brought to the CPC's attention after the agenda had been published. Cllr Hay mentioned a request for fencing along the PMPF by the river to keep the cows out and that there are poisonous weeds growing in the PMPF. This is to be put on the next agenda along with the verge at Saxon Meadow.

22/06/73 Matters to be taken into Committee

22/06/74 Dates of future meetings

Committee meetings – Monday 27th June

Full CPC – Monday 11th July.

Appendix A

Seaton & Colyton Division Report – June

Annual Council – First Full Council meeting at County Hall for 2 Years

It was great to attend the annual Council meeting at County Hall on 26th May. I had the pleasure of seconding the proposal of Cllr Ian Hall (Axminster) as Chairman of Devon County Council for the 2022/23 civic year. I have been appointed as Vice Chair of the Audit Committee and retain my positions on both the Corporate Infrastructure & Regulatory Services Committee (CIRS) and the Investment & Pension Fund Committee.

Meeting with Community Services Manager at Seaton Hospital

I met with the Community Services Manager for Seaton Hospital at the end of May. We discussed the much lower levels of Covid now in the community and the reduced pressure on services as a result, although while we are learning to live with Covid it hasn't gone away, and people should continue to be mindful and respect those who are vulnerable. The immediate challenge is around recruitment and retaining adequate staff numbers across local nursing and domiciliary care teams where demand is high.

Devon's Economy – Covid-19 recovery update

A theme that remains persistent throughout the local economy is that of recruitment difficulties and skills shortages especially in areas such as Health & care, Social work, Hospitality, Retail and Manufacturing.

In the period January to April 2022, the wider local economy has seen some recovery as restrictions have ended, although some sectors including Arts, Entertainment, Retail, Public transport and other services (which includes hairdressers & beauty) have not yet fully recovered. Accommodation & Food and Construction have recovered to pre-pandemic levels but remain vulnerable to economic disruption.

Significant economic impacts are now being felt as a result of the invasion of Ukraine and also another series of Covid related lockdowns in China. This has created uncertainty in the global economy, particularly in energy markets, with knock-ons also being felt in food and commodity markets. Higher energy, goods, food, and manufacturing input prices have already significantly

impacted the Cost of Living in the UK and are causing issues for instance with the price of construction materials.

The repercussions of the invasion of Ukraine will add to these pressures and increase inflation further in coming months, with the long-term consequences not yet being clear, although discretionary spend is expected to decline if pay rates do not maintain parity with inflation.

Consumer confidence has recently fallen to a record low as a result of pressures on household budgets and a reduced outlook for household finances over the next 12 months.

A Government support package has recently been put in place which currently includes the following:

- A £400 reduction in electricity bills in 2022/23 (at a cost of £12bn), now not repayable.
- A £150 reduction in Council Tax Bills for (Band A-D) properties at a cost of £2.9bn.
- £650 additional payment to the 8m lowest income households on Universal Credit, Tax Credits and Pensions Credit.
- A £300 separate additional payment to 3m pensioner households
- A £150 separate additional payment to 6m receiving non-means-tested disability benefits.
- Discretionary funding of £144m to support vulnerable people and those who do not pay council tax.
- Increasing the household support fund from £500m to £1.5bn raising the amount available to DCC from £5m (already spent) by an additional £10m to be spent over 2022/23.
- Eligibility for the Warm Home Discount scheme to be expanded by a third with a £10 uplift from £140 to £150 in winter 2022.
- A 5p per litre cut in fuel duty at a cost of £2.4bn.

Ukraine Refugee Situation

As of 18th May, subject to a successful visa application, currently some 1550 refugees are either due to arrive in Devon or are here as part of the scheme, around 900 adults and 650 children of school age – around 10% are over 60. They have been matched with some 600 sponsors/ properties.

In total, there have been 5,150 potential Devon sponsors in the DCC administrative area who have completed an expression of interest to host Ukrainian refugees.

DCC are currently working through the huge list of properties to see whether they are suitable to house refugees and over 1800 enhanced DBS checks are in process on potential hosts over the age of 16.

So far, over 150 applications for school places, with over 100 already allocated a school place.

The government have allocated £10,500 per individual (to include £350 per month to the homeowner or sponsor and an initial £200 for each guest). In addition, funding will go directly to school for individual students.

£2m Funding for Cranbrook Community Facilities

I attended a special meeting of the CIRS committee on 10th May. The Liberal Democrat and Labour Groups had requested a call-in of a cabinet decision to use £2m of recovered funding from the South West Exeter Housing Infrastructure Fund (HIF) to meet a funding gap to construct a community facility building in Cranbrook Town Centre. The reason for the call in were primarily based on the view that the decision was a “concerning, unacceptable, divisive approach and precedent, to delivering community facilities and infrastructure in Devon, that conflicts one new emerging community against another”. The call in demonstrated a lack of understanding of the rules of the HIF scheme where recovered funding from South West Exeter can't be reinvested on the same site. I moved a proposal to endorse the cabinet decision which was carried. This funding will secure delivery of a single multi-purpose building in Cranbrook that will assist in improving health & wellbeing and provide opportunities for children and young people as well as support for the community.

Calling all parents and carers living or working in Devon. We need your help this summer!

Whether you currently use childcare or not, your voice counts. The answers you give in this short survey will help the early years and childcare team at Devon County Council to plan and make sure that there is enough childcare available in Devon.

Even if you have participated in previous surveys, it is important to get your views now, so we can look at changes to childcare demands over time.

Take part at devon.cc/parents-childcare-survey

Cllr Marcus Hartnell

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Appendix B

Appendix C

District Council Report June 22- Cllr Helen Parr

Congratulations and thanks to all those involved in the arrangements for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee events. It was a wonderful celebration, with a very happy atmosphere, clearly enjoyed by many members of the community.

EDDC meetings continue to be held on Zoom-

- **The Cabinet considered reports on-**

1. Commissioning of Landscape Assessment work re possible sites for a new town, in the emerging new Local Plan

2. Ukranian Refugees- EDDC is working with ED Citizens Advice and DCC re a support service for Ukranian Refugees. Local Government is tasked with checking properties of host households; carrying out DBS checks, and paying out subsistence payments.

3. The British Ugandan Asians Association- the Association was granted a budget £5000 for their 50th Anniversary Celebrations in Honiton where Heathpark was a reception centre- historical records will be donated to Honiton Museum

4. DCC Urban Renewal Project- aimed at tackling decline in Devon towns. Seaton and Axminster are included, and local Project Groups are being established.

5. Colyton Leisure Centre- proposals to restructure the operating arrangements with Colyton Grammar School were agreed. Up to £140k will be contributed to works on the All-weather Pitch and Lighting. In return, improved Community use will be secured, including use of 2 Netball courts, and property and running costs to LED/ EDDC reduced.

- **The Scrutiny Committee** considered two main items-

1. A report on the Petitions from Sidmouth re Increased Car Park Charges, and why they were not progressed, and the EDDC Petitions Scheme.

2. The Recommendations of the Personel Committee re the Learning Review carried out by the East of England LGA [Local Government Association]

see <https://democracy.eastdevon.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CIId=315&MIId=1915&Ver=4>

The Learning Review Report as previously reported was confidential, but the contents have been recently leaked and are published on Radio Exe website.

- **Lights in Dolphin Street Carpark-** the officer dealing with this, who can access the WPD Ref. no., is away. I am chasing an update.