

**Minutes for the Colyton Parish Council meeting held
on Monday 4th October 2021 at 7:15pm in the Colyton Town Hall.**

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

Also in Attendance: DCC Cllr M Hartnell and S Haines (clerk)

Members of Public: 12

21/10/47 Welcome by Chair. Cllr Parr welcomed everybody to the meeting and explained that the Parish Council don't really have any power over what happens on the Highways, we can only ask DCC for what we would like to happen. He also stated that as this meeting cannot last for over two hours we will concentrate on the highway issues.

21/10/48 Receipt & Approval of apologies for absence. Cllr Arnott (unwell)

21/10/49 Declarations of Interest. Cllr Clifford declared an interest on Kings Street as he has family living there.

Cllr Parr declared an interest on Kings Street as he lives there and Cllr Real declared an interest on Coly Road as he lives there.

21/10/50 Public Question time (maximum 15 minutes) A member of the public stood and handed out a map showing the desired design for Colyford, containing new crossing points and safety measures for the highway. He explained that approximately 12000 vehicles use the road daily and crossing is extremely dangerous. He explained that the idea of the speed camera has now been put aside at the advice of the police due to the GDPR risk and overloading the police force with data. A zebra crossing has been denied in the past but money has been set aside for a crossing. He also said that cycle lanes either side of the highway would make it safer for cyclists and also force drivers closer to the centre of the highway thus slowing them down. He stated that a gateway is needed outside the Wetlands to slow traffic there and also a 7ft width restriction on the Seaton Road. Large HVGs using Seaton Road are causing vibrations which are damaging the highway. A footbridge is needed over the river near the White Hart as that is a very dangerous piece of highway with no pavement on either side. Also average speed cameras at each end of the village. A quick fix would be a 30mph speed limit throughout the village, long term solutions are the crossings. This map has already been sent to DCC.

Cllr Hay stated an issue with making Cownhayne Lane a one way lane. He stated that SWW would need easy access to the sewer works just inside of Cownhayne Lane, he also stated that the low bridge in the middle of Cownhayne Lane might mean that large vehicles accessing may need to come in from the Colyford end. He also thought in his opinion that 12000 vehicles a day is an overestimate but he believed that 1500 vehicles a day on the Seaton Road is on the low side.

A resident of Queens Court spoke on behalf of all the residents, the parking in Queens Square is obstructive and inconsiderate. It makes entering and exiting Queens Court extremely dangerous both for vehicles and children using the footpath which is open to them for School pick up and drop off times. Cars park triple parked. Also the refuse lorries are unable to access. He proposed double yellow lines at the entrance of Queens Court and additional safety railings. Cllr Hartnell explained that that particular issue is being taken to a main meeting in November and subject to its approval, double yellow lines will be implemented there next year.

A member of public announced that a Compulsory Purchase Order of land between the Seaton Cemetery and the Jurassic Centre has failed. This piece of land is needed to connect the Stop Line Way from Colyford and Seaton. It is vital that a safe, off-road path is available for people to use to get from Colyford to Seaton. There is to be a public enquiry on the 19th October at the Wetlands and he has asked to attend and would appreciate the Parish Councils backing to support him.

A resident then spoke of his support of the letter produced by the Fire Brigade, he called for time restrictions on parking in the Square and called for motorists to stop parking with one or two wheels on the pavement.

21/10/51 Highway Matters

- **Speeding on the A3052** Cllr K Mills stated that the plan produced needs pushing forward, crossing the road is extremely dangerous and pedestrians need to be safe. The Zebra crossing was pushed back because it needs to be 15m away from the School buses but funds were made available. Cllr Pady stated that he has driven from Dorchester to Salisbury, on that road there are 5 villages all with the main road running through them, they all have different speeding restrictions and methods in place and we should research, he stated that the plan that has been produced is an extremely good wish list and if there was an unlimited budget that it would be excellent but we need to be realistic with what DCC can provide. Cllr Parr suggested prioritising what order things should happen in and so it is broken down to happen gradually,

this might make it a bit more affordable. Cllr Gardiner explained that £80,000.00 was put by DCC to put in a crossing, the crossing was never installed and so that money should still be there to be used. This was confirmed by Cllr Martin Shaw. There was a group who at the time did not like the location of the crossing but it would have been better than what we have now which is nothing. Cllr A Mills stated that it would be fantastic to have all the crossings that are requested but the main issue for him is the speed of traffic, if it can be slowed by cameras and average speed checks that it would be much safer. Cllr Hartnell stated that he has received the plan and again agreed that if there was an unlimited budget then it would all be done but this is a nationwide issue and the whole County is screaming out for help. He would support where he can but needs a priority, the local police thinks the main issue is the volume of traffic and that a safe crossing is a priority over speed cameras. Cllr Hay suggested blinking signs which flash red if you are approaching too quickly and then change to green when you reach the correct speed and flash 'thank you' Cllr Pady agreed and suggested we write to Highways for advice.

- **Speed restriction sign location on New Sidmouth Road.** Cllr Hay stated that he believes that the 30mph sign which is by the Cemetery on Sidmouth Road needs to be moved up to Guernsey Corner. The road there is very twisty and narrow. Cllr Pady proposed we ask if that can happen, seconded by Cllr Hay and agreed by all.
- **Parking restrictions in and around Market Place.** Cllr Hay stated that certain vehicles do not move for weeks or months at a time in Market Square. Cllr Pady agreed that it is very bad for local businesses but a solution needs to be provided, he has an idea of an out of town parking area within an 8 minute walk to town. Cllr Denny proposed a restriction of 1 hour with no return within 4 hours be placed around the whole of Market Place, this was seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.
- **Lower Church Street onto Dolphin Street.** Cllr Real stated that there isn't much that we can do, the residents do their best and the pubs on either end can make the parking issues worse. This was agreed by all. Double yellow lines need enforcing and a traffic warden is needed.
- **Queens Square and junction to Sidmouth Road.** Cllr Real stated that as mentioned about by Cllr Hartnell double yellow lines would greatly help the issue, the fire brigade struggle to get through. The white van which is always parked there is for the business.
- **Kings Street.** Cllr Denny proposed double yellow lines be implemented running down the whole of the right hand side, this road is a busy road for farming equipment and lorries delivering to the business park and they struggle to get through, this was seconded by Cllr Real and agreed. Cllr Parr abstained as he is a resident.
- **Speed limit, weight limit and volume of traffic on Seaton Road.** Cllr K Mills stated that this is an issue which needs bringing to DCC attention. Large vehicles use the road which is unsuitable. Vibrations are damaging the highway. The large HGVs should be sent down Harepath Road or via Axmouth. Tesco do send their lorries the correct way. Cllr Real stated that it is a condition of their planning permission to use Harepath Road and not Seaton Road. If Tesco lorries are using Seaton Road then they need to be reported. Cllr A Mills did agree with all of these points but did just comment that the HGV drivers are currently under huge pressure and some are part time or new so may go the wrong way by mistake or to cut some time.
- **Double yellow lines on Sidmouth Road.** It was widely agreed and echoed by the Fire Brigade that the double yellow lines which end just before the Rest House on Sidmouth Road need extending to the main cemetery entrance and should run all the way down Sidmouth Road to the hump at the Ceram Tec. This was proposed by Cllr Turner and seconded by Cllr Real. Cllr Hartnell stated that if this was just an extension of existing yellow lines then he may be able to get this passed at the November meeting. Clerk to email details to him in the morning. 5/10.
- **Pedestrian crossing for White Hart Tram stop to go across the actual tram tracks.** Cllr Pady stated that this is a very sensible idea, you can quite easily turn your ankle getting your foot stuck on the tracks. He proposed we write to highways to ask for their advice on pedestrian crossing points on tram tracks, this was seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.
- **Bridge near White Hart very dangerous for pedestrians, could footbridge be built on SWW land?** Cllr Parr proposed we put in an application for a footbridge over the river, this was seconded by Cllr Denny and agreed by all.
- **Pedestrian crossing in Colyford near the church.** Cllr Pady proposed we enquire if funding is still available and support this crossing being implemented. This was seconded by Cllr Denny and agreed by all. Cllr Hartnell said he would look into this.

- **Signage to link Stop Line Way to Wetlands.** Cllr Pady stated that he has been asking for this for years, Seaton Road is very fast and there is nothing warning motorists of potential cyclists and pedestrians on the highway, he believes this was a part of the planning application so this is a breach of planning. He proposed we write a letter to DCC, this was seconded by Cllr Stenning and agreed by all.
- **Hazard signage needed where the Wetlands and Popes Lane comes out onto Seaton Road.** See above.
- **Asks for signage with size restriction to indicate the narrow corner where Queen Street meets King Street.** Cllr Real didn't think this would be affective and we will ask for double yellow lines.
- **Suggests that traffic calming could also be considered in the narrow part of Dolphin Street.** Cllr Parr stated that this is not an accident spot and people do drive quite slowly as a blind bend is ahead so not affective.
- **Says the main road between Colyton and Colyford is a problem for pedestrians. Safe walking and cycling measures are needed.** Cllr Parr stated that the whole road between Colyford and Colyton should be 30mph, Cllr Turner stated that the barrier needs fixing too. Cllr Denny proposed we ask highways for assistance here, seconded by Cllr Clifford and agreed by all.
- **20mph Speed Zone throughout Colyton, inc. Coly Road.** Cllr Pady proposed that from Moorfields into Colyton and Govers Meadow should all be 20mph zones. This was seconded by Cllr Clifford and agreed by all. Cllr Real abstained.
- **40mph downhill on Colyton Hill from the brow (junc. Old Sidmouth Road & New Sidmouth Road)** Cllr Pady proposed that the 40mph limit begin on the junction and go all the way down to Guernsey Corner, this was seconded by Cllr Clifford who also said a footpath sign is needed to warn motorists of pedestrians on highway. This was agreed by all.
- **30mph from up past Guernsey Corner and 'Little Acre' heading downhill towards Cemetery.** Already covered.
- **30mph limit on Coly Road hill, down from Pear Tree Corner.** Already covered.
- **Speed bump on Coly Road before Courtenay Drive heading into Colyton.** Cllr Real stated they are not really effective and will cause people to race between the humps. Cllr Turner agreed but stated the one at the PMPF does make a safe crossing point.
- **Speed bump by the tennis courts.** Not needed
- **Double yellow lines on King Street.** Already covered.
- **Residents Parking only, e.g. St Andrews Orchard, King and Lower Church Streets.** Cllr Real stated that Lyme Regis do have residents parking but they have to pay and it is quite expensive and it is policed by their traffic wardens. Cllr Pady suggested asking DCC for advice.
- **Regular Traffic Warden visits.** Cllr Denny stated that we can only request this. Cllr Pady proposed we ask, if we have no traffic wardens then all of the above is useless, this was seconded by Cllr Turner and agreed by all.
- **Public placing private cones on highway to reserve spaces.** Cllr Real stated that this is illegal, Cllr Turner also stated that it doesn't help parking in the town if a space that could be used is empty with a cone in it. The clerk to email Cllr Hartnell with hotspots as you need chapter 8 training to remove them.
- **Report from local firefighter – see appendix A.** This letter is extremely helpful and will be used as evidence when we put the requests in to the highways department.

21/10/52 Other matters

- **Wants more of a local commitment to achieving a carbon neutral Parish. A "Green" Parish should be adopted by the PC.** Not highway issue
- **Calls for permission for "dogs on leads" in the wetlands.** Not highways issue
- **The electric substation near the White Hart Inn is an eyesore. Could the owner be encouraged to plant some trees and hedging to screen this?** Not highways issue
- **Expresses concern about water quality and the biodiversity of the River Coly and Umborne, Southleigh and Offwell Brooks** Not highways issue
- **Calls for lobbying of Natural England for more of the area to be included in the AONB** Not highways issue.
- **Wants to see more tree planting, such as the creation of a linear woodland and planting on steep land at each end of Holyford Woods.** Will probably happen now land has been sold.

- **Calls for urgent attention to be given to condition of footpaths and cycle paths that are now used.** Cllr Pady stated that we have a very effective footpath team who monitor paths, we do all we can do, we stone muddy areas but cannot stone whole path as farmers land, will damage machinery and make livestock lame.
- **Wishes to see the closed footpath Whitwell Lane – Holyford Lane restored. Calls for a 22-person lobby to make the path a definitive path.** The Parish Council have already discussed this and voted not to push this issue.
- **Asks PC to promote a new walking path between Shells Lane and Courtney Drive to give a linking path between Colyton and Colyford.** Cllr Parr asked Cllr Pady to approach land owners and see if this is an option.
- **Calls for ongoing provision of public conveniences in the town centre of Colyton, preferably modernised and environmentally sustainable.** This currently is being looked at by EDDC.
- **Suggests creating a tarmacked walkway between the two fields to the West of Gully Shoot for students to access an off-road coach park close to the Village’s West gateway.** Cllr Pady stated that work is currently going on behind the scenes.
- **Suggests a flood relief scheme to be implemented to prevent flooding at Gully Shoot crossway with an 18-inch storm drain taking stormwater from the CGS campus and intercepting stormwater from Green Lane and Whitwell Lane and taking it down below the walkway to the Stafford Brook.** DCC issue.
- **Suggests two exception site locations for affordable housing i.e. to the West of Courtney Drive and to the extension of Cuthouse Meadows and the paddock below the picnic site.** Not PC issue.
- **Says that the CLT needs help from the Parish Council if suitable sites (especially viable brownfield ones) are to be identified.**
- **CVRA criticises lack of ambition to create a 21st century diverse local economy which encourages rural skills based enterprises, home working, creative and internet tech enterprises, facilitating collaborative tech hubs for young entrepreneurs who can stimulate economic growth and higher paid employment**
- **Suggests the PC act on policy Coly13 urgently to deliver super-fast communications**
- **Calls for a Colyford safe walking plan to be developed.** Cllr Pady proposed a path be put in between Stafford Farm and Popes Lane, this was seconded by Cllr K Mills and agreed.
- **Criticises lack of progress on the Stoplevel Way, calls for completion.**
- **Calls for a footbridge to enable people to walk from Umborne Bridge to Chantry Bridge along the edge of the football field.** This is private land.
- **Wants investigations into a local post bus linking Colyton and Colyford with the main Exeter/Lyme/Axminster service.**
- **Suggests the Grammar School has a great deal of land with access from both Whitwell Lane and Stafford Lane which could be used as a drop off and pick-up point**
- **EDDC suggests the PC could consider identifying space on the edge of the BUAB for car parking if it is required. If this were surfaced using ‘grasscrete’ or similar it would not need to be visually intrusive and, if it were used only at peak holiday time, could be grassed and grazed when not in use potentially.** Cllr Pady is already looking into this. A potential 10 year lease of one acre.
- **Suggests that the three acres of land next to the Reece Strawbridge building is retained and dedicated as the site for a new primary school for Colyton.**
- **Suggest having land in reserve at Colyford for allotments and a community composting facility.**
- **Says that the excess light spillage from the all-weather pitch needs to be addressed.**
- **CVRA suggests the NP should be reviewed every two years**

21/10/53 Matters to be taken into Committee.

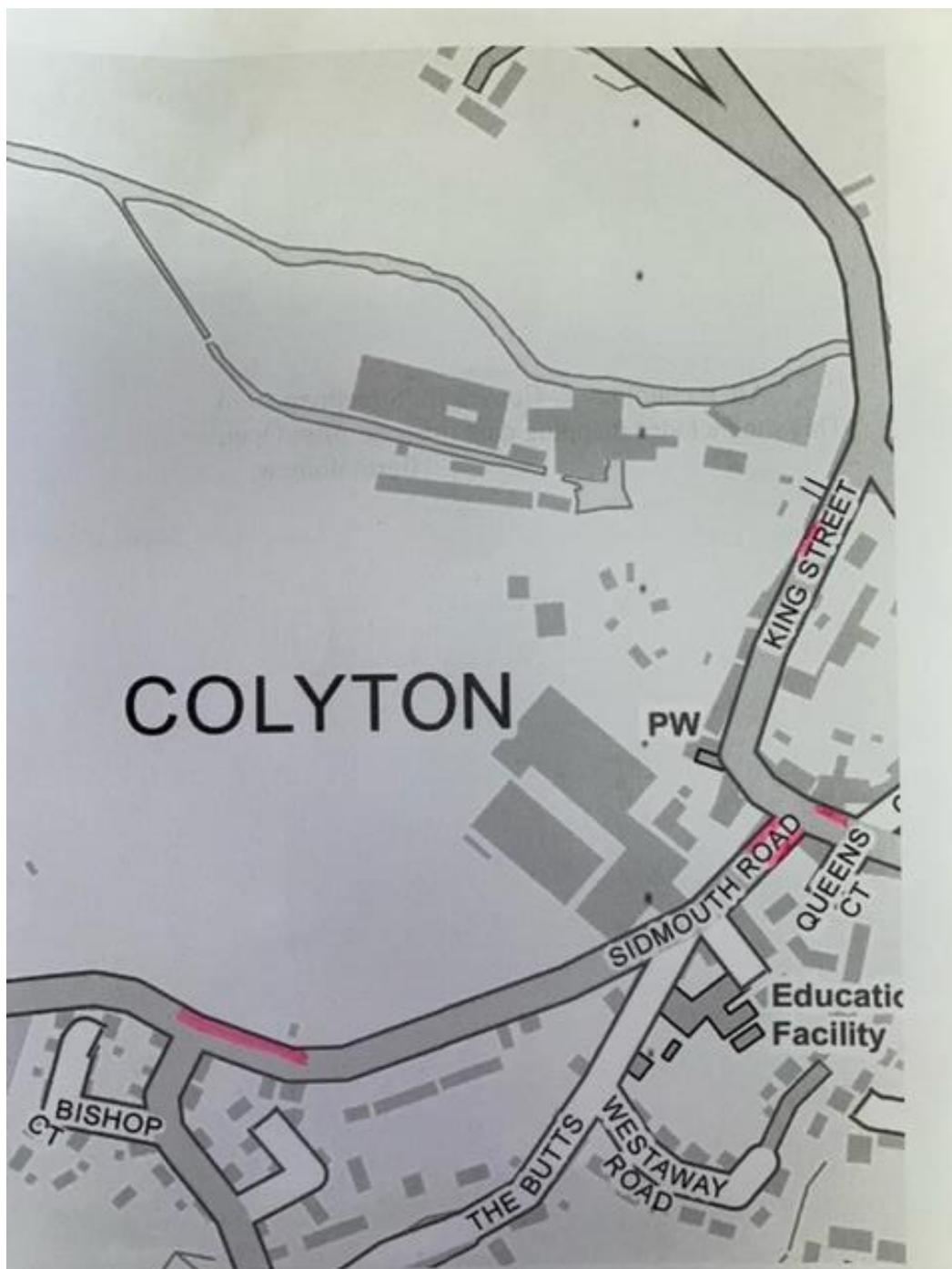
21/10/54 Any Matters brought to the Chairs attention after the agenda was published to be noted. Cllr Parr mentioned about the Member of Public asking for support for the Stop Line Way issue in public question time. Cllr Real proposed we support this, this was seconded by Cllr Clifford and agreed by all.

21/10/55 Dates of future meetings

Full CPC – Monday 11th October in the Colyford Memorial Hall.

Finance & Planning – Monday 25th October

Appendix A



I am writing to express my views on some of the parking problems in Colyton ahead of the parish council meeting on Monday 4th October. I am sure my observations are not unique, but as a firefighter and driver of large vehicles including the Colyton fire appliance, and a resident in a problem area I thought I should try and share my opinions. I have lived in Colyton all my life and the traffic volume has increased but not proportionally with people's common sense and courtesy unfortunately. There are also a few local businesses that could perhaps be more helpful, with not leaving unused vehicles parked up in precious parking spaces for long periods of time. Perhaps a polite letter asking them to 'play the game' may be all that is needed, after all parking restrictions may impact them. Although I would not like to see blanket double

yellow lines everywhere as have been implemented in some local coastal towns, I think something must be done, particularly before the Ceramtec site is developed.

I believe there have been complaints about the use of people using traffic cones to try and reserve a parking space outside their properties, particularly King Street and Queens Square. Although you could argue that it is not technically correct to place a cone outside your house on a public highway, they do not hamper the flow of traffic in the day, rather they aid it. Also the users of the cones tend to park their vehicles courteously when they are on the road. I personally try to keep a space reserved when I am on call outside my house to help ensure a quick turn out to the fire station in the event of a shout. It is often ignored and the cone kicked out the way! I guess if cones were to be abolished then perhaps resident parking permits could be introduced, but would need to be policed.

On a separate note but parking related I think it could be worth exploring the idea of some 1 hour no return (9am-5pm) parking spaces in Market Place. Perhaps from the Colyton Kitchen Shop to the bus stop outside Premier shop? This is bound to have a positive effect on local traders and Colyton in general.

I have attached a map with the main areas of concern for me and the fire service relating to poor parking, namely;

Bottom of Sidmouth Road/Queens Square junction;-the road junction markings are worn away and I regularly see cars come down the hill and turn right on the wrong side of the road! These need repainting. I think double yellow lines on Sidmouth Road outside Colyton Cottage on both sides of the road would also help, and a short section outside Soanes shop/ flat entrance where there is a pinch point for large vehicles.

Further up Sidmouth Road; It may have gone unnoticed but it is very dangerous, the double yellows added a few years ago on the LHS/ RHS have helped alleviate some congestion. However I think the double yellow lines on the RHS heading uphill should be extended past the chapel of rest and beyond the Burnards Field Road junction. We have had a couple near misses in the fire engine going up Sidmouth Road, being faced with vehicles on the wrong side of the road heading straight for us as they negotiate the parked cars, with little visibility because of the bend and downhill momentum reducing their stopping distance.

King Street; in particular a small pinch point section between the front gate of 'The Cottage' and 'Geleen'. King Street is the main arterial road from Colyton to Northleigh, Farway and Umborne parish's and it is important that it must be kept free of poorly parked cars for the fire, ambulance services as well as all the essential large agricultural vehicles and delivery HGV's that use it. If this road is impassable it could have serious consequences in the event of an emergency. I have lost count of the number of times a selfish driver has obstructed the free passage of large vehicles along King Street, it must be so frustrating for busy farmers and is only a matter of time before it hinders a fire engine getting to an emergency.

South Street/Fire station entrance; Over the past couple years our neighbours and workers at the care home have taken to parking on the entrance pull in to the fire station (to the left of the entrance next to the concrete pillars). Although this does not cause traffic congestion it does make it dangerous exiting the fire station. This parking restricts our vision of vehicles coming down South Street. Perhaps a zig-zag line or double yellow could be added to make our lives easier and safer.