

MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF THE AMENITIES COMMITTEE
HELD ON MONDAY 29th July 2024 AT 7:00PM IN THE COLYTON TOWN HALL.

Present: Cllrs S Real, A Stenning, A Parr, J Hay, J Gardiner and R Turner. Also S Haines (clerk)

Members of public: 0

A24/07/29 To receive and accept apologies for absence. Cllrs Clifford, Mann and Stephenson.

A24/07/30 The minutes of the Amenities committee meeting held Monday 24th June 2024 (appendix I) for approval. Cllr Hay proposed these be approved, seconded by Cllr Gardiner and agreed by all.

A24/07/31 Matters arising from the Minutes. None.

A24/07/32 Declarations of interest. None.

A24/07/33 Democratic Period. No members of public present to speak.

A24/07/34 Bus shelter at Coly Vale. No update available – next agenda.

A24/07/35 List of highway requests for Hattoc. List approved to be sent – see appendix A

A24/07/36 Letter for Richard Foord RE South West Water. Letter approved to be sent – see appendix B.

A24/07/37 Party in the Park at the Playing Fields, Saturday 24th August 5pm-10pm. Cllr Real informed the Council that the main charity that this event will support is Biff's Battle. Clerk to contact Wickstead to inform them that work on the Trim trail fence cannot be happening during this event.

A24/07/38 Items bought to the Chairs attention after the agenda was published to be noted.

Cllr Hay reported that the main gates at the cemetery have dropped and need re-hanging.

Cllr Hay reported that there are some memorials up at the cemetery which do not comply with regulations.

A24/07/39 Date of next Meetings,

Full meeting – Monday 12th August

Committee meeting – TUESDAY 27th August

Meeting closed: 19:50.

Appendix A.

List for Hattoc

All yellow lines in Colyton need repainting and the gap on South Street needs doing.

Double Yellow Lines:

- Church Street Queens Square (5 metres outside old jewellery shop)
- Queens Square to Sidmouth Road (from where the lines finish in Queen Street to the sign on the left hand side about 30 metres up Sidmouth Road)
- Church Street on the triangle by the lamp post
- Dolphin Street 40 metres back from Green Bridge on the river side where the bus stop is
- Outside Colcombe Castle opposite the car park
- Burnards Field Road to Western Terrace on the cemetery side

Request that all of Colyton is 20mph.

The 30mph sign on Gurnsey Corner is move back up Sidmouth road so slow incoming traffic

Shells Lane to Coly Vale be 30mph

SWW to revisit leak on South Street.

Request speed bump as Lisham's Drain

Appendix B.

Dear Mr Foord,

I am writing to you on behalf of the Colyton Parish Council. The Council would like to congratulate you on your re-election to parliament.

The Council would like to bring to your attention a huge issue Colyton is having with South West Water and would request that you help to get its voice heard.

I, as clerk have written to South West Water on numerous occasions. To their credit, South West Water have sent out many contractors to examine the sewage line and they always report problems and acknowledge that there are serious issues but nothing seems to be changing.

Colyton's sewage system is extremely outdated and the lines are at capacity. There are many areas below ground that are damaged but also where the pipes run above ground there are visible defects and waste can be seen leaking out of pipes in various locations.

The Parish Council have received photos and videos from a local farmer who farms along Cownhayne Lane, his fields are subjected to human waste and sanitary products on an all too regular basis, a huge environmental risk. This then runs off his land and into the River Coly. We have school children who during high rain fall have to wait for a bus next to a manhole cover which lifts and overflows with untreated sewage, this puts them at risk of being splashed by this on their way to school. We have a very popular, beautiful footpath which runs alongside the river. This path has a sewage line running over head height and has visible waste outpouring. There is a treatment centre off of Cownhayne Lane, this is at capacity, in fact during heavy rain fall the treatment centre simply overflows and runs directly into the river Coly – something that has been reported time and time again both to the Environment Agency and SWW. We have been told that when the site is at capacity, SWW have tankers which pump out the waste and simply dump it straight into the River Coly.

These are but a few of the issues Colyton is facing.

South West Water cleared out a pipe several years ago and took out over 8 tonnes of rubbish, mostly ceramic waste from the old factory site. They reported then that the pipe was damaged and nothing has been done. The Council have been told that SWW plan on lining the pipes to reduce the leaking but surely this will just reduce the capacity which is already stretched.

They will not give a time line for any works.

Colyton Parish Council is well aware that these issues are not exclusive to Colyton and that nationwide there are issues with water companies not spending their profit on updating their systems, but Colyton Parish Council feels that Colyton is being subject to more and more new housing and its objections due to the sewage and drainage systems not being adequate are going unheard.

During planning application consultations, South West Water seem to assure East Devon District Council that the system can cope with new estates being developed and Colyton Parish Council see that the visual evidence of the leaking pipes throughout the system is physical proof that it cannot.