

**Minutes for the meeting of Colyton Parish Council held on Monday 16th
December 2024 at 7.00 pm in the Colyton Town Hall.**

Present: Cllrs S Real, K Clifford, A Parr, A Stenning, M Mann, J Hay, J Gardiner and R Turner.

Also in attendance: S Haines (clerk)

Members of public: 1

24/12/71 Receipt & Approval of apologies for absence. Cllrs Arnott, Chesterton and Stephenson also EDDC Cllr H Parr

24/12/72 Declaration of Interests. Cllr Real declared an interest on the waste management contract as his family works for one of the companies. Cllr Mann declared an interest on planning application 24/2383/FUL.

24/12/73 Police Report. 4 crimes reported in October 2024. 2 X violence and sexual offences. 2 X antisocial behaviour.

24/12/74 Approval of the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held Monday 11th November 2024. Cllr Stenning proposed these be approved, seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all.

24/12/75 Matters arising from the Minutes. None.

24/12/76 Public Question time. A member of public stood and spoke about the issue of wasps. It is believed that there may be one or more nests in the Ivy which grows on the pillars by the river along Rosemary Lane just below the Old Mill site. The member of public asked the Parish Councils permission to remove this Ivy to see if that encourages the wasps to move elsewhere. This was agreed with thanks.

24/12/77 Report from County Councillor. None issued and the DCC Cllr was not present.

24/12/78 Report from District Councillors. Cllr H Parr sent a short report with her apologies: Apart from a few minor amendments and editing, the Local Plan is ready to go to the Regulation 19 Consultation. Comments received from this Consultation will go with the Local Plan to the Plan Inspector, to be taken into account by him at Examination, which will be held in public, with the opportunity for the public to speak.

24/12/79 Highway Matters. Two issues of prolonged flooding were raised. One by Cllr Hay for the end of Cownhayne Lane and one by Cllr Real for the bottom of Lishams Drain. Both areas have had flood water and neither seem to be draining away. Clerk to report both issues to highways.

24/12/80 Report from Meetings Attended. Cllr Stenning attended a meeting with the site manager of the Wain Homes site. There have been various chats with neighbours, numbers 1-4 Prospect Terrace have all experienced flooding. One home has needed to be evacuated and a garden has been under water. Also some garages by St John Hall have experienced flooding, all of this is with bright red clay run off yet Wain Homes claim is it not from the site. The pile driving will commence Monday 6th January.

Cllr Real attended a meeting of the Playing Fields committee. The total amount raised from the firework night has not yet been announced but they know it was a success. The drainage issues seem to be greatly improved. They are in the process of getting a quote to install a CCTV camera for the car park. They also want to know the boundary line from the Dares land to theirs as they plan to dig a small ditch to divert water running off the slope away from the pitch. Clerk to check deeds.

24/12/81 Enabling remote attendance and proxy voting at Local Authority meetings. Consultation now open. Cllr Mann stated that meeting in person is not an issue for this Council and it is preferred to meet physically, therefore he proposed that the comment be to not support this, seconded by Cllr Gardiner and agreed by all.

24/12/82 Dolphin Street Toilets update from working party meeting. Final decision required on whether to proceed with takeover or refuse the offer. Cllr Mann outlined information received from EDDC. They offered to keep the cleaning contract going at a cost of £14,000 per year, and this is beyond what the Parish Council could afford. A cleaner will need to be found and a decision will have to be made as to whether to employ an individual or use a cleaning company. It would not be viable to keep all the toilets open so the aim would be to close the male and female units and turn the accessible loo into a unisex unit for all to use. Then the other two units would be stripped to a shell and offered up as a rental unit with a clause that the tenant must keep the toilet open and cleaned for the public to use. This would result in a public loo that is self-sufficient in that once all is up and running, it won't cost the Parish Council. In the meantime though, for the first year at least, the precept will need to be increased to cover the costs of running the toilet, an estimated figure of £10,000 for the year should cover utilities and cleaning costs. Cllr Gardiner

highlighted the concerns surrounding employment law if we were to take on an individual and we would need to ensure they had COSHH training, that all chemicals were secure and that they paid tax and NI. If we were to use a professional contractor then all that would be taken care of but the hourly rate would be much higher.

Cllr Mann proposed that the Council went ahead with the asset transfer, this was seconded by Cllr Stenning and agreed by all.

24/12/83 Parish Council website. Cllr Chesterton sent his apologies and therefore could not report on this. It will go on the next agenda.

24/12/84 Correspondence

- a) The Rural Bulletin
- b) EDDC Covid update
- c) Rural Funding Digest
- d) Rural Services Network

24/12/85 Finance

Minutes of the finance committee meeting held Monday 25th November (appendix S) to be approved for publication. Cllr Mann proposed these be approved, seconded by Cllr Gardiner and agreed by all. Accounts to be approved for payment.

DD Talktalk broadband & telephone 39.17 VAT 7.83. Total 47.00 pounds.

DD British gas lite workshop electricity 17.91 VAT 0.90. Total 18.81 pounds.

DD Biffa waste management 195.78 VAT 39.16. Total 234.94 pounds.

BACS Mr Fitzpatrick toilet caretaker. Total 120.00 pounds.

BACS Bradfords sand for sandbags 59.00 VAT 11.80 delivery 12.50. Total 83.30 pounds.

BACS Halcyon cemetery contract 526.75 VAT 105.35. Total 632.10 pounds.

BACS Moleavon paintbrushes 15.00 VAT 3.00. Total 18.00 pounds.

BACS Mrs S Haines salary 1070.20 mileage 0.45 X 18 8.10 minus pension 30.00. Total 1048.30 pounds.

BACS Mr A Parsons salary 1300.00 mileage 0.45 X 60 27.00. Total 1327.00 pounds.

BACS HMRC PAYE 357.80 NI Employee 4.78 NI Employer 167.92. Total 530.50 pounds.

DD Nest pensions Employer 15.00 Employee 30.00. Total 45.00 pounds.

- a) Balanced accounts from 1st – 30th November to be approved. Cllr Mann proposed these be approved, seconded by Cllr Stenning and agreed by all.
- b) Clerks salary for 2025/26. Noted.
- c) Clerk holiday request. Approved.
- d) First look at the budget. After much consideration it was agreed that a 10% increase would be necessary, this would still require the Council to use some of its reserves. This would be an average increase of £5.36 bringing the total annual average for a band D property to £58.99. This was proposed by Cllr Gardiner, seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all.
- e) Quote from the Annual Play Inspection Company to conduct the playground inspections £189.90 excluding VAT. Cllr Real proposed this be booked in, seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all.
- f) Quote to change waste disposal supplier. Currently with Biffa at an average annual cost of £2819, Suez would be £1450 a year through Procure Smart Business. Cllr Mann proposed the contract be switched, seconded by Cllr Stenning and agreed by all.
- g) Quote for footpath cutting contract. A quote of £980 plus VAT per cut was obtained, this was far higher than the previous contract. It was decided to leave the works for a year and see if it truly does need doing.

24/12/86 Planning

Minutes for the planning committee meeting held Monday 25th November (appendix T) to be approved for publication. Cllr Turner proposed these be approved, seconded by Cllr Stenning and agreed by all.

a) Planning application from East Devon

24/2383/FUL 4 Thornfield Close Colyton – Ms Dunster - Construction of a garden wall and associated regrading of land (retrospective). *Comments due by 20th December.*

Cllr Real proposed this not be supported, it is in the flood plain and its presence will increase the pressure on the foot bridge when the Coly is flooding. Seconded by Cllr Parr and agreed by all bar Cllr Mann who abstained.

24/2392/LBC Flat above Flix Hair Design Market Place Colyton – Mrs Bayliss - Replacement of 2 first floor, front elevation windows: traditionally detailed, timber, weighted, box sash windows, fitted with slim unit double glazing. *Comments due 20th December.*

Cllr Mann proposed this be supported, seconded by Cllr Gardiner and agreed by all.

Added after the agenda was published, will miss the deadline for comment due to the Christmas period.

24/2418/LBC Heathayne Farm Colyton – Mr Hackman - First floor: removal of walls of existing bathroom; block up door from bedroom 1 to landing; construct walls to create new bathroom; undertake where necessary structural reinforcement of walls and ceilings; construct new load bearing partitions and flooring. *Comments due by 10th January.*

Cllr Parr proposed this be supported, seconded by Cllr Mann and agreed by all.

24/1412/FUL & 24/1413/LBC Methodist Chapel King Street – Mr Griffin - Amended plans for consultation. These amendments relate to Amended plans showing removal of previously proposed dormer, alteration to roof pitch and height of existing rear extension and reduction in footprint of proposed flat roof rear extension. *Comments due by 28th December.*

Cllr Mann proposed this be supported, seconded by Cllr Real and agreed by all.

b) Planning decisions from East Devon

24/2048/FUL 27 Govers Meadow Colyton – Mr & Mrs S & E Long - Proposed single storey rear extension and replacement side porch. Approved with conditions.

24/1939/FUL 16 Hillside Colyton – Mr & Mrs Hancock - Proposed two storey rear extension and shed/garden room. Approved with conditions.

24/1914/FUL Brookfield House South Square Colyton – Mrs Klaentschi - Raise and re-form the garage roof to facilitate solar panels on the south elevation. Extend the garage to the west to the garden wall on the ground floor. Enlarge the existing balcony and replace the guarding and stairs. Install a flat roof over the walled area to the south west of the garage allowing a garden tool store to be formed. Approved with conditions.

c) Planning correspondence.

Notification of planning appeal received. APPEAL REF: APP/U1105/W/24/3355019 PROPOSAL: Removal of condition 4 (holiday accommodation restriction) of planning permission 00/P0545 (Conversion of redundant farm buildings to holiday let units) LOCATION: Tritchayne Farm Cottages Colyton EX24 6SP. The Colyton Parish Council did not support this application. Any further comment must be made to EDDC by 31st December.

Cllr Real stated that no further comment was necessary, this was agreed by all.

24/12/87 Amenities

No Amenities committee meeting held in November

a) Meeting to be held at the Community Woodland with EDDC to discuss future of the site. Noted, clerk to confirm that there will be no cost for this.

24/12/88 Items brought to the CPC's attention after the agenda had been published to be noted.

24/12/89 Matters to be taken into Committee. Site Coly 06 land north of the Reece Strawbridge Centre. Cllr Mann informed the Council that Cllr Arnott (who could not be at this meeting) wanted to look into

approaching the Primary School to discuss the possibility of moving the site to the Playing Fields, if the School were to agree to the future plans then it would give us more weight to fight the allocation for housing in the area. Cllr Mann proposed a working party should be formed for this, seconded by Cllr Stenning and agreed by all.

24/12/90 Dates of future meetings

Committee meetings – No Committees in December

Full Council meeting – Monday 13th January.

Meeting closed: 20:15.