

**COLYTON PARISH COUNCIL**  
**Feoffees Town Hall, Colyton**  
**EX24 6JR**

**Minutes for the Colyton Parish Council meeting held in the Mortimer Room of Colyton Town Hall on Monday  
8<sup>th</sup> July 2019 at 7pm.**

**Present:** Cllrs C Pady, E Jones, H West, J Gardiner, P Arnott, K Clifford, S Real, R Turner, H Parr, J Hay & 7 members of the public, Dist Cllr H Parr, County Cllr M Shaw (for part of the meeting) and E Berry (Clerk).

**19/07/56** Cllr Parr welcomed everyone to the meeting and reiterated the importance of declaring if you wish to record the meeting

**19/07/57 Receipt & Approval of apologies for absence** – Cllrs R Watts (family emergency), C Denny (unwell) and A Jarman (prior commitment).

**19/07/58 Police Report**

JUNE 2019:

7 CRIMES – 2 Violence with injury (domestic), 3 x Violence without injury (domestic), 2 Other Theft (car stolen – later found, had just forgotten where it was parked) 12 LOGS – 2 crimes (above), 6 Public Safety (concern for people), 4 Transport (broken down vehicles & RTC Northleigh)

**19/07/59 Declarations of Interest**

Cllr Pady declared a personal interest under Amenities, the item on the Permissive path. He was the former owner of the fields which this path runs through until he sold them in 2014.

**19/07/60 Public Question time** (maximum 15 minutes)

A Colyford resident welcomed the Councillor surgeries to be held at the Memorial Hall later in the month as she felt more people would attend these than a Council meeting.

Mr Morgan enquired about the next process under S106 for the Petanque court. The Clerk explained that S106 officers have requested a meeting with CPC to discuss all the projects.

A member of the CVRA told the meeting that the sign for the wetland had been promised in the next few weeks. He expressed concern on the state of the verges with nothing being done by either the County Council or the Parish Council. The ‘sandbag’ wall opposite the White Hart is in a disgraceful state. Residents were dismayed at the length of time it is taking to appoint new scrutineers for the Neighbourhood plan and enquired if the questions posed to the NP Steering Group would be answered?

**19/07/61 With amendment proposed by Cllr H West the minutes of Parish Council Meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> June 2019 were accepted as being a true record of that meeting.**

**19/07/62 There were no matters arising from the Minutes**

**19/07/63 Report from County Councillor – July 2019 – see Appendix 1.**

Cllr Shaw briefly went through his report emphasising the actions being undertaken on the Fire Station issue with the Fire Authority being invited to a meeting of the DCC Scrutiny Committee later in the month.

The 20 mph speed limit zoning is gathering momentum and a working party report expected shortly. Newton Abbot and Kingkerswell will be trialling 20mph zones.

There had been some positive responses to the idea of the Seaton Area health body taking over the running of Seaton hospital to secure a future but negotiations are in the very early stages

**19/07/64 Report from District Councillors**

**Dist Cllr H Parr** reiterated the importance of everyone to attend the Devon & Somerset Fire Service meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> July from 3pm – 7pm. In her opinion none of the options on offer are acceptable, all propose the closure of stations including Colyton.

She quoted recycling statistics for May where 62% of collected waste was recycled, exceeding the Government targets for 50% by 2030. 99.34% of rent due was collected.

There had been comments that the EDDC website was not user friendly and this is being looked at. Since going online there has been 80700 hits on the site and there was an 8.4% increase in hits last month.

She explained that over 629 enterprises in East Devon have been helped by the Heart of the SW Growth Hub with 83% of those helped now trading of which 47% are sole traders. More businesses in East Devon have benefited than anywhere else in Devon.

**Dist Cllr Paul Arnott** submitted a written report (see below) and commented that whilst recycling figures were commendable it was important to identify who the end users of our plastics were and a motion has gone in to request that information. He commented that the Heart of the SW Business Hub remains a problem democratically which needs looking into to ensure it functions correctly.

He had personally wrote to Geoff Pook re the car parking charges increase in Colyton which is impacting on local traders.

He reiterated Cllr Parrs comment on the importance of everyone attending the meeting with the Fire Service on 16<sup>th</sup> July and a well-reasoned argument based on accurate factual information will be needed to oppose these closures as none of the current options are acceptable.

### **Colyton Fire Station:**

The most urgent matter to arise this month was the proposal from the Devon and Somerset Fire Rescue Service to close 8 fire stations, including Colyton. I was grateful for a thorough briefing from Tracy Trelease Councillor Martin Shaw, I wrote to every member of the fire authority. I had a number of helpful replies.

Ideally, this matter would not have been pushed on to the consultation phase, especially as so much of the data and supporting reasoning is provably inaccurate. However, this has now happened. It is important that all councillors and the community fight a well-reasoned argument against closure from now on. Cllr Shaw has arranged for the fire service to be brought before the county in September, and my colleague EDA councillor Jack Rowland of Seaton has asked for them to come before the EDDC Scrutiny committee, possibly as soon as this month.

### **The new EDDC administration:**

Despite widespread bafflement that Cllr Ben Ingham decided to take his Independent Group into an “alliance” with the Conservatives – rather than accept offers of support from the 8 Liberals and 11 East Devon Alliance Independents – EDA councillors are working constructively with councillors of all backgrounds cross-party.

It seems even more clear now that the “Leader/Cabinet” model is a broken form of governance at EDDC, and the new administration is already struggling to reduce the dominance of senior officers in key decision making and strategic matters. The essence of the “Leader/Cabinet” model is, as the law proscribes, a strong Scrutiny function. This has not happened in living memory, and senior officers simply excise from the agenda that which does not suit them.

Under Cllr Ingham’s leadership, the Conservatives now chair the council, the Development Management Committee, the Scrutiny Committee and the Standards Committee.

However, it is also clear that after this false start there is much support for moving to the more democratic “Committees” system which would counter many of the unwelcome developments above, which as they stand are counter to the decision of the electorate in May.

I will seek to work hard with councillors of all backgrounds to pursue reform as soon as possible – that said, resistance to this is likely to be considerable.

### **Development Management Committee/Planning**

I continue to work on this committee, where there have been an extraordinary number of applications already from applicants seeking to regularise by retrospective permission, or to expand on an existing permission, contrary to assurances given in the first place.

It is clear that East Devon District Council will need to scrutinise this, as well as its relationship with major national developers, which has resulted in so many sub-standard homes in the district. A first attempt to place the latter on the Scrutiny agenda by the Liberals was denied by Conservative chair, Alan Dent.

Questions were asked about the car park increases and how a the justification of increasing the car park charges to standardise them across the region appears to have been ignores as locally car parks in Newton Poppleford, and Sidbury are free and Sidford only pay 40p/hr. Sidmouth has a large tourist element paying for car parking whereas Axminster & Colyton who's charges are the same have smaller amounts of tourist and these increases are affecting local residents and businesses and are in fact isolating people in the community. Is there a review of these charges planned?

Cllr Parr answered by saying as far as she was aware no review was planned for at least a year,

Cllr Arnott said he'd take this up with Geoff Pook and report back, he was aware that an EDDC Councillor had fought against these increases in her ward and stopped the hike in prices there.

There followed some discussion on the problem with missed dog bin collections, a service paid for in advance but not received for several reasons, the main ones being a change in contractors, a breakdown of a vehicle and the inability of those on the ground being able to locate the bins due to lack of local knowledge and reliance on technology that doesn't work needing emptying. The Council will write to Geoff Young the environment Portfolio Holder for his comments.

A question was asked about Affordable Housing and the weaselling out of the commitment to provide an agreed number by developers who subsequently claim it is not financially viable for them to provide the previously agreed number. Just how many Affordable Houses were built in 2018/19. Cllr Parr will provide those figures for the next meeting. She explained the procedure where the County valuer will look at a developers request to amend the number of Affordable Houses supplied on a specific build and EDDC Officers have to take those recommendations into account. Cllr Arnott felt EDDC had been a soft touch for developers in the past. There were overage clauses made which meant that if more profit was made that expected some of that would go back to the Council, however in EDDC this had not happened to his knowledge. A more robust view needs to be adopted especially with certain developers who constantly please the lack of financial viability after a quota has been agreed.

There was a comment made about the lack of news about the CeramTech plans.

#### **19/07/64 Highway Matters**

- a) TTRO11930657 Monday 12<sup>th</sup> August – 19<sup>th</sup> August – Northleigh Road, Northleigh & Op Farwood Cottage - Water Meter Installation
- b) TTRO 1930590 Monday 14<sup>th</sup> August – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> - road from Gate Cross to Willhayne Lane southbound for 200m from o/s Tritchayne Cottage – Renewal of faulty aerial cable.
- c) TTRO1930525 Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> September 1700 – 2100 – Cownhayne Lane, Station Rd & Govers Meadow. 1830 – 2130 – Market Place. 1930 – 2130- Queen St, Dolphin Street & South Street – 1700 – 2200 Carnival.

#### **19/07/65 Report from Meetings Attended**

In the absence of Cllr Watts the Clerk commented on a meeting held with Barrie Hedges and Elaine Stafford re communications that she had attended with Cllr Watts. There had been questions submitted prior to the meeting, some of which concerned the operating costs and procedures in running the website. The Clerk had explained the legal position of meetings and agendas and what could be discussed. The Parish Council is not dynamic, it can't react immediately to situations as all decisions are made as a corporate body and have to be on an agenda to be discussed. She explained that unlike any other Committees people may attend the Council is not allowed 'Any Other Business'.

The web master had comprehensively answered the questions posed on maintaining, updating and running the web site.

#### **19/07/66 Correspondence**

- a) Publications e-mailed to councillors – Intouch/RsN/EDDC meeting details etc

- b) Email from Barrie Hedges to CPC - re assistance offered to improve communication – will come back to CPC at a later date.
- c) Response from Dan Hoults DSFS re Town hall booking for 16<sup>th</sup>- emailed to Cllrs
- d) Request from resident for CPC's Discrimination policy. Reply sent.
- e) Draft minutes of Finance & Planning emailed to Councillors
- f) Response from Dan Hoults Devon & Somerset fire re meeting provisionally planned for Colyton on 16<sup>th</sup> July with a change of time, now 3pm – 7pm

### 19/07/67 Finance

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

Cllr Real proposed, seconded by Cllr Arnott that the Accounts to be approved for payment

DD	Opus	Electricity	£11.51	£0.58	£12.09
DD	Talk Talk	Telephone & Broadband	£25.28	£5.05	£30.33
BACS	Henry Fitzpatrick	Toilet Caretaker Invoice for April			£100
BACS	G H Down	Work on Sandpits Lane Flood Relief Materials Labour	£184 £230		£414
BACS	EDDC	Election expenses	£2379.37	£181.52	£2560.89
BACS	Halycon Landscapes	Ground Maintenance June 2019	£468.33	£93.67	£562.00
BACS	MNR Mowers Ltd	Invoice 134824	£8.73	£1.74	£10.47
BACS	South West Water	Water Services to Trough 1 <sup>st</sup> April 2019 to 21 <sup>st</sup> June 2019 Balance before this bill	£10.36 1.03	£2.07	£12.43 <b>£13.46</b>
BACS	Mole Avon	Twinwall Pipe – flood diversion project Elbow for Cemetery pipe	£155 £2.75	£31.00 £0.55	£186 £3.30
BACS	Viridor	Waste Management	£129.15	£25.83	£154.98
BACS	Archant	Vacancy notice			£231.60
BACS	Bradfords	Postcrete	£5.77	£1.15	£6.92

a) Receipt of Evidence of insurance for football Club.

b) Election expenses covered in precept request for £2500.

### 19/07/68 Planning

Minutes of the meeting held Monday 24<sup>th</sup> June – (Appendix F) to be noted

#### a Planning Applications

#### **19/1341/FUL Borough House, Swan Hill Road. Colyford – Mr & Mrs Bennett**

Proposed new dwelling with garage and car port.

Cllr West proposed this is **SUPPORTED** with the comments of Cllr Denny attached – seconded by Cllr Jones and agreed by all.

Comments were: The site is within the Colyford Build-up Area Boundary.

On the Basement drawing – north is shown incorrectly. On all the floor plans north is pointing 'downwards'. The Basement and First Floor plans are to scale on A3 size paper but the Ground Floor plan is for an A2 paper. This may be a little confusing.

The application states this is a Conservation Area

The supplementary information states this will be Sheltered Housing. I think this is incorrect and this will be an open market sale.

#### **19/0287/FUL Town Mill, Rosemary Lane – Mr D Gray**

Partial demolition of flat roof factory building to facilitate sub division to form 7 (B1c) light industrial units, an estate manager's office and associated works including flood defence walling and re-roofing.

**SUPPORTED** proposed by Cllr Parr seconded by Cllr Clifford and agreed by all.

#### **Licensing Application 048969 St Andrews Parish Church Colyton PCC**

**Hours requested**  
Monday – Sunday

**Time From**      **Time To**  
0800                      2230

Easter Sunday	0600	2230
Christmas Eve	0800	0130
Maundy Thursday	0800	0000
Good Friday	0000	2230

**Activities - Monday to Sunday.**

Performance of Play (Inside or Outside)	1000	2200
Exhibition of film Indoors	1000	2200
Live Music – Inside or Outside	1000	2200
Recorded Music Inside or outside	1000	2200
Dance performance Inside or Outside	1000	2200
Supply of alcohol for consumption ON the premises.	1100	2200

Some discussion ensued and the meeting suspended so David Fouracre could explain that the Church was making this application to enable them to serve alcohol at events on the Church grounds. This license will supplement the TEN'S (Temporary Event Notices) application process and the conditions agreed will improve the safeguarding of vulnerable adults and youngsters at these events.

Cllr Parr proposed this application is **SUPPORTED**, seconded by Cllr Clifford and agreed by all.

**b Planning Decisions – to be noted**

**B19/0772/VAR Hillhead Orchard, Hillhead** – Variation of condition 2 of planning permission 17/0501/FUL (replacement new 4 bed dwelling on site of existing bungalow) to allow alterations to entrance, windows, external finishes, roof design and omission of velux window & veranda– **APPROVED with conditions.**

**19/1103/FUL River Breeze, Orchard Close, Colyford** – Construction of two storey side extension, single storey side and rear extension and front dormer window. Alteration to raised decking. –**APPROVED – standard time limit.**

**c Planning Correspondence** - none

19/07/69

**Amenities**

- i) Annual Parish Inspection Report – emailed to Cllrs  
The report was discussed. John will have a copy and schedule the work identified in it. The Clerk will write letter of thanks to the volunteers that maintain the gardens and the usual letter to the 'unlawful occupier' on the Old Mortuary ground she will also approach three local stonemasons to quote for repairing the Cemetery wall.  
The Clerk will speak to Halcyon and see if they know the reason why a portion of the cemetery remains unowned.
- ii) Permissive Path – Cllr Pady  
After some discussion it was proposed by Cllr West, seconded by Cllr Gardiner that Emma Helier the DCC Right of Way Officer is asked to approach the landowner with this proposal and see if he would be willing to work with CPC to achieve the reinstatement of the Permissive path.
- iii) New Allotment holder on 9P request permission for shed 8x6 and greenhouse 12x8 and would like to fence plot with small picket fence. Plot 16P would like greenhouse 8x6.- all within guidelines and all sheds/greenhouses approved but not the picket fence.
- iv) Cemetery Trailer – two websites and agents contacted. Cllr Parr proposed we give them a chance, a month, to locate a suitable trailer for us, seconded by Cllr Real. In the meantime Cllr West will approach contact for the loan and use of a skip to be placed at the cemetery for the gravedigger to use for spoil.
- v) Allotment plot 13 Q/R – no response from tenant re state of allotment. There had been contact made by the father of the tenant who said his daughter had been ill and unable to maintain the plot. The now ex-boyfriend thinks he's the tenant but no work has been done on the plot for months. It was proposed that he is contacted, explaining he is not the tenant but he can go on a waiting list and the plot will be reallocated to two people on that list.
- vi) Public Toilet – Dolphin St. Cllr Clifford had reported the external state of the public toilet block in the Dolphin Street car park to EDDC almost a month ago but had no response. It was agreed the clerk will write to the person in overall response and copy that letter/email to the District Councillors.

- 19/07/70 Sidmouth Rd** - Drainage Improvement Scheme (part funded by Parishes Together) update. Cllr Pady had walked the route with the DCC Highways officer pointing out the blocked gullies, as a 60mph stretch of road it is DCC responsibility to maintain the gullies at least once a year and Mr Kelly promised to arrange a gully sucker, free the grids and get in a team to plough the bottom of the road edges. Buddle holes will have to be cleared by CPC . Both Axmouth & Rousdon use a lengthsman and details will be sought from them to see if CPC can use him for this job but currently have no response from the S106 officers as to the availability of the money. Mr Kelly also aware of the state of the drain on Guernsey corner and is looking at the repair work to Ridgeway by providing a couple of gabions to stabilise the edge. He will also check with SWW about the 4.5inch pipe that was found crossing the centre of the culvert in Sandpits Lane
- 19/07/71** **i) Review of Standing Orders** – now de-gendered & emailed to Cllrs. Accepted with an amendment to Meetings ref 1L to include a reference to GDPR legislation.  
**ii) Additional Policies to consider** – Media/Press, Equality & Diversity – to discuss at the next meeting.
- 19/07/72 Colyton Memorial Social Club** – there had been a meeting on 4<sup>th</sup> July with no CPC representation. The next meeting is the 4<sup>th</sup> September.
- 19/07/73 Emergency Plan update** – Cllr Jones gave a brief update. The Environment Agency representative Chris Khan would like to attend the August meeting – the clerk to contact. Letters of thanks will be sent to those agencies that provided the flood details and the road maps of the area.
- 19/07/74 Neighbourhood Plan update.** Cllr Real reported that they were still waiting for the new consultants from EDDC to be appointed. A letter had been received from the Colyford Residents Association and will be dealt with. Cllr West requested, as a member of the CVRA, that the Neighbourhood Plan Steering Group sit down with the CVRA and thrash out their concerns. There was some discussion and debate Cllr Arnott proposed that the NP Steering Group Committee sit down with CVRA and discuss their concerns, seconded by Cllr Jones. A vote was taken and won on a majority. The Chair of the NP Steering Group will be contacted to arrange a meeting.
- 19/07/75 Reece Strawbridge Centre** – AGM on 18<sup>th</sup> July at 1930. Graham Jenkins will be giving up the Chair. They do need more Trustees and there are still issues with the pump which Mr Mann is attempting to resolve. Cllr Arnott encouraged people to attend. Film show on 19<sup>th</sup> July – Sometime/Always/Never
- 19/07/76 Members Motion submissions: Clerk request adoption of this scheme to assist with agenda planning and provision of information to Councillors** –acceptance proposed by Cllr Real seconded by Cllr Arnott and agreed by all.  
**VERGE CUTTING.**
- a) Cllr West proposed quotes are sought for these area to be cut twice a year  
Coly Road from Pear Tree Corner to Shells Lane junction (both sides)  
Verge on A 3052 just before the Pear Tree junction  
The 2 Colyford Gateways on the A 3052 towards Boshill Cross (both sides)  
Seconded by Cllr Jones but amended by Cllr Arnott to include the area from the Reece Strawbridge building to the gas monitor on Coly Rd (despite it being the farmer’s responsibility). Seconded by Cllr Jones and voted on and won by a 7/3 majority. The Clerk will source three quotes.
- 19/07/77 Proposed Fire Station Closure** – Meeting on 16<sup>th</sup> July. CPC statement after that meeting, when in full possession of the facts.
- 19/07/78 Clerk Vacancy applications** - One applicant. He will be invited for interview in front of Cllr Parr, Cllr Turner and Cllr Clifford on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> July at 7pm. References will be taken up. The Clerk to give guidance to the interview panel.
- 19/07/79 Matters to be taken into Committee - none**
- 19/07/19 Items brought to the CPC’s attention after the agenda had been published** – to be noted.  
S106 Officers want to meet to discuss proposals with a small working party. – Finance Agenda  
Ecologist has a proposal of relocating slow worms from Ceramtech to Cemetery.- Planning agenda.  
Request to host a weekly market in Colyton – invite to Finance Committee for 10 min presentation
- 19/07/19 Dates of future meetings**  
July Finance/Planning Committee – July 22nd  
August CPC meeting – Monday August 12<sup>th</sup>

The meeting closed at 9.26.

## APPENDIX 1

## County Councillor's Report July 2019

### **Colyton Fire Station**

Since the Fire Authority announced a consultation which includes the closure of Colyton Fire Station, I have

- Publicised the online petition which has reached 1200 signatures in under a week.
- Joined a 100-strong protest at the Fire Station which made TV news.
- Written, together with EDDC Cllr Paul Arnott, to all members of the Authority urging them not to proceed.
- Put the Authority's plans on the agenda of the County Council's Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee for September.

I aim to attend the public meeting which the Authority are holding on 16 July in Colyton Town Hall time to be confirmed.

### **Key Seaton traffic signs out of action**

I have protested strongly at the delays in repairing the main Seaton tourist sign at the A3052/Seaton Down Hill junction, and the damaged sign at Fisherman's Gap, both of which I first raised two months ago. The Skanska director concerned has promised me that they will 'press ahead with haste' in fixing the A3052 sign, and I am waiting for a response on the other.

**Harbour Road, Seaton**, proposed crossing I have asked for a traffic survey during the coming school holiday period, which I hope to use to press the case at the County Council. 20 MPH speed limits

**The County's Traffic Speeds** task group has produced a very full report whose proposals are now going to Cabinet. They include trials of comprehensive 20 mph limits in Newton Abbot and Kingkerswell, Highways to produce a toolkit for communities to promote 'safer streets' for pedestrians and cyclists, and new developments to be designed to produce 20 mph driving.

**Seaton Area Health Matters** I attended a Steering Group meeting and was re-elected to this group. Under its Chair, Cllr Jack Rowland, Health Matters has had a positive response to its proposals for Seaton Hospital from the CCG and RD&E, and is waiting for detailed discussions.

**Rural broadband roll-out crisis** The Corporate Infrastructure and Regulatory Services Scrutiny Committee received yet another report on the disastrous failure of Gigaclear to deliver on its programmes. Connecting Devon and Somerset (CDS) are waiting for Gigaclear's proposed redesign of the project and will decide by the end of August whether to allow them to proceed, or to remove them as the contractor. I asked for further information on CDS's Community Challenge scheme which allows communities, working with a contractor, to devise their own local scheme. CDS will offer advice and funding and while schemes so far have been for 35-45 properties, they will look at any scale or type of proposal. An individual voucher of up to £350 can also be applied for from the Better Broadband Voucher Scheme.

**Libraries** I have written an article 'Is there a future for Devon's libraries?', in the Summer issue of Devonshire Magazine (now online only; you find it a page 140).

**Doing What Matters grants** These are Devon County Council grants to connect people in a positive, fulfilling and inclusive way: tackling and reducing loneliness and undesired isolation of all types and across all age groups. Projects should build relationships and connections locally, across all age groups ● help people to become more physically active ● help people to take notice of their local environment ● develop opportunities for culture, creativity or learning ● support giving across local people and communities, including volunteering ● make people feel safer locally Grants will be between £5,000 and £20,000 at a maximum of 75% of project costs, and must be completed by March 2020.