Clyst Honiton Parish Council

There was a meeting of Clyst Honiton Parish Council on Wednesday 16th September 2026 at 7.00pm held in the Black Horse Inn Meeting Room

Members Present: Parish Councillors Sean Wheeldon (Chairman); Mike Muir; Grant Harrison; Gary Collier.

Also Present: No-one

In attendance: Rob Martin, Clerk

No members of the general public.

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MINUTES

PUBLIC SESSION No members of the public were present	
27/044	**APOLOGIES** Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr. Jenkins caused by family needs. These apologies were accepted.
27/045	**DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST (PECUNIARY AND NON-PECUNIARY)** No declarations of interest in items on the agenda were made.
27/046	**MINUTES** On a proposal by Cllr. Wheeldon, seconded by Cllr. Harrison, it was **Resolved** to approve, as a correct record, the minutes of the Parish Council meeting held on 24th June 2026.
27/047	**CLERK'S REPORT & CORRESPONDENCE** The clerk reported on action taken and questions raised since the last meeting, as follows: • **Investment** A 6-month fixed-term £30,000 investment through Lloyds Bank matured on 11 September 2026 making £308.52 in interest. Having conducted a cash flow analysis to take into account the Community Facility Planning costs and payment for the roundabout, £20,000 was reinvested at 2.2% for a further six months, maturing on 16 March 2027. • **New Councillor** An approach had been made following the article in the Chatter requesting possible councillors and that had been followed up. • **Roundabout** The roundabout installation had not gone very well with Cllr. Jenkins contacting Creative Play to get the work rectified. No payment would be made for this equipment until all were satisfied that the installation was satisfactory.

- **Clerk's Pay Settlement**
  The national APT&C pay settlement had been agreed effective from 1st April 2026. The increase was 3.3% across the board, and this amounted to an increase in the clerk's salary of around £34 per month.
- **Defibrillator**
  The defibrillator had been used, and two sets of replacement pads had been ordered to be delivered to Cllr. Collier. There was however a national shortage of pads resulting in being placed on a waiting list for delivery, with the earliest possible delivery being scheduled for early October 2026.
- **Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)**
  The Devon LGR had now been paused by Government whilst a review of the decisions was to be carried out. In the meantime, East Devon District Council would continue to operate normally and its elections would take place as usual on 6 May 2027 rather than those announced for the shadow unitary authority.
- **Clyst Honiton Parish Church**
  Correspondence had occurred between Cllr. Wheeldon and the vicar on the future of church use. There was no Parochial Church Council in place which was leaving the vicar having to take responsibility for all church matters, including the building. This would be watched closely in the future.
- **Home Farm RTO**
  After several years of waiting the access barriers had now been moved to the correct place meaning that lorries servicing the Home Farm storage facility would come straight from the bypass roundabout and not through the village.
  However, the barrier is still lying in a heap, only damage to the road surface and temporary plastic barriers are preventing the road being open at the roundabout end.
- **Church Commissioners Land Access**
  A request had been made by EDDC for a parish council financial contribution towards the installation of a gate to access public open space on Church Commissioners land. This request had been refused.
- **Community Governance Review**
  On the day following this meeting, EDDC were considering the adoption of a Cranbrook Community Governance Review which would result in the boundary between Cranbrook and its surrounding parish councils being changed. The result for Clyst Honiton would be that a chunk of land would become part of Cranbrook and that 5 existing Clyst Honiton dwellings would become part of the town. This has the effect of reducing this parish councils tax base.

27/048 **PLANNING ITEMS**

Reference	Location	
26/0479/MFUL	Plot 6 Tiger Moth Road Skypark Clyst Honiton Exeter EX5 2BD	Construction of 14 commercial units (use class E(g)(i)) with associated access, parking, service infrastructure and landscaping. Amended plans. **No Comment**
26/0535/MFUL	Land North of Parsons Lane Rockbeare	Change of Use from Agricultural Land to Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGS) including

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		paths, footbridges, and landscaping with associated infrastructure. **No Comment**
26/1268/MFUL	Land To The South Of Tillhouse Road Cranbrook	Hybrid application for leisure, health and commercial uses comprising: (i) full planning permission for the construction of a Leisure and Wellbeing Centre, together with associated works including access, car parking and cycle parking, public realm, hard and soft landscaping, drainage infrastructure, biodiversity enhancements, substation and associated engineering works (Site A) ; and (ii) outline planning permission, with all matters reserved except access, for a future Neighbourhood Health Centre (Use Class E(e)) (Site B); and (iii) outline planning permission, with all matters reserved for flexible commercial development (Use Classes E(c) and E(g)), or emergency service facilities, including fire and rescue service provision (sui generis use) (Site C) **No Comment**
26/1355/MOUT	Land South Of The A3052 East Of The A376 And West Of Crealy Theme Park And Resort Clyst St Mary	Outline planning application for a residential-led mixed use development of up to 2,000 dwellings including market and affordable homes, access, park and bus change and mobility hub, two form entry primary school, public open space, neighbourhood centre/mixed use area, employment area, landscaping, drainage, associated works and infrastructure. (All Matters Reserved except for Access) **Objection on the basis of the lack of sufficient infrastructure improvements**

Power Used Town & Country Planning Act 1990; Localism Act 2011	**Risks Assessed** None
Resulting Tasks & Owner Clerk – notify EDDC	**Deadline for Action** 3 weeks from notification date
Financial Implications None	**Equalities Impact** None

27/049 **CLYST HONITON NEIGHBOURHOOD DEVELOPMENT ORDER (CHNDO)**

A report had been circulated outlining the attempts to take the CHNDO further with the Church Commissioners (the landowners) since November 2023. Although appearing willing to continue the project at first and making certain promises to take action, the Church Commissioners have gone into radio silence since then with numerous emails and calls not having been responded to.

On a proposal by Cllr. Wheeldon, seconded by Cllr. Muir, it was **resolved** to cease work on the Clyst Honiton Neighbourhood Development Order forthwith. The many reasons for reluctantly taking this decision were summarised as follows:

- No developers came forward when it was marketed by the Church Commissioners
- Housing need could not justify enough houses to make the site viable with a community centre provided

- No quiet space available for the new houses (planning stipulation), over the road has 106 already on it.
- Plenty more land available since start of NDO – Marlcombe etc
- Building around the village seems easier now – no need for community support – several houses built/planned
- Church Commissioners non-communicative
- Not clear there is community support, many of the original people are gone, new villagers don't expect (may not use?) a community space
- Difficult to justify more Clerk time without clear end or timeline
- The money would be at risk – we could carry on spending with no certainty that we would gain anything

In addition, the reserve currently held to carry out further work on the NDO would be redesignated for use to provide a new community facility wherever it could be located within the parish.

Power Used Localism Act 2011, Schedule 9	**Risks Assessed** No Community Hall provided
Resulting Tasks & Owner Clerk – to communicate decision	**Deadline for Action** asap
Financial Implications To redesignate NDO Reserve as Community Facility Reserve	**Equalities Impact** Lack of provision of suitable meeting place

27/050 **COMMUNITY FACILITY OUTLINE PLANNING**

A report had been circulated on the information used for the planning application which had been submitted. The application was for outline permission with all matters reserved, in order to get the principle of building a community facility in this location accepted. None of the details of the building design or detailed layouts were fixed at this time with those obtained being examples of what could be provided. The next stage would be for the planners to validate the application, before its contents would be considered.

This report was **noted.**

Power Used Open Spaces Act 1906 Local Government Miscellaneous Provisions Act 1976	**Risks Assessed** Use of Playing Field not acceptable by EDDC Potential Objection from Exeter Airport
Resulting Tasks & Owner Clerk – To remain in contact with EDDC Planners and respond accordingly	**Deadline for Action** As and when planners determine
Financial Implications None	**Equalities Impact** The site and building to be fully accessible

Way27/051 **REPLACEMENT PLANTER & SIGN**

Cllr. Wheeldon outlined the correspondence with county highways and county councillors on the subject of the damage caused by the crash. The conclusion was that the driver of the vehicle was not identified by the police so there was no recourse through their insurance company. County highways were prepared to replace the Welcome to Clyst Honiton sign but not the Trafalgar Way sign or the Planter stating that all of the signs were a parish council responsibility. On a proposal by Cllr. Wheeldon, seconded by Cllr. Harrison, it was **Resolved** to not replace

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either the Trafalgar Way sign or the planter.

Power Used Highways Act 1980	**Risks Assessed** Not being refunded for damage
Resulting Tasks & Owner No further action to take	**Deadline for Action**
Financial Implications None	**Equalities Impact** None identified

27/052 VILLAGE MAINTENANCE

Cllr. Muir reported that:

- He had undertaken the usual weekly visual inspection of the play equipment. The seats on the toddlers' swings need replacing.
- The nets on the goalposts need replacing, but it might be better o replace the goalposts themselves.
- There was a minimum of strimming needed because of the hot weather.
- The parish field hedge was cut.
- He had removed the dead plants from the boat planters.
- He had removed the overgrowth on the side of the village road.
- The tower floor needed to be replaced using marine ply urgently.

The tower floor replacement was urgent and would best be done by a contractor. It was suggested that two local craftsmen would be contacted to consider the cost and their availability to do the job.

Power Used Open Spaces Act 1906	**Risks Assessed** Village becoming unkempt and overgrown with no planting
Resulting Tasks & Owner Cllr. Muir – continue inspections and maintenance of village. Contractors contacted to discuss repair.	**Deadline for Action** 21st October 2026
Financial Implications Cost of contractor.	**Equalities Impact** CHPC has responsibility to all of the community, including those who are less able.

27/053 INTERIM INTERNAL AUDIT REPORT

The interim internal audit report had been circulated with no further action deemed necessary. The final internal audit report in May would focus on the numbers only which would make life easier for the parish clerk at a very busy time.

The report was **noted.**

Power Used Accounts and Audit Regulations 2015 Smaller Authorities Practitioners' Guide 2025	**Risks Assessed** No risks identified.
Resulting Tasks & Owner None	**Deadline for Action**
Financial Implications Nothing	**Equalities Impact** Nothing particular

27/054 BANK RECONCILIATION

The Bank Reconciliation for 31st August 2026 was **adopted.**

27/055 RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS COMPARED WITH BUDGET

The statement of receipts and payments compared with budget for the period between 1st April and 31st August 2026 was **noted.**

27/056 RECEIPTS & PAYMENTS SCHEDULE

On a proposal by Cllr. Jenkins, seconded by Cllr. Muir, it was **Resolved** to approve the payment of the invoices on the schedule below for the period since the last meeting:

RECEIPTS

Receipt from	Services	Amount £
2026/2027		
East Devon DC	Precept	9,000.00
Lloyds Bank	Interest – PC Instant Access	17.13
Lloyds Bank	Interest – CA Instant Access	6.94

PAYMENTS

Payment to	Services	Month or Reference	Amount £	Payment No.
2026/2027				
RJ Martin	Salary	July 2026	864.47	2627-09
HMRC	Tax Deduction	July 2026	209.60	2627-09
HMRC	NI	July 2026	94.66	2627-09
Countrywide GM	Grass Cutting	June 2026	134.45	2627-10
Local Authority Technology CIC, t/a Parish Online	Annual Email & Website Fees	18UB015-0008	680.40	2627-10
Modulek	Community Facility Drawings	112739	714.00	2627-11
RJ Martin	Salary	August 2026	864.47	2627-12
HMRC	Tax Deduction	August 2026	209.60	2627-12
HMRC	NI	August 2026	94.66	2627-12
Countrywide GM	Grass Cutting	July 2026	134.45	2627-13
Countrywide GM	Grass Cutting	Aug 2026	134.45	2627-13
PKF Littlejohn	External Audit	2025/26	252.00	2627-14
Mulberry LAS	Internal Audit	Interim 2026/27	264.00	2627-14
RJ Martin	Salary	Sept 2026	1,030.01	2627-15
HMRC	Tax Deduction	Sept 2026	251.00	2627-15
HMRC	NI	Sept 2026	125.70	2627-15
ROAVR	Biodiversity Net Gain Report	Planning	1,800.00	2627-16
Creative Play Ltd	Roundabout Installation	Accessible	15,507.60	2627-16
The Black Horse	Room Hire	24 June 2026	19.10	Card
Defib World	Replacement Pads	2 Sets	233.99	Card
Adobe	Adobe Professional	July 2026	19.97	Card

Adobe	Adobe Professional	Aug 2026	19.97	Card
Adobe	Adobe Professional	Sept 2026	19.97	Card
Simon A Martin	Payroll Services	July 2026	8.00	DD
Simon A Martin	Payroll Services	Aug 2026	8.00	DD
Simon A Martin	Payroll Services	Sept 2026	8.00	DD

Power Used Local Government Act 1972	**Risks Assessed** Not making payment of amounts due
Resulting Tasks & Owner Clerk – ensure payments are made	**Deadline for Action** asap
Financial Implications Each payment has a budget	**Equalities Impact** Nothing particular

27/057 COUNCILLOR REPORTS

Cllr. Wheeldon remarked on the number of planning applications that are being improved within the village. The Exeter Inn site however still seemed to have an uncertain future and was in danger of being a blight – the planning officer would be contacted to ascertain the current status of the application(s) on this site.

Cllr. Collier stated that he was resigning as a councillor forthwith.

Cllr. Harrison was concerned about the number of vehicles in the layby again, with some apparently being occupied permanently. The main concern was hygiene with no public toilets nearby.

27/058 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next scheduled meeting is on **Wednesday 21st October 2026** and will be held in the Black Horse meeting room starting at 7pm

27/059 PARISH COUNCIL MEETING CLOSURE

The meeting closed at 8.40pm

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