Cotleigh Parish Council

Minutes of the Cotleigh Parish Council Meeting held in Cotleigh Village Hall at 7.30pm on Wednesday 29th July 2026.

Present: Cllrs: Chris Henley (Chair), Nigel Young, Martyn Broom, Bob Carter, EDDC Cllr Levine and Fiona Wilkinson (Clerk)

26/07/01 Apologies: Cllr Sophie George and EDDC Cllr Colin Brown. DCC Cllr Cathy Connor advised she would try and make the meeting but had another meeting shortly before which could overrun into the evening.

26/07/02 Declarations of Interest on Agenda Items: No interests were declared.

Meeting suspended for comments and questions to be received from the public. There were none present.

26/07/03 Agreeing Minutes of the meetings held on Wednesday 20th May 2026: The minutes of the Annual Parish Council Meeting and the Annual Parish Meeting of 20th May 2026 were reviewed and then signed as a true record of the meeting.

26/07/04 Matters arising from previous meetings:

a. **Follow up on complaint to Devon County Council regarding potholes:** The response from Highways was discussed and the Council remain disappointed. **Clerk** to email Highways again to ask what actions are being taken immediate future and what are the plans for the next 12 months for the Parish.
b. **Volunteering to help fix potholes:** The Council discussed the option of Road Wardens who would be trained, provided with PPE and equipment / materials to fill potholes. The Council agreed that this is not a safe solution to the problem and will not take any further action.

26/07/05 Planning: 26/0134/LBC South Wood Farm, Cotleigh EX14 9HU. Additional plan – proposed chimney stack(2) : The Council has no comments.

26/07/06 Matters raised by the Chair: Cllr Henley mentioned that Asian Hornets had been reported in a number of places in Dorset. A leaflet regarding these Hornets and how to spot one can now be found on the Noticeboard at the Village Hall. Cllr Henley raised a concern that there were residents in the Parish who were having bonfires at a time when the whole of the South West has been experiencing very high temperatures and the ground is very dry. Please follow the advice from Devon and Somerset Fire Brigade which is not to have bonfires during dry spells.

26/07/07 Councillors' Reports: Cllr Broom advised that the floods last year caused damage to the rails located on the track which is north of Millhayes. **Clerk** to email Devon County Council to request repairs are carried out as soon as possible.

26/07/08 County Councillor's Report: A written report was received and read out. The report provided an update on 'Dusting' – spreading a fine layer of stone on major roads to stop bitumen becoming soft and sticky during the heatwaves. Other updates included Open Plus technology in some of devon's libraries, extra care housing development in Cranbrook and locality budgets.

26/07/09 District County Councillors' Reports: Cllr Levine (EDDC) provided an update on the Local Government Reorganisation. The decision made by Government is to have four Unitary Councils – Exeter, Torbay, Plymouth and Devon Coast and Countryside. East Devon District Council will be split between Exeter Council and Devon Coast and Countryside Council.

26/07/10 Community Police Officer's Report: There was no report.

26/07/11 Footpath Warden Report: There was no report.

26/07/12 Clerk's Report: The Clerk advised that EDDC had started weekly collections from the two dog bins in the parish. The Clerk raised that a marketing email had been received about flagpole maintenance and was it something that needed to be considered. **Clerk** to forward on the email to Len Spiller.

26/07/13 Accounts to be paid: The following payments were agreed
Cheque number 500010 – Locum Clerk's salary (May) £438.20
Cheque number 500011 – Clerk's salary (June-July) £474.58

26/07/14 Highways: Temporary Traffic Regulation Order – Road from Stadbury Cross to Three Mariners Cross and road past Sunnylands Farm and road from Three Mariners Cross to Royal Oak Cross. Cabling work is planned for Tuesday 1st September 2026. The restriction to traffic is for a maximum of five days. However, the anticipated finish is on Tuesday 1st September.

26/07/15 Website: There is no update.

26/07/16 Dates of future meetings:

2026
Wednesday 23 September – 7.30 pm
Wednesday 11 November – 7.30 pm

2027
Wednesday 13 January – 7.30 pm
Wednesday 10 March – 7.30 pm

The meeting ended at 8.15pm.

Signed Chair…….September 2026