

**Minutes of the Full Council Meeting of the Town Council on Monday 10 August
2026 at 7.00pm**

Present

St Michael's Ward

Cllr S Atherton
Cllr C Doran
Cllr R Fowles
Cllr C Maunder
Cllr R Sexton
Cllr G Martin
Cllr R Wallis
Cllr S Thorne

St Paul's Ward

Cllr D Hayler
Cllr S Keene
Cllr S Sexton
Cllr C Kolek
Cllr S Craddock

In attendance

Heloise Marlow, Acting Town Clerk
Cllr R Coombs (via Zoom)
Cllr R Collins (EDDC)
Cllr T McCollum (EDDC) (via Zoom)
Cllr R Jefferies (DCC)
1 Member of the Public

26/99 Apologies for absence

Cllr R Coombs (personal)
Cllr J Taylor (personal)
Cllr J Wilson (personal)

26/100 Declarations of Interests

Cllr C Kolek – Pecuniary Interest (Item 26/116, 26/118, 26/121)
Cllr S Thorne – Pecuniary/Personal Interest (Item 26/116)
Cllr R Fowles – Personal Interest (Item 26/121)
Cllr R Wallis – Personal Interest (Item 26/116)
Cllr S Craddock – Personal Interest (Item 26/116)
Cllr S Sexton – Personal Interest (Item 26/116)
Cllr S Keene – Personal Interest (Item 26/116)
Cllr R Sexton – Personal Interest (Item 26/116)
Cllr C Doran - Personal Interest (Item 26/116)

26/101 Dispensations

The Acting Town Clerk confirmed that she had granted Cllr Kolek a dispensation in relation to items 26/116, 26/118 and 26/121 which allowed Cllr Kolek to remain in the meeting whilst these agenda items were being discussed, contribute to the debate but would prevent her from voting.

26/102 Public Question Time for items on the agenda

None received.

26/103 Reports from District and County Councillors

Cllr R Jefferies provided the following report:

- There had been fewer meetings in August with DCC focusing on LGR.
- He had met with Jon Leisk from the Youth Football Club to discuss the Club's planning application with Cllr Paul Arnott with a view to exploring ways that would assist the club to move forwards. He had also spoken with EDDC Officers who had also contacted the Acting Clerk.

Cllr Keene queried water leaks in Ottery St Mary and Buckerell.

- Cllr Jefferies confirmed that he would follow this up with SWW together with sewerage outflows.

Cllr Keene queried the current position regarding the re-surfacing of Honiton High Street.

- Cllr Jefferies confirmed that the High Street was being used as a diversion route which meant that the re-surfacing works had been delayed. He was talking with the Highways Officer about deploying the rapid response team for resurfacing works.

Cllr Craddock raised the issue of dangerous paving slabs on the pavements on the High Street.

- Cllr Jefferies advised that any dangerous paving slab be reported on the DCC website and that details could also be sent to him directly.

Cllr Collins provided the following report:

- he had attended 10 EDDC meetings.
- There were 6 candidates standing in the by-election on 13th August 2026.
- He did not support the LGR decision with officers at EDDC now spending most of their time dealing with LGR which would impact on the delivery of basic services.
- He had objected to the Youth Football Club's planning application as golf balls had recently been found on the site, which confirmed that there was a danger to the public and due to the site being within a Natural Landscape. Pitches could be provided at Hayne Lane or temporary showers/toilets provided at St Rita's.

26/104 Reports from Honiton Town Council Members with Special Responsibilities and/or on Outside Bodies

Cllr S Sexton confirmed that she had attended:

- Tilly's Bakery Taste of the West award
- Honiton Carers Committee meeting
- Arts Society
- United Charities meeting

- HCC/HTC Review Meeting with Cllr R Sexton
- Charter Day with Cllr C Kolek as Town Crier
- Code of Conduct training
- Hot Pennies
- Banking Hub meeting
- Honiton Business Network meeting
- Combe Raleigh fete
- Honiton Show
- Beats & Motion dance show

Cllr Maunder advised that she had attended Chard Town Council's Mayor Making.

26/105 Reports and Recommendations from Working Groups and Meetings.
The Market Working Group report was **NOTED**.

26/106 Correspondence 9th July 2026 – 5th August 2026

The Acting Town Clerk confirmed that Cllr R Coombs had commented as follows:

- Walkways on housing estates usually have same status as pavements
- EDDC are not the highway authority
- Both the roads linked by the walkway were built by the same developer (Magnus) and the walkway could have been adopted as a highway when the two roads and associated pavements were adopted.
- DCC would be able to confirm the above
- If the walkway has not been adopted, the developer's successors should take responsibility.

Members **NOTED** the correspondence.

26/107 Minutes of the Full Council Meeting held on 13th July 2026
Members RESOLVED to approve the minutes of Full Council 13th July 2026
Proposed by Cllr R Fowles and seconded by Cllr Atherton
For 8; Against 0; Abstentions 5.

26/108 Minutes of Previous Meetings
Members **NOTED** the item.

26/109 Minutes of the Strategy, Economy & Tourism Committee meeting held on 10th June 2026
Members RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Strategy, Economy & Tourism Committee 10th June 2026
Proposed by Cllr Fowles and seconded by Cllr Doran
For 4; Against 0; Abstentions 9

- 26/110 Minutes of the Transitional Committee Meeting held on 4th March 2026**
Members RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Transitional Committee 4th March 2026
Proposed by Cllr R Sexton and seconded by Cllr Doran
For 4; Against 0; Abstentions 9
- 26/111 Minutes of the Town Management Committee Meeting held on 1st June 2026**
Members RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Town Management Committee meeting 1st June 2026
Proposed by Cllr Craddock and seconded by Cllr R Sexton
For 4; Against 0; Abstentions 9
- 26/112 Minutes of the Green & Open Spaces Committee meeting held on 2 June 2026**
Members RESOLVED to approve the Minutes of the Green & Open Spaces Committee meeting 2 June 2026
Proposed by Cllr Kolek and seconded by Cllr Hayler
For 2; Against 0; Abstentions 11
- 26/113 Membership of Committees and Working Groups**
Cllr Doran asked to join the Strategy, Economy, Tourism and Transitional Committee.
Cllrs Kolek and Craddock asked to join the Town Management & Green & Open Spaces Committee.
Members RESOLVED unanimously to approve the changes above.
Proposed by Cllr Wallis and seconded by Cllr Kolek
- 26/114 Calendar of Meetings 2026/27**
Members RESOLVED unanimously to approve revised schedule of meeting dates for the remainder of 2026/27
Proposed by Cllr Craddock and seconded by Cllr Maunder
- 26/115 Notification of Street Trading Application**
Members RESOLVED unanimously to support Street Trading Application
Proposed by Cllr Kolek and seconded by Cllr Keene
- 26/116 Grant Awards**
Cllr Fowles suggested that the recommendation document was missing two amounts – Honiton Carnival £300 and Honiton Library £1000. Once these had been added in the total grant recommendation amount was £50,596.47 as listed.
Cllr Doran queried why the Youth Club's application has been unsuccessful compared to the application by the Den.

Cllr S Sexton advised that all Cllrs had been invited to attend the Grants Panel which had discussed the applications at length and had considered the merits of each application.

Cllr Fowles confirmed that the panel had chosen to retain some funding for any emergency applications received prior to the year end.

Members discussed the exclusion of staffing costs from the grants policy.

Members RESOLVED to award the following Grants 26/27

Action East Devon	£3000
Devon Freewheelers	£5000
Foodsave	£5000
Heart Felt Trauma Therapy	£2500
Honiton Business Network	£2000
Honiton Carers Support Group	£3000
Honiton Carnival	£300
Honiton Library	£1000
Honiton Millenium Green	£2500
Honiton Netball Club	£460
Honiton Primary School PTFA	£2000
Honiton Rainbows	£861.47
Honiton Swimming Club	£2000
Hospiscare	£1000
Open Arms East Devon	£2000
Royal British Legion	£1375
The Den	£5000
Citizens Advice East Devon	£5000

Proposed by Cllr R Sexton and seconded by Cllr Fowles

For 12; Against 1; Abstentions 0

Cllrs S Thorne and C Kolek left the meeting at 20.09pm

Members RESOLVED to award the following Grants 26/27

CUB	£2200
Honiton Fairtrade Steering Group	£400
Honiton Youth Club	£3000
Operation Rudolph Honiton	£1000

Proposed by Cllr Keene and seconded by Cllr Maunder

For 10; Against 1; Abstentions 0

Cllrs S Thorne and C Kolek returned to the meeting at 20.10pm

- 26/117 Devon Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)**
Members **NOTED** the report.

- 26/118 Accounts**
Members RESOLVED to approve the schedule of payments for July 2026 excluding payments HTC 21571, 21572, 21587, 21591 and 21603.
Proposed by Cllr Fowles and seconded by Cllr Maunder
For 12; Against 1; Abstentions 0

Cllr C Kolek left the meeting at 20.21pm

Members RESOLVED to approve payments HTC 21571, 21572, 21587, 21591 and 21603
Proposed by Cllr Craddock and seconded by Cllr R Sexton
For 11; Against 1; Abstentions 0

- 26/119 Exempt Business**
Members RESOLVED unanimously to take the following item into exempt business.
Proposed by Cllr Wallis and seconded by Cllr Thorne

- 26/120 Extension of meeting**
Members RESOLVED unanimously to extend the meeting to 9.30pm and then to 10pm
Proposed by Cllr Craddock and seconded by Cllr Keene

- 26/121 Honiton Community Complex (HCC)**
Members RESOLVED to
a) approve the best value use as a community venue (as existing)
Proposed by Cllr Wallis and seconded by Cllr R Sexton
For 11; Against 0; Abstentions 2
b) to underwrite Honiton Community Complex's variable net costs of operating the Beehive at an estimated £5k pm for a 3 month rolling period and maximum of 12 months from 1st September 2026.
Proposed by Cllr R Sexton and seconded by Cllr Craddock
For 9; Against 1; Abstentions 3
c) to set up an HTC working group to review long-term options.
Proposed by Cllr Keene and seconded by Cllr Martin
For 12; Against 0; Abstentions 1

d) to approve membership of the HTC (Beehive) Working Group as Cllrs Craddock, Hayler, Fowles, Maunder, Atherton, Keene, Doran.

Proposed by Cllr Craddock and seconded by Cllr Keene

For 12; Against 0; Abstentions 1

e) to appoint a third party consultant to act on its behalf to (i) assess HCC's business model and (ii) carry out a cost benefit analysis of running the Beehive

Proposed by Cllr Wallis and seconded by Cllr R Sexton

For 11; Against 0; Abstentions 2

26/122 To close the meeting

The meeting closed at 21.48pm.