

Minutes of the meeting of Colebrooke Parish Council held on Tuesday 21st July 2026, 7pm in the Village Hall.

Present – Cllr. Smith (Chairman); Cllr. Doornbos; Cllr. Johnstone; Cllr. Hann; Cllr. Manning; Cllr., Green; County Cllr.Cairney; Cllr. Gaston; Penny Clapham (Clerk); 1 member of the public.

1) Apologies for absence: Cllr. Charlton-Anne. Apologies accepted.

2) Declarations of Interest: In accordance with the Code of Conduct, members are required to declare any personal or disclosable pecuniary interests, including the nature and extent of such interests they may have, in items to be considered at this meeting. Members are also reminded that any change to their Declarations of Interests must be notified to the Monitoring Officer at Mid Devon District Council within 28 days of the change. None declared.

3) Public Discussion: An opportunity for members of the public to make representations, answer questions and give evidence in respect of any item of business on the agenda, or any matter of interest to the parish. The period of time designated for public participation shall not exceed 10 minutes. Reminder that members of the public are not allowed to raise issues when the Council is in committee.

Clerk – hearing loop in the village hall; wifi in the village hall.
To write to the village hall regarding both these items.

4) County & District Councillor Reports (for information only)

County Cllr. Cairney gave out a couple of brochures, AbilityNet and Devon Carers. To be circulated. LGR; the decision has been made and Colebrooke will become a part of Greater Exeter. Cllr. Cairney does not consider this a good deal for Devon. Plymouth are already in debt, Exeter also, council tax is likely to rise. Suggest that parish's joining Exeter may have 3 council taxes to pay as Exeter has no parishes' at present. There is no knowing how many district/county councillors will be approved for the new unitary authority. As a parish council would you consider joining the North Devon Alliance Railway Group? Details will be emailed to the clerk.

5) Chairman's Report (for information only) Two more volunteers have come forward to help with filling potholes.

6) Minutes - the minutes of the meeting held on the 26th May 2026 were agreed and signed by the Chairman as a true record.

7) PLANNING – Mid Devon District Council have asked for comments from the parish council on the following planning applications – None received.

Decisions –

- a. 26/00706/PNAG Prior approval for excavation works to form an earth bank slurry lagoon land at Horwell Barton, Colebrooke
Prior approval not required

8) FINANCE	<i>Play Inspection Company</i>	<i>£174.00</i>
	<i>Linden Lea – grass cuts & strimming</i>	<i>£231.00</i>
	<i>Employment June</i>	<i>£267.88</i>
	<i>HMRC Q1</i>	<i>£200.80</i>

All paid 26th June 2026

Linden Lea – grass cutting	£264.00
Linden Lea – playground grass	£55.00
Visionict - .gov.uk annual renewal	£30.00
Employment July	£267.88
Clerk expenses Q1	£93.40

Income	Bank interest	£82.65
	Cemetery	£40.00

Bank statement and Reconciliation circulated to all councillors prior to this meeting, including statement of reserves and balances against budget to date

NB Council do not have any earmarked reserves – to discuss. £5K to be allocated to the playground. Council resolved to accept the accounts as presented. Proposed by Cllr. Smith, all agreed by show of hands.

9) Playground annual inspection report – to agree actions and associated expenditure. September agenda for actions. Check with Cllr. Charlton-Anne regarding matting repairs. Clerk to action.

10) Parish Map – to receive an update; Cllr. Gaston. Has looked at other maps within the area for ideas. Grit bins as a key (dot on the map). Defibs also. Ongoing. September agenda.

11) Policies – to agree the following policies are fit for purpose. Resolved to agree all policies.

- a) Complaints Policy – updated to include data complaints.
- b) Grievance Policy

12) Clerk's Report (for information only)

- i. Request for annual leave from 17th August to 28th August inclusive (2 weeks)
- ii. Request consideration for an uplift in salary scale from SCP26 to SCP27 £19.81 per hour. An increase of 49p per hour. Proposed by Cllr. Smith to agree the uplift, all agreed by show of hands.

Items for information

Cllr. Manning updated on the rubbish situation in the car park.

Co-option next agenda.

Website costs next agenda.

Date of next meeting - 15th September 2026 at 7pm in the Village Hall.

Meeting closed at 8.01pm

Signed.....

Date.....

Information emails

DALC Bulletin 27 (sent 18/06)

DALC Bulletin 29 (sent 01/07)

DALC Bulletin 30 (sent 08/07)

DALC Bulletin 31 (sent 13/07)

2026	Totals in all bank accounts	18,927
2026	General reserve 50% precept	6,767
	Earmarked reserve Playground	5,000
	Totals	<u>11,767</u>
	Balance	7,160