

CLERKS REPORT FOR 2 SEPTEMBER 2024

1. **Utilities Contract renewal:** the electric contract at the Pavilions has been renewed onto a green tariff, with a low daily standing charge and favourable kWh rate. A DD discount is applied.
2. **Play area maintenance:** annual work in accordance with the agreed contract was carried out in June. Inspection identified works for 2025 and a quote for same is presented to council in agenda item 24/119 for consideration.
3. **Strategy work:** I wish to record my thanks to Cllr Taylor for his work drafting the council's Strategic Plan. A draft strategy is to be circulated to the public this autumn for feedback. Responses will be collated with data from the consultation that is being run by the Community Connector this summer.
4. **Westend Infrastructure Group (WIG).** Monthly WIG meetings continue with EDDC and DCC to monitor delivery of infrastructure in relation to strategic site delivery. Inevitably the group also compiles matters arising from the community that require snagging / resolution. From September, the WIG meetings will alternate with developer meetings to raise operational matters. (NB Meetings are informal and are not open to public).
5. **Broadclyst Fun Day:** a great day that raised £6,610 for the community groups that took part.
6. **Tithebarn and Westclyst community events:** two free afternoon's entertainment for families.
7. **Devon Highways:** DALC¹ has organised a series of Connect Events. These workshops explore relationships between principal authority departments and town & parish councils. It also promotes different schemes:
 - 7.1. **Road Warden Scheme:** Explains what the road warden scheme is, what types of works can be done, insurance cover, and more!
 - 7.2. **Snow Warden Scheme:** Explains the scheme, what snow wardens do, provides case studies, and more!
 - 7.3. **Self-Funded Delivery Scheme:** Read the cabinet report that enables communities to fund and deliver their own minor highway improvements. Interested councils should discuss their ideas with their Neighbourhood Highways Officer.
 - 7.4. **Parish Paths Partnership:** Find out about annual grants to maintain local rights of way, as well as additional resources such as maps, inspections, maintenance, and more!

There are more Connect Events coming soon:

- [Proposed reforms to national planning policy](#) – 5 Sept, 2pm
- [Understanding road maintenance](#) – 18 Oct, 1pm.
- [An insight into roadworks](#) – 5 Dec, 1pm.

¹ Devon Association of Local Councils – a membership organisation that advises Town and Parish councils, the county branch of the National Association (NALC).

- [Highways investment unveiled](#) – 6 Feb, 1pm.
- [Highways and the planning system](#) – 3 Apr, 1pm.

8. **EDDC Local Plan site allocations:**

In preparation for East Devon District Council's new Local Plan, proposals for residential and employment development site allocations across East Devon will be considered. A series of public meetings focussing on different areas around the district will take place throughout September, with Strategic West End Sites, Broadclyst, Clyst St Mary, West Clyst, Whimble being heard in the morning of 23rd September 2024. (NB. Anyone wishing to speak will need to register to speak. You can do this once the agenda is published on [EDDC's website](#).).

Extract from EDDC website:

"Deciding where to build in our part of the world is one of the hardest decisions we have to make. In many cases, as residents ourselves, we share your concerns, and your frustrations, about the process we are going through.

"However, we have little choice but to push on. If we don't, the government have made clear that they will not hesitate to step in and make a Local Plan for us – with 28% higher housing numbers. To avoid this, we not only need to make tough decisions – we need to make them quickly. If we don't publish a final draft plan in the next few months then we will have to restart the Local Plan process under the new, higher housing targets." Cllr Todd Olive, EDDC Portfolio Holder for Strategic Planning.

Please note: these new allocations are not being made by Broadclyst Parish Council. All representations should be made to EDDC.

9. **Committees and Working groups.**

The Council resolved to review its committee structure and made its subcommittees into working groups so members of public could join and have input. However, by lack of legislative definition, working groups are informal and are not required to publish agendas and minutes, so when preparing draft Terms of Reference for the new working groups, the question of how to ensure transparency arose.

Further research and advice from DALC has provided clarification as follows:

- 9.1. Council has two types of committee: Standing and Advisory.
- 9.2. Standing Committees are councillor-only membership, discharge the 'main business' of the council, i.e. Planning, Finance, Staffing, and may resolve to appoint their own subcommittee(s) as felt necessary. They often have many delegated powers and responsibilities.
- 9.3. Advisory Committees can have members of public serve on them, may have some delegated powers but mainly report / make recommendations to council or a Standing Committee.
- 9.4. Both Standing and Advisory committees operate under Terms of Reference and in accordance with the Local Government Act 1972 and Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960. Agendas and Minutes are published.

9.5. Working Groups and Task and Finish Forums (TAFs) are by nature informal and temporary. They do not have any continuity and are often created for one purpose, i.e. to organise a Remembrance Day service, or to deliver a project.

9.6. **Recommendation:**

9.6.1. That in accordance with Standing order 10, a, iii, the council moves (without written notice) to defer consideration of agenda item 24/108ii to permit the committee structure to be reconsidered in October (there is too much business to do this in September).

9.6.2. To note that the rationale for reviewing the previous decision of the council within 6 months is in light of new information listed in points 9.1 to 9.5 above.

10. **Station Road closure:** Devon Highways will be undertaking CCTV survey and jetting works on Station Road, Broadclyst, between Monday 16th – Thursday 19th September 2024. The working hours (and therefore time of the closure) will be 09.30 – 14.30 (reduced from 15.30 to allow for school traffic). Emergency and residents access will be maintained. The Order can be found by following the link to the one.network: <https://one.network/?GB140003487>
11. **B3181 resurfacing:** the works are now complete save for the last stretch of lines. There was a delay due to the M5 closure on the last scheduled night, which meant that the works had to be re-advertised and re-arranged. The Highway Liaison Officer and Contractor (Glendinnings) were both extremely helpful and cooperative throughout the works.
12. **Bridleway No 16 Public Path Diversion Order 2024:** further to earlier consultation, the formal Public Path Diversion and Definitive Map and Statement Modification Order (2024) has been made and a copy is retained in the office. The Order diverts the path from its junction with Footpath No.4 to the County Road C124, southwest of Park Lodge, Killerton. The original and new routes are shown in Appendix A.

This concludes my report.

Angie Hurren BEM
BA(Hons): Community Governance
Fellow SLCC
Broadclyst Parish Council Clerk

29.08.2024