MINUTES OF A LYMPSTONE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD IN THE VILLAGE HALL AT 7.00PM ON MONDAY 6TH JULY 2026.

PRESENT:	
Councillors	D Atkins (DGA), P Carlisle (PRC), R Coleman (RC), S Francis (SF), R Gale-Hasleham (RGH), K Hill (KH), A Roberts (AR) and L Staddon (LS) (LPC Chair)
Clerk	Miss L Tyrrell
County Councillors	J Trail (JT)
District Councillors	B Ingham (BI) and G Jung (GJ)
Public	7 members

Public session
No members of the public asked to speak.

26/53 Apologies
Cllr Payne and County Cllr Brown due to other commitments.

RESOLVED that the apologies were accepted.
LS proposed. SF seconded. Unan.

26/54 Minutes

RESOLVED that the minutes of the PC meeting held on the 1st June 2026 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.
DGA proposed. RGH seconded. Unan.

26/55 To receive any Declarations of Interest
RC declared a personal interest with planning application 26/1291/FUL and 26/1292/LBC.
LS declared both a personal and pecuniary interest with item 26/47.9.
This was recorded in the book.

26/56 Clerk's Report

26/56.1 Casual Vacancy and Co-option of Parish Councillors

The Clerk explained that there were two vacancies on the PC and no election had been called. It was up to the PC to co-opt new members. There had been one expression of interest from a resident Mr Gavin Lowery who was present. He had completed his co-option application form and spoke a few words about himself.

RESOLVED that Mr Gavin Lowery (GL) was co-opted on to Lympstone Parish Council with immediate effect.
RGH proposed. LS seconded. Unan.

Cllr Lowery read out loud and signed the Declaration of Office and Code of Conduct in front of all present. The Clerk countersigned the document.

26/56.2) Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Information Technology (IT), Disciplinary, Training and Development policies and LPC 5-year Plan.

RESOLVED that LPC's reviewed Standing Orders, Code of Conduct, Information Technology (IT), Disciplinary, Training and Development policies and LPC 5-year plan were approved by Council.
DGA proposed. LS seconded. Unan.

26/56.3) Find a Tender Terms & Conditions

RESOLVED that the 'Find A Tender' government online platform terms and conditions were approved by Council.
LS proposed. RGH seconded. Unan.

26/56.4) Correspondence received

The Clerk referred to the correspondence received regarding the Resident Parking Area / Demolition of Underutilised Garages at Glebe Close, Lympstone. The Chair gave an overview statement on the issue regarding parking at Glebe Close. She explained that there was a mix of private and council owned properties, the EDDC garages originally provided for immediate residents were now let out to other residents in the area. Some residents with own drives were still parking on the Highway and some military residents were not using the MOD car park and choosing to also park on the Highway. The current EDDC car park and garage area was in a dilapidated state and becoming unfit for any purpose.

A Glebe Close resident was present and invited to speak. He explained that people were damaging parked vehicles, including nails placed in front of car tyres, he showed examples of two nails he had recently found by and in his car tyre. The Chair added it was important for residents to park courteously.

GJ added that the garages were in EDDC ownership and were currently long let to residents. EDDC legal team were reviewing the housing stock in East Devon, but houses were more of a priority than parking and garages. Anti-social behaviour was a separate issue. There was eighteen months left before EDDC would become a Unitary Council, so it was difficult to get all reviews completed in time. The Chair explained that as EDDC was responsible for the garages and car parking area then it could be tidied up regardless. The Chair praised CTCRM for their ongoing support and open communications regarding the military housing, their residents, and car park. BI added that he had raised this issue with EDDC Officers six years ago to investigate and it had still been left unresolved. BI felt a plan of action was necessary to tackle this ongoing issue. BI would raise this again with EDDC officers to investigate. JT explained that EDDC had an anti-social officer, and any evidence should be photographed in situ and reported to both the Police

and EDDC anti-social officer. He added that the EDDC garages would be dealt with by estates and the legal team. JT shared a concern of a divisive use of language regarding 'military' and 'civilian' and added that all were 'residents'. JT added he was the liaison officer with CTCRM so queries could be raised through him and added that the EDDC anti-social officer could raise concerns with the Police Crime Commissioner. RGH asked if this issue could be highlighted with EDDC planning team to reflect concerns with more proposed development and parking provision.

The resident did also explain that polite notes had been placed on neighbouring vehicles but was met by intimidating responses. JT added that unfortunately it was not permissible to place notices on car windows, only a civil enforcement officer had the authority to do this.

26/56.5) Otter to Exe meeting

The Clerk read her summary of the meeting to the Council (See Appendix 1).

GJ added that there had been a recent cabinet meeting regarding SANGS and the report would be due out in September/October.

26/56.6) Finance – May and June 2026 Payments / Financial summary / Budget report.

The Clerk reported that LPC's Instant Access account received interest on the 30th June of £957.62.

RESOLVED that the payments in Appendix 2 be approved.
LS proposed. DGA seconded. Unan.

26/56.7) Clerk and LPC's Action List.

RESOLVED that the Council received and noted the Clerk's and LPC's action list.

26/57 Reports from the Chairman, East Devon District Councillors and Devon County Councillors.

JT welcomed GL to the Parish Council. JT reported that he had been working closely with EDDC regarding planning and highways and would report back once all meetings had been completed. He had attended two recent meetings with the developer at Meeting Lane and had agreed to propose a new footpath from the military houses along Nutwell Road to Meeting Lane, install a new tactile crossing, school signage and relocate the 30mph speed limit sign further down the road. JT had met with Highways to discuss upcoming planning applications and road infrastructure for Lympstone, Exmouth and Woodbury. He was in discussions to provide 30mph speed limits, road and transport plans, strategies and location maps to join up thinking and links between the areas. EDDC were speaking with Highways to improve communications regarding planning applications. He was very concerned with upcoming planning

applications and the lack of road and other infrastructure. JT had met with CTCRM and another meeting was due to discuss the bridge over the A376 outside the camp regarding its future and potential road crossing options. CTCRM were in the process of a ten-year accommodation refurbishment plan which would create an additional site entrance to the camp. JT explained that the Government should be updating all Councils and local authorities regarding the Local Government Reform (LGR) after 19th July. JT explained that a planned road closure for A376 at the Dinan Way Extension was due in September for three to four months. He was meeting contractors onsite to discuss details further. He apologised in advance and on behalf of the contractors for the further disruption. JT invited the PC and Clerk to a presentation of upcoming traffic orders and diversions in either July or August, date to be confirmed.

BI explained that there was a strong possibility of a new prime minister in the next few weeks and how this could affect the proposed LGR. The possible candidate seemed to have a different attitude to devolution. He could not say what may come next. He did know that all wanted to work as effectively and efficiently as possible.

GJ welcomed GL to the Parish Council. He thanked JT with all his work regarding Highways. He read his report (See Appendix 3).

JT expressed his concerns of the amount of proposed housing developments and felt that SWW could not cope but EDDC expected them to. He questioned what EDDC planning department was doing with all the future applications due and potential greater pollution incidents. Parish Cllrs echoed JT's sentiments.

GJ explained that EDDC had gathered data and reported that SWW could cope, however, the data collected had come from SWW. GJ asked the PC to reflect Grampian orders when responding to planning applications.

BI felt EDDC Officers had directed Cllrs on a predetermined agenda and if the East Devon Local Plan was not accepted then the officers were responsible.

The Chair read her report (See Appendix 4).

26/58 Planning applications

26/58.1 AMENDED PLAN: 25/2631/FUL - Proposed extension to the approved garden centre restaurant and retail unit (Class E) (ref. 23/1074/FUL) to provide additional retail and storage space and external customer seating at Kings Garden And Leisure Hulham Road.

RESOLVED that LPC would submit no comment on this application.

AR proposed. LS seconded. SF, RC, RGH, KH, PRC agreed.

DGA proposed to submit a response of support and GL abstained.

26/58.2 26/1337/TCA - G1, Yew : crown lift to 2.5m above ground level; prune away from house to achieve up to 2.5m of clearance; reduce height by 2m; reduce lateral branches where overhanging driveway by 1-2m by targeting overextending branches and pruning the remaining to shape at Green Barton House Church Road.

RESOLVED that the Clerk send the recommendation of support from LPC to EDDC with the caveat that work is completed outside of bird nesting season.

LS proposed. RC seconded. Unan.

26/58.3 26/1291/FUL and 26/1292/LBC - Demolition of single storey extension and replacement with new single storey extension and internal alterations at Corner House Burgmanns Hill.

RESOLVED that the Clerk send the recommendation of support from LPC to EDDC, in line with EDDC conservation officer's recommendations.
SF proposed. RGH seconded. LS, AR, KH, PRC supported. DGA, RC and GL abstained.

26/58.4 **2**6/1283/FUL - Erection of 'granny annexe' in lieu of existing workshop at The Acorns Harefield Drive.

RESOLVED that the Clerk send the recommendation of support from LPC to EDDC with the cavate of occupational restriction.
RGH proposed. SF seconded. Unan.

A resident asked if there was any update regarding the appeal of the proposed three houses at the temporary car park site. GJ explained that the appeal had been made by the agent dealing with the application regarding the Grampian Order. He had no update but was monitoring the situation closely. GJ had written and submitted a full report for the case.
DGA declared a pecuniary interest regarding this site. This was recorded in the book.

26/59 Planning decisions

RESOLVED that the EDDC decisions were noted.

26/60 Reports of Committees

26/60.1 Environment Committee

LS reported that Wild About Lympstone (WAL) had held a nature walk and created a bug hotel with local children in Front Meadow. WAL hoped this would engage children with the nature in their environment.
LS updated all present that a tree had been felled on the Brook bank alongside Front Meadow by the EA. EDDC had sent the PC a five-day notice letter authorising the work, but this had the incorrect location on it, the EA had not sought any permission to access the PCs land to fell the tree, so the PC had not been aware of this work. DGA highlighted that EDDC could only go on the information they had been provided by the EA. GJ added that the EA were a trusted body so the EA would use their own officers to assess a tree. The Clerk had initially written to the EDDC tree officer raising concerns of the tree felled but had not received a reply.

RESOLVED that a follow up email from the PC was written and sent to the tree officer for more information.
RGH proposed. RC seconded. Unan.

26/60.2 Finance and Advisory Committee

AR reported on the key aspects for procurement procedures and data protection (See Appendix 5)
AR highlighted the point that when he and the Clerk had attended a DALC webinar regarding procurement, it was recommended that funding was raised first for any project before going out to tender online. AR had also attended three-part webinars regarding data protection and would be writing a data protection policy, including data retention to be presented at the next meeting to be adopted by the PC.

RESOLVED that the invitation to bids to contractors for the Hub Building were not released to contractors until funding was in place.
AR proposed. KH seconded. RC, RGH, SF, PRC supported. GL and LS abstained.
DGA declared an interest as a conscientious objector. This was recorded in the book.

26/60.3 Planning and Transport Committee

SF read her report regarding the NP review (See Appendix 6).
SF read her report regarding Goosemoore planning application Appeal (See Appendix 7). GJ praised SF and all speakers with their presentations at the hearing.
DGA declared a personal interest with this site. This was recorded in the book.
PRC explained he had contacted GWR regarding the luminous orange fencing at the train station. He reported that there had been subsidence at the platform, so the fencing had been used whilst this was rectified. Once completed the temporary fencing would be removed.
PRC reported that Kier contractors would be gone from Underhill car park by the end of this week. KH requested that the five disabled bays were kept. GJ felt these could be left for now and reviewed later in the year.

26/61 Items for the next Agenda

Parking in passing bays and how to enforce this breach of the Highway.
A resident queried whether the byway/footpath access to the Mill had been resolved? The PC explained the footpath was still closed due to the building works. GJ explained that this was a legal matter for the residents and owner of the Mill.

The Chair reminder all that there would be no PC meeting in August, she wished everyone a lovely summer break and looked forward to seeing everyone at the next meeting in September.

Meeting closed: **9.03pm**
Chairman: Date:

Appendix 1:

Summary of the Otter to Exe Joint Meeting of Clerk and Chairs 25th June 2026

On the 25th June Cllr Francis and I attended the Otter to Exe meeting held at Exmouth Town Council.

Councils with representation present were: Budleigh Salterton, Colaton Raleigh, East Budleigh and Bicton, Exmouth, Lympstone, Newton Poppleford and Woodbury.

Areas of focus discussed were Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANGS), Devon Association of Local Councils (DALC), Exe Estuary Management Partnership Management Committee (EEMP), burial grounds, cumulative traffic issues, National Association of Local Councils (NALC) and EDDC planning structure.

Cllr Francis has previously circulated her detailed notes of the meeting to all Parish Cllrs.

It was a good opportunity to off load and share issues raised in our own Parishes and realise the issues were of the same thread affecting all residents in the wider area.

All Councils in attendance felt it was important to continue to work together and support each other to improve the lives and well-being of all our residents.

It was agreed that communication would be kept open between Councils to update and share information including experiences, contacts, new initiatives and outcomes.

Miss L Tyrrell

Clerk to Lympstone Parish Council.

6th July 2026

Appendix 2:

26/47.11) Finance – May and June 2026 Payments / Financial summary / Budget report

MAY 2026

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

Current Account

Statement Number	38	Bank Statement No.	38
Statement Opening Balance	£20,129.42	Opening Date	01/05/26
Statement Closing Balance	£16,272.93	Closing Date	31/05/26
True/ Cashbook Closing Balance	£16,272.93		

Date	Cheque/ Ref.	Supplier/ Customer	Debit (£)	Credit (£)	Balance (£)
05/05/26	5/5/26	Employment	204.97	0.00	19,924.45
06/05/26	6/5/26	Herald printing	46.82	0.00	19,877.63
06/05/26	6/5/26 LVHCIO	Lympstone Village Hall CIO	29.75	0.00	19,847.88
07/05/26	7/5/26 Drains	Exmouth Drain Clearance	95.00	0.00	19,752.88
07/05/26	7/5/26 Edgelt	Edge IT Systems Ltd	764.40	0.00	18,988.48
07/05/26	7/5/26 JC	Cleaner for public toilets	600.00	0.00	18,388.48
12/05/26	DS 12/05/26	Burial fee	0.00	650.00	19,038.48
13/05/26	13/5/26 LL	Reimburse LNP	13.98	0.00	19,024.50
13/05/26	13/5/26 LS	Chair allowance	200.00	0.00	18,824.50
15/05/26	15/5/26	Bagwells Ltd public toilets	170.87	0.00	18,653.63
18/05/26	18/5/26 AW	Website	50.00	0.00	18,603.63
18/05/26	18/5/26	Herald Advert	0.00	63.00	18,666.63
21/05/26	21/5/26 Miller	Miller Signs	154.00	0.00	18,512.63
21/05/26	21/5/26 OM	Burial Fee	0.00	45.00	18,557.63
22/05/26	22/5/26	Herald Advert	0.00	5.00	18,562.63
22/05/26	22/5/26 TSB	TSB	0.00	50.00	18,612.63
26/05/26	26/5/26	Herald Advert	0.00	7.00	18,619.63
26/05/26	26/5/26	Employment	845.88	0.00	17,773.75
26/05/26	26/5/26	Employment	249.69	0.00	17,524.06
26/05/26	26/5/26	Employment	2,194.13	0.00	15,329.93
26/05/26	26/5/26	Herald Advert	0.00	25.00	15,354.93
29/05/26	29/05/26	Herald Advert	0.00	900.00	16,254.93
29/05/26	29/5/26	Herald Advert	0.00	25.00	16,279.93
31/05/26	31/5/26 UT	Unity Trust Bank service fee	7.00	0.00	16,272.93

Uncleared and unpresented effects

Total uncleared and unpresented	0.00	0.00
Total debits / credits	5626.49	1770

Reconciled by Lucy Tyrrell

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

Savings Account

Statement Number	7	Bank Statement No.	7
Statement Opening Balance	£206,996.02	Opening Date	01/05/26
Statement Closing Balance	£206,996.02	Closing Date	31/05/26
True/ Cashbook Closing Balance	£206,996.02		

Date	Cheque/ Ref.	Supplier/ Customer	Debit (£)	Credit (£)	Balance (£)
	No activity		0.00	0.00	206,996.02

Uncleared and unpresented effects

Total uncleared and unpresented	0.00	0.00
Total debits / credits	0	0

Reconciled by Lucy Tyrrell

Financial Summary - Cashbook

Summary of receipts and payments between 01/04/26 and 31/05/26 inclusive. This may include transactions with ledger dates outside this period.

Balances at the start of the year

Ordinary Accounts

Current Account	£76,379.83

Short Term Investment Accounts

Savings Account	£130,996.02
Total	£207,375.85

RECEIPTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Council	£33,878.77	£0.00	£33,878.77
Total Receipts	£33,878.77	£0.00	£33,878.77

PAYMENTS	Net	Vat	Gross
Council	£16,647.71	£1,337.96	£17,985.67
Total Payments	£16,647.71	£1,337.96	£17,985.67

Closing Balances at 31/05/26

Ordinary Accounts

Current Account	£16,272.93

Short Term Investment Accounts

Savings Account	£206,996.02
Total	£223,268.95

JUNE 2026

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

Current Account

Statement Number	39	Bank Statement No.	39
Statement Opening Balance	£16,272.93	Opening Date	01/06/26
Statement Closing Balance	£12,118.15	Closing Date	30/06/26
True/ Cashbook Closing Balance	£12,118.15		

Date	Cheque/ Ref.	Supplier/ Customer	Debit (£)	Credit (£)	Balance (£)
01/06/26	1/6/26 BGL23	Bristish Gas Lite 730923	20.58	0.00	16,252.35
01/06/26	1/6/26 BGL921	British Gas 730921 YC	49.92	0.00	16,202.43
01/06/26	1/6/26 BGL922	British Gas Lite 730922	39.84	0.00	16,162.59
02/06/26	DCC 2605294-13	Devon County Council	0.00	1,567.00	17,729.59
03/06/26	3/6/26	R Gegg and Sons	0.00	600.00	18,329.59
03/06/26	DCC 2606014-8	Devon County Council	0.00	2,000.00	20,329.59
05/06/26	5/6/26 Copyrite	Copyrite	775.00	0.00	19,554.59
05/06/26	5/6/26	PC contractor	1,670.00	0.00	17,884.59
05/06/26	5/6/26	PC Contractor	785.00	0.00	17,099.59
05/06/26	5/6/26 LVHCIO	Lympstone Village Hall CIO	25.50	0.00	17,074.09
05/06/26	5/6/26	Employment	195.65	0.00	16,878.44
05/06/26	5/6/26 SWW	Source For Business	147.62	0.00	16,730.82
11/06/26	11/6/26 Efire	Express Fire	150.00	0.00	16,580.82
16/06/26	16/6/26 DALC	DALC	126.00	0.00	16,454.82
18/06/26	18/6/26 EDF	EDF	108.44	0.00	16,346.38
19/06/26	19/6/26	Herald Advert	0.00	30.00	16,376.38
22/06/26	22/6/26	Herald Advert	0.00	9.00	16,385.38
22/06/26	22/6/26	Herald Advert	0.00	5.00	16,390.38
23/06/26	23/6/26 OM	Orchard Memorials	0.00	140.00	16,530.38
24/06/26	24/6/26 Copyrite	Copyrite	775.00	0.00	15,755.38
25/06/26	25/6/26	Herald Advert	0.00	15.00	15,770.38
29/06/26	29/6/26 Castle	Castle CCTV Ltd	132.00	0.00	15,638.38
29/06/26	29/6/26 DALC	DALC	84.00	0.00	15,554.38
29/06/26	29/6/26	Employment	903.10	0.00	14,651.28
29/06/26	29/6/26	Employment	128.70	0.00	14,522.58
29/06/26	29/6/26	Employment	2,284.65	0.00	12,237.93
30/06/26	30/6/26 BGL23	Bristish Gas Lite 730923	15.11	0.00	12,222.82
30/06/26	30/6/26 BGL921	British Gas 730921 YC	57.02	0.00	12,165.80
30/06/26	30/6/26 BGL922	British Gas Lite 730922	40.65	0.00	12,125.15
30/06/26	30/6/26 UT	Unity Trust Bank	7.00	0.00	12,118.15

Uncleared and unpresented effects

Total uncleared and unpresented	0.00	0.00
Total debits / credits	8520.78	4366

Reconciled by Lucy Tyrrell

Bank Account Reconciled Statement

Savings Account

Statement Number	8	Bank Statement No.	8
Statement Opening Balance	£206,996.02	Opening Date	01/06/26
Statement Closing Balance	£207,953.64	Closing Date	30/06/26
True/ Cashbook Closing Balance	£207,953.64		

Date	Cheque/ Ref.	Supplier/ Customer	Debit (£)	Credit (£)	Balance (£)
30/06/26	30/6/26 Interest rec	Unity Trust Bank	0.00	957.62	207,953.64

Uncleared and unpresented effects

Total uncleared and unpresented	0.00	0.00
Total debits / credits	0	957.62

Reconciled by Lucy Tyrrell

Financial Statement - Cashbook

Statement of receipts and payments between 01/04/26 and 30/06/26 inclusive. This may include transactions with ledger dates outside this period.

Balances at the start of the year

Ordinary Accounts

Current Account	£76,379.83

Short Term Investment Accounts

Savings Account	£130,996.02
Total	£207,375.85

RECEIPTS	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
Council			
10 Precept	30,000.00	0.00	30,000.00
15 CIL	0.00	0.00	0.00
20 DCC re Candys Field	0.00	0.00	0.00
25 Herald Adverts	1,509.00	0.00	1,509.00
30 Burial Fees	1,435.00	0.00	1,435.00
35 Lymp FC	0.00	0.00	0.00
45 Wayleaves	7.54	0.00	7.54
50 Misc	50.00	0.00	50.00
65 External grants	3,567.00	0.00	3,567.00
70 YC Rech	0.00	0.00	0.00
90 Community Hub	0.00	0.00	0.00
95 Woodbury PC	0.00	0.00	0.00
99 VAT refund	1,676.23	0.00	1,676.23
110 Interest	957.62	0.00	957.62
Council Total	39,202.39	0.00	39,202.39
Total Receipts	39,202.39	0.00	39,202.39

PAYMENTS	Net (£)	Vat (£)	Gross (£)
Council			
1000 Employment	9,816.13	0.00	9,816.13

1005	Employment	548.94	0.00	548.94
1015	Village Hall hire	164.75	0.00	164.75
1020	Chairman's Allowance	200.00	0.00	200.00
1025	Subscriptions	1,273.00	218.49	1,491.49
1030	Courses, travel etc	175.00	35.00	210.00
1035	Insurance, Audit, Electricity	0.00	0.00	0.00
1040	Misc	252.00	0.00	252.00
1045	Herald Printing	2,331.00	1.20	2,332.20
1050	PC Maintenance Contractor	2,455.00	0.00	2,455.00
1055	Grass cutting	600.00	0.00	600.00
1060	Other maintenance	3,062.10	612.42	3,674.52
1065	General tree work	0.00	0.00	0.00
1070	Bin emptying	0.00	0.00	0.00
1080	Notice boards - maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00
1085	Play equipment	131.00	26.20	157.20
1090	Lights in CF	90.37	18.07	108.44
1095	Toilets	1,448.28	109.68	1,557.96
1100	Flood equip maintenance	0.00	0.00	0.00
1105	LFRG expenses	61.35	0.00	61.35
1110	Gulliford cemetery	0.00	0.00	0.00
1115	Burial Ground	0.00	0.00	0.00
1120	YC Maintenance	125.00	25.00	150.00
1125	YC Utilities	236.83	11.84	248.67
1130	Website etc	70.00	0.00	70.00
1140	Gully Emptying	0.00	0.00	0.00
1145	Neighbourhood Plan	2,003.00	397.80	2,400.80
1150	Community Hub projects	0.00	0.00	0.00
1155	Hub Building project	0.00	0.00	0.00
1160	DCC / DCF Funding	0.00	0.00	0.00
2000	S137 Funding	0.00	0.00	0.00
2010	Other Grants	0.00	0.00	0.00
2015	Bank fees	7.00	0.00	7.00
9999	VAT Payments	0.00	0.00	0.00
Council Total		25,050.75	1,455.70	26,506.45
Total Payments		25,050.75	1,455.70	26,506.45

Closing Balances at 30/06/26

Ordinary Accounts

Current Account	£12,118.15

Short Term Investment Accounts

Savings Account	£207,953.64
Total	£220,071.79

Appendix 3:

Local Wastewater Infrastructure and Environmental Impact
South West Water (SWW) infrastructure issues heavily impact our local environment and community. The East Devon District Council (EDDC) Water Cycle Report highlights critical problems facing the protected Exe Estuary.

Critical Capacity Issues

- **Countess Wear at Capacity:** Serves a massive, rapidly developing catchment including Exeter, Cranbrook, the West End, and Exminster.
- **Delayed Relief:** A new East of Exeter sewage works is planned but remains roughly 10 years away.
- **Woodbury Overloaded:** Currently over capacity, though active remedial works are underway.
- **Exmouth near Limit:** The Exmouth catchment (including Lympstone and Budleigh) has less than 5% capacity remaining, dropping 5% since 2022/3 due to heavy residential development.

Storm Overflows and Regulatory Bottlenecks

- **Premature CSO Spills:** Over-capacity systems cause Combined Storm Overflows (CSOs) to spill at the immediate start of rainfall, violating their intended design.
- **SWW increased flow and pipe discharge capacities** but delayed the necessary permit change application, meaning these upgrades cannot be used yet.
- **Public Consultation:** The required permit change requires a public consultation will begin on 4th August.
- **Cancelled Safeguards:** Planned holding tanks designed to retain sewage during heavy storms have been cancelled.
- **Unlikely Deadlines:** There are no updates on doubling the Exmouth treatment capacity by the previously announced March 2028, making this deadline highly improbable.

Legal Actions and Corporate Accountability

- **EA Prosecutions**: The Environment Agency (EA) announced two impending prosecutions against SWW for 2023/24 systemic failures.
- **Data Delays**: SWW delayed submitting increased flow capacity data to the regulator, triggering a report for a potential third prosecution.
- **Contradictory Claims**: SWW continuously maintains that local capacity is sufficient despite these systemic failures.
- **Grampian Hurdles**: EDDC can only enforce Grampian planning conditions if infrastructure deficits are proven, which requires nearly impossible-to-obtain specialist data.

Future Planning and Governance Risks

- **Housing Target Pressures**: EDDC must deliver government housing targets through the new Local Plan. Failing to pass this plan forces EDDC onto tougher government targets (+250 homes per year) and requires to start a new local plan.
- **Unitary Transition**: EDDC will be dissolved into a new Unitary Council in less than two years.
- **Developer Advantage**: Delays risk giving developers a free hand to build without strict local planning or Grampian conditions.

Our Commitment
Clean rivers and shores are vital for our wellbeing, economy, and declining wildlife. We are actively collaborating with water quality groups and catchment partnerships to halt and reverse this environmental decline.

How can a Parish Council help. Help support these water quality groups
Insist on Grampian orders if the development increases the sewage load

District Cllr Jung
6th July 2026

Appendix 4:

Congratulations to our new Councillor, Councillor Lowery, a new member to our council is always most welcome. Thank you for joining us.
What a month! The hottest June on record has given much cause to sweat not only from the ongoing high temperatures, but the working group for the NP and their motivation and ability to keep going. I'd like to commend them on their continued work on the plan, which they have showed incredible commitment to. Heading up this team is Cllr Francis, who's laptop is now a well adopted part of her family! Sue has been relentless in her efforts to get this plan right for the village. And also, for Sue's hard work on the Goosemoor appeal - it was an epic meeting representing LPC and supporting our parish neighbours - I think 8 hrs! I'll leave Sue to talk about that. Thank you, Sue.

Briefly before I go on, I would like to flag the motorway that came through Lympstone a few weeks ago. A crash at the Harefield junction (in which no one was badly hurt) brought standstill to Lympstone. The A376 was blocked and Lympstone became the short cut, long cut. We had two buses wind their way through the village, no one could get in or out of the village. My point here is as we go on to receive more development we need to think about access when this happens - you couldn't get an ambulance or a fire appliance through... food for thought.
Sue and I also met with developers and other local councils to discuss engagement between developers and councils. This is a really pro-active way of engagement for development now and in the future, to assist both parties on getting the most from development.

Thank you to Jeff Trail for giving us continued support and 'heads up' with highways - it's never ending and we appreciate you keeping us informed always.

Another thank you to Andy, Andy has been navigating data protection and ensuring the PC are compliant with new regulations. I would like to thank Andy for not only his diligence in his work, but his continued support for Lucy and LPC and all the work that goes on behind the scenes that maybe Cllrs aren't always aware of, so thank you Andy.

A thank you to Tina Bissett, who is collating and bundling the Heralds on behalf of the PC and to all the distributors, who have helped keep the paper copies going. To the church for kindly holding onto the Heralds ready for distribution and to Miles for getting rid of all the cardboard packaging. What a fantastic team in our great community. Thank you, team Herald.

And to finish, an evening reception was held at CTCRM, where myself, Lucy and Joanne were invited to view the future plans of restructuring to add new accommodation and amenities to CTCRM. It was the hottest day of the year so far, officers in their Lovat uniform looking exceptionally calm in the heat, while invited civies were slowly melting. Two air-conditioners blew out with the power of small lungs and drinks with ice met us to help keep us cool…er! the thought to pour the ice directly over your head and lie down kept coming to mind - but we know how to do these engagements. Keep calm and carry on. Anyway, it was a really informative meeting with two power points that showed the camp at its best and another focusing on the new building and potential community engagement with the sports pitches opposite. (A follow up meeting will happen this week for relevant parties). Thank you to Major Latham for keeping us informed re CTCRM.

Lastly, thank you as always to Lucy - I am harder to pin down at the moment and Lucy has such great patience and support. Thank you, Lucy.

Cllr Lisa Staddon
Chair to Lympstone Parish Council
6th July 2026

Appendix 5:

Finance Report – For LPC meeting 06/07/26

Procurement

Lucy & I attended a course (run by Parkinson Partnership) on Public Procurement. Key items were that any bids for the hub building should:

1. Be treated as Open Tenders and advertised on the Government Portal.
2. Only ask contractors to bid once funding was in place (unnecessary cost to contractor and give LPC poor reputation.

I Propose:

Invitation to bids to contractors for the Hub Building are not released to contractors until funding in place

Data Protection

Lucy and I are drafting a Data Protection Policy + Document Retention Policy + General Privacy Policy. Expected that these will be available for Cllrs comments later in July before approval at LPC meeting in September.

Cllr Andy Roberts
Lead Cllr For Finance and Advisory Committee

Appendix 6:

Neighbourhood Plan Update Report to Council 6th July 2026

Where do I begin? The second public Consultation had around 200 people visiting and the survey ran for 3 weeks. Devon Communities Together, attended the consultation, gathered the replies to the survey and produced an independent report for which we paid just under two thirds of our budget. There were 26 replies to the survey. This represents visiting the consultation approximately 20 % of our entire population and about 2% of the entire population responding to the survey.

DCT's report concluded what we already knew that Lympstone has some very engaged, strong community members who care deeply about its future and their priorities for Lympstone. There was general appreciation for what the plan is trying to achieve and quantative support for all the proposed objectives and policies but also those who responded expected the plan to be refined and strengthened and actively delivered/enforced in some areas. Again, we expected this as those who have passionate views are the ones who express them most loudly and consistently.

Since the WG formed we have been working under time constraint to achieve a new made plan before December so progressed along the lines of updating the original plan. The Neighbourhood Plan officer Angela King recently returned to work, after a long absence, and the working group had a meeting with her and Claire Rodway an EDDC planning officer with vast experience of Neighbourhood Plans (Claire worked on the original plan). Both had reviewed the draft plans and felt that refreshing the old plan was not the best way forward.

In the interim years Neighbourhood Plans have changed in their process and context about the way they are 'made'. They have become simply planning focused documents and not necessarily community documents. Neighbourhood Plans are still informed and driven by community priorities but they must be presented and act within planning acceptable formats and terminology. This meant our draft we had most of what we needed but it was not presented in the way plans are now expected to be.

With Angela away we had been progressing with best intentions with what went before. Now with Angela and Claire available to help us we have set out a new planning presentation framework and know the areas we needed to be sharper with and focus on in our policies.

Angela also warned us legislation and the NPPF is changing and we have to be aware and take account of this. What has become very clear is that development will go ahead no matter what and it is up to us to provide any non-housing burden of evidence -which will be difficult to do.

We have the bones of what we need, we know where we have to sharpen some policies and react to some feedback points. Village groups in the areas of environment and water quality have been invited to submit objectives and policies to support the plan. This will strengthen it in preparation for examination by EDDC and ensure compliance with new legislation.

We have revised our time lines. The redraft should be ready by September when we will go to third statutory consultation (including consulting all engaged agencies). Angela will be guiding us after each section we have worked on so all being well and fingers crossed when the draft is submitted to EDDC there will not be too much we need to rewrite. The plan will not be made by December but as long as it is going through process at East Devon, we should not be too disadvantaged by loss of Cil Monies.

Cllr Sue Francis
Lead Cllr to Planning and Transport Committee

Appendix 7:

Précised Report on Goosemoor's Appeal for Council

You have seen my notes sent in the evening of the Appeal Day. I'll just precise them this evening. The hearing was very long and The Inspector scrupulously fair. However, I think 'the tilted balance' land supply issue and the extremely competent professional team of a barrister and planning consultant acting for the Appellants made their case hard to rebut.
EDDC's Landscape Officer put up a robust defence and had obviously prepared but overall, the team struggled in my view, as my notes attest, to defend the Planning Committees decision with confidence and prepared arguments. The only mitigating factor for this could be the named officer due to lead the EDDC team was sent home ill literally 10 minutes before the start of the hearing and substitutes had to be found quickly.

The Inspector did take some comments and observations from the 'Interested Parties' (WPC, LPC and residents) and made notes of some points. She did seem to take note of requests to look at Bus stops, footpaths, crossing points, roads etc but when deciding a tilted balance case, I'm not sure they will carry enough weight of harm to outweigh the advantages of employment opportunities the Application brings.
Things basically boiled down to - was this the only suitable site as the appellants attested and would the good it brought to the business and area for employment etc outweigh the harm of ignoring every Local Plan and Neighbourhood Plan policy placing it in open countryside.

I hope I'm wrong and local opinion and the EDDC Planning Committee decision win the day but I believe there is a well-known phrase that covers such eventualities!
Given the professional assistance the appellants had in making their case and the seeming inability of EDDC to counter with conviction and authority maybe it might be the time for the PC to consider Jane Moffat's suggestion of a budget line from precept to be set for professional advice and assistance in high profile cases such as these.

Cllr Sue Francis
Lead Cllr to Planning and Transport Committee
6th July 2026