



**Minutes of Brixton Parish Council July meeting held on
Wednesday 16th July 2025 at 7.30 pm in Sherford Community Hub**

Present: Cllr Liz Hitchins (Chair), Michael Wills (Vice Chair), Cllr Terry Clegg, Cllr Rachael Gillard, Cllr Neil Hawken and Cllr Prem MacLennan

In attendance: Kirstie Aldridge (Clerk)

Members of the public in attendance: 1

Cllr Hitchins welcomed everyone to the meeting

Open Forum

Guest Speaker - Mark Harris, Principal Urban Designer, South Hams District Council(SHDC)

Update on Local / Historical names for Sherford's Green Infrastructure

Mark Harris explained he is part of the SHDC Urban Fringe team working with the Sherford Consortium to put forward names for naming green spaces to enable them to provide signage around the site for street names and numbers. There is no strategy for naming Green Spaces. As there was no formal process in place, last year's consultation was a successful pilot which has now been formulated into a formal process.

This stage is the consultation/communicating the options to interested parties' stage i.e. Sherford Residents Panel and Brixton Parish Council (BPC). There will be a formal community consultation event in conjunction with the Heritage evening in the autumn with the names confirmed by the end of the year. Cllr MacLennan stated that there had been a long time between consultations and there is a need to be engaging with residents early in the process. BPC and residents will be invited to the event.

Report from Devon County Councillor Tony Carson (via email)

Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

Devon County Council (DCC) has announced there will be a Devon wide roadshow to consult with residents over the proposed LGR changes. It starts in Ilfracombe on the 18th July. Will advise date for local engagement later.

General Bickleigh and Wembury Division Items

Attended first meeting of the Tamar Estuary Consultative Forum (TECF) as the Yealm is part of The National Marine Park covered by TECF which helps with issues with SWW and landowners. Cofflete Creek turbidity levels are concerning as collected by the Yealm Dippers, currently waiting for evidence to identify the cause.

Local to Brixton

Deep Lane - overgrown vegetation covering signs has been booked to be cleared.

DCC original modelling for the traffic flow at Deep Lane through the residential areas of Sherford and Brixton has now far exceeded expectation. This is with only a fifth of the residential area built and no

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commercial units. DCC is aware of issues i.e. the Royal Mail HGVs using Hercules Road until the height restricting old railway Bridge on the Embarkment has been removed. Plymouth City Council (PCC) plans to carry out a traffic survey on Embarkment Road to gauge the change in traffic movements with so much more traffic using Hercules Road than designed for.

It has been acknowledged that DCC, SHDC and PCC need to work together to put a strong case to National Highways to put considerable investment into the Deep Lane Junction estimated to be in excess of £150m.

Meeting held on the 4th July to discuss proposals for the reduction of speed limits in Brixton Parish attended by County Cllr Tony Carson, BPC Chair, Cllr Liz Hitchins, Devon County Cllr Dan Thomas (Cabinet Member for Highways) and DCC Neighbourhood Highways Officer Nick Colton. There was agreement by all parties that speed restrictions in certain areas were a viable option.

The dangerous tree and overhanging branches reported by residents at Wiverton has been actioned, but neighbours feel further pollarding should occur. Awaiting on a further comment from DCC Tree Officer.

Stopping Up Order at Wiverton - DCC has objected to the proposed design submitted to the Secretary of State., currently waiting for the Stopping Up Order to be withdrawn by the Consortium.

Sherford

Report from Steven Williams, BPC nominated Director Sherford Community Land Trust (SCLT)

Sherford Community Trust Board Meeting 20/05/2025 & 20/06/2025

The meeting was not quorate. The July meeting is due on the 18th of July 2025

Meeting

- Organisation of the operation of the Trust is continuing, including the planning for the admission of 2 community directors from Phase 1 of the development onto the SCLT.
- Welcome letters will be issued shortly.
- First AGM of the Trust later this year. SCLT Fees will be levied from this year (£40) in line with the S106 agreement.
- Community Panels working well and expanding
- Discussions on aspirations of Community Trust on the Park and Town Hall have started
- Car club operations discussed.

Coordinators Update

- Community Kitchen installed and being finalised.
- Midwives moved out 31st May. Library space being fitted out from June 2025
- Youth session meeting held to review how this can be moved forward
- Allotments research ongoing (Sept to Dec Build out) – 16 plots
- Fee enforcement policy required

Events / Future Events

- Farmers markets May to October - 2nd Sunday every month.
- Sherford Open gardens 08th June 2025 was successful.
- Sunday 10th August 10am – 2pm - Farmers Market
- Tuesday 2nd September 5-7pm – Meet the Trust Event

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- Sunday 14th September 10am – 2pm – Farmers Market
- Saturday 20th September 12 – 2pm – Meet the Trust Event
- Wednesday 24th September 5-7pm – Meet the Trust Event

Brookbanks Update

- Phase 3A/B on site. Developers start building June / July
- Phase 1.1 Landscaping. First meeting re adoption due by end of June 2025.
- Sherford road upgrades planned to start Q3 2025 subject to legal agreements.
- Argyle Community Trust: Meeting was held with the Argyle Community Trust on 11th June 2025. with a follow up meeting to discuss in further detail of the lease agreements for Sports Pavilion and remaining pitches.
- Leisure Centre: Full tender operation packs have been issued, responses are being reviewed, Meeting with potential operators planned for Monday 30th June 2025.
- Temporary GP Surgery: NHS are working on planning application. Consortium will be issued notice prior to submission to enable comms.
- Noticeboard procurement: The Consortium has approved 4 noticeboards. The locations are Community Hub/ Local Centre, Leisure Centre/ Northern Pitches, phase 1.1 play area, Community Park entrance on Pigeon Lane. Proposals have been issued to SHDC to ensure alignment with the approved Signage Strategy.
- Business Park: Tender information was issued June 2025 with works anticipated to start early September 2025.
- Local Centre West: Subject to finalising the legal agreements, these are hoped to result in submission of a planning application in Q3 2025.

Grant Applications

- Two applications have been received..

To Note - Residents of Sherford can use to apply for support of between £50 and £1000. For successful application for a grant the idea or project should:

- Benefit residents generally with wide community support (ie not just one person benefits);
- Show how it meets one or more of the Trust's objectives, especially sustainability.
- Show commitment from the residents in cash or kind.

Please see <https://www.sherfordtrust.org.uk/grants.php> for details of how to apply.

Cllr Hitchins thanked Steven for all his work as BPCs nominated Director to the SCLT.

Sherford

Report from District Councillors Julie Carson and Alison Nix

Brookbanks has replied to a resident re the unbearable dust levels from area 3Ab. The Consortium has revised the air monitoring systems and locations, and additional water suppression works will be carried out. Work will be paused on particularly windy days.

The Stopping Up Order close to Serpells is going to be withdrawn. It can't be withdrawn until a new application has been put forward. It is understood the new application will follow the original design.

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There was a damaged bollard on Gemini Road caused by a PCC bin lorry which also damaged the block paving causing a trip hazard. The site has been made safe, and the Consortium are looking to replace the bollard ASAP.

Requested the sales banners at the top of Equinox Road be moved away from the junction as they are causing visibility problems for drivers pulling out onto Hercules Road.

Requested that a pedestrian crossing be put on Equinox Road, safely linking both sides of the Country Park.

Work will shortly be starting on the Business Park; traffic lights will be put on to Hercules Road which will slow down traffic at the top end of Sherford close to the A38.

An agreement has been reached with Brookbanks for land adjacent to the cricket pitch and Pavilion to be used for a football pitch for Sherford FC. Teams that play are aged from 6-16 years.

Met with Inspector Ben Shardlow, Devon & Cornwall Police, to discuss Anti-Social Behaviour (ASB) in Sherford and speeding along Hercules and Equinox Road. Residents are concerned about the number of HGVs travelling along the road especially the Royal Mail ones that travel throughout the night. Inspector Shardlow requested that members of the public report every incident of ASB to the Police so that they can log the issues and see where the hot spots are.- email Devon-Cornwall.police.uk and head to Report.

For ASB the lead in community safety partnership is Rachelle.underwood@swdevon.gov.uk
Rachelle can help with any neighbour disputes.

Pavement parking. Residents have complained about having to walk in the road with children and animals as pavements blocked by cars and cars driving along the pavements. Letters will be going out from the Consortium to residents shortly

Submissions for the Local Centre have now been applied for.

Phase 2D care home submission is being applied for by Mercroft shortly.

Brixton

Report from District Councillors Julie Carson and Alison Nix

The outline planning application for a house to be built on Paddock Drive (top of Lodge Lane) was supported by the SHDC Development Management Committee

There will be SHDC roadshows for LGR in September and October. Dates to be confirmed and dependant on venue availability.

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Carroll Island

Report from District Councillors Julie Carson and Alison Nix

Nothing to report

SHDC General Information

Report from District Councillors Julie Carson and Alison Nix

The Government is planning reforms to the Planning and Infrastructure Bill.

There are emerging concerns over the proposed changes which result in reducing the input by elected members in considering large numbers of planning applications which would be deferred to planning officers.

Another key area of concern is the Nature Restoration Fund and how and the obligations to protect biodiversity and habitats will be managed.

The Head of Planning at SHDC is drafting a response to the Governments technical consultation on the reform of planning committees.

District Cllr Carson locality grant donations:

Sherford FC £1,000

Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm £500

1st Sherford Rainbows £200

District Cllr Carson also has £2,000 available for any environmental projects as does Cllr Nix.

Cllr Hitchins stated that SHDC must have a 5-year land supply, the provision of affordable homes and building more homes is required. Cllr Hitchins updated on her recent attendance at SHDC

Development Management Committee in relation to the outline planning application in for a house in Paddock Drive off Lodge Lane.

Clerk to send the link to all BPC of the SHDC DMC meeting for information

Open Forum Closed

47. Welcome and Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllrs Carson, Martin and Nix and accepted by all councillors.

Apologies were also received from DCC County Cllr Tony Carson, District Cllrs Alison Nix and Julie Carson

48 Declarations of Interest

Cllr Hitchins declared an interest in agenda point 50.1

Cllr Hawken declared an interest in agenda point 55.8

49. Confirmation of minutes of the meeting of Brixton Parish Council on Wednesday 25th June 2025

Cllr Gillard proposed BPC accept the minutes of Brixton Parish Council meeting on 25th June 2025 as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Hawken. Cllr Hitchins abstained. All others in attendance were unanimous. Cllr Wills signed the minutes of the relevant meeting.

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50. Financial Matters**50.1 To receive and approve the finance statement for July 2025****Receipts:**

NIL

Amount**Payments:**

Vision ICT - BPC website hosting / support Sept 2025/Aug 2027	£161.26	General
Western Web - renewal of domain for 2 yrs	£60.00	General (3)
K Aldridge - reimburse Sherford Room Hire (July BPC meeting)	£20.00	General
K Aldridge - Administration of Brixtondevon website Jan-June 2025	£250.00	General
E Hitchins - reimburse mileage - Ivybridge / Totnes meetings	£22.95	General
E Hitchins - reimburse Chairman's allowance	£12.00	General
K Aldridge - reimburse 12 x £20 Waterstone vouchers	£240.00	General
K Aldridge wages	£1,225.45	General
K Aldridge expenses	£30.57	General
K Aldridge office allowance	£35.00	General
K Aldridge - reimburse July zoom	£15.59	General
BPC pension contribution (July)	£377.08	General
P Harvey - Grounds Maintenance July	£870.00	General
G Pilbeam TA Landscape, Construction & Design - Silverbridge Way	<u>£900.00</u>	General
TOTAL	<u>£4,219.90</u>	

19th June 2025

Current Account: £24,738.14

Deposit Account: £20,392.72**TOTAL: £45,130.86****Statement balance - 3rd April 2025****Skipton Building Society £85,498.50****Current Balance:**

P3	£954.26	
Legal Fees	£12,482.69	
Sherford 106 Contribution to Brixton Parish Council	£10,265.98	
Brixstix funds	£757.50	
Brixton History Group	£533.09	
Cofflete Creek (s106 funds)	<u>£3,964.58</u>	Available to be claimed - s106
Yealm Community Energy - 2022 Grant (Bee Wild)	£199.70	
Green Fund	£382.63	
Community Emergency Plan Grant	£115.45	
Community Amenity Space (Cofflete) Comm Tog Fund	£2,479.84	
River Yealm Water Quality (annual 2022)	£71.41	VAT has been claimed back
River Yealm Water Quality (annual 2024)	£720.00	Note 1 - River Yealm
River Yealm Water Quality (annual 2025)	£500.00	Note 2 - River Yealm
River Yealm Water Quality - River Fly 2025	£1,268.00	
Silverbridge Way expansion	£6,000.00	
Cost of Living Crisis	<u>£774.86</u>	

Total of Fund allocated £33,540.83Date 24/9/2025Signed E. Hitchins

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Notes

1. River Yealm Water Quality Working Group funds are being collected by BPC (contributions will be received from 6 riparian parishes - BPC, YPC, N&N, WPC, Cornwood and Sparkwell) - BPC will hold these funds
2. River Yealm Annual 2025 contribution is £125.00. River Yealm River Fly 2025 contribution is £317.00 Therefore monies BPC will receive from 6 riparian parishes are £442.00
BPC Contribution is now included in the above figures
Awaiting contributions from Yealmpton and Sparkwell for 2025
3. Western Web - this is brixtondevon website. BPC will pay the whole invoice
This will be split 3 ways - BPC, BCA and Feoffee Trust

Cllr Hawken proposed that BPC approve the finance report for July, seconded by Cllr Clegg.
Cllr Hitchins abstained. All others in attendance were unanimous.

50.2 To document the approval of the independent quarterly financial statement (end June 2025)

Cllr Clegg proposed that BPC receive the independent quarterly financial statement (end June 2025), checked by Cllr Nix, seconded by Cllr MacLennan. All others in attendance were unanimous.

51. Planning applications received from SHDC and DCC during June / July 2025**0991/25/HHO**

3 Cherry Blossom Drive Sherford PL9 8WQ

Householder application for single storey rear extension

Cllrs Clegg, Martin, and Wills conducted a site visit 14th July 2025

As there is a lack of information in this application Cllr Martin will recontact the agent to arrange an accompanied visit for further clarification. The date for BPC recommendation is 7th August 2025

1961/25/HHO

Householder application for Juliet balcony & opening

Thornfield, Hareston Farm Barns, Yealmpton PL8 2LD

Cllr Clegg proposed that BPC submit a recommendation of 'support', seconded Cllr Wills. All others in attendance were unanimous.

52. Planning decisions made by SHDC / DCC during June / July 2025 (to note)**3091/24/ARM – Conditional Approval**

READVERTISEMENT (amended description) Application to approve all Reserved Matters for engineering enabling works to provide a serviced development platform pursuant to outline approval 4175/21/VAR on Parcel 1 of the Commercial Area at Sherford New Community
Sherford Housing Development Site

0902/25/HHO – Conditional Approval

Householder application for single storey rear & side extension
Clover Park Brixton PL8 2FQ

4117/24/ARM – Conditional Approval

Application for approval of all reserved matters for 258 residential dwellings, on parcels 34-42 & associated parking along with all necessary infrastructure including, highways, drainage, landscaping, sub stations, as part of Phase 3B of Sherford New Community, pursuant to approval 0825/18/VAR (which was an EIA development & an Environmental Statement was submitted)
Sherford New Community, Elburton, PL9 8D

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53. Local issues relating to Brixton Parish as a whole

53.1 Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

- Update from relevant meetings

A BPC working group met to discuss updates from previous meetings regarding LGR with PCC, SHDC and the 13 parishes. All BPC councillors have received a link to a TEAMS meeting with SHDC to be held on 23rd July

Cllr Hitchins attended a PCC meeting in Ivybridge - Community Governance (how would the 13 parishes want to organise themselves in a community group). Not all parish councils attended.

Cllr Hitchins has written to all 13 parish Chairs asking if there should be a meeting prior to the meeting with SHDC on 23rd July. The consensus is to wait until after the meeting on 23rd July.

Several parish councils are writing to the Secretary of State and/or to PCC stating their priorities.

Until BPC can see all the options BPC is not in a position to make any decision or consult with residents. Cllr Hawken proposed that BPC send an email to PCC to include that there are no perceived benefits for our parishioners, PCC does not have the knowledge or experience of rural communities and it threatens to undermine the identity of the unique communities in our parish and once all the proposals are on the table BPC will be able to properly consult with its residents to ensure the best possible outcome for our Parish. Seconded Cllr Gillard. All others in attendance were unanimous.

Clerk confirmed that an LGR page had been added to the BPC website where the initial proposals and online survey links are available. BPC will not be consulting the community until all proposals have been received.

53.2 Brixton Community Emergency Plan (CEP)

- Proposal for Community Engagement Event - Devon Communities Together

At the June meeting of BPC Clerk stated that Devon Communities Together could provide a community engagement / information event to get people thinking about what would happen in an emergency, who would then perhaps be encouraged to get involved. There is also funding available.

Cllr MacLennan will raise this at the Sherford Residents Panel meeting on 23rd July. This could be a joint event (Brixton and Sherford) to take place in the new year. Cllr MacLennan will feedback response to BPC. Clerk to liaise with Devon Communities Together for potential dates.

Cllr Hitchins stated there would be a Devon Resilience Forum held on the 9th October in Honiton.

- Update on Sherford CEP and Brixton village CEP

Grahame MacLennan has stood down as the lead for Sherford CEP to take on the role of Speedwatch Co-Ordinator in Sherford.

Brixton's Community Emergency Plan needs to be reviewed.

Cllr Hawken proposed that BPC look to produce a one-page mission statement – 'What to do in an emergency' seconded Cllr Gillard. All others in attendance were unanimous. Clerk to produce this.

53.3 Brixton Parish Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Hitchins stated her concerns about how the Brixton Parish Neighbourhood Plan was represented at the recent SHDC DMC meeting. It was agreed that Cllr Hitchins will refer these concerns to the Brixton Neighbourhood Plan Group.

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54. Local issues relating to Sherford

54.1 Climate Change / Bio-diversity update

The Friends of Sherford Country Park (FOSCP) are undergoing a restructuring exercise as Christine King gives up some of her responsibilities. Existing members will take on additional responsibilities with Alex Wish picking up any slack.

FOSCP will be sending a representative to all future Events Group meetings to assure a more coordinated approach to event management in Sherford.

FOSCP want to adopt a more strategic approach to their work in the Country Park by focusing on the original Ecology & Environmental Plan for Sherford. FOSCP will be working closely with Alex Whish, Russ Chapman, YGS, and John Haimes to adopt a coordinated approach to the maintenance of the Country Park.

Environment & Heritage Group has developed a plan for short, medium, and long-term projects e.g. composting, allotments and links with heritage e.g. heritage walks.

54.2 Street Naming Project

- Update on Local and Historical names for Sherford's Green Infrastructure (GI)

A full public consultation will take place at a Heritage evening in the autumn

54.3 Update on the provision of a new parish council noticeboard for Sherford

It was confirmed at the Sherford Liaison Meeting on 14th July that 4 noticeboards in corporate colours have been approved. Timescales for installation have not been confirmed. These will be lockable, and the keys will be probably stored in a key safe at the hub. Anna Murray will be liaising with Judy Talbot to agree the location of the noticeboard in the school area.

54.4 Traffic Update

There is no further progress on Speedwatch sessions. Following the passing of the Co-Ordinator, Grahame MacLennan will be taking on the role.

Issues raised with Richard Darlow, Sherford Consortium, at the Sherford Liaison meeting on the 14th July:

Complaints from residents about the lack of road markings around Buzzard Way and noise from the manhole cover in Libra Avenue.

Parking on Sherford pavements continues to be a problem and the issue has spread to the Urban Quarter. Letters will be issued by the Consortium to all residents asking people not to park on pavements and the Consortium will be exploring the viability of various enforcement actions.

The lack of maintenance of the planters at the top of the school square along with the lack of toddler swings in the Play Park

The Chair of BPC asked Councillor MacLennan to draft a letter to Richard Darlow on behalf of BPC identifying the issues raised by residents and referred to BPC for resolution. BPC would like a response for its September meeting.

- Update on Community Speedwatch

Update on site 5 Hercules Road

- June 2025 76,724 vehicles, an increase of 945 vehicles from May 2025.
- Average volumes, Jan to June 2025 stand at 74,959, this compares to 74,031 in Jan to June 2024 an increase of 1%. However, when the figure of 74,959 is compared to Jan to June 2021, this is an increase of 72%.
- Currently the average daily traffic volumes on Hercules is now at over 10,700 vehicles per day.

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- Update regarding training course for volunteers - Highway Safety Awareness module

Cllr MacLennan confirmed that five out of the six Community Speed Watch volunteers have completed their DCC Highways Safety Awareness e-learning training course and Clerk holds the certificates. There is no further update.

Only one litter picker volunteer remains, this merits further discussion at the Community Panel meeting on 23rd July.

54.5 Footpath updates including PROW

FP 15 and FP 18 are PROWs in Sherford, and both are subject to a Diversion Order.

Cllr MacLennan has been liaising with Alex Whish, Principal Green Infrastructure Officer Urban Fringe Team, SHDC, regarding the PROW's. The DCC PROWs Officer is also aware of the requirement to ensure that these PROWs are reinstated. There is no further update.

54.6 Defibrillators

To include

- Update on an additional defibrillator

Cllr MacLennan met with Kevin Bowyer, South Western Ambulance Service on 9th July and identified 3 sites in the Country Park to site defibs. The average cost of standalone defibrillators ranges from £2,600 - £3,000, but they are susceptible to the cold. Normal defibrillators cost plus heated cabinet about £500, (this is in addition to the cost of the defibrillator) which is about £900. These units need access to electricity which can be taken from lampposts. However, costs for this work are needed and clearance from power companies. There are also ongoing costs which need to be factored in e.g. the cost of replacement pads, batteries etc.

Cllr MacLennan said that the Government is considering recommending the installation of defibrillators in all new build estates within 400m radius of properties.

Cllr MacLennan will draw up a detailed plan with maps and individual costings, for solar or electric powered defibrillators, to ensure that BPC could look to add this into the budget / precept for 2026 / 2027.

When assessing future planning applications BPC will look to add in a recommendation regarding defibrillators.

54.7 Recent Publicity for Sherford

The Farmers' Market on 13th July was relatively successful with 250 members of the public attending. The next Farmers' Market is scheduled for 10th August 10am to 2pm

54.8 Proposed stopping up of highway at unnamed road, Plymouth, PL7

OS grid reference: 255861, N:054663; E:255859, N:054669 AND E:255777, N:054679

At the recent Sherford Liaison meeting Richard Darlow, Brookbanks (Sherford Consortium) confirmed that this 'stopping up' order would be withdrawn, and a new planning application submitted. There were no timescales.

Cllr Hitchins used her chairman's prerogative to add the following agenda item

54.9 Dust levels from Sherford development – 3AB

Cllr Hitchins stated that she had received emails from residents in the Hareston/Wiverton area regarding unacceptable levels of dust from the 3AB development site. At the Sherford Liaison meeting Richard Darlow confirmed he would be in contact with the residents, and this would be constantly monitored going forward. SHDC Environmental Health have also received reports from residents which will be monitored by SHDC.

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55. Local Issues relating to Brixton

55.1 Climate Change / Bio-diversity update

To include:

- Active Travel – Brixton to Plymouth (to include Dawes Lane)

Following the feedback from PCC and the recommendation from the May meeting of BPC where BPC proposed that the 'speed reductions on the A379' from 40mph to 30mph on the Elburton 'bends' (from Rodgers Garage to Elburton). BPC has written to Cllr John Stephens (PCC) in his new role as Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning and Transport. Cllr Stephens was not aware of this, but as Ward Councillor for part of this area he would following this up. Cllr Stephens has advised that PCC has funds from Active Travel to improve Dawes Lane for walkers.

- PCC Cycle Route Classification dated 2017 (Dawes Lane)

There is no further update.

The cycle route from Dawes Lane, Elburton to Fordbrook Lane, Brixton will be closed for a maximum of 5 days from 14th July to allow essential investigation work relating to the road bridge to be undertaken safely. A diversion will be in place.

- Update from SHDC on Local Cycling and Walking Infrastructure Plan (LCWIP)

The LCWIP looks at cycling and walking in an area and aims to identify improvements on routes that exist already to make them safer or more appealing to people using them. Cllr Hitchins submitted comments on behalf of BPC. There is no further update at this stage.

- Email from parishioner regarding sign for 'saving hedgehogs'

BPC received an email from parishioners to bring to the attention of the parish council the high number of hedgehog fatalities on the main road through the village. Parishioner had been in contact with a local company who agreed to produce 6 x A4 metal signs at a cost of £100 and approached the Head Teacher of St Mary's School for the children to produce some designs.

Cllr Hitchins proposed that BPC fund the cost of the signs with stakes / fittings up to a cost of £200, seconded Cllr Hawken. All others in attendance were unanimous.

Clerk to contact Nick Colton, DCC Highways Officer regarding the location of these signs. Clerk to ask that the wording 'Designed by the children of St Mary's School' be placed on the bottom of each sign. Cllr Hawken offered to install the signage.

- Email from parishioner regarding the area around the bus shelter at the top of Winston Lane

Cllr Hitchins had received an email from a parishioner regarding the area around the bus shelter at the top of Winston Lane. Cllr Hitchins proposed that BPC obtain a quotation from the existing Ground Maintenance contractor to include this area in the monthly cutting regime, seconded Cllr Gillard. All others in attendance were unanimous. Clerk will obtain prices for the September meeting.

55.2 Highways

To include Highways Projects

- Update regarding Monkey Lane

The signs prohibiting vehicles except for access are now in situ at both ends of Monkey Lane. DCC is consulting with the emergency services regarding the installation of bollards. The outcome of this consultation is yet to be received from DCC.

The cost of the scheme so far is £8,436.63 – BPC has contributed £8000 so far to the scheme.

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The supply of the bollards is included in these figures, but not the installation. DCC has confirmed that an approx. figure from the framework contractor to install the bollards would be between £1500 and £2000, but this would need to be confirmed by the contractor prior to the works. Cllr Wills proposed that BPC will fund the additional cost of £436.53 and up to £2000 for the installation of the bollards, seconded Cllr Clegg. All others in attendance were unanimous.

- Update regarding exiting Monkey Lane into Sherford for pedestrians.

Access from Monkey Lane for pedestrians to Sherford Country Park was discussed at the last Sherford Liaison meeting. It has been confirmed that a path will be in place, running alongside the hedge into the Country Park and will join the existing PROW. This was raised at the last Sherford Liaison meeting, Alex Whish has confirmed he had liaised with Brookbanks regarding this. There is no further update.

- Update from Community Engagement / Public Consultation - Red Lion Hill / Stamps Hill

Cllr Hitchins, Clerk and Community Road Warden met on site with Nick Colton, DCC Local Highways Officer and Richard Jackson, DCC Principal Highways Development Management Officer to discuss the issue with speeding traffic in this area. There is £128,987.07 funding available from s106 Sherford. An indicative scheme was received from DCC proposing a 20mph zone along Red Lion Hill and Stamps Hill and all the roads leading from these, with a couple of buildouts on Stamps Hill. Following the two public consultation events in May the Clerk has collated the feedback into one document. A working group comprising of Clerk, Cllrs Hitchins & Martin, Community Road Warden, and parishioner will discuss the feedback.

To include Highways / Traffic updates

- Update on request for reduction in speed limits in and around Brixton

Cllr Hitchins met with County Cllrs Thomas and Carson with Nick Colton on 4th July to discuss proposals for speed restrictions in Brixton Parish. Nick Colton, DCC Highways has produced an indicative plan with some speed restriction proposals.

- A new speed limit of 20mph from Stamps Hill and Red Lion Hill and all roads leading off (Cherry Tree Drive, Cross Park, and Kitley View Estate) to A379. This is currently subject of consultation by Brixton Parish Council in collaboration with Devon County Council with funding by S106 from Sherford Development
- A new speed limit of 20 mph for Elliotts Hill, Horn Lane, the Venn estate, and Steer Point Road to current 30mph sign.
- A379 through the village, Lodge Lane, and The Crescent to remain at 30mph
- A new speed limit of 40mph from Stamps Hill (by the allotments) north to Sherford boundary once the location of the boundary is known.
- The speed limit on the A379 between Yealmpton and Brixton to be reduced to 40mph subject to agreement between Brixton and Yealmpton Parish Councils before it can progress to county.
- 40mph speed limit to Elburton to remain the same. Contact has been made with Plymouth City Council by Brixton Parish Council to discuss reducing the speed limit from the railway bridge at Rodgers Garage to Elburton to improve safety for cyclists in the absence of a cycle path.

Cllr Wills proposed that BPC support the proposal for speed reductions in the parish in principle, this to be progressed by Cllr Hitchins. Seconded Cllr Hawken. All others in attendance were unanimous.

- Update regarding training course for volunteers / councillors – Highway Safety Awareness

Clerk has undertaken this training along with Cllrs Carson, Clegg, Gillard, Hawken, Hitchins, MacLennan, and Wills. Clerk is keeping a record of the training undertaken by volunteers and councillors on their training records. Cllrs Nix and Martin are still completing this training. Cllr Hitchins will be handing a personal copy of the module to volunteers to read and sign.

Date 24/09/2025

Signed E. Hitchins

Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

55.3 The Green – update from Community Engagement / Public Consultation regarding parking on The Green

Cllr Hitchins met Nick Colton (DCC Highways Officer), BPC Community Road Warden and parishioner to discuss options following the public consultation 2 years ago. Nick Colton has designed an indicative plan for The Green, which had been circulated to BPC.

Following the two public consultation events in May the Clerk has collated the feedback into one document. A working group comprising of Clerk, Cllrs Hitchins, Martin, Wills and Community Road Warden and parishioner will discuss the feedback.

55.4 Land at Cofflete Creek update

- Update on s106 funding for the project

s106 funding allocated was £23,055.00. Spend so far £19,090.42 (net).

The remaining figure is £3,964.58. SHDC has approved an additional £5755.42 for the next stage of the project and BPC has signed the appropriate s106 paperwork, a total of £9720.00 is available to complete this stage.

- To include update on interpretation board (Cllr Gillard)

Community Together Funding – the figure allocated for the original project – Land at former Cofflete Mill – a future community amenity space was £4820.02. Spend so far £2340.18 (net).

The remaining figure is £2,479.84 which has been earmarked for the second interpretation board Nicky Bailey, South Devon National Landscapes is continuing to work on the interpretation board.

Cllr Gillard has been in contact with Nicky Bailey who has completed the wording for the interpretation board but is struggling to find pictures. Cllr Gillard has provided a book with photographs and will contact a couple of residents and use social media to see if there are any additional photographs that can be obtained.

Cllr Gillard will request a draft for the September meeting.

- Update on the project plan for the upper site following public consultation.

The contractor is in the process of completing the construction of a Bird Hide (locally sourced and cut oak and sweet chestnut) with an informal path to the Hide from existing gate (27m long – 800mm width – natural timbered edge and mulched).

Cllr Hitchins stated that BPC will have an official opening in the autumn.

Cllr Hitchins and members BPC expressed their condolences on the recent passing of a resident of Torr who over the years had kept the stream clear and reduced the risk of flooding in the hamlet. At the request of a resident of Torr BPC will include a memorial tree on the site when undertaking tree planting in the autumn.

55.5 Composters update (Cllr Clegg)

There is a lot of green waste, and a recent water butt competition was successful (10 water butts were given away to residents)

Discussion regarding the use of the site for Sherford residents ensued it was agreed that BPC would be happy to receive any proposal that the Composting Group comes up with.

55.6 Cost of Living Crisis update.

It was agreed at last meeting of the Cost-of-Living Group to pause the provision of food (tins etc) in the Community Support Help Box until the issue of reported misuse of some of its contents has been resolved. A decision on how to proceed will be discussed at the next meeting.

Date 24/9/2025

Signed E. Hitchins
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

The warm hub in 'The Foxhound' continues every Thursday afternoon between 3-5pm. This is very well attended. There is no update on changing the name of this group, as it is a place for residents to meet and chat rather than a 'warm hub'.

- Update on Cost-of-Living Grants

Cllr Wills proposed that BPC reimburse an additional payment received today for £97.03 seconded Cllr Hawken. All others in attendance were unanimous.

This brings the current Cost of Living balance to £677.83

55.7 Footpaths / P3 update

Following the P3 meeting in November DCC PROW Officer confirmed that she will walk all the relevant paths to look at the required work and ask a contractor for a price. Various issues were discussed, with the priority being the work required to the handrail on FP9 and the steps on FP30. There is now further damage to the steps on FP30 due to a fallen tree and a fallen tree on FP26, these have both been reported. Additional work required on FP21 and FP 6 has been reported to DCC PROW Officer who will be walking the paths.

The contractor has visited the site on FP30 and will be meeting with the PROW Officer to discuss the works required on the steps on FP30. BPC has received an anonymous letter regarding the steps on FP30. BPC would like to reassure residents that the DCC PROW Officer is aware of the requirement to look at these steps.

Cllr Hitchins proposed that BPC ask contractor to place salt bags at Mudbank where the water appears across the path. Seconded by Cllr Clegg. All others in attendance were unanimous. Clerk to liaise with Nick Colton, DCC Highways Officer regarding the salt bags. Clerk to request results from the Yealm Dippers testing in the area.

55.8 Silverbridge Way

General maintenance

Cllr Clegg has informed the contractor that the next time a digger will be required.

- Update on the extension

BPC have £6k set aside as BPC's contribution.

BPC and YPC have agreed the Terms of Reference for the group and the drawing showing the indicative route. The working group comprising of YPC and BPC - Cllrs Hitchins & Clegg and Cllr Hawken (as tenant) will meet with contractor to walk the route

- Update on the provision of an additional bench along the path

At January meeting it was agreed that BPC purchase the 'Exeter' bench which is 100% recycled materials at a cost of £300 + VAT and any cost associated with fittings the bench. Cllr Clegg is waiting to obtain agreement from landowner. Cllrs Clegg and Martin will then install the bench. There is no further update.

Date 24/01/2025

Signed E. Hitchins
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

55.9 Defibrillators

Cllr Clegg confirmed that all the defibrillators in Brixton were in good working order.

To include

- Update on the maintenance of the phone boxes housing the defibrillators

Clerk has obtained quotations from two contractors; one contractor will be able to do internal and external works. Cllr Clegg met with one contractor on site to look at both boxes and has explained exactly the work required – this is to prep and paint the inside and outside of both telephone boxes and replace some steel parts for the windows.

Cllr Hawken proposed that BPC ask contractor to complete the works at a cost of £1381.33 plus VAT (one costing is approx.) Seconded Cllr Gillard. All others in attendance were unanimous. BPC would like this work completed by September meeting.

55.10 Street Furniture

- Update on the refurbishment of the bench on A379

The contractor has been approved and the work on the benches are awaiting completion.

55.11 Brixton History Project – Brixton 2000

Cllr Hitchins is looking at reconvening this group to look at recording the history of Brixton.

- Memorial Stone Ridge Cross

Last year Rebecca Smith, MP, funding for the sign on the memorial stone at Ridge Cross to be replaced. An email to Cllr Hitchins from a parishioner has requested that BPC 'adopt' the memorial stone. Cllr Clegg will look at the location of the memorial stone and Clerk will contact PROW Officer to establish if this is looked after by DCC. Clerk will also investigate if there are any historic archives that would adopt this memorial stone.

55.12 Update on the site of the former brickworks (end of Steer Point Road)

An email was received from a parishioner requesting an update on the works at the former site. Following discussions with the landowner, the landowner has been in contact and updated the parishioner.

55.13 Discussion regarding the closure of the Brixton Magazine

An announcement in the July edition of the Brixton Magazine confirmed the closure of the magazine at the end of 2025. BPC would like to express its thanks to the editorial team for their work with the magazine over the years and it will be a great loss to the community.

56. Local issues relating to Carrollsland

There are no updates from Carrollsland

57. BPC Administration

57.1 Health and Safety Policies to update – Health & Safety Policy and Risk Assessment

Cllr Gillard proposed that BPC adopt the updated Health & Safety Policy and Risk Assessment, seconded Cllr Hawken. All others in attendance were unanimous.

Date 24/9/2025

Signed E. Hitchins
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

57.2 Councillor and Clerk training

To include.

- Update regarding Cyber awareness training

Clerk and all BPC councillors have been registered to undertake DALC Cyber Awareness training modules. All councillors have 12 months to complete all the modules.

Clerk, Cllrs Gillard, Hawken, Nix, Wills, Clegg have completed all three modules and Cllr Martin two modules.

57.3 Update on application for NALC LCAS Gold Award

The current NALC LCAS Quality Gold Award, that BPC was awarded in 2021, will expire in November 2025. The award is now classified as the Gold Award. There is an application window in September with the deadline for submission by 5th September.

Clerk confirmed that everything is in place for BPC to submit an application for the Gold Award.

Cllr Hawken proposed that BPC apply for the NALC LCAS Gold Award, seconded by Cllr Wills. All others in attendance were unanimous.

57.4 Update on the production of an annual newsletter

Cllr MacLennan proposed that BPC publicise the July newsletter produced by Clerk, seconded Cllr Gillard. All others in attendance were unanimous.

57.5 DALC 2025 Survey – We Need Your Feedback

Cllr Hitchins and Clerk will complete this survey on behalf of BPC.

Cllr Gillard proposed that Cllr Hitchins attend the DALC AGM on 1st October at a cost of £50

Seconded Cllr Wills. All others in attendance were unanimous.

58. Councillor Reports

Cllr MacLennan stated that she presented the awards on the 15th July at Sherford Vale Primary School on behalf of BPC.

Cllr Hitchins stated that the Brixton Parish Environment Working Group meeting scheduled for Tuesday 22nd July would be postponed until September.

Clerk had received an email from the BPC representative on River Yealm Harbour authority regarding the qualities required for a replacement. Clerk to advertise this to Brixton residents.

59. Other updates / issues / consultations for discussion

59.1 South Devon National Landscape

To include

- South Devon National Landscape Management Plan Review 2025-2030 – meeting 16th July
- South Devon National Landscape Management Plan Review Public Survey

Cllr Hitchins attended this meeting earlier to update on the South Devon National Landscape Management Plan Review 2025-2030. The survey will now be open until July.

207 responses have been received so far, would like more young people to complete the survey.

The draft plan will be received in August / September and there will be a 6 /12 weeks consultation where all parish councils will be invited to comment.

Date 24/9/2025

Signed E. Hitchins

Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

60. Correspondence for information**60.1.** Cascade 'Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TTO) for Road Closures relating to DCC works:

- A379 Elburton Road (near Brixton Road Station Bridge) – Wed 3rd April – Wed 3rd July 2024

Extension for works above extended until 3rd July 2025

- A379 near bus stop – drainage improvements (no closure traffic lights in place) Mon 7th - Tues 8th July 2025

60.2. All weekly bulletins from DCC and SHDC are placed immediately on websites and Facebook**60.3. South Hams District Council – News Releases**

- Councils awarded funding to tackle sticky issue of chewing gum

CLlr Hitchins closed the meeting at 10.17 pm.

Next meeting: Wednesday 24th September 2025 in Brixton Community Room

Kirstie Aldridge, Clerk, Brixton Parish Council

Date 24/9/2025

Signed *E. Hitchins*
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council