Minutes of Brixton Parish Council July meeting held on
Wednesday 22nd July 2026 at 7.00 pm in Sherford Community Hub

Present: Cllr Liz Hitchins (Chair), Michael Wills (Vice Chair), Cllr Tony Carson, Cllr Terry Clegg Cllr Rachael Gillard, Cllr Neil Hawken, Cllr Ian Martin, Cllr Prem MacLennan and Cllr Stuart Nix
In attendance: County Cllr Tony Carson, District Cllrs Alison Nix and Julie Carson and Kirstie Aldridge (Clerk)

Members of the public in attendance: 2

Cllr Hitchins welcomed everyone to the meeting and explained the format of the meeting

Open Forum
Mark Harris, Principal Urban Designer, SHDC - Naming Green Infrastructure in Sherford
Mark explained the proposed format and rationale for the green space names. He stated that the Sherford Community Panel had approved the names and was now seeking BPC's approval as the final stakeholder. A map was displayed showing the proposed names.

Mark explained that the names had been developed through a combination of heritage, archaeological findings and historic tythe maps. A working group considered a range of options before presenting them to the Community Panel and BPC, after which the preferred options were consulted on with the wider community. The names were agreed following this consultation process.

BPC is the final stakeholder to approve the names presented:
Tucana Square, Boundary Park, Homer Square, Firestones (sports and play), Yarrow Well, Yarrow Well Allotments, Slade Field, Great Whistle Orchard, Tor Hayes Pond, West Sherford Farm Orchard, Westernfield Square, Kingshill Circus, Quarry Head Field, Sandy Square, Tulip Tree Square, Ursa Gardens, Strawberry Lane Park, Hercules Green, Cloud Lane, Great Kingswell Green, Nimbus Place, Copythorn Green, Royals Green, Old Brixton Way Green, Magnolia Place, Kingswell Corner, Little Kingswell Corner, Yaffield Place, Kiln Pond, Kiln Orchard, Hall Meadow Allotments (East), Hall Meadow Allotments (West), Gandles Orchard, Lower Broadmoor Pond, Rex Shallows, Copythorn Nuttery.

Cllr Hitchins thanked Mark for the thorough consultation process and welcomed the retention of historical field names. Cllr MacLennan expressed her thanks and stated that residents were pleased with the outcome and would like the next consultation phase at an early stage in the process. Mark advised that work on Phase 3AB had already commenced and was expected to take approximately one year. BPC thanked Mark Harris for his work in leading the project.

District Cllr Nix thanked everyone involved for their hard work and commented that place names help create a sense of identity while preserving historical significance.

Date: 30th September 2026 Signed: E Hitchins
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

Report from Devon County Councillor Tony Carson

Local Government Reorganisation(LGR)

The Government's decision, announced on 16 July, is to move ahead with a four-unitary-authority model for Devon. This will eventually replace Devon County Council and the district councils with 4 new unitary councils, representing the biggest restructuring of local government in Devon for decades. District Cllr Tony Carson is on the Scrutiny Committee for LGR which will scrutinise the process up until March 2028.

For councillors across Devon, the reorganisation announcement is by far the most consequential issue. Much of the current political discussion centres on how the transition to the new unitary councils will work, what happens to County Hall functions, governance arrangements up to 2028 and protecting services during the changeover.

Children and young people consultation launched

DCC is encouraging Devon's children and young people to share their views on what it is like growing up in England as part of a national consultation exercise and is actively promoting participation.

Adult social care inspection results

A newly published assessment found Devon's Adult Social Care Service has "significant strengths" and identified areas where further improvement is needed.

Sherford

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

No meeting has been held since the last update, therefore there is no report

Sherford

Report from District Councillors Julie Carson and Alison Nix

A meeting with SCLT is scheduled for next Monday for quarterly update

Road Safety meeting postponed until September

The Consortium is investigating concerns about work noise level by contractors in the Ursa Gardens area.

Dust dampening is occurring in areas where building is being completed near to occupied housing and offering residents cleaning of properties

Local centre to be started in September – groundworks to start shortly - work ongoing on cricket pitches and pavilion.

Work in the Sherford Country Park includes signposting, weed removal and pathway checks.

Sherford Road works completed although some lighting still outstanding.

Odour reported in local news, is being checked and changes made to ensure that nothing is coming from Sherford.

Concern about level of workmanship when roads and pavements are being updated is being investigated.

Communication from Project Team is improving.

A bus service for the urban quarter has been given approval. PCC officers are making the necessary contract changes with Stagecoach for this to commence on the 30th August. Site teams are ensuing the necessary poles/surfacing/timetables are in place when the diversion of the service commences.

The existing bus provision: Sherford currently has bus stops in two areas on the Western edge of the urban area on Hercules Road and in the Western Neighbourhood Centre, again on Hercules Road.

"This route will have a spur into the 2D area as part of the Service 4 route. This amendment to Service 4 route offers a short-term solution that could be operational by the 30th of August 2026 which will

improve access to Sherford Neighbourhood Centre to other bus services and provide residents with better access other local centres nearby."

Brixton
Report from District Councillors Julie Carson and Alison Nix
Attended Daisy Park site meeting on 21st July re the readvertised planning application for Venn Farm/Daisy Park.

Working with neighbouring councillors to ensure green belt between Brixton & Sherford
Cllr Hitchins requested more information on this. District Cllr Alison Nix stated that conversations were at an early stage. District Cllr Nix explained that they were working with Cllr Thomas to look to get the covenant extended with the Consortium to preserve the green belt between Brixton and Sherford and protect the identity of Brixton.

Carrollsland
Report from District Councillors Julie Carson and Alison Nix
Nothing to report

SHDC General Information
Local Government Reorganisation
The outcome for LGR is that Brixton Parish will be coming under Greater Plymouth from May 2028. There will be elections for the new Shadow Authority in May 2027. Confirmation of ward boundaries will be given mid-August, however a full Boundary Commission review will be completed in 2031

Grants
Several grants given to local community including Friends of Sherford and Brixton Cost of Living Group

Crisis and Resilience Fund
The fund is designed to support low-income households in the South Hams who are facing an unexpected financial shock, such as a sudden loss of income, the breakdown of an essential household item, or another urgent cost they cannot afford.

- The fund can also provide housing support, financial advice and wider services to help people avoid future crises and build longer-term resilience.
- Residents must be aged 16 or over and live in the South Hams as their main home.

Councillors can be contacted by residents in need of support and encourage potential applicants to check the eligibility criteria and apply online using this link southhams.gov.uk/benefits-and-support/other-available-support/crisis-and-resilience-fund. For people not able to complete online applications the team can provide support by telephone.

Planning changes
The Government is making changes to how planning applications will be determined. After the 31st October Town & Country Planning (Discharge of Local Planning Authority Functions) (England) Regulations 2026 introduce a national scheme of delegation for all planning decisions.
The Government's objective is to introduce greater clarity and consistency in the role of planning committees in development management decision-taking. The intended effect is that there will be fewer applications decided by planning committees and more delegated powers to officers.
The 2026 Regulations adopt a two-schedule structure.

Schedule 1 applications must be delegated to officers unless the application is one that is being made by the Council, or by an officer or member of the Council.
Schedule 2 applications, which are the more significant applications, are subject to a presumption of officer determination but may be referred to committee where the nominated officer and nominated member agree that the statutory criteria for referral are met.
The Council is currently working through the regulations and to decide how it should adopt its processes to comply with them.
Town and parish councils remain consultees and their comments on applications will remain relevant considerations.

A resident of Red Lion Hill, who attended the recent site visit for the proposed planning application in Daisy Park, stated that a written objection had been submitted to SHDC.

The need for an additional zebra crossing in Brixton village was raised. Cllr Hitchins explained that this had already been discussed with DCC Highways, due to the proximity of the existing zebra crossing and the mini roundabout this was not feasible. Clerk to add this to the September meeting of Brixton Traffic Management Working Group for another discussion.

The lane to Catson Green, there is a requirement for some signage in this area – 'pedestrians in the road'. Clerk to add this to the September meeting of Brixton Traffic Management Working Group for discussion.

Open Forum Closed

46. Welcome and Apologies for Absence
There were no apologies

47. Declarations of Interest
None

48. Confirmation of minutes of the meeting Brixton Parish Council on Wednesday 24th June 2026
Cllr Wills proposed BPC accept the minutes of Brixton Parish Council meeting on 24th June 2026 as an accurate record of the meeting, seconded by Cllr Clegg. Cllrs Gillard and Hawken abstained. All others in attendance were unanimous. Cllr Hitchins signed the minutes of the relevant meeting.

49. Financial Matters
49.1 To receive and approve the finance statement for July2026

Receipts:	**Amount**	
	NIL	
Payments:		
Max Penney - Bus shelter cleaning (June)	£60.00	General
DALC - Tony Carson - x 3 Cyber Modules	£52.80	General
BCA - Room Hire - Brixton - June meeting	£25.00	General
S Axell - reimburse expenses Community Support Helpbox	£73.95	Cost of Living
Westcountry Woodland & Tree Management Ltd - FP 31 steps	£600.00	P3
K Aldridge - reimburse 12x£20 Waterstones vouchers - school leavers	£240.00	General
K Aldridge - reimburse Sherford Room Hire - July	£25.00	General

K Aldridge wages	£1,255.20	General
K Aldridge expenses	£35.71	General
K Aldridge office allowance	£35.00	General
K Aldridge - reimburse July zoom	£16.79	General
K Aldridge - administration of BrixtonDevon website	£250.00	General
BPC pension contribution (July)	£389.17	General
Vision ICT - website hosting and support Sept 2026 - August 2028	£185.44	General
P Harvey - July Grounds Maintenance	£890.00	General
	£4,134.06	

17th April 2026

Current Account:	£41,098.21
Deposit Account:	£20,495.46
TOTAL:	**£61,593.67**

Statement balance at 21st April 2026

Skipton Building Society	**£87,577.99**

Current Balance:

P3	£624.26
Legal Fees	£12,482.69
Sherford 106 Contribution to Brixton Parish Council	£10,265.98
Brixstix funds	£757.50
Brixton History Group	£533.09
Yealm Community Energy - 2022 Grant (Bee Wild)	£49.70
Green Fund	£382.63
Community Emergency Plan Grant	£103.85
Community Amenity Space (Cofflete) Comm Tog Fund	£2,479.84
River Yealm Water Quality (annual 2025/2026)	£600.59
River Yealm Water Quality (annual 2026/2027)	£540.00
River Yealm Water Quality - River Fly 2025/2026	£2.00
River Yealm Water Quality - River Fly 2026/2027	£1,268.00
Silverbridge Way expansion	£5,977.50
Cost of Living Crisis	£944.92
Book Sale - Community Project	£105.57
Total of Fund allocated	**£37,118.12**

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 & Sparkwell) - BPC will hold these funds

River Yealm Annual 2026/2027 contribution is £135.00
River Yealm River Fly 2026/2027 contribution is £317.00
Therefore, monies BPC will receive from 6 riparian parishes are £452.00
BPC funds transferred into the River Yealm ring fenced account as per approval at BPC November 2025 - minute reference 100.6
Awaiting contribution from YPC and Sparkwell for 2026 / 2027

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

49.2 To document the approval of the independent quarterly financial statement (end of June 2026
Cllr Gillard proposed that BPC receive the independent quarterly financial statement, checked by Cllr Nix, seconded by Cllr Wills. All others in attendance were unanimous.

Date: 30th September 2026 Signed: E Hitchins
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

50. Planning applications received from SHDC and DCC during June / July 2026

4317/21/OPA

READVERTISEMENT (amended plans & documents) Outline application with all matters reserved for residential development of up to 17 dwellings (including affordable housing)

Land at SX 5515 5220 adjacent to Venn Farm, Daisy Park, Brixton

A site visit on Tuesday 21 July 2026 was attended by Cllrs Martin, Hitchins, Wills and Carson.
Over 30 members of the public attended and raised concerns about the impact the proposed development could have on residents of Canes Orchard's daily lives and personal circumstances, in addition to the planning considerations.

Cllr Martin stated that the Brixton Neighbourhood Plan does identify the site for housing development. However, a significant number of representations had raised concerns relating to road safety, sewerage capacity, protection of the countryside, site access, the safety of children, visibility at junctions and blind spots, infrastructure that has not yet been adopted, as it is not to the required standard, and waste management arrangements were not suitable. He stated that these comments would need to be submitted as part of BPC's response to the planning application.

Cllr Hitchins added that the principal issues identified during the site visit related to highways, access and public safety. These included access for emergency vehicles, parking, drainage, general site access, restricted visibility at blind corners, the impact of delivery vehicles, the narrow width of the roads preventing vehicles from passing safely, and difficulties for refuse collection vehicles caused by on-street parking.

This application is a readvertisement and there are 2 issues in the readvertisement that BPC need to consider - access and highways.

BPC's recommendation will include comments regarding emergency services access, children on the roads / there is no defined pavement area and waste management issues. Several houses have issues with low water pressure.

BPC is not opposed to the construction, however a significant reduction in the number of houses would alleviate the potential for the current problems to increase.
The original area dedicated for the 'employment site' already houses 28 dwellings, therefore the original quota of houses for this area (Canes Orchard) has already been reached. Issues regarding safety, parking and a facility for larger vehicles to turn are not in place.
Residents are concerned that wildlife will be destroyed.

Cllr Martin proposed that BPC submit a recommendation of 'comments' to include all the issues discussed previously and would request that the scale of development is significantly reduced to 5 dwellings, seconded Cllr Hawken. All others in attendance were unanimous.

51. Planning decisions made by SHDC / DCC during June / July 2026 (to note)

1060/26/HHO - Conditional Approval

Householder application for Installation of No.12 JA Solar PV panels & FOX ESS EP5 battery, both on the south west & rear elevation

34 Pisces Street, Sherford, Plymouth, PL9 8FY

Cllr Hitchins used her Chairman's prerogative to add the following two applications received since the agenda was printed:

1845/26/HHO
Proposed front two storey & single storey extension
Horncombe, Coombe Lane, Coombe, Brixton. PL8 2AZ
Cllr Martin confirmed that he will be arranging a site visit for this application. Recommendation due by 20th August.

1886/26/PDM
Prior Approval for Class Q (a&c) conversion of agricultural buildings to 9 dwelling houses.
East Sherford Farm Sherford Plymouth
This has been sent to BPC purely as information only at this stage.

52. Local issues relating to Brixton Parish as a whole
52.1 Local Government Reorganisation (LGR)

- **Update on LGR following Government decision**

The Government has selected the model put forward by Plymouth and Exeter Councils, which would see the creation of four unitary authorities. Plymouth, Torbay and Exeter will all have expanded boundaries, and the rest of the county will be served by a new "Devon Coast and Countryside" council. These councils are set to replace the current two-tier county and district council system used in Devon. This proposal will result in a substantial part of the South Hams being incorporated into Plymouth (in the west), Torbay (in the east) and the remainder of the district incorporated into the new Devon Coast and Countryside council.

Cllr Hitchins stated that BPC will wait to see if the 13 parishes wish to get together again.

- **South Hams Community Assets Policy**

SHDC Community Assets policy states 'The Council will only consider asset transfer requests for land or property in category 3 above' – category 3 is 'Parks, open spaces, sports pitches.
Within Brixton parish there are the following Community Assets:-

- The grass verge from Ladybirds down to the first houses in Steer Point Road
- The play space in Elliotts Hill
- The piece of land on the corner of Elliots Hill with Steer Point Road (opposite the Owl Bench)
- The piece of land fenced off on the side of Steer Point Road

Clerk has submitted an 'expression of interest form for each of the above following the decision at the April meeting of BPC. There is no further update from SHDC.

52.2 Plymouth Local Plan – Launch of the new local plan & notice of scoping consultation (closing date 31st July 2026)
BPC discussed the consultation and will register an interest

Cllr Hitchins used her Chairmans prerogative to add the following consultation received after the agenda was published:
SH & WD Scoping Consultation: South Hams and West Devon Joint Local Plan
(closing date 24th September 2026)
This will look at 'what you want your village to look like', what you want houses to look' like and 'what you want green spaces to look like'
It was agreed that the Neighbourhood Plan Group will look at this consultation.

52.3 Update on Dementia Friendly Community Action Plan
All BPC councillors have completed the Dementia Friends Training
Claire Puckey, Community Development Lead, Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm will deliver a Dementia Friendly Awareness session on 14th October at 7pm – this is for councillors and open all the community

52.4 Relevant updates from River Yealm Water Quality Working Group – Monday 6th July
To include:

- **'Yellow Fish' Campaign**
- The 'yellow fish' project was a proposed community-based project involving all seven riparian parishes undertaking the same activity on the same day. The 'yellow fish' initiative involves spraying yellow fish stencils onto the side of storm drains to portray the message that 'only rain goes down the drain'. Cllr Bertram from Cornwood PC was leading the project, however, the initiative has been placed on hold for the time being.

Emergency Planning – Surface Water Run Off
The information regarding surface water run-off into the River Yealm as part of the Yealm Estuary to Moor Project will be circulated to all BPC.

53. Local issues relating to Sherford
53.1 Relevant updates from BPC meeting with Sherford Consortium regarding communication
The issues log was shared with the Consortium who are addressing issues marked as outstanding where there has been no feedback or update on progress.
The next meeting communications meeting with the Consortium is scheduled to take place on 5th August when there will be a further update

53.2 Climate Change / Bio-diversity update
The allotment subgroup had a site meeting at the allotments to familiarise themselves with the layout. They met Alex Whish and YGS to make further suggestions to the layout of the first set of allotments. These include the creation of ½ and ¼ plots, access to plots, security and fencing. Concern that the current Country Park parking area is not on the original plan and may well be removed. This would mean that the allotment car park will be heavily used by dog walkers etc; the issue is to be raised with the Consortium at the next meeting at the end of July.

Friends of Sherford Country Park have organised a Moth Trapping and Reveal event with the Devon Moth Group. The community is invited to see the moth traps being set up on Friday 14th August starting at 7.30 pm below the pony field, next to the Little Lake of Sherford, What3Words: ///compress.driver.graph and to the identification session will take place on Saturday 15th from 9.30am to 11am.

Friends of Sherford Country Park have arranged a visit to Stover Country Park: Monday 24th August 10.30 to 12.30. to discuss community engagement, balancing people and nature, and maintaining water quality.

53.3 Street Naming Project

To include

- **Update on Local and Historical names for Sherford's Green Infrastructure**

Mark Harris presented the Local and Historical names for Sherford's Green Infrastructure during the earlier open forum following a similar presentation to the Sherford Community panel on 17th June, where all the names were agreed

Cllr MacLennan proposed that BPC accept the following names: Tucana Square, Boundary Park, Homer Square, Firestones (sports and play), Yarrow Well, Yarrow Well Allotments, Slade Field, Great Whistle Orchard, Tor Hayes Pond, West Sherford Farm Orchard, Westernfield Square, Kingshill Circus, Quarry Head Field, Sandy Square, Tulip Tree Square, Ursa Gardens, Strawberry Lane Park, Hercules Green, Cloud Lane, Great Kingswell Green, Nimbus Place, Copythorn Green, Royals Green, Old Brixton Way Green, Magnolia Place, Kingswell Corner, Little Kingswell Corner, Yaffield Place, Kiln Pond, Kiln Orchard, Hall Meadow Allotments (East), Hall Meadow Allotments (West), Gandles Orchard, Lower Broadmoor Pond, Rex Shallows, Copythorn Nuttery.

Seconded Cllr Gillard. All others in attendance were unanimous

Clerk will place the map with the appropriate names on the BPC website.

Cllr MacLennan has written to the Consortium asking about the signage strategy for these names to be put in place.

53.4 Sherford Community Emergency Plan

No further update.

53.5 Traffic Update

To include

Update on Community Speedwatch

A Speedwatch session took place on 20th July. 250 cars were monitored. One vehicle was reported for driving at an excessive speed, 36mph. The next session will take place on 27th July.

Following a request from a resident about speeding on Equinox Road in an area with a 20mph sign, the Speedwatch Team has been advised by DCC Community Speedwatch Manager that the 20mph is advisory.

Total traffic volumes actual

Month		**Previous year**	**Result**
June 2026	79,025	June 2025	
		76,724	Increase of 2,301

The % breakdown between Light, Medium and Heavy vehicles has changed very little.

Average for 2026

- Light vehicles (motorcycles, cars & light vans) as % 69,660 - 90%
- Medium (⅔ axle vehicles, buses & trucks) 7,095 9%,
- Heavy (Articulated lorries) 427 1%

Average weekly Volume

Jan to June 2026	Jan to Dec 2025	Jan to Dec 2024	Jan to Dec 2021
77,182	78,414	73,702	50,433

The traffic volume at Site 5 for the week monitored in June was 77,182
(which is a 53% increase on 2021)

Currently the average daily traffic volumes on Hercules is at 11,026, up 53 on the previous month

Date: 30th September 2026 Signed: E Hitchins

Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

- **Update regarding road safety in Sherford following meeting with D&C Police**

The last regular meeting with Devon & Cornwall Police Inspector Ben Shardlow was held on the 7th July.
A road safety audit has been finalised and is with the Consortium for final approval. The recommendations will deliver several road safety improvements.
DCC and PCC planning teams are working to find options to address pavement parking on Hercules Road and other roads e.g. appropriate signage.
D&C Police are working closely with the school (using drones to monitor traffic flow during drop off and pick up times), monitoring parking and road safety issues and undertaking regular patrols.
They are looking at involving the children e.g. getting the children to make their own posters – 'Slow Down' and 'Don't Park Here'; children encouraging parents to change their behaviour around parking and road safety. Discussions are taking place regarding the introduction of 'parking buddies'.

53.6 Footpath updates including PROW
There is no further update. The next update will take place at the annual PROW review meeting towards the end of the year.

53.7 Defibrillators
To include
- Update on an additional defibrillator
No further progress. Cllr MacLennan has written to the Consortium with the costings from October 2025. This was discussed at the communications meeting 25th June and will be on the agenda for a future meeting

Cllr MacLennan confirmed that the defibrillator at the school was being maintained by the caretaker.

53.8 Publicity / events
BPC's vouchers for excellent academic achievement by a pupil in each year group were presented by Cllr MacLennan today (22nd July) at the end of term assembly at Sherford Vale School
9th August - Summer Fair will include music and a dog show
14th/ 15th August - Friends of Sherford Country Park have organised a Moth Trapping and Reveal event with the Devon Moth Group -
24th August – Friends of Sherford Country Park have an organised visit to Stover Country Park.
Communication and Events Teams will be exploring ideas for the 10th Anniversary of Sherford Day in 2027.

54. Local Issues relating to Brixton
54.1 Climate Change / Bio-diversity update
To include:

- **Friends of the Earth Briefing – Environmental Data for Wembury and Brixton**

This was circulated to all BPC
Clerk to add to the next Brixton Parish Environment Working Group to discuss further.

54.2 Highways
To include Highways Projects

- **Update on Red Lion Hill / Stamps Hill traffic calming**

Richard Jackson, Principal Highways Development Management Officer has confirmed that DCC Highway Authority is currently exploring options to ensure scheme costs come within the available budget. BPC met with DCC and a new indicative plan with signage will be the next step.
BPC is awaiting the plan.

- **Update on Monkey Lane**

Maintenance

Cllrs Hitchins and Clegg will be meeting with the contractor for a quotation for regular maintenance work. Cllr Hitchins stated that the hedges along Monkey Lane require trimming back. Cllr Clegg will follow up with the landowner.

Fingerposts

Following the approval of the s106 funding of £2080.00 the locations and potential wording had been circulated to all BPC prior to the meeting.
Cllr Wills proposed that BPC ask the contractor to make the finger posts as per Alex Whish's specification and site locations. Seconded Cllr Clegg. All others in attendance were unanimous.

To include Highways / Traffic updates

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

Clerk has undertaken this training along with Cllrs Carson, Clegg, Gillard, Hawken, Hitchins, MacLennan, Nix and Wills. Clerk is keeping a record of the training undertaken by volunteers and councillors on their training records. Clerk is awaiting confirmation from Cllr Martin.
A letter has been written which Cllr Hitchins will be handing to volunteers along with a personal copy of the module to read and sign to confirm understanding.

- **Community Road Warden Scheme – Discuss the potential of undertaking pothole repairs in the parish**

DCC Local Highways Officer advised that BPC could have up to three trained Chapter 8 volunteers, with training funded by DCC. However, pothole repairs would require a team with a minimum of three trained volunteers. DCC would not provide training unless there was at least one full team in place. This fill potholes on side residential roads only. Clerk and DCC Local Highways Officer are currently working on advertising to ascertain if there will be enough willing volunteers.

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

BPC wrote to YPC last year asking for its support in reducing the speed limit to 40mph on the A379 between Brixton and Yealmpton. At its February meeting YPC voted against the reduction of the speed limit between Brixton and Yealmpton, the Clerk reported that it was split evenly and the Chairman used his casting vote to vote against the motion.
Cllr Hawken proposed that BPC re-approach YPC to ask that this agenda item is placed on their September agenda and ask whether YPC would work with BPC to look at reducing the speed limit to 40mph along the stretch of the A379 between Brixton and Yealmpton. Seconded Cllr Gillard. All others in attendance were unanimous.

54.4 The Green

- **Update on The Green parking**

Following the public consultation, feedback, and discussions at the October 2025 BPC meeting Nick Colton, DCC Highways Officer, produced a revised indicative plan with purely 'no parking restrictions (double yellow lines) marked around The Green, as well as along part of A379. This proposal has been put forward for DCC to consider which will be subject to public consultation.
At the recent Traffic Management Working Group meeting Nick Colton, confirmed that schemes are being completed in tranches and this may be part of 'tranche 3' (towards the end of this financial year). There is no further update.

54.5 Email from parishioner re dangerous parking on pavement in Brixton village
BPC received correspondence from a resident raising concerns about vehicles obstructing the pavement opposite the church, following an incident in which a child, while cycling independently to and from school, was forced to enter the carriageway at a blind bend after the pavement was completely blocked by a parked van. The resident highlighted the wider impact on pedestrians, including children, wheelchair users and parents with pushchairs.
DCC has produced an indicative plan with purely 'no parking restrictions (double yellow lines) marked around The Green, as well as along part of A379. This proposal has been put forward for DCC to consider which will be subject to public consultation.
Clerk will inform Community Road Warden so he is aware of the situation, and this will be added to the Traffic Management Working Group in September for discussion.

54.6 Land at Cofflete Creek update

- **Update on site in general**

Works are currently being undertaken on the site with the installation of the fencing and seating & shelving in the bird hide.

- **Update on interpretation board**

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 which Nicky Bailey, South Devon National Landscapes.
A draft version of the interpretation was circulated to all BPC and Alex Whish. Alex has made some amendments to the wording. Cllr Gillard proposed that BPC ask Nick Bailey to make the necessary amendments prior to the final draft being considered. Seconded Cllr MacLennan. All others in attendance were unanimous.
Due to various delays, the cost for this interpretation board has increased to £2,583.82, creating a deficit of £103.98. Cllr Hawken proposed that BPC pay the increased cost and apply to District Cllr Julie Carson Locality Fund for the deficit of £103.98. Seconded Cllr MacLennan. All others in attendance were unanimous.

54.7 Brixton Community Emergency Plan (CEP)
There is no update.

54.8 Composters update (Cllr Clegg)
Cllr Clegg stated there was a meeting held on 9th July – there is a balance of £11,804 in the account
Weighed in 155 tonnes which received payment of £5,800
There will be another water butt competition launched in the next couple of weeks

54.9 Cost of Living Crisis update.
The Cost-of-Living group continues to meet.
The warm hub continues on Thursday afternoons between 3-5pm and Monday lunch times (soup and roll) in The Foxhound
The Cost-of-Living booklet is being updated, and a new poster has been produced.
An application has been made to County Cllr. Tony Carson and the two District Councillors for funding £200 each – total of £600.

- **Update on Cost-of-Living Grants**

The current Cost of Living balance is £944.92

54.10 Footpaths / P3 update

- **Update on FP 30 / 31**
- **Update on handrail on FP from Spriddlestone to Torr**

At the May BPC meeting, BPC approved the request from DCC PROW Officer for a contribution from P3 funds of £500 to complete the work on the steps on FP30/31 and the handrail on the footpath from Spriddlestone to Torr. These works have now been completed.

54.11 Silverbridge Way

General maintenance

Cllr Clegg confirmed that a clearance of the path would take place before Yealmpton Show.

- **Vandalised Information Board**

Information board has been vandalised and pulled off the bridge; .
Cllr Hitchins is in correspondence with the company that produced the original board, who has found an original copy of the board.
Cllr Clegg proposed that Cllr Hitchins pursue this and get some costs for a replacement board seconded Cllr Gillard. Clerk will also investigate this with insurance company.

- **Update on the extension**

Three scenarios have been put to SHDC Planning Officer to ask whether any of these could fall within Part 12, Class A Permitted Development Rights for local authorities

- Full construction of a surfaced path now
- Establishment of a permissive footpath without surfacing at this stage
- Establishment of a permissive footpath now with future surfacing when funding becomes available.

SHDC Senior Planning Officer has stated that he is 'not of the view that anything discussed in relation to scenario 2 likely requires planning permission' – the working group will be looking at exploring this option. This would be within 'permitted development rights'
The working group are looking for 3 contactors to provide pricing.

Funding for this project was discussed; BPC currently have £5977.50 ringfenced (with a further £3000 in the 2026/2027 budget) and as this will be a long-term project ring fencing further monies for this purpose was discussed.
Cllr proposed that BPC look to ring fence a certain amount of money to this project and other long-term projects, seconded Cllr Nix. Clerk will prepare some figures for the September meeting.

- **Update on the tree trunk seat along the path**

This is still being actively sought.

54.12 Defibrillators

- **Defibrillator status**

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

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

Work to still ongoing on both telephone boxes (on the Green and at Fordbrook).

- **Discussion – ongoing upkeep of the telephone boxes**

Contractor who currently cleans the bus shelters along A379 was approached for a quotation to add cleaning the telephone boxes (The Green and Fordbrook) to the current contract
Cllr Wills proposed that MP Windows & Gutter Cleaning add cleaning the telephone boxes to the current contract at a cost of £20 (£10 each), seconded Cllr Hawken.

- **Update on Annual CPR and Defibrillation session 2026 provided by SW Ambulance Service**

Clerk is liaising with SW Ambulance Service for some new dates in the autumn.

54.13 Street Furniture and Village appearance

- **Update from monthly street sweeping**

Thanks were expressed to the 13 people who cleared along the main road and The Green at the beginning of July and thanks to The Foxhound for refreshments. Sweeping was also undertaken along Old Road.

- **Email from parishioner regarding overgrown piece of land – Cross Park**

Clerk received correspondence from a resident of Cross Park raising concerns about overgrown vegetation on a parcel of land at the entrance to the road. This overgrowth, together with parked vehicles, was restricting safe pedestrian access, particularly for pushchair users and older residents.
Clerk has contacted DCC and Live West for clarification of land ownership
Live West has confirmed that the hedge is Live West's responsibility and the overgrown vegetation has been raised with the contractor to make sure that the hedge is cut back in line with the curb line and maintained regularly. Clerk will inform parishioner.

- **Maintenance of the roads / kerbs in Kitley View / Woodland Drive area**

Clerk contacted Live West who are not responsible for the pathways or roadways, these have been adopted by DCC highways. DCC no longer routinely clear weeds etc. from roads / pavement unless they are causing visibility issues or forcing people to walk in the road etc. A road sweeper has been dispatched to the area but did not clear any of the vegetation.
Cllr Clegg expressed his thanks to County Cllr Tony Carson and District Cllr Julie Carson for looking around the area. Clerk will contact Live West again regarding the general upkeep of the area (peeling paint, etc.) and request a meeting with Cllr Clegg and Martin on site.

54.14 Wildflower area at the top of Chittleburn Hill

The sleepers have been removed. Cllr Hitchins will look at what wood is still left behind, once this has been removed Steven Cane has offered to clear the area of debris and the flower bed.

55. Local issues relating to Carrollsland

There were no updates from Carrollsland.

56. BPC Administration

56.1 Health and Safety Policies to update: Health and Safety Policy and Risk Assessment

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

56.2 Councillor and Clerk training

- **Update regarding completion of Cyber awareness training**

Clerk and all BPC councillors have been registered to undertake DALC Cyber Awareness training modules. Clerk has received an update from DALC, and the records show that Clerk and Cllrs Gillard, Hawken, Hitchins, MacLennan, Martin, Nix, Wills and Clegg have completed all three modules.
Cllr Carson has re-enrolled at his own expense.

- **Update regarding Code of Conduct training (Standards in Public Life)**

Clerk and all councillors have completed the training module.
This will be removed from the agenda as the Clerk has this recorded on a training record.

- **Update regarding Data Protection Essentials (GDPR)**

Clerk and all BPC councillors have been registered to undertake Data Protection Essentials (GDPR) training module. All councillors have 12 months to complete all the modules. Date of enrollment 6th June 2026. Clerk and Cllr Wills, Clegg, Gillard and Hawken have completed the training module.

56.3 Update regarding a volunteer to represent BPC on the Yealm Harbour Authority

BPC is looking for a volunteer to represent BPC on the Yealm Harbour Authority.
BPC received an email from an interested party who has been in contact with the existing volunteer and will be visiting the Harbour for a discussion regarding the role.

56.4 Update regarding the BPC monthly newsletter

The monthly newsletter is available on the BPC website.
The issue with the BPC website domains on Mailchimp has been rectified by VisionICT (BPC website provider), so the electronic version is now able to be received by all emails.
One concern is when replying to the newsletter email, it is a 'strange' email address not the BPC email. Clerk is still investigating this prior to full 'roll out' of the electronic newsletter.

56.5 D&C Police – Councillor Advocate Scheme

Cllr Martin is BPC's representative on the Police Advocate Scheme and has been in contact with D&C Police to ensure that he is currently registered.

56.6 Discuss how to improve publicising planning applications across the parish

Cllr Nix proposed that all planning applications received by BPC are placed on the respective Brixton and Sherford Facebook pages. Seconded by Cllr MacLennan. All others in attendance were unanimous. This will ensure that parishioners are aware of any planning applications in the parish.

57. Councillor Reports

Cllr Carson – attended the recent YEM meeting. YEM will have a stand at the Yealmpton Show

58. Other updates / issues / consultations for discussion

58.1 South Devon National Landscape Partnership meeting – 17th July 2026
No update has been received from this meeting

Cllr Hitchins used her Chairmans prerogative to add the following to the agenda

58.2 Location of BPC and Community noticeboards

Cllr Hitchins received an email from the landowner asking BPC to relocate the noticeboards and has given 3 months' notice. Clerk will approach DCC Local Highways Officer to seek an alternative location.

59. Correspondence for information

59.1. Cascade 'Temporary Traffic Regulation Order*s (TTO) for Road Closures relating to DCC works:

- A379 Elburton Road (near Brixton Road Station Bridge) – Monday 21st July 2025 – Friday 10th July 2026
- Road past Wiverton House – Friday 24th – Monday 27th July 2026
- Road past Vealeholme (for Deep Lane Cycle Bridge Scheme) – Wed 22nd April 2026 – Thurs 21st October 2027

Date: 30th September 2026 Signed: E Hitchins
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council

59.2. All weekly bulletins from DCC and SHDC are placed immediately on the websites and Facebook pages

59.3. South Hams District Council – News Releases

Cllr Hitchins closed the meeting at 9.56 pm

Next meeting: Wednesday 30th September 2026 in Brixton Community Room
Kirstie Aldridge, Clerk, Brixton Parish Council

Date: 30th September 2026 Signed: E Hitchins
Mrs E Hitchins – Chair Brixton Parish Council