

At the Council Meeting of **COLEHILL TOWN COUNCIL** held at COLEHILL & WIMBORNE YOUTH & COMMUNITY CENTRE on **14th July 2026**, at **7.15pm**.

PRESENT

Cllr Leslie Gibson, Chair

Cllr KD Johnson, Vice-Chair

Cllrs Nigel Bridle, Carol Butter, Susan Cowsill, Clare Davison, Ann Edwards, Mark Keniston, Richard Palmer and Andy Todd and Emma Urquhart

APOLOGIES

No apologies.

IN ATTENDANCE

Mrs Z Caddy – Clerk.

70.26 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Cllr Palmer, Todd and Davison declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in the Grant Aid agenda item. It was **RESOLVED** that those declaring an interest will be permitted to take part – granting a dispensation - in the discussion but not vote in any proposal.

71.26 PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

No members of the public were in attendance.

72.26 CHAIR'S REMARKS

Thanks to Cllr Palmer in organising and co-ordinating the Birchdale appeal work. A reminder was given to everyone re the Register of Interests which needs reviewing/updating on Dorset Council's new system. The Bellway Homes exhibition is next Tuesday afternoon in the St Michael's Church Centre

73.26 MINUTES

The Minutes of the Council Meeting held on 5th May were submitted.

RESOLVED that the Minutes be approved and signed.

74.26 MATTERS ARISING ON THE MINUTES

There were no matters arising.

75.26 DORSET COUNCILLOR REPORT

Dorset Council delivered a balanced budget this year without cuts to anything, in part due to a reduction in electricity cost, with the residue being spent on Children's and Adults services.

The Safer Spaces initiative in Wimborne has been launched and there will be briefing in schools etc.

76.26 COMMITTEE MINUTES

- (a) **FINANCE AND GENERAL PURPOSES – 16th June 2026**
The report of the Meeting was submitted.

RESOLVED that the report be approved and adopted.

(b) HIGHWAYS PLANS & THE ENVIRONMENT – 16th June 2026

RESOLVED that the report be approved and adopted.

77.26 MEETING START TIMES

The meeting times were RESOLVED – these will be published on the website and noticeboards. Finance & General Purposes Committee GP 7pm-8 and the Highways Plans and the Environment 8-9pm

78.26 GOVERNANCE AND RISK ASSESSMENT DOCUMENTS

Members reviewed the following documents:

1. Standing Orders
2. Financial Regulations
3. Scheme of Delegation
4. Code of Conduct
5. IT Policy
6. Asset Register

The Clerk advised that she would be sending the latest copy of the Fixed Assets Register and the pre-renewal questionnaire to the Council's insurer.

RESOLVED that the documents listed above be approved including the level of employee dishonesty cover at £250,000

79.26 INSURANCE QUESTIONNAIRE AND RENEWAL

The pre-renewal insurance form was RESOLVED which will now be sent to the broker, including :-

Insurance values

Employee dishonesty cover of £250,000

No members stated they had anything to disclose on the declaration re criminal activity/offences/CCJ/bankruptcy/insurance refusal or winding-up/insolvency of companies.

The statement 'several areas of seasonal standing water after heavy rainfall' will be added to the section asking about any bodies of water.

80.26 PLANNING APPLICATIONS

From the applications currently listed on www.colehill.gov.uk, members reviewed and discussed the following - comments were recorded as follows:

PA No	Development Proposed
P/FUL/2026/03042	Location: Colehill First School, Pilford Heath Road, Colehill, Dorset, BH21 2HL Proposal: Demolish existing covered area and replace it with a new roof. Erect single-storey extension. No comment
P/HOU/2026/03212	Location: 92 Lonnen Road, Colehill, Dorset, BH21 7AY Proposal: Demolish conservatory and garage,

	remodelling and extensions, including roof alterations to provide additional first floor accommodation, dormers, erection of single and two-storey extensions, balcony, roof lights, external material alterations, fenestration alterations, formation of a terrace and all associated landscaping, and ancillary works. No site notice has been displayed as at 14 th July.
P/HOU/2026/03629	Location: 12 Park Homer Drive, Colehill, Dorset, BH21 2SR Proposal: Erect single storey rear extension, first floor extension over existing entrance porch. Install rear dormer window, replacement doors and windows and new timber cladding. No comment
P/HOU/2026/03743	Location: 15 Park Homer Drive, Colehill, Dorset, BH21 2SR Proposal: Rebuild existing outbuilding rear of garage No comment

81.26 PLAY BARK

It was RESOLVED to have installed at a cost of £1,800 + recoverable VAT.

82.26 GRANT AID

Cllrs Cowsill and Davison left the meeting at 9:10pm

It was RESOLVED to DEFER the item until further information is sought in terms of the following points:-

Why have the Committee not approached other local Councils for funding?

As a Council, we would normally like to see more quotes than just one for such a large project – are more able to be supplied?

Why has the project come up now? Has there been an accident? What are the issues?

Clarity on membership – a postcode on its own is not an identifier so disclosure of postcodes is not a GDPR breach.

It was RESOLVED to allow the meeting to continue longer than the 2 hours specified in the Standing Orders.

83.26 ACCOUNTS FOR PAYMENT

RESOLVED that the accounts listed in Appendix 1 to these Minutes in the Minute Book be passed for payment and bank transfers actioned accordingly.

84.26 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

It was proposed, seconded and agreed that in view of the nature of the business to be transacted it was likely that if a member of the public were present during the following item there would be a disclosure of 'Confidential Information'

involving staff and they therefore be excluded from the meeting in accordance with Section 1(2) Public Bodies (Admission to Meetings) Act 1960.

85.26 STAFFING

Staff flexible working across the summer holidays were RESOLVED and a request for unpaid parental leave was NOTED which of course will be accommodated.

86.26 REPORTS

This item was DEFERRED to the next F&GP meeting.

87.26 ITEMS FOR INFORMATION AND CLOSE OF MEETING

The pot-hole opposite the Pharmacy has been filled.

The Meeting ended at 9:18 pm.

CHAIR