

Draft Minutes of the Whimble Parish Council Planning Meeting Held on Tuesday 7 April 2026 at 7.00pm

Present: Cllr Denise Dearden (Chair)
Cllr Jo Yarwood
Cllr Lynda Patrick
Cllr Becky Venton

Also Present: Amy Tregellas (Parish Clerk)

There were no members of the public present.

1. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received and accepted from Cllrs Sarah Johnson, Angela Trimblett and Todd Olive.

2. Declarations of Interest

When discussing item 9 (Chair's Business), Cllr Yarwood declared a Personal Interest as she is a member of Whimble Fest Committee.

3. Public Participation

There were no members of the public present.

4. Minutes of the previous meeting

The Council **RESOLVED** to approve the minutes of the Whimble Parish Council Planning Meeting held on Monday 2 March 2026.

(proposed by Cllr Dearden; seconded by Cllr Yarwood)

5. 26/0479/MFUL – Plot 6, Tiger Moth Road, Skypark, Clyst Honiton, EX5 2BD. Construction of 14 commercial units (use class E(g) (i)) with associated access, parking, service infrastructure and landscaping.

The discussion took place around:

- The Council being consulted as a neighbouring parish due to the application falling under the Clyst Honiton area
- Comments from Cycling Exeter who are pleased with the proposed cycling provision
- If Clyst Honiton Parish Council are satisfied with the application then Whimble Parish Council has no objections.

The Council **RESOLVED** that it has no objection to the application, subject to Clyst Honiton Parish Council being satisfied with the proposed development.

(moved Cllr Dearden; seconded Cllr Yarwood)

6. 26/0176/ADV – Country House Estate, Whimble, EX5 2NL

1 no. non-illuminated PVC banner secured to existing post and rail timber fencing.

The Parish Clerk advised councillors that notification had been received from East Devon District Council (EDDC) that the applicant is appealing a previous application that was partly approved by EDDC. The application reference is 25/2568/ADV - Three non-illuminated free standing totem signs located in the vicinity of InstaVolt's EV charging site (retrospective). The Clerk advised that the Planning Inspectorate would be considering the appeal and that the deadline for any amendment to previously submitted comments is 29 April 2026. Councillors confirmed that they stood by previous comments and would not be looking to either withdraw or amend them.

Discussion took place around:

- The Council do not object in principle to a non-illuminated banner sign.
- Confusion over the proposed wording for the banner signage which appears to be advertising 'fresh coffee with real milk. Snacks to go. 8am to 6pm, 7 days a week'
- The application states that 'the proposed development seeks a temporary (up to 36month) change of use from Class B8 to Class E(b) to allow one vacant storage unit to be converted into an unmanned self-serve refreshment area, offering coffee vending, snack vending and a small seating area. Outside the building will be a portable toilet block comprising of 2 unisex toilets (L2.05xW1.28xH2.28m) and picnic benches providing outside seating- see Site Plan.
- EDDC refused a previous planning application (25/2315/FUL) which was looking to create amenity facilities including a toilet block.

The Council **RESOLVED** that it objects to this application as it cannot support the advertising of facilities that have not been approved through the planning process.

(moved Cllr Dearden, seconded Cllr Venton)

7. 26/0387/VAR – Land East of Rutton Farm, Whimble, EX5 2NX

Variation of conditions 2 (Approved Plans), 6 (Tree Protection), 8 (Archaeology), 9 (Construction Management Plan), 10 (Landscape, Ecological and Biodiversity Management Plan), 12 (Drainage), 13 (Ecological Assessment), 14 (Landscaping), 15 (Soil Bearing Capacity), 16 (Substation Details) and 17 (Access Tracks, Cabinets and Fence Post Foundations) of planning permission 22/0783/MFUL (Construction and operation of a ground mounted solar farm, with permission being required for 40 years, comprising solar arrays, equipment housing, sub-station, fencing, ancillary equipment, landscaping and associated development.), to facilitate the creation additional openings in field boundaries, changes to the areas fenced, a reduction in panel clearance height, relocation of transformers, movement of internal tracks and creation of additional internal tracks, and the creation of a new access into field 1 from the public highway.

Discussion took place around:

- This is a pre approved application

The Council **RESOLVED** that it does not object to the new proposal providing that there is a proper scheme in place for managing the impact of construction traffic on local roads particularly during public events, and all affected roads are made good after construction is complete.

(moved Cllr Dearden; seconded Cllr Yarwood)

8. Update on planning application status

The councillors noted the update on application status, and the following change has occurred since the last update (following updates from EDDC as the Local Planning Authority):

25/0690/FUL - Whimble Victory Hall Whimble Exeter EX5 2TS.

Extensions to existing single storey community hall, all at ground level.

Approved

25/2018/FUL & 25/2019/LBC – Perky Pool Cottage, Talaton Road, Whimble, Exeter, EX5 2QZ
Stabilisation and reconstruction of western gable. Construction of lost rear wing.

Reconstruction of single storey rear lean-to extension. Structural repairs to permit removal of buttresses. Re-rendering with lime render. Replacement windows. Raising of chimney through addition of chimney pot. Overcoating wheat reed with water reed due to a lack of supply of wheat reed, increasing the pitch and ridge height of the thatch and deepening the eaves.

Replacement metal rainwater goods. Enhancement and repair of flues. Alteration and extension of garage to create an accessible annex.

Approved

26/0114/HRN - Larkbeare Court Holly Ball Lane Whimble EX5 2QX Removal of 18m of hedgerow

Unknown – application closed. EDDC has no legal basis as dimensions of hedgerow falls out legislation

9. Chair's Business

The following items were raised under Chair's Business:

- Public Rights of Way (PROW) Map. Cllrs Yarwood and Venton are investigating replacing the map in the noticeboard in The Square and whether the noticeboard needs to be refurbished.
- Councillors noted the comments on Facebook about planning applications which have been considered by East Devon District Council.
- Councillors asked that Community Speed Watch be added to the agenda for the meeting on Monday 20 April 2026.
- Councillors asked the Clerk to obtain at least three quotations for the replacement of the Council email system and website due to the recent 5 day email system outage with the current provider.
- Councillors asked that an item be added to the 20 April 2026 agenda on the Devon Together Community Resilience Forum.
- Whimble Fest Committee – councillors considered if they want a presence at Whimble Fest on Saturday 4 July 2026 in the community hub. Cllr Venton confirmed that she would be happy to talk to people about the Whimble Emergency Plan. Cllr Yarwood declared a personal interest as she is on the Whimble Fest Committee.

The meeting closed at 7.50pm.

Chair:

Date: