



Minutes of the Planning Committee meeting held on Wednesday 22nd July 2026 at 7.00pm, in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall.

Present: Cllrs. Coles (Deputy Chair), Bovey, Distin, Giles, Snowsill and Turner.

In attendance: Cllr. Nutley, Deputy Town Clerk and Admin Assistant and four members of the public.

013.26P ELECTION OF CHAIR

The Deputy Clerk advised that correspondence had been received from Cllr. Searight confirming his willingness to stand for re-election as Chair of the Planning Committee should he be nominated.

Resolution:

RESOLVED: Cllr. Searight be elected Chair of the Committee.

Proposed: Cllr. Turner

Seconded: Cllr. Giles

014.26P ELECTION OF DEPUTY CHAIR

Resolution:

RESOLVED: Cllr. Coles be elected as Deputy Chair of the Committee.

Proposed: Cllr. Giles

Seconded: Cllr. Distin

015.26P APOLOGIES

The Deputy Clerk noted that apologies had been received from Cllrs. Searight and Wood due to prior commitments.

Resolution

ACCEPTED:

Proposed: Cllr. Giles

Seconded: Cllr. Distin

016.26P DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

None Received.

0.17.26P PUBLIC COMMENTS / STATEMENTS

Three members of the public addressed the committee regarding planning application 0210.26 – Dartmoor Lodge. All three objected to the proposal, stating that, as residents living nearby, they believed the development would have a negative impact on them and their families. They also expressed the view that the proposal was contrary to Dartmoor's protections relating to noise, light and the tranquil environment.



018.26P TO RECEIVE THE PREVIOUS MINUTES OF 25th MARCH 2026.

Resolution

RESOLVED: The minutes were duly signed as a true and accurate record of the meeting.

Proposed: Cllr. Snowsill

Seconded: Cllr. Turner

019.26P PLANNING REPORTS

0210.26 – Dartmoor Lodge, part retrospective, open air café.

Cllr. Distin, having recently visited the site and met with the manager, summarised the application for members using photographs provided by the applicant. Members discussed the application in detail, with several councillors noting ongoing unresolved issues between Dartmoor Lodge and neighbouring residents. Concerns were raised that the application did not provide details of the proposed variations to Conditions 4 and 5, relating to noise and lighting. Given the ongoing issues with neighbouring residents, the retrospective nature of elements of the application, and previous planning infringements; members considered that the proposed variations should be clearly detailed before the Town Council could support the application.

ACTION

Resolution

RESOLVED: The Planning Committee voted not to support this application

Proposed: Cllr. Turner

Seconded: Cllr. Snowsill

All in favour

0211.26 – Barn Owl Trust, installation of 58 ground mounted solar panels.

Cllr. Coles reported that he had recently visited the site and met with the applicants. He summarised the application for members using photographs provided by the applicants. He noted that planning permission had previously been granted for 40 solar panels and that the current application sought permission for 58 more efficient panels in an alternative location due to limited solar gain from the previously approved position. Members then discussed the application in detail. Cllr. Coles expressed the view that the Town Council should support locally generated renewable energy and noted that the proposal would be exempt from biodiversity net gain requirements under the de minimis provisions.

ACTION

Resolution

RESOLVED: The Planning Committee voted to support this application

Proposed: Cllr. Coles

Seconded: Cllr. Distin

All in favour

Planning decisions

Cllr. Coles read out the recent planning decisions issued by the DNPA relating to Ashburton.

Cllr. Turner requested that future reports include the Town Council's recommendations alongside the DNPA decisions.

ACTION



020.26P MATTERS RAISED BY COUNCILLORS FOR INFORMATION ONLY OR POSSIBLE INCLUSION ON A FUTURE AGENDA.

None Received.

Cllr. Coles thanked those present and closed the meeting at 19:39

SIGNED _____ DATE _____



**Action Points Arising from the Planning Committee Meeting Held on
Wednesday 22st July 2026 at 7.00pm in the Council Chambers of the Town Hall**

Agenda Item	Actions	Responsible
019.26P	Planning application 0210.26 – Dartmoor Lodge. The Planning Committee voted not to support this application, Cllr. Distin to give a statement for the Clerks Office to return to DNPA Planning.	Cllr. Distin Clerk's Office
019.26P	Planning application 0211.26 – Barn Owl Trust. The planning Committee voted to support this application, Clerks Office to inform DNPA Planning.	Clerk's Office
019.26P	The Clerk's Office to include ATC recommendations alongside the DNPA decisions for completed planning applications on future agendas.	Clerk's Office