

Instow Parish Council Minutes – 17 July 2025

Attendees: - Cllrs. Hopkins, McCrum, Scott. DCC Cllr Biederman NDC Cllr Coombs.
Parish Clerk & 3 members of the public.

Apologies: - Resolution to approve apologies (with reasons) made to the Clerk prior to the meeting. Cllrs Arthur, Bunclark, Foster. Approved.

192 The meeting was opened at 19:00 by the Chair

193 Councillors Disclosure of Interest – None declared.

194 Public Session –

Nick Honey from Stone Pizza, a seasonal business operating across North Devon and Cornwall, presented an overview of their proposal following an email sent to the parish council. The business currently runs pizza trucks in Croyde, Woolacombe, Ilfracombe, and St Ives, supported by a central kitchen, training facility, and distribution hub, employing nearly 50 seasonal staff. They test new areas over two seasons, continuing if demand is strong. They've had early discussions with landowners including Christie's Estates. While 2025 may not be viable, 2026 is being considered more strongly. For 2025, they're exploring a trial roadside pitch on Marine Parade in Instow, for four hours every evening, committing to follow parking regulations and gauge community response. Stone Pizza operates on a charitable model due to current licensing: £0.50 per pizza is donated to a local charity. Nick thanked IPC for their time. IPC clarified they're not the decision makers but offered advice based on past similar ventures and requested to be kept informed, wishing the team well.

195 Reports County & Ward Members

a) **NDC Cllr Coombs** reminded Cllrs and the public.

The **Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution survey** hosted by North Devon Council is now live and open for public input. It's a key opportunity for residents, parish councils, and stakeholders to share their views on how local government might be reshaped across Devon.

What's it about? The UK Government has proposed significant changes to local government structures, aiming to simplify the current two-tier system and devolve more powers to local areas. This could mean merging district and county councils into larger unitary authorities, which would affect how services are delivered in North Devon and beyond.

Survey Details: Open until: Monday, 11 August 2025

Where to participate: Let's Talk North Devon – Survey Page

<https://letstalk.northdevon.gov.uk/local-government-reorganisation-and-devolution/surveys/ndlocalgovernmentreorganisation>

IPC Clerk forwarded the relevant email for NDC to all Cllrs on 02/07/2025 regarding the **Local Government Reorganisation and Devolution survey**

Clerk to forward to Instow Parish news for publication in the magazine, including uploading to the IPC website.

b) Updated on 80214 Planning application – She had received correspondence of concerns, why amend plans have been submitted and not refused and resubmitted application. The senior officer for the case confirmed after a criteria meeting on 17th July 2025 their view is to re-open for re-consultation, closing on 25th July 2025. (Clerk to ask for an extension to this date) Cllrs discussion – See point 201 a)

The Chair expressed her thanks to NDC Cllr Coombs for her support with planning results in Rectory Lane and Newstead.

c) Regarding transfer of the car park, information was shared with Cllrs and DCC Cllr Biederman ref FPC requesting transfer of the scout hut and planning field to them

d) **DCC Cllr Biederman** Informed Cllrs of a personnel change in Highways for DCC. He will update the clerk in due course. No other updates

e) Confirmed passed IPC concerns about parking again to North Devon Council

196 Confirmation of Minutes It was agreed that the Minutes of the meeting 19th June 2025 were a true and accurate record. – All Approved.

197 Any matters arising

a) Update on Sewage, see tracker

b) Clerk to contact via email all public houses and hotel in Instow bringing attention of recent incidents of vandalism in Instow, specifically damage to the village noticeboards and a bench outside the Instow Arms including receiving reports of a significant amount of broken glass being found in the sand along the waterfront.

198 Tracker update – see separate spreadsheet also available on IPC website

199 Correspondence

- a) There has been a yacht which appears to be abandoned on the sand (above the tide line) on Instow beach for in excess of 3 years. My question is why it has been able to stay there - and not moored like the other boats - blocking a lovely beach. Via Email 04/07/25 from Barb Clayton – Clerk has responded via emailed Clerk to Contact North Devon Council advise on marine byelaws
- b) Donation of a Bench on Marine Parade – For a Special Birthday -Clerk to respond directly with the correspondent.
- c) Michael J Champion - the state of Anstey Way – Via email 08/07/2025 Clerk has forward email to DCC Cllr Biederman
- d) Nick Honey - STONED PIZZA LIMITED In Instow via email 1/07/2025 – *Attended see public section.*
- e) Gov. Email address for Cllrs. Via Email - WesternWeb Limited – Clerk to action for September 2025
- f) Sam Heaton - Grant request Via email 11/07/2025 Chair recommended Sam Heaton contacted Andy Bell Director of the [North Devon Biosphere](#) – Clerk sent contact email –
- g) P Cantel's Flood Gate - Could IPC advise the environmental agency that this gate cannot be closed as a boat on a trailer has been parked on its track for months. Clerk to contact the Environment agency

200 Finance

- a) Invoices for approval and or ratification. Appendix 1 – All approved.
- b) As there is no meeting in August, the Council was asked for their authority for the Chair and Clerk to pay any standard invoices that became outstanding before 18 September 2025 meeting. Granted. These will be ratified at September meeting.
- c) Solar Park - *Litchardon Cross Solar* Community Funding – Cllr Arthur requires approval Approved by Cllrs on 17/07/2025 IPC meeting. All in favour.

201 Planning

Documents have been circulated to Councillors for studying ahead of the meeting

Documents are available at <https://planning.northdevon.gov.uk/> enter the application number

- a) 80214 1 Kiln Close Kiln Close Lane Instow Bideford Devon EX39 4JY
See point 201 a – IPC council concerns are to be submitted to North Devon Planning.
Done 21/07/2025 *Extension requested 21/07/2025 Consultation end date is 25/07/2025*
- b) 80222 at 17 Lane End Close Instow Bideford Devon EX39 4LG – No objections – Closed
- c) 79401 Newstead Irreversible negative impact of on Instow parking. Update from Heritage and Conservation Officer & Local Highways. – Chair asked to be called in to Planning committee. NDC Cllr Coombs Updated the Parish council rejected.
- d) 80503 3 Lane End Close Instow EX39 4LG Demolition of existing dwelling and the erection of a new, sustainable dwelling *Consultant end date 28th July 2025 Clerk to send objection and concerns to North Devon Planning portal*

202 Urgent items raised between the publication of the agenda and the meeting

None

203 Any other business as raised by the Chair.

None

204 Next meeting – 18 September 2025 at The Chapel 7pm – Note: Change of Venue

Meeting closed – 20:17