

JONATHAN HAWKINS - Devon County Council / South Hams District Council Report

During the past few months there have been many meetings both at Devon County and South Hams. I have also attended meetings as a newly appointed Governor of the Torbay and South Devon Health Trust, which I am finding very interesting and informative. The Trust is one of 3 of the 44 nationally that are particularly struggling with their budget. On the bright side Torbay Hospital has recently had two of its operating facilities reopened and more recently the entire operating suite is to be rebuilt in the next few years with funding now been promised as well as the A and E re designed to start soon. The new Dartmouth and District Health and well-being Centre is progressing with a two storey building on part of the overflow Park and Ride site at Norton. This will include the Surgery, Health clinic, District Nurses, Dartmouth Caring pharmacy and café. There will be no loss of parking as the remainder of the car park will be surfaced and properly lined. We have had a number of meetings concerning better public transport to the Hospital with Stagecoach in Exeter. The 120 service will not change as we are looking at extending the service via Totnes to the Hospital and Willows. Costings are now being produced and hopefully with the increase in Government spending on Public Transport we hope to persuade County to help.

Neighbourhood Plan

Cllr Bastone, Rowe and I, are to meet Officers at South Hams to discuss concerns with Kingswear being considered unsustainable, when clearly it is Post Office, shop, school, bus services ferries and train station. We are particularly concerned that no site has been put forward for a small development. Officers feel that with no allocation it may leave us open to unwelcome development, for example on Brixham Road or Will Full Murder at Hillhead.

West Dart/ little Cotton Farm development

District Councillors are having regular meetings with Bakers Estates on this development. A new roundabout at Sainsbury's and improved access is to be put in over the next few months

Residents Parking

I have meet Amy Garwood (Devon County Council) recently. Amy has asked if the Parish Council can decide on what it wants, before she will do any more work. This is something you as a Council need to decide and whether you wish to raise your precept at least by £10,000 to put a plan in place

Devon County as you will see have been busy resurfacing roads in the Parish, Higher Contour road I believe will be done in the months ahead.

For Parish Councils and residents, County have an excellent reporting system for pot holes, street lights, missing signs. South Hams has the same for fly tipping.

Youth Genesis

Youth Genesis are back up and running at Ivy Lane, which has been refurbished by Dartmouth Town Council and a kind donation by Sir Philip Hume. Dartmouth has 3 nights of Youth Provision -Dart Treckers on a Wednesda, Ten Tor's Youth Genesis on a Thursday night at Ivy Lane and on a Friday night at St Clements.

Youth leisure nights will start in January at the Leisure Centre - The whole centre including the pool will be just for the Youth of the Area. Cllr Bastone, Rowe and I have given a grant of £500 each to help with this

I am a volunteer on a Thursday, but we are looking for more please to help

Homeless

As the member for Health and Well-being in the South Hams with Cllr Bastone, we meet officers regularly. If anyone knows or hears of anyone that needs help please let us know. Two weeks ago we were able to help a gentlemen who was sleeping on Castle Estate to be put into immediate temporary accommodation

Food Bank

We regularly volunteer to help on a Wednesday Again the Food Bank is there to help, we put bags around Dartmouth to be picked up, is there anywhere we could put some in Kingswear

Dementia Freindly

South Hams is proposing to become the first District in Devon to achieve this at our December meeting Officers are working to ensure all our buildings and services are dementia aware over the coming months

Warm Home Fund

The Council have been given a by Central Government to achieve 240 grants towards new efficient gas central heating Residents under £35,000 income can be apply for a grant this is for private rented or own properties. Grants can also be accessed for houses that have electric or oil central heating that needs replacement

Grants offered in past few months

Dartmouth Green Partnership £1800, South ford Play Area £380, Townstal defibrillator £1000, Dartmouth Library £500, Dartmouth Community Chest £500 Mayflower 400 £1000, Dartmouth Museum £500 and Dartmouth Visitor Centre £440