

Andy Bates

Both Hilary and I meet the new Chief Exe in

Town last Friday

We walked along from Bayard's Cove along the Embankment, Where we meet a number of business owners concerning this years and hopefully next years outside seating areas

Continued up to the proposed public Slipway site

Visited Townstal, the Leisure Centre and pool, Park and Ride, site of Health and wellbeing Centre and the new housing at West Dart

Some of the Issues raised were cost of entry to leisure Centre and Pool, improvements to Park And Ride for next season and a site for a new industrial estate

You will also have seen in the press that Hilary and Cllr Helen Reeve visited Little Cotton Farm last month

The first homes will be available next spring

A new nursing home is also being discussed

for the site nearest the Health and Well-being Centre

I am meeting Lisa Edmonds from Devon

county Highways in Dartmouth and Cornworthy on 5/10

Meeting Cornworthy Parish Councillors, please let us know if there is anything you would like me to raise with her

Embankment Outside seating

This I believe has been well received and we are hoping to extend this seasons trial and look how this can become permanent for coming year

Drainage

Meeting Cllr Case this week to discuss concerns over capacity of drainage in Victoria Rd and Charles street

County are in talks with other agencies to come forward with a plan for implementation next year

Swannaton

Again with the changing climate this road has been affected by the heavy rain

This has again been raised with Highways and emailing Meg Booth, head of County Highways asking for the scheme that is being discussed to be brought forward with urgency

Park and Ride

A double deck bus will be on this service until the end of the season

A single deck bus should not have been used in September and this was replaced as soon as it could be

Exe Member Cllr Baldry leader of the Lib Dem's had reduced the service with out consultation with us the ward members

Helicopter Tower

You may have seen that the wood is being painted and it is hoped that a long term tenant for this can be found soon

College Way

South Hams have cut the grass along here following town Councils withdrawal of looking after this, this summer, being paid for out of my County Fund
Spraying of the speed islands should have now taken place

Leisure Centre

It was agreed at the last Full District Meeting to put £243,000 into reopening all the 4 District Leisure Centres
This money will help pay wages costs etc up til next March
In Dartmouth alone it will safeguard 10 jobs
GP referrals will start again soon as will swimming lessons for our schools
It is hoped that money will be forthcoming to enable to reduce swimming prices

Covid

Can I thank again all the volunteers who have helped during this crisis, particularly Dartmouth Community Chest, Dartmouth Caring and TQ6

Also all the NHS workers and carers who are doing such an amazing job in protecting our residents

Hopefully all Cllrs have put the NHS App on their phones, it is an important way we can control Covid

County has a Covid Notification line

[Devon.cc/connect me](https://devon.cc/connectme)

This gives a regular update on all Covid related issues

Team Devon

This continues working with all 8 Districts on Covid issues and the economic recovery
A report will go to County Cabinet on a £6 million plan and officers are working Hard to ensure Central Government grants come Devon's way

It is likely that County and District will be holding Team, Skype or Zoom meetings well into 2021

Virtual meetings and officers working from home does raise the question are large headquarters still required ?

Unitary Devon

County and the 8 Districts have told the Government that they do not support this
With the likes of Team Devon this is proving how well local Government is working and such a large upheaval at this time is unnecessary
It is felt that any such change is unlikely in the current parliament

Planning Consultation

The Government consultation on planning regulations have been clearly told that South Hams are not supportive of some of the changes
The two main concerns is that the District would have to provide twice as many houses as

planned and that the raising of the threshold of 10 to 40 for an affordable contribution%
South Hams have clearly said we do not support these in an Area such as ours with AONBs
and small communities

Domiciliary Care

Shortage of staffing is still a concern, all packages are being achieved but some are being filled by an outside contractor

Care Homes

With the slow increase in Covid Cases and infections, plans are in position and visiting of families and friends may have to be limited in future

Adult Social Care

Winter packages were published recently Devon County has been given an extra grant of £9 million to help

All care workers are provided with free PPE

Care workers are often forgotten and as we all know they provide a vitally important front line service

Schools

On average 90% of children are attending

County have put on over 70 extra buses/ coaches to provide safe Covid transport

County have also put out a call for Foster parents

Over 109 children are looking for safe caring homes

Climate Change

We can all see How changes are taking place

It's not a when it is actually happening and we all need to do something seriously to try to help South Hams have £400,000 set aside for this issue

I believe it is the most a District have put aside

A working Group has been meeting and a new Officer been put in place to come forward with plans on how best to spend this money

Working with County it is essential that this money is spent wisely and to the achieve the best results

If the Town Council have any ideas please let us know

It is now Well overdue and we must all act for future generations and the planet

Finally

If you feel a virtual informal meeting would be helpful, please let us know and we can set it up

Perhaps before your next meeting in 2 weeks ?