

REPORT DATE FOR AUGUST/ SEPTEMBER 2020 FROM ROSEMARY ROWE.

The last two months have been busy months for us at S.H.D.C. We have been having many meetings via Skype, Zoom etc.

We have been working on an amended Budget to see the Council through until the end of this financial year to the 1st April 2021 there is at present a shortfall of £1,313,000. We have been through all the possibilities to produce an amended revenue Budget for the rest of this Financial Year. This was on the agenda for the Full Council Meeting which was held on Thursday 24th September 2020 with recommendations to Council from The Executive. The joint meeting of the Over view and Scrutiny Panel and The D.M. Committee had met previously to consider the best options to proceed. The main debate was whether to take monies from unearmarked reserves which currently stand at £ 1.9 million. It was at that meeting decided not to use all the monies from unearmarked reserves to prop up the shortfall. We may need to take up £200,000 from this reserve Pot will not do so unless absolutely necessary.

There are Changes coming from the 5th October for refuse collection Days. Every household has been sent a letter telling them when their new collection day will be...The next recycling collection day here in Stoke Gabriel will be week beginning 5th October. The New recycling system to be known as The Super Recycler Service which will allow for much more kerbside recycling will commence in early spring of next year

Other matters which occur seemingly in every parish and town are the never ending problems of rubbish, overflowing bins and skips, dog poo bins etc. over hanging trees, bushes and the general state of some areas.

We have met with Fusion representatives and it was an agenda item for the Full Council Meeting which was held on the 24th September. It was agreed to reopen all our Leisure Centres as soon as was possible during the month of October Dartmouth is scheduled to open on the 14th October. There will be a cost to the Council and so the plea to the residents is please use it or lose your local Centre. Leisure centres are part of the council's responsibilities to health & well being which is one of our priorities to our residents.

Covid 19 has presented us with many problems but we have managed to keep fairly safe with low number of cases in the South Hams considering the numbers of tourists that we have had visiting us.

I have attended meetings of The Torbay & South Devon Healthcare Trust. The DAY Surgery unit at the Hospital reopened on the 1st September and will be working at full capacity by October. This was the area which was set aside to deal with Covid19 urgent cases and treatment of patients.

The Nightingale Hospital on the outskirts of Exeter is up and running well. So far it has dealt with 900 patients, including cancer patients.

It is the season for The Flu vaccine vaccinations, please be sure to get yours and hopefully stay safe.

Take care ,Rosemary.