

S.H.D.C. REPORT UP UNTIL THE END OF May 2021. From Rosemary Rowe

At the time of writing this report we are not sure of what is going to happen with the lifting of restrictions for Covid after June 21st. We need to be able to get back to some kind of normality. However it must be safe for us to do so. Businesses have welcomed being able to open up again albeit in a safe and secure way as is possible. In many of our towns, villages and riverside areas the Food and drink establishments have been able to open with a lot of outside seating areas. This is good but weather dependent. We have just experienced lovely weather for the May bank Holiday and half term Week with high numbers of visitors to our area.

We held our Annual Full Council Meeting on 21st May at Kilworthy Park at Tavistock, the headquarters of West Devon Council as their Council Chamber is able to accommodate 35 persons safely. We were all in our separate see through plastic screen cubicles, but at least we actually had a live face to face meeting after 15 months. We have a new Chairman of Council, Cllr. Richard Foss who represents Stokenham and Strete Ward on the Council. Cllr. Lance Austin is the New Vice Chairman and he comes from Ivybridge. Cllr. Tom Holway from Ugborough and Ermington has now joined the executive as there has been a member vacancy since the very sad death of Cllr. David May.

Unfortunately the New so called Super Recycling Service which started at the beginning of April has not gone as well as we would have hoped it would. Officers and The Council's Executive Members are having regular meetings and working with F.C.C. to get all the problems sorted A.S.A.P. which meantime means that the last 8,000.00 properties not yet on the new system have been put on hold until later in July. And these properties cannot put food waste in the Brown Bin; it must go in the Grey Bin. The Brown Bin is for Garden Waste only.

The use of 5 council car parks for overnight parking of Camper Vans and Motor Homes was approved by The Council's executive recently, after there was a consultation period which ended on the 21st May. These must have their own facilities on board for washing, toilets etc..

Climate change and Biodiversity. The Council now has an Officer working full time on this. He is Adam Williams who has moved across from the planning Dept. Local Ward Members have £3,000.00 each available to assist with projects in their Wards. There are also other grants available and a website is coming live soon which will have all the information on it, how to apply etc..

Devon Homes Choice which is the system which the Council has used for many years for the allocation of Housing has been updated and more help is included to assist applicants get a property with the number of Bed spaces nearer to their family needs. Homelessness policy has been reviewed and giving assistance to prevent homelessness in the first place.

There is a lot of information about the items I have covered and many more on the Council's website. Please take a look when you are able to.

Take care. Stay safe. Remember the code even if other people around you don't.

HANDS FACE SPACE.

Rosemary Rowe.