

SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT FOR NOVEMBER 2021 FROM ROSEMARY ROWE

This month quite a lot of time has been spent going over old ground discussing matters which has been going on for a considerable length of time. Notably The Waste Collections which are not as we would like them to be. This comes up at every meeting . I will not go over the problems again.

Housing is another subject which cannot be easily solved. There is a need for more rental properties which I reported on last month. Rents for properties are very often more than the cost of a mortgage would be, but a deposit is needed to acquire a mortgage .The Council is putting out a call for Low Cost Housing Sites but these don't come forward very often as the price payable to the Landowner is up to £10,000.00 per plot. The site would be for only this kind of build.

Following on from the Housing Position Statement & five year land supply .the position is that the Council has a 5.8 year housing land supply from 1/4/2021 to 21/4/2026.This therefore provides us with a robust land supply position within the J.L.P.

Housing support Fund. From the 15th November 2021 Councils across Devon will be open for applications for The New Household Support fund. This is for short term assistance for people over the age of 16 to assist them to buy essentials like Food, clothing or pay for Heating. There will need to be proof of a genuine need. More information is available on the Council website under South Hams Household Support fund and Sophie Cobbledick is the officer in charge.

We have started to look at the council budget for 2022/23 and will be working on this in the New Year. The Council must produce a balanced Budget by law.

The Christmas Waste Collection timetable is now available on line. Collections are 2 days late starting on Mon.27 the collection will be on Wed.29th lasting until Week beginning 24th January 2022.The collections will be 1 day late from week beginning 17 th/ 21st January.

South Hams Urban Tree Challenge Fund. The council has been awarded £250,000.00 grant funding from The Forestry Commission from a 10 million pot .The project will see planting on 32 sites across the District. Rob Sekula has more information on this.

There is a new South Hams Sector police inspector who is Inspector Sally kingdom. The first point of contact should be by email unless urgent. Which is 101@dc.police.uk

At the last Full Council meeting which was held on the 25th Nov. a motion was passed on changes to the installation of gas and oil fire Boilers from 2025 in new build properties .Climate change and COP 26 and much more info can be found on various Websites.

Covid is still with us and now a new variant has been exposed. PLEASE, PLEASE get your vaccinations for Covid and Flu. To protect yourself, your family and those around you. We don't want to be locked up for Christmas.

This is the last report for this year. I hope that you all have a Pleasant and Peaceful time & can do whatever you wish for yourselves and your family & friends.

Take care. Remember Hands Face Space. Rosemary.

