

## SOUTH HAMS DISTRICT COUNCIL REPORT FOR OCTOBER 2021 FROM ROSEMARY ROWE

This month we have had to take the decision to cease collecting the Brown bins containing the Garden Waste until next spring. This was not an easy task but there was no alternative way to deal with the problem for the foreseeable future. The reasons are still the same as before.

Please do not put your garden waste in your grey refuse bin. Use the recycling centres if at all possible Do not have bonfires .Devon Fire Authority firmly advises against this. It causes nuisance to neighbours.

Notify missed collections through the correct procedure which is either by telephone on 861234 or by email = <https://southhams.fccenvironment.co.uk/missedcollection> Householders must do this as their missed collection will then be logged by the company FCC and dealt with(hopefully) .

With the upcoming Global Summit taking place in Glasgow, A Scheme called Shop 4 Good has been introduced across Devon Councils. It runs from the 30<sup>th</sup> October to the 13<sup>th</sup> November. It is encouraging people to shop in a way that is good for the climate and well being. So that consumers help to make the industries more sustainable. The more we buy locally produced goods we are supporting jobs and cutting down on travel miles in our area .We need to make the most of what is available on our doorstep. Particularly with Christmas coming up. Order local food and buy local produced presents where possible.

The Council has looked at Rewilding plans. A recent public consultation took place with over 1,000 responses received. 97% of which were in favour of improving biodiversity across the District. This will involve less grass cutting along verges and along the sides of parkland .Areas set aside for planting wild flower meadows, planting trees...Allocating pond space within our gardens, there is a lot we can do to make a difference to supporting the insect population and absorb carbon from the air. Further consultation will take place with Cllrs. Town and Parish Councils over the specifics of proposals which will fit in with each area and be approved local residents.

Housing. The leader of the Council has set in motion ways to deal with the housing problems within our area. There is an acute shortage of homes to rent .This has been in part brought about by properties that would be suitable for first time buyers being bought for both 2<sup>nd</sup>. Homes & holiday property to be rented out, closing the loop of business rates on holiday lets 200% council tax on 2<sup>nd</sup> homes. There is a significant increase in the numbers on the housing list.

There is a New Grant Fund which is called The Community Recovery Grant and is available from the 1<sup>st</sup> /30<sup>th</sup> November for businesses with new ideas to help them function. There is funding for up to £30,000.00. It is envisaged that most will be between £2,000.00 and £10,000.00.Details are on the website. There is much more information about these and other matters that the Council is dealing with at present on the council's website Please take a look when you have time. Unfortunately Covid is still with us. Please, get your vaccination if you have not had one yet and get it up to date as and when your time is up. Flu Vaccinations are also available. All of these are available locally and in some cases an appointment is not necessary. We need to do all we can to avoid another Lock Down.

Take care & remember            Hands Face Space.    Rosemary.

