

REPORT FOR JANUARY 2021 FROM ROSEMARY ROWE.

This month seems to have been longer than usual for January. Thankfully we are now into February and hopefully we will get some good weather and the days will start to lengthen. We hope to see light at the end of the tunnel which we have been locked into for the best part of twelve months either in tiers or as now a complete lockdown.

The Covid 19 vaccination programme has been set into action and appears to be going well. Hopefully it will help to set us free to do at least some of the things we like to be able to do. More vaccination centres are being rolled out around the region.

Most of what I reported to you last month is still applicable ref. various grants, help for the clinically vulnerable, hardship funding, providing internet access and tablets for Home Schooling. There is help out there and if the Council does not actually provide the assistance required we can point enquiries in the right direction.

We at South Hams have been having meetings to debate the setting of The South Hams portion of the Council Tax which is likely to increase by £5.00 per annum for a Band D property .this will equate to £175.42 for the District council portion of the Council Tax. This was passed by the Council Executive at their meeting last week and will go as a recommendation to Full Council at the meeting on Thursday 11h February. All the details of the budget will be debated and fixed for the year starting on April 1st 2021.

We are updating our localities service team which was introduced five years ago .This is starting on the 1<sup>st</sup> April and we will be employing 4 additional seasonal posts from 1<sup>st</sup> April to 30<sup>th</sup> September 2021 .This service will operate 7 days a week .As very often more problems occur at weekends. They will be able to deal with lots of different issues which arise during the main holiday season from waste management i.e. non collections/holiday homes/etc .Monitoring parking issues. Beaches. Dog patrols, street management /litter /overflowing bins .the list is endless. And to give assistance to Ward members with problems that can arise.

We, (my fellow ward members and I) have been having meetings with ref. to workings for the Dartmouth South Embankment for 2021 and with the business community wishing to be involved. We have also been looking at the future of the Manor garden area and the toilets there.

Baker Estates housing project at Cotton Lane is progressing. Unfortunately I have not been able to visit the site recently because of Covid restrictions.

Let`s hope that we can get out of the situation we are in at the moment. It would be good to get back to having live meetings .We have been meeting virtually for a long time now.

Take care everyone.

Stay safe, remember the rules .if we all abide by them we will get out of Lock down.

Get vaccinated when our turn comes. (I hope those of you who have been offered the chance to be vaccinated have taken it up.)

Rosemary Rowe.