

COUNCIL - 29th MARCH 2021

UPDATE AND INFORMATION

Councillor updates, conferences and events

The Mayor Cllr Laity attended the Patient Participation Group presentation on Digital Health Devon (report attached).

Cllr Lannin (and the Town Clerk) attended the PL:21 Public meeting on 24 February. The main topic being the Big Bike Revival.

The Mayor Cllr Laity, Cllr Hladkij and the Town Clerk had a follow up meeting with Harford Parish Meeting, Harford residents, Ugborough Parish Council and Dartmoor National Park about sustainable improvements to access on to the Moor. Although no firm solutions were found, discussions and exploration of possibilities are ongoing.

If any Councillors wish to update Council on activities that they have undertaken on behalf of the Town Council, then these please submit these in advance.

Forthcoming training/conferences/representation

No updates

General Information

Reopening High Streets

SHDC are investing in 'reopening High Streets' through marketing of town centres and support for public order, littering, parking enforcement etc. This is fast moving as the timescales for reopening are fast approaching, but the Town Clerk has been working with Cllr Silsbury and the Chamber of Commerce to ensure they have the best information about the town centre, in particular the new bookshop, e-bike shop, florist and salon. Further details should be known in early April about the £50k match funding available to the town to invest in its town centre.

The Bloomers have been approached to see if they can help with some big impact improvements to the planters on Fore Street. Some of the remaining re-opening highstreets money from before Christmas will be spent on this once a scheme is decided on.

The Watermark will support the reopening of non-essential retail by opening the Coffee Shop on 12 April on trial basis, and is aiming to restart Cinema from 17 May or soon after depending on demand and film availability.

Cycling

The project to install extra cycling signage and route diversions in conjunction with PL:21 and local Sustrans representatives is now complete. There has been issues with work on Exeter Road junctions meaning approval had to be sought to relocate signs from the original plans and a few other issues. Further funding from Wain Homes for a temporary

diversion to help cyclists avoid their site entrance was negotiated by Graham Wilson and DCC and that will be put in place in the next couple of weeks.

River Interpretation

A group is forming that is interested in installing some quality interpretation along the river. When more of a detailed proposal is brought forwards support will be sought from this Council.

Pied Flycatchers in Longtimber Woods

The appeal for bird boxes has led to several being installed in Longtimber Woods. Devon Birds have offered to further support this project with information for the public and helping us set up a monitoring process.

Council Website

Although delayed progress is still being made and we are working with the suppliers to iron out some issues with the new site. We hope to make it live during April.

Jonathan Parsons
Town Clerk

Ivybridge Patient Participation Group Meeting 16th March 2021

During this meeting we had a presentation from Digital Health Devon
<https://www.digitalhealthdevon.co.uk>

This is a free resource which has been set up to show people how they can “use the internet to access local health, social care and wellbeing resources such as online consultation services”.

This is done through a series of e-learning modules which are free to access and use. If you would like a certificate on completion of modules, you do need to register but participation is still free and you can become a volunteer or a “Digital Health Champion”. [Further details on the site].

Pre-pandemic, volunteers were able to go out into the community to deliver courses or one-to-one sessions on a drop-in basis. For the time being, the work has moved online, for example, with webinars followed by question and answer sessions. Twice a week (Monday 4pm to 6pm: Friday 2pm to 4 pm), there are Live Chat sessions where volunteers answer questions. This works like Facebook Messenger.

If there is a problem which is not covered, the “Contact Us” button will lead to a volunteer being allocated to your issue. They will get in touch and try to help resolve the difficulty.

The 7 main areas covered on the website are:

General online advice;

GP Services (including NHS App; e-consult with demo page to practice on);

Hospital Services;

Mental Health Services (including the possibility of self-referral);

Other NHS Services;

Other Useful Resources;

Providing Feedback & Complaints.

Cllr Ann Laity 16th March 2021