

**Key Issues Devon County Council: Devon Carbon Plan: The following news bulletin has been issued by DCC. "Help Devon to be 'Net-Zero' what's your idea?"** The top team of environmental experts who have been charged with ensuring that Devon becomes a net-zero county want your ideas on how to reduce carbon emissions as quickly as possible. This Call for Evidence is open to everybody, and submissions can be made through the [Devon Climate Emergency website](#), and every submission will be reviewed by the Task Force.

The series of thematic hearings with the Citizen's Assembly are taking place in November and December. Each hearing will focus on the different parts of our society that produce most of the emissions, like transport for instance. The hearings will seek to understand what needs to happen and what we all need to do to achieve rapid decarbonisation in Devon, and how it can be delivered. The first of the hearings took place on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> November on the topic of Land and Sea. The weblink to view the video of the event is here: [www.facebook.com/DevonClimateEmergency](http://www.facebook.com/DevonClimateEmergency)

The deliberations of the Citizen's Assembly will lead to the Draft Devon Carbon Plan, which is due for publication next spring.

**South Hams District Council: The draft Climate and Biodiversity Action plan is due to go out for public consultation this month, once approved at FC on Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> December.** This document will be available with the FC agenda as from next Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> December.

(n.b. reminder the SHDC Joint Local Plan (JLP), **draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD)** is still out for public consultation until early January)

#### **LOCAL MATTERS:**

##### **Highways:**

**Berry Pomeroy; No Right Turn at Weston Lane junction at True Street.** A DCC Highways meeting with officers and Councillors was held on site in Berry Pomeroy (15.11.19). This was regarding the Weston Lane no right turn proposals further to Great Court Farm developments coming to a close. The DCC Officers were adamant that the only safe option is to allow a right turn from Blackpost Lane and implement a no right turn out of the top of Weston lane. I requested that an alternative option of creating a new route to exit out of Weston Lane lower down Bridgetown Hill (i.e. creating a triangle of land at the Junction with Bridgetown Hill) be considered, drawn up and costed. The preference to create a no right turn from this exit has been contentious locally and if this alternative route would be possible, this would provide improved and safer siting from the Paignton direction and could therefore assist farmers who frequently use this exit. The extensive flooding problems and condition of the road further to the building works were also examined and discussed on site.

**Meeting with DCC Highways officers to discuss issues in my division (02.12.19):** The following was discussed

- Traffic speed reductions, traffic calming options & moving the pedestrian crossing at Harbertonford
- Traffic speed reductions & safe pedestrian crossings needed in Dartington (Puddavine, Huxhams Cross, Origins) & village gateways
- Road condition and drainage issues at Great Court Farm – developer responsibilities
- No Right Turn at True St – investigate alternative slip road
- Totnes Air Quality Action Plan – pedestrian crossings at Plymouth Road / By-pass junction traffic lights
- Baltic Wharf 106 agreements and implementation

**Illegal Traveller Camps and Residential Vehicles:** Further to my meetings and requests to DCC and SHDC a Members' Session has been arranged at SHDC to take place on 30<sup>th</sup> January 2020, with a view to hosting a Gypsy & Traveller Forum event at the end of the following month. It is hoped that this will enable a more pragmatic and productive approach to addressing this growing need for properly serviced transit and permanent sites to be established and address the unauthorised roadside camps which have become very contentious.

**Totnes & District Traffic & Transport Forum (30.10.19).** Parking issues and challenges were discussed further to enquires from residents experiencing problems in lower Jubilee Road and Springhill Road in Bridgetown and Windeats Lane and The Carrions Totnes. It was agreed that very localised surveys would be conducted to assess the parking needs of residents in these areas and see whether Resident's parking restrictions are required and would help resolve the problems

**Totnes Town Council Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Planning week- Sun 3<sup>rd</sup> Nov – Sat 9<sup>th</sup> Nov.**

The Town Council hosted a week of sessions, workshops, discussions and an exhibition to pull together all the work to date and turn it into a framework Action Plan. The week was designed to bring people together in sessions and discussions on all

the themes identified to date, then sort out ideas and proposals for actions put forward, into timelines or pathways of steps across the next few years to help us reach zero carbon by 2030.

The week started in the Civic Square where we invited the young people (the future of our town) to assemble with their placards and posters for the changes they seek. Over 60 people gathered in the rain with an array of posters and starting off with a three-year old who asked us to “help the hedgehogs”, we were treated to a wide range of inspiring soapbox speeches and demands. We then proceeded to the Guildhall for the official launch where the posters and placards were placed around the rooms to inspire the week’s deliberations and ideas.

The week closed with a day of celebration and public scrutiny. We invited attendees to express their views on the proposals and actions using different coloured dots: Gold, (Brilliant idea), Silver (very good), Green (it will work okay), Red (no thanks). Very few reds dots were used. After a delightful community lunch we enjoyed some innovative performance and celebratory singing, cake and fizz.

This event was highly successful and well attended including residents and Councillors from towns and parishes outside of Totnes too at the sessions and workshops. The outputs of the week, session by session is being typed up and this will inform a Draft Totnes Community Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Plan which will also include all the other proposals that have been put forward at other public events hosted in Totnes in response to the Declaration last December. This draft plan will be brought to the Town Council meeting in January for approval for 6-week public consultation and engagement.

**Totnes Travel Partnership.** The 106 monies from the redevelopment at Baltic Wharf which is now at 90% occupancy and due to trigger these monies for projects, are still under discussion. Regrettably, despite a number of useful meetings, the going forward with the draw-down of these monies to realise the well-made plans as previously agreed is yet to take place. I am anxious for the Green Travel Coordination role to be set up as soon as possible to benefit not only the new residents at Baltic Wharf but also the wider town. Additional monies for an increase in Bob the Bus services is part of this agreement. A further meeting with the developers to try and finalise this agreement and move forward is scheduled for this month.

**Attendance at meetings etc. as elected public representative:**

Fri. Nov.1<sup>st</sup> Addressed Chulston Grammer School 6<sup>th</sup> Form regarding impending election

Sunday Nov 3<sup>rd</sup> – Saturday Nov 9<sup>th</sup>: Totnes Town Council Climate & Ecological Emergency Action Planning week (see outline report above)

Mon Nov. 4<sup>th</sup> Totnes TC FC meeting

Mon Nov 11<sup>th</sup> Poems for Peace as part of TC Act of Remembrance  
SHDC opposition Group meeting with CE Sophie Hoskins

Tues 12<sup>th</sup> Nov Harberton PC meeting

Weds Nov 13<sup>th</sup> SHDC Waste Working Group  
KEVICCs Foundation Governor’s AGM  
Dartington PC meeting

Thurs Nov 14<sup>th</sup> DCC Devon Pension Fund Employers meeting (I attended on behalf of Totnes TC)  
Berry Pomeroy PC meeting

Fri Nov 15<sup>th</sup> DCC Highways meeting with officers and Councillors on site in Berry Pomeroy regarding True St & Blackpost Lane no right turn options. See report above

Mon Nov 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting about Totnes Skatepark with SHDC Officers & Totnes D.Cllrs  
Meeting with SHDC Place Making Officers and TC Officers regarding Totnes Town Centre plans

Weds Nov 20<sup>th</sup> Meeting with Dartington P.C. reps regarding tree planting proposals

Thurs Nov.21<sup>st</sup> Meeting with TC officers and private organisation to discuss Wayfaring & signage n Totnes

Sun Nov 24<sup>th</sup> Community Tree Planting event: 32 trees planting in Bridgetown and opening of Bridgetown Community Hall with Bridgetown Alive!

Mon Nov’25<sup>th</sup> Discussion with Environment Agency officer and Totnes TC Clerk regarding flood defences and emergency planning

- Weds Nov. 27<sup>th</sup> DCC DM Planning Committee: A Decision was taken to grant permission for Incinerator bottom ash (IBA) to be deposited, stored and screened for metals in a site in East Devon. This will include IBA from the Devonport Incinerator. I voted against this as I believe that IBA at Devonport should be processed on site to remove all metals properly (vitrification) to reduce the carbon footprint and dust that this proposal will cause.
- Totnes – Vire Twinning group AGM – they are seeking new people to get involved with the group and exchanges
- Thurs Nov 28<sup>th</sup> SHDC Special Full Council – agreed some changes to Polling Districts and Polling stations and to grant the title of Alderman to previous SHDC Leader John Tucker
- Fri Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> South Hams HATOC (Highways & Traffic Order Committee). Presentations on new programme of street works permits (due to be introduced next year) and delivering differently was provided. The committee was also informed that more monies had been made available to work on SWW drainage issues which will be addressed.
- Some decisions with outcomes for this division:
- The parking and waiting restrictions at Staverton Bridge were approved and double lines to prevent obstruction as previously agreed with the PC will be drawn up.
  - Resident’s parking restrictions at Cott Road to provide parking for residents at Spedding and Shinner’s Cottages has been agreed in principle and is being drawn up for public consultation.
  - Littlehempston – Totnes pedestrian and National Cycle path link was discussed: Compulsory purchase of the South Devon Steam Railway bridge over the river is to be investigated as this would enable the most economic route for this link.
- Sun Dec 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting with residents at Puddavine regarding dangerous pedestrian routes and speeds
- Mon Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> SHDC DM Planning Committee Site visits (none in this Ward)  
Meeting with Highways officers to discuss issues in my division: se report above
- Tues Dec 3<sup>rd</sup> Dartington Neighbourhood Plan – preparing for Regulation 14
- Weds Dec 4<sup>th</sup> SHDC DM Planning Committee – no applications in this Ward  
TRAYE (Totnes Rural Area Youth Engagement) project – interview for additional youth worker

**Diary Dates:**

- Thurs 5<sup>th</sup> December – Devon County Council Full Council meeting at 2.15pm  
 Weds 11<sup>th</sup> December – Devon County Council Cabinet meeting at 10.30am  
 Thurs 19<sup>th</sup> December – SHDC Executive at 10am followed by SHDC Full Council at 2pm