

Ordinary Meeting of Harberton Parish Council
Tuesday 10th January 2023
Item 12

12. Correspondence*

- 12.1. 20230106 Fuel vouchers for vulnerable households *For information* Cllrs are informed that an email has been circulated by Citizens Advice South Hams advising that it is able to provide cash payments to vulnerable households struggling to pay their fuel bills. Vouchers of up to £100 can be issued to any household that is able to demonstrate need. In a development from previous funding rounds Citizens Advice South Hams is now able to support households on prepayment meters and can support households on 'regular' or 'credit' meters, where the household has access to an email address and a smart phone. Households can accept this support by contacting Citizens Advice South Hams.
- 12.2. 20221207 Highways Parish & Town Council Newsletter - Winter 2022 *For information* The Clerk is forwarding the Highways Winter Newsletter to all cllrs in full (see below) giving updates on the snow warden scheme, grit bin and salt distribution, chapter 8 training and funding available to support small community road repairs. The Clerk has been in touch with Highways in order to open dialogue on how to successfully obtain training for snow and flood wardens and provide chapter 8 training for volunteers in the Parish.
- 12.3. **20221212 20221212 South Hams CVS** *For consideration* **Cllrs are forwarded the South Hams CVS annual report for 2022 and a request for funds to support their work with community groups in the region in 2023.**
- 12.4. 20221214 #58 2022 DALC E-bulletin *For information* Cllrs are informed that this issue includes the update that it has been confirmed that no council tax referendum principles for town and parish councils have been announced for 2023/24. Town and Parish Councils continue to have the flexibility to raise their precept without holding a referendum.
- 12.5. 20221219 Bus services changes for January 2023 *For information* The Parish Council has received an update on the change of services across Devon. None appear to relate to services affecting the Parish.
- 12.6. 20221220 Council Votes Unanimously to Adopt 100% Council Tax Premium on Second Homes *For information* Cllrs are informed by press release of the Council's decision to adopt a 100% Council Tax Second Homes Premium as soon as legislation allows. The press release refers to the District Council's housing crisis declaration of 2021, and to one of the resulting actions to lobby Government to allow local councils to be able to charge 200% Council Tax on second or holiday homes to ensure they contribute fairly towards the services they receive. Lobbying proved successful when in May 2022, the Government published the Levelling-Up and Regeneration Bill, which included proposals, aimed at addressing the negative impact of second homes on the supply of homes available to meet local housing need. The Bill proposes that councils will be allowed to introduce a Council Tax premium of up to 100% in respect of second homes, meaning second homes would pay double the amount of Council Tax for an area. The Bill is likely to become law from 1 April 2024 at the earliest.
- 12.7. 20221220 Tis the Season of Goodwill! TRAYE Donation Campaign *For information* Cllrs are informed of appeal for donations to support the work of the Totnes Rural Area Youth Engagement project. Private donations can be made through PayPal until February.
- 12.8. 20230104 Removal of Maltsters Arms from list of ACVs (Assets of Community Value) Cllrs are informed that solicitors acting on behalf of the owners of the Maltsters Arms contacted the Local Authority requesting removal of the Maltsters Arms from the List of Assets of Community Value. This prompted by the owners securing planning permission in July 2022 for change of use of the pub to residential (ref 0463/22/FUL). The requested removal on the basis that the community interest is not or will not be an option as a residential dwelling. The Local Authority has been advised that the landowner is intending to sell the property, to be sold as residential under change of use. Correspondence from the Local Authority Officer notes that having taken a look back at the history of the nomination, subsequent moratorium, and the 2022 planning application he has agreed to remove the pub from the list of ACVs – there not being a realistic prospect of community use of the asset continuing. The officer highlighted sections within the planning officer report supporting this decision that can be forwarded to cllrs on request. Added to these considerations, there was a full 6 month moratorium in 2019, during which there was no community bid for the asset. Accordingly, in the context of the challenges of any business/community use referenced above, the lack of community bid previously, and the secured planning permission for change of use, the removal of the asset from the ACV List is the correct way forward. The Local Authority will advise the Land Registry to cancel the ACV restriction against the property, and the land charges team will remove their restriction on their system.

South Hams CVS

1 message

Community Development @ South Hams CVS12 December 2022 at
12:27

To: [REDACTED]

Dear South Hams Parish & Town Councillors

I am writing to share with you the South Hams Community and Voluntary Services (SHCVS) Impact Report for the year 2021/22 (a more detailed version is available on request), which we hope you will find of interest, and to ask if your Parish / Town Council would consider providing a donation to SHCVS to support its services in 2023.

As a charity, we rely on funding to enable us to work with your community organisations and to help groups with advice on governance, funding and volunteering. We provide training, online forums and networking opportunities, and promote volunteering across the district. Our services enable people and communities to help themselves, through their organisations and the activities they provide. We also support individuals – signposting them to services and volunteering opportunities – or to turn community ideas into beneficial projects and groups.

Throughout the Covid pandemic SHCVS continued to provide this wide-ranging and highly-valued support. Currently, we are working to help groups deliver services around the cost of living crisis – not just disseminating information, but also targeting our support to work with communities on their projects. The cost of living crisis has also impacted our funding at a time when our services are really needed by new and existing community support groups. We would like to do more to help support your communities and groups in many other key areas of need, for example those identified by our social prescribers, who work with your GP practices, which include volunteering (particularly post-Covid), transport to social activities and befriending for our lonely and vulnerable residents.

In 2018 South Hams district had 790 voluntary community and social enterprise organisations, and we estimate there to be around 8,000 recognised volunteers in the South Hams, a substantial number of people on which so many crucial services depend. Please do not hesitate to contact us if you would like any further information about our work, and you can also find information on our website www.southhamscvs.org.uk.

Many of you have enabled our work to continue through regular donations, and we thank you warmly for the support provided. This is an essential source of funding to SHCVS. We would like to do more to support your local community groups and we hope very much that your Parish /Town Council might be able to consider making a contribution to help our valuable work in 2023.

Please don't hesitate to contact myself, Susannah Hunter, the new CO of SHCVS – email: susannah@southhamscvs.org.uk – or my colleague Jackie Wesley, our new Community Groups Development Officer – communitydevelopment@southhamscvs.org.uk – for any information or advice.

Yours sincerely

Susannah Hunter

Chief Officer

South Hams CVS – *supporting community groups, charities and voluntary organisations to flourish.*

W: www.southhamscvs.org.uk



DIARY DATES

Supporting health and social care: *not for profit & statutory organisations are invited to attend:*

Erme & Yealm Area Caring Alliance meetings 10am – 12.30pm (Face to face or Zoom)

Tuesday 13 December

Kingsbridge and District Caring Alliance meetings 10am - 12.30pm – (Zoom)

Wednesday 14 December

<https://devonconnect.org/south-hams-and-west-devon>

Your community hub for South Hams and West Devon. Here you can make connections, share information and access opportunities within your local community.

 **SOUTH HAMS CVS narrative.pdf**
329K



Our work during 2021-22

As with the previous year, April 2021 to March 2022 was dominated by the Covid-19 pandemic and its repercussions.

Like other community and voluntary groups across the South Hams district, SHCVS has had to respond to the changing environment, helping groups to find ways of adapting to local needs, so they are able to help more people, especially the most vulnerable and isolated.

While responding to the changes, we have maintained our core services. These ongoing pressures have made our services more important than ever.

We have worked with many individuals and partners to help support new initiatives, including:

- Support to establish a climate and biodiversity networking group which became Sustainable South Hams and has become a vibrant community support network.
- Support to South Dartmoor Community Energy – Redress project to reach more people.
- The development of home help and hospital discharge support services.
- Work with Devon Partnership Trust to establish monthly drop-ins supporting VCSE organisations and others supporting people with mental health issues.

More information on our work is shown on the next page.

Throughout the pandemic and with the ongoing cost of living crisis, SHCVS has continued to be a voice for the voluntary and community sector to engage with and influence the work of our public sector partners.

South Hams Community and Voluntary Services (SHCVS) is a registered charity and company limited by guarantee. It was established in 1995 as a membership organisation.

For over 25 years we have been working to serve voluntary and community organisations—of which there are around 800 in the South Hams.

In early 2021, SHCVS developed a new Strategic Plan for 2021-2024, which provides the overarching framework to guide our work. This plan has been informed by the views of the groups we support and draws on the findings of a 2021 survey of South Hams voluntary and community groups.

Find this and more information at southhamscvs.org.uk.



“ South Hams CVS played a key role in advising and supporting the unique project of Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm. Building on that success, it continues to support and advise the Four Rivers Dementia Alliance, promoting inclusive dementia-friendly communities across the parishes around Ivybridge and with Ivybridge Town Council. ”

Liz Hitchens, Chairman, Four Rivers Dementia Alliance and Dementia Friendly Parishes around the Yealm. Brixton Parish Councillor.

Highlights of our work during 2021-22

40

We provided more than 40 voluntary and community social enterprise (VCSE) organisations with one-to-one development support and advice.

More than 150 people were supported to access community resources by SHCVS Social Prescribing link workers.

150

122

We held 12 training events with 122 people attending, benefitting more than 60 VCSE organisations.

Support was provided to VCSE organisations to recruit and support volunteers. More than 35 VCSE organisations received one-to-one support in promoting their volunteering opportunities.

35

150

Over 150 VCSE organisations received regular bulletins, updates and newsletters providing information, including through resources on the Devon Voluntary Action (DeVA) website.

More than 60 organisations benefitted from SHCVS networking opportunities.

60

Highways Parish & Town Council Newsletter - Winter 2022

1 message

Devon County Council <DevonCountyCouncil@public.govdelivery.com>

7 December 2022 at 09:35

Reply-To: DevonCountyCouncil@public.govdelivery.com

To: clerk@harbertonparishcouncil.org

<https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/UKDEVONCC/bulletins/33a7c82>



Welcome to the Winter 2022 edition of our Roadmap newsletter

It was good to meet many representatives of Parish and Town Councils at the Devon Association of Local Councils conference in October. I hope between the Highway, Traffic and Transport Officers in attendance we were able to answer the issues you raised. Feedback I have received indicated that the workshop on traffic speed was informative and helpful.



As you will see below, our plans for the winter gritting service are all in place, and at the time of writing this article the first few nights of action have been completed successfully. I know many of your councils participate in our Snow Warden scheme; your support is appreciated. Please let us know if your Warden has changed or contact details need updating.

As you will be aware, there are unprecedented budget pressures in local government across the country. Inflation has created a huge pressure on delivering the current highway programmes. There has been increases in material costs, fuel, and supplier labour costs. The programmes of work have had to be reduced to accommodate this. This will mean some of the work originally planned has been reprioritised and will be considered for delivery against the needs already identified for next year.

On a positive note, I am pleased to be able to share that a further £150,000 has been secured for a further tranche of 20 mph speed limit schemes in 2023/24. It is anticipated that 6 further communities could benefit from new 20mph limits with this additional funding. We will be inviting any communities that have not already submitted expressions of interest in our first tranche to do so shortly.

Wishing you all a safe and healthy festive season.

Tony Matthews

Neighbourhood Highway Group Manager



Important updates



New Stakeholder Relations Officers

We are pleased to announce that we have two new Stakeholder Relations Officers to liaise with Parish and Town Councils across the county.

Caroline Anderson covers the North, East and Exeter areas and Phil Durrant covers the South, West and Teign areas.

Some of you will already have received information from Caroline and Phil, as it is part of their remit to inform and liaise with parishes regarding roadworks and schemes, normally three to four weeks in advance of works starting. They will also communicate with businesses who may be affected by individual schemes. If your residents have specific enquiries, they should still report via them via our Customer Contact Centre.



Caroline and Phil are looking forward to getting to know you and working together.

Winter Service

Our Winter Service period officially started on the 15th October and will run through to the 15th April. This is the period in which our gritters may treat the primary salting network. We currently have a good stock of salt and all of our gritters have been serviced and calibrated.

For details on how winter service and emergency operations are managed please see our Winter Service Plan.



Funding news

Highway Community Enhancement Fund (HMCEF)

Did you know that you can apply to our HMCEF fund for financial assistance for minor maintenance projects in your community?

Applications can also be submitted for equipment to support your communities during the winter months. Funding has previously been granted for the purchase of additional grit bins and a salt/gritter dispenser. For further information please visit our webpages.



We have been completing some housekeeping exercises and you may have been contacted to provide historical paperwork, such as expenditure forms, case studies and photographs. These documents were and continue to be a condition of funding. See our webpage for published case studies here.

Signing, Lighting & Guarding Training (chapter 8)

We have funded traffic management training for representatives from many town and parish councils. Please note that Signing, Lighting and Guarding qualifications expire after 5 years. Please check your certificated candidates to ensure they are not working on the highway unqualified. If you need to arrange training, please email communityselfhelp@devon.gov.uk.



Snow Wardens

Thank you to you and the members of your community who give up their valuable free time to volunteer to support the work that we do.

If you are a new snow warden or an existing snow warden and you would like to update your details, please complete our form. If you would like us to remove your details from our Snow Warden register, please email communityselfhelp@devon.gov.uk explaining that you no longer wish to take part in the scheme.

Online winter training videos for Snow Wardens are now available. Please email communityselfhelp@devon.gov.uk to sign up for training. A name and personal email address to set up an e-learning account with us. If you have an existing account, please provide the name and address used to create your account.

Grit bins

Please advise us of any empty or damaged grit bins, or any with contents that are unusable, via our report a problem page. You do not need to wait until grit bins are empty; please let us know when supplies are running low.



Free allocation of salt

We provide up to five tonnes of free salt/grit to town councils and four tonnes of free salt/grit to parish councils. You must be part of our Snow Warden Scheme to request this salt. If you would like to make a request you can do so via our website here.

If you would like to purchase additional salt, please email communityselfhelp@devon.gov.uk.

Please ensure that you store your salt in a suitable dry storage area, protected from watercourses. Salt supplies should be kept away from children and pets.



Snow Plans

If you are signed up to our Snow Warden scheme, is your Snow Plan up to date? Please ensure that you share it with your Neighbourhood Highway Officer.



Snow plans should include:

- What areas your town or parish will prioritise during severe weather
- What resources you have available to respond to severe weather
- Snow Warden's contact details
- Volunteer details
- Link(s) to emergency plans where they exist

When considering areas of local priority during severe weather we would like to encourage parish and town councils to use their resources on the public highway only (including footways and footpaths), but not areas treated by the county council as part of the defined salting network. You can check whether a road is on our salting network by checking our map.

Devon
Highways

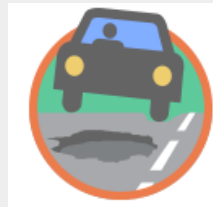
Useful links

Parish and Town Council webpages

To view previous copies of Roadmap and for other useful information and links please visit our Parish & Town Council webpages. If you have any feedback please advise the Highway Services Team.

Report a problem

We have a dedicated, customer friendly, webpage designed to allow members of the public to log a variety of problems, such as hazardous trees or fallen trees, potholes, blocked drains and debris etc. Many local Councils post a link to this page on their own website, both as a useful service to their community but also to direct members of the public to the correct Council.



Please be aware we do not accept reports from 'fix my street' as they often do not provide enough information to be able to accurately locate or assess an issue.



Flood Risk Management

For information on protecting communities and improving resilience please visit our Flood Risk Management webpages.

One Network



One.network (formerly roadworks.org) enables you to find out what roadworks are going on in your area and you can sign up to automatic alerts.

We also create dedicated webpages for works which are likely to impact those travelling on our network. These are available to view [here](#).

0345 155 1004

csc.roads@devon.gov.uk

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