

13. Correspondence

- 13.1. 20231116 South Hams Community Action: Request for support *For consideration* Cllrs are informed that the Parish Council has received the annual reports for South Hams Community Action (formerly South Hams CVS) for the year 2022/23 and a request for the Parish Council to consider providing a donation to support the organisation's services in 2024. South Hams Community Action is a charity that relies on funding to enable its work with local community organisations and to help groups with advice on governance, funding and volunteering. The organisation also provides training, advice and information sessions, and promote volunteering across the district. The covering letter comments that many voluntary and community groups offer a wide-reaching role to support community wellbeing by providing activities and support, not just for lonely and vulnerable residents but for the wider community. South Hams Community Action would like to do more to help support local communities and groups in many other key areas of need. This includes volunteer recruitment and training, fundraising support and advice, transport to social activities and befriending for our lonely and vulnerable residents of all age groups. It would also like to build its team to offer more one-to-one support to residents.
- 13.2. 20231116 Planning Training for Town & Parish Councils *For consideration* Cllrs are informed that following requests, South Hams District Council has arranged planning training for interested Town and Parish Councillors on Wednesday 24th January. There will be two sessions: 4.00pm to 5.30pm: 'The Planning Process'; and 5.30pm to 7.00pm: 'Development Management'. Both sessions will be 'chaired' by the Chairman of SHDC's Development Management Committee, Cllr Mark Long, and will be held remotely over MS Teams. As a result, there will be no restrictions on the number of attendees. A Teams meeting link will be provided once RSVPs have been collated.
- 13.3. 20231117 Devon County Council: Connect me news update *For information* Cllrs are informed that this e-bulletin includes news that the Government has confirmed plans to finalise a ground-breaking Devolution Deal with Devon and Torbay. Which means that, subject to negotiations, Devon and Torbay will be given a wide ranging package of powers and funding transferred from Whitehall to local government. More information can be found on the [Devon County Council's website](#) (html).
- 13.4. 20231117 #51 2023 DALC E-bulletin *For information* Cllrs are informed that this e-bulletin includes a recording from the most recent 'Connect Event' which focused on Devolution Deals and how a deal with central government could benefit Devon's communities. As Devon was one of nine areas invited to take part in the Government's 'levelling up' programme Devon County Council's Programme Manager, Phill Adams, provided an update us on the current status of a Deal for Devon and meeting participants were able to ask questions and discuss the powers and funding likely to come from a Deal, and how a Deal will be governed locally through a Combined County Authority. A [link to the recording is provided for Councillors wishing to find out more](#) (html).
- 13.5. 20231124 Renaming of AONBs to National Landscapes *For information* Cllrs are informed that On Wednesday 22nd November AONBs were renamed National Landscapes. The press release comments this is a significant milestone for the UK and the next step in fully realising the National Landscape's vision to be the leading exemplars of how thriving, diverse communities can work with and for nature in the UK: restoring ecosystems, providing food, storing carbon to mitigate the effects of climate change, safeguarding against drought and flooding, whilst also nurturing people's health and wellbeing. More information can be found at www.national-landscapes.org.uk (html)
- 13.6. 20231127 Council Helping Residents With Their Energy Costs *For information* The Parish Council has been informed by press release that SHDC is helping households across the District improve the energy efficiency of their home and is encouraging residents to check whether they are eligible for an upgrade to their current heating systems and insulation. Residents who can benefit will have a combined gross household income of less than £31k each year, and are also living in the most poorly performing properties as measured by their Energy Performance (EPC) (D-G properties): and are not heated from the gas grid. Lower income households could save between £220 and £400 a year on energy bills. Households who think they may be eligible for the scheme can find out more at www.southhams.gov.uk/hug2
- 13.7. 20231128 Notification of Road Closure – Work Ref LM212MB10457630A on Bow Road, Harbertonford *For information* Cllrs are informed that South West Water has applied for a road closure to complete utility works outside number 1 to outside number 17 Bow Road. These works, will take place between 29/02/2024 and 04/03/2024. A helpline number has been provided should further information be required. The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via - Bow Road, Old Road, Luscombe towards Harbertonford, Luscombe Cross to Painsford Cross, Painsford Cross to Bow Road along Zc322, Bow Road and vice versa.
- 13.8. 20231129 #53 2023 DALC E-bulletin *For information* Cllrs are informed that this bulletin includes a link to a blog from DALC's County Officer, Cara Stobart, providing some thought-provoking insight into

balancing financial responsibility and community investment, in the context of financial pressure faced by principal authorities and the uncapped precept of parish and town councils. The Clerk will share the news blog with members of the Finance Committee ahead of the 2024/25 annual budget meeting.

- 13.9. 20231129 Temporary Traffic Order - A381, Harberton (TTRO2454267) *For information* Cllrs are informed of a road closure on the A381, Harbertonford between 12th February 2024 to Friday 22nd March 2024 to enable resurfacing and drainage work with pedestrian crossing. The alternative, signed, route for vehicles will be via - A381 southbound, A379 towards Modbury, A3121 via Ermington, Ugborough, A38 Via Brent Cross, A385, A381.
- 13.10. 20231201 The Freeport is on Track Following Review *For information* The Parish Council has been informed via press release that the District Council has undertaken a thorough review into the risks and opportunities of the Plymouth and Devon Freeport and has come to the conclusion that the Freeport has the potential to benefit residents in the South Hams. A report by an Audit and Governance group at South Hams District Council also made several recommendations to manage any possible risks. The report acknowledged that concern had been expressed by some residents, therefore there is greater need for a programme of communication and engagement within the community. The review recognised the importance and scale of the projects as well as the positive impacts it would have for the region. South Hams Council, a founder member of the Freeport alongside Plymouth City and Devon County Council, will be focusing on improvements to the environment, the green economy with ethical, inclusive and sustainable opportunities for small businesses, and well-paid employment within the South Hams area of the Freeport.
- 13.11. **20231205 Notice and invitation to TRAYE project Steering Group meeting Fri.15.12.23 @3pm** *For consideration* Two representatives of the Parish Council have been invited to attend the next meeting of the TRAYE steering group at 3pm on Friday 15th December 2023. An agenda has been provided along with a draft Service Level Agreement between TRAYE and Parish Councils that will be discussed at the meeting.