

Quick links

- Blackdown Hills AONB
- Campaign to Protect Rural England: Devon
- Community Council of Devon
- Department for Communities and Local Government
- Devon & Cornwall Police & Crime Commissioner
- District Councils' Network
- East Devon AONB
- EDDC Countryside Service
- EDVSA (East Devon Volunteer Support Agency)
- Exeter and East Devon Growth Point
- Government Business Newsletter
- Grants and funding
- Jurassic Coast
- Jurassic Coast Trust
- Local Government Association
- Rural Services Network
- Rural Services Network – East Devon Profile
- South West Councils' News

Meetings

Please note meetings shaded pink are **NOT** open to the public

Where ➤ is shown – click the name of the meeting to link to the agenda

Meeting	DSO	Date	Time	Location
Joint Think Tank on Sustainable Development (all Councillors invited)		Monday 2 February	15:00	Committee Room
Leisure East Devon Joint Working Group	CL	Tuesday 3 February	16:30	POSTPONED until 24 February
➤ STRATA Joint Executive Committee	DV	Tuesday 3 February	17:30	Civic Centre Exeter
➤ Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Wednesday 4 February	09:30	Council Chamber
➤ Handy Person Scheme Task & Finish Forum	CL	Friday 6 February	09:30	Council Chamber
Refuse & Recycling Partnership Board	AC	Friday 6 February	09:30	Greendale (Sita site)
➤ Development Management Committee	HW	Tuesday 10 February	14:00	Council Chamber
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Wednesday 11 February	09:30	NOT REQUIRED
Economy Think Tank		Wednesday 11 February	16:00	Room 1
Cabinet	DV	Wednesday 11 February	17:30	Council Chamber
Asset Management Forum	CL	Thursday 12 February	09:30	Committee Room
Environmental Think Tank (Thelma Hulbert Gallery)	AC	Friday 13 February	09:30	Meet Thelma Hulbert Gallery
Arts & Culture Forum	AC	Friday 13 February	11:30	Thelma Hulbert Gallery

Consultation

Devon County Council is launching a consultation on proposals to cut £1.7 million from its annual public transport budget over the next two financial years:

<https://new.devon.gov.uk/publictransportbudget/>

Contact us:

knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk

Democratic Services Officers

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Amanda Coombes 01395 517543

Chris Lane 01395 517544

Debbie Meakin 01395 517540

Hannah Whitfield 01395 517542

EDDC news

➤ Read the latest news

➤ Wildlife gardening at the Wetlands



➤ Council and Bicton College form Countryside Management partnership

➤ Birdwatching for Children with Ian Waite



➤ Lymptone to hold planning referendum

➤ Keeping tenants safe with 3,200 gas checks every year

➤ 'Affluent' East Devon has its share of people with debt problems

➤ Spread the word about National Voter Registration Day on 5 February



Portfolio Holders' decisions

Decisions by Portfolio Holder

Environment

Iain Chubb

Price increases for boat and winch registration

The Council registers 50 winches and 140 boats that are sited on the Council's beaches. Charges are due for their annual review on 1 April 2015; the report sets out the proposed changes. The current charge for a boat licence is £74.80 and a winch licence is £77.00.

Boats on beaches are a traditional part of East Devon and we do not want to discourage them; we just need to regulate them so that we can remove unseaworthy boats and keep the beaches safe and attractive.

Agreed:

For 2015-16, annual boat registration should be increased from £74.80 to £77.00

Annual winch registration should be kept at £77.00

Environment

Iain Chubb

Price increases for beach huts and beach hut sites 2015

The report sets out proposed price increases for beach huts and beach hut sites for the forthcoming season/ financial year 2015. The proposals as outlined will assist the Council in continuing to maximise its income levels, through realistic rental charges that are affordable to the general public.

Agreed:

1. A price increase of 2% in line with inflation (November 2014) to beach hut and beach hut sites be implemented in accordance with the body of this full Portfolio Holder report.
2. To extend the season in Budleigh Salterton, Seaton and Sidmouth until 31 October 2015 at no extra cost.

Environment

Iain Chubb

Price increases for Sidmouth allotments 2016-17

The report sets out any proposed price increases for Sidmouth allotments for the season October 2016 to September 2017. Sidmouth allotments are billed from 1 October to 30 September. Other allotments in East Devon are either private or are administered by town or parish councils. Current contractual considerations allow that the tenant be given 12 months' notice of any proposed increase in rent. An increase is already in line for 2015-16.

2014/15	2015/16	Proposed 2016/17
£7.20 per 25 sqm & water	£7.45 per 25 sqm & water	£7.70 per 25 sqm & water

Agreed:

The proposed increase of 1p per square metre in the pricing of allotments and that the water charge be increased by £1: up to 100sqm = £6.00, 101-200sqm = £11.00 and over 200sqm = £21.00. This will cover future water price increases.

Further details: Andrew Hancock, StreetScene Lead, 01395 571611

Minutes

Housing Review Board

➤ 15 January 2015

Overview & Scrutiny Committee

➤ 22 January 2015

Environment

Iain Chubb

Price increases for events 2015/2016

The report sets out the proposed price increases for booking of events on EDDC owned land. Any price increases are required to cover some of the expenses of providing these services and to recoup expenditure where no income is received. It is felt that the charges for small scale events (non profit/charity) should be kept at £30 but to increase the charge for sporting and commercial events. It is also felt that some free events should be allowed for special causes and very small scale events. The recommendation is to make this a more realistic fee in line with other authorities. It is felt that the current charges for other events are at a reasonable level.

Agreed:

To keep basic event charges at £30 per booking for most events and change the payment structure so as to increase revenue across the board. Further details are available in [last week's issue of The Knowledge](#).

Environment

Iain Chubb

Price increases for sports pitches 2015

The report sets out the proposed price increase for the following sports pitches: Withycombe, Exmouth; Sidford, Sidmouth.

It is necessary to cover some of the costs associated with the provision of sport pitches (administration, general maintenance such as grass cutting, marking out and cleaning / maintenance of changing rooms) – we therefore need to maintain current charges. The idea is to encourage more usage of our pitches rather than to generate a huge amount of income.

Agreed:

That a price increase be applied to season tickets only by RPI 2%, and to keep individual match prices the same. Further details are available in [last week's issue of The Knowledge](#).

The above decisions will become effective on 5 February at 9.00am unless "called in". The published procedure for a "call-in" is on pages 144 -146 of the Council Constitution, or contact Democratic Services for assistance or explanation.

In the press

➤ Drivers claim a pothole payout every 11 minutes



Motorists make a compensation claim for pothole damage to their vehicles every 11 minutes, figures reveal. Nearly 50,000 drivers made claims against councils costing millions of pounds in the last financial year, according to a report by the RAC Foundation. The motoring group questioned how the government could be spending £50 billion on the controversial HS2 high-speed rail project when councils face a £12 billion backlog of road repairs. The LGA's

Transport Spokesman Cllr Peter Box said: "We need long-term funding to tackle the ever-growing £12 billion roads repair backlog facing the nation. Our fear is that another harsh winter could be the tipping point for our roads."

What's on



- Thelma Hulbert Gallery
- Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth
- Exmouth Pavilion
- The Gateway, Seaton
- The Beehive, Honiton
- Countryside events

➤ Council to cut rates for firms paying the living wage

Brent Council hopes to become the first in Britain to offer business rate discounts to companies that pay the living wage. The council plans to offer as much as £5,000 off for the biggest employers signing up to the voluntary pay rate, which is £9.15 an hour in London, compared with a national minimum wage of £6.50 an hour.

➤ Tailor benefits to match local needs and costs

Citizen's Advice are to call for Britain's welfare system to be radically reformed to allow different rates of benefits across the country. It said the national welfare budget should be devolved to local councils who would be allocated funds based on working-age population and levels of population.

➤ We're sleepwalking into CCTV Britain: Surveillance tsar also says many cameras don't even stop crime

Britain is sleepwalking towards a surveillance society because of the proliferation of CCTV cameras, the UK's surveillance tsar Tony Porter has said. The nation's privacy is being increasingly invaded, but many of the cameras are doing nothing to stop crime or keep the public safe, he added. The LGA said town halls consult residents, businesses and police on whether CCTV is appropriate in an area, and operate in accordance with the code of practice. A spokesman said "Councils are not going to spend money on CCTV cameras unless they genuinely believe they will work. Many are actually scaling back CCTV operations."



➤ Care spend 'cut by fifth in decade'

Spending on care for people aged 65 and over has fallen by a fifth in England over the last 10 years, analysis by the BBC shows. It comes as the BBC launched its Cost of Care project, which includes an online guide to how care works, and what it costs. The LGA said councils have done their best to protect social care spending, but a 40% cut to budgets across this parliament meant "difficult decisions" have had to be made.



➤ Companies report 'no interest in care insurance'

There are no plans for any insurance products to help people plan ahead for their care needs in old age, leading companies have told the BBC. Creating such a market was one of the key aims underpinning the Government's decision to introduce a cap on care costs from next year. Ministers hoped insurance policies would be offered to people so they could make small payments in the decades before they reached the age when they needed care. But 17 major companies said there was not enough interest in such policies.

➤ 20mph zones on the rise



Speed limits of 20mph are becoming the norm on residential streets and town centres across Britain despite concerns that the zones are a waste of money and add to urban clutter. Bristol, Edinburgh, Norwich, Leicester and parts of London are the latest in a long line of areas to cut limits on hundreds of roads in an attempt to reduce accidents and cut pollution.

Female blackbird in the snow
Photo by Peter Vernon



Democratic Services produces this weekly information sheet every Friday for Members of East Devon District Council. Please contact **Diana Vernon** if you have any comments about the newsletter.