

PARISH COUNCIL REPORT - APRIL 2021

EAST BUDLEIGH COMMUNITY SHOP

The shop is doing very well; sales are slightly up compared to the same time last year, although the surplus is slightly reduced as the shop is holding back on a number of price rises. The average sale was up from £5.52 to £6.59 last month. Footfall is steady around 3,200 per month. Free deliveries are still available to order on weekday mornings.

VILLAGE HALL

The Annual General Meeting will take place on 27th April. Chris Dearsley will be standing down as Chair, and Joe Murphy will assume the interim role. Nick James and Sam Houston will be joining the Trustees. The hall is starting to reopen for appropriate groups, and the Village Information Point should re-open on 17th May. I have started some refurbishment work, in advance of installing a new bookcase/display stand for the book exchange and other initiatives, funded by the Parish Council.

DEVON CLIMATE EMERGENCY COUNCIL SUPPORT NETWORK

I attended an online meeting of the Devon Council Climate Network on 7th April which had 104 people registered; individuals, community groups, town/parish and district/county councillors. This was to look at ways of building a network to inform and support the Devon Carbon Plan when the final version is published.

I would encourage colleagues to read the Interim Devon Carbon Plan on the Devon Climate Emergency Website, which also has links to a very wide range of resources and information.

It would be good for the Parish Council to sign up to the Devon Climate Declaration, which is reproduced below.

COUNCILLOR ADVOCATE SCHEME (Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner)

No reports or information received, this month.

RECREATION GROUND

I have been checking the recreation ground on a daily basis as usual. Unfortunately I found and cleared two dog faeces (and three fox faeces) this month – and have picked up three dog faeces around the village. I understand the Football Club found one (not identified) on their pitch inspection two weeks ago. I have also cleared quite a lot of litter and footballers' tape.

Cllr. John Tresidder.

DEVON CLIMATE DECLARATION

1. This Declaration has been prepared by a consortium of public, private and voluntary organisations collaborating through a Devon Climate Emergency Response Group. It sets out an ambition to tackle climate change that covers all of Devon, including those people who live, work in and visit our county, and those businesses who are based or operate here.
2. We are aware of the significant implications of climate change for Devon's communities; it is already affecting our environment, infrastructure, economy and health & wellbeing. If not addressed, the impact on future generations will be profound and the ability to meet the United Nation's Sustainable Development Goals will be severely compromised.
3. We understand that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) has advised that carbon emissions must reduce globally by at least 45% by 2030 from 2010 levels and reach net-zero by 2050 if we are to avoid the worst effects of climate change by keeping warming below 1.5 degrees.
4. We will lead in the global response to climate change through our collective action, innovation and influence.
5. Individually, we will review (within 6 months) our plans to reduce our organisation's carbon emissions to meet or exceed these targets, including ensuring the people we do business with are doing the same. We will publicly report our carbon emissions annually in accessible formats.
6. In collaboration, we will engage Devon's residents, businesses and visitors to develop and implement a plan to facilitate the reduction of Devon's production and consumption emissions to meet IPCC recommendations at the latest. We will openly report progress on its delivery. We know this transformational change will be challenging and will include:
 - Deploying more renewable, decentralised and smart energy systems
 - Retrofitting energy-efficiency measures into our existing buildings
 - Constructing zero-carbon new buildings
 - Travelling less and using improved walking, cycling and public transport infrastructure more often, and using electric and hydrogen vehicles
 - Changing our consumption to use less, re-use more and choose low-carbon options
 - Challenging all economic sectors to review their practices and the values of those they do business with
 - Divesting from fossil fuels
 - Changing our dietary patterns and reducing food waste
 - Changing agricultural practices to reduce emissions associated with farming operations, manage soils sustainably and replenish soil carbon
 - Encouraging carbon storage such as through tree planting, the use of wood in construction and peatland restoration
 - Empowering the people of Devon with the knowledge and skills to act collectively.
7. Additionally, we will work to understand the near-term and future risks of climate change for Devon to plan for how our infrastructure, public services and communities will have to adapt for a 1.5-degree warmer world.
8. Local organisations and communities cannot do this alone as the national government plays a key role in many of the policy areas that are vital to reducing emissions and adapting to climate change. We call on the government to prioritise decarbonisation and adaptation within decision making and work with us by using its powers to provide the resources and funding necessary to accelerate the transition to a low-carbon and resilient economy and society.
9. We challenge every organisation, business, community and individual to do the same.