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## > EDDC News

## New documents in the Members' Area

Devon County Agricultural Association – Agenda and associated papers for meeting on 28 March 2011 (Outside Bodies)

Contact us:  
knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk

**Democratic Services Officers**  
 Diana Vernon 01395 517541  
 Christopher Holland 01395 517543  
 Chris Lane 01395 517544  
 Debbie Meakin 01395 517540  
 Alethea Thompson 01395 517525  
 Hannah Whitfield 01395 517542

## Meetings

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

Meeting	DSO	Date	Time	Location
> <a href="#">Licensing &amp; Enforcement Sub Committee</a>	CL	Tuesday 5 April	9.30am	Council Chamber
> <a href="#">Development Management Committee</a>	HW	Tuesday 5 April	2.00pm	Council Chamber
Office Accommodation Working Party	CL	Wednesday 6 April	6.00pm	Room 1
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Tuesday 12 April	9.30am	CANCELLED
Asset Management Forum	CL	Wednesday 13 April	9.30am	CANCELLED
Member Champion meeting	DV	Wednesday 13 April	5pm	Members' Area
COUNCIL	DV	Wednesday 13 April	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Planning Inspections Committee	HW	Friday 15 April	TBA	Council Chamber

## Executive Board decisions

Members are notified of decisions from the Executive Board meeting held on 30 March 2011. Please click on the following link to read the minutes of the meeting:

[www.eastdevon.gov.uk/eb\\_mins\\_300311.pdf](http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk/eb_mins_300311.pdf)

The Executive Board decisions will become effective on **7 April 2011** at 9.00am unless "called in". The published procedure for a "call in" is on pages 137-139 of the Council Constitution, or contact Democratic Services for assistance or explanation. Recommendations by the Executive Board to Council are not subject to "call in".

## LG Knowledge



### > The changing NHS: promoting health and preventing illness?

It has been dubbed the biggest reorganisation in the history of the NHS. Under the Government's reforms for England, much of the health budget will be handed to GPs working in consortia. Public health will become the remit of local government, as will setting up health and wellbeing boards. So what of the NHS in this brave new world; and will the emphasis now be on prevention instead of cure? Read a collection of viewpoints captured at a recent Service Delivery and Organisation Network conference.

### > LG Group Budget briefing 2011

Local government has recently been handed one of the toughest settlements across the public sector. Formula grant (excluding police grant) is being cut by 12% next year, yet cost pressures in areas such as adult social care and children's protection, will continue to rise. Access the LG Group's analysis on the Budget and find out what the salient financial issues will be for your council.

## Chairman's engagements

### Friday 1st April

Chairman and Mrs Liverton attending Fine Foundation Beer Cliff Display, Beer.

### Monday 4 April

Chairman to host a retirement reception for Bob Fulthorpe in the Members' Area at Noon.

Chairman and Vice Chairman to meet with Axminster TC and be taken on a tour of Axminster.

### Wednesday 6 April

Chairman and Mrs Liverton attending reception at the Public Hall, Budleigh Salterton at 7.30pm

### > LG Group backs campaign to widen internet access for all

The LG Group has given its support to a scheme which aims for the UK to become the first nation where everyone has access to the web. Read how the LG Group has signed up to become an official partner to Race Online 2012 – the campaign group led by the Government's UK Digital Champion Martha Lane Fox. As a partner the LG Group will be instrumental in explaining the key role councils will play in networking the nation.

### > Will social media change the landscape for local councillors?

Are you a passionate tweeter or a social media sceptic? Cornwall Councillor Jeremy Rowe explains how blogging and using Twitter changed his life by helping him to engage with his constituents.

It may also be helpful to read the following news item:

## Twitter libel: Caerphilly councillor pays rival £3,000



The High Court in Cardiff has awarded damages to a town councillor in what is reported to be the first libel action in the UK resulting from comments posted on *Twitter*. The action involved two rival politicians who were both standing for election to Caerphilly county council in a by-election in 2009. During the by-election, Colin Elsbury, the Plaid Cymru candidate, claimed on his *Twitter* page that Eddie Talbot, standing as an independent, had been removed from a polling station by the police. Mr Talbot argued that the statement was untrue and defamatory. At the hearing, Mr Elsbury reportedly agreed to pay Mr Talbot £3,000 in compensation, to publish an apology on his *Twitter* site, and to pay Mr Talbot's legal costs.

This case demonstrates the need to be very careful when writing about other people on *Twitter* and other social networking online forums.

Source: <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-wales-south-east-wales-12704955>

## Have your say on libraries



Devon County Council wants to know how residents will use the County's libraries in the future in a bid to maximise access to services across all 50 of its branches. An public consultation has started to ask residents how and when they use libraries and what ideas they have to ensure the buildings could be better used by communities for other purposes. The Council wants to match local opening hours to demand, to ensure that areas of similar populations have more equal service and to make sure resources are focused on busier times so people can access services when they need them most.

To complete the survey go to: <https://www.devon.gov.uk/librarysurvey2011>. All responses must be received by Devon County Council by **7 May 2011**.



Sidmouth at low tide ♦ Photo by Chris Berrett

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.