

The Knowledge



Two arches at Ladram Bay at the start of the 20th Century

Meeting	DSO	Date	Time	Location
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Tuesday 8 September	9.30am	Council Chamber
Asset Management Forum	CL	Wednesday 9 September	9.30am	Committee Room
Exeter International Airport Consultative Group	CL	Wednesday 9 September	2.15pm	Exeter Airport
Overview/Scrutiny - Service Delivery/ Performance Committee	CEH	Wednesday 9 September	6.30pm	Postponed until 24 September
Housing Review Board	AT	Thursday 10 September	6.30pm	Council Chamber
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Tuesday 15 September	9.30am	Council Chamber
Special meeting of the Development Management Committee	CEH	Tuesday 15 September	2pm	Seaton Town Hall
Manor Pavilion Theatre Management Steering Committee	HJ	Tuesday 15 September	6pm	Committee Room
Assessment & Hearings Sub/Review Sub Committee	CEH	Wednesday 16 September	9am	
Overview/Scrutiny – Communities Committee	RP	Wednesday 16 September	6.30pm	Council Chamber

Democratic Services Officers:

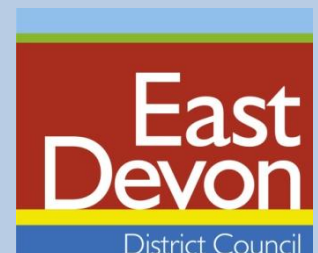
Diana Vernon 01395 517541	Christopher Holland 01395 517543	Hannah Jarvis 01395 517542	Chris Lane 01395 517544	Debbie Meakin 01395 517540	Rachel Perram 01395 517542	Alethea Thompson 01395 517540
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4 September 2009

This week in The Knowledge

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Council Offices
Knowle
Sidmouth
EX10 9BL

www.eastdevon.gov.uk

Meetings (continued)

Would Councillors please pass their apologies to Democratic Services whenever they are unable to attend a meeting so that post can be sent or withheld as appropriate. Please don't forget to check your pigeon holes whenever you are visiting Knowle.

If you would like a copy of the papers relating to any of the above meetings, please contact the relevant Democratic Services Officer. (All the above meetings are at Knowle, unless otherwise specified).

Click [here](#) to view agendas and minutes on the Council's website. Click [here](#) to view planning applications online.

Executive Board: 2 September 2009

Members are notified of the following decisions

	Item	Decision
52	The Strand Enhancement, Exmouth	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. that the enhancement and pedestrianisation scheme shown on drawing no C08020/8 be approved, at an estimated cost of £3M including design, works and site supervision;2. that funding for the scheme be agreed at £2M from Devon County Council's and £1M from East Devon District Council's Capital Budgets and the County Council's Capital Programme be enhanced accordingly.
53	Development Briefs for the Royal Avenue and London Inn areas of Exmouth and the Ham/Port Royal area of Sidmouth	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. that, subject to confirmation of match funding from Devon County Council, consultants be appointed to produce a Development Brief for Exmouth Town Centre redevelopment sites, comprising: London Inn car park, Union Street, the former gas holder site, and the Royal Avenue estuary area including the bus station, sports centre, Imperial Recreation Ground area and Camperdown – the required funding to be found from the Local Authority Business Grant Initiative,2. that it be noted that Sidmouth is not included in the Joint Investment Framework (for the South Devon Coastal towns) with Devon County Council and no progress has been made to move forward the production of a Development Brief for the Port Royal area of Sidmouth,3. that a report be considered at the next meeting of the Board setting out the parameters for the redevelopment of the Port Royal/Ham area of Sidmouth and how the Development Brief could be progressed, with options including working with private developers and harnessing local expertise.4. that a letter be sent to the Trustees of the Drill Hall requiring the building and surrounds to be returned to a good state of repair and appearance.
55	Financial monitoring report 2009/10 – Month 4	<p>that the variances identified as part of the Revenue and Capital Monitoring process up to Month 4 be noted and the following corrective action taken by managers be endorsed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">□ The predicted overspend on vehicle costs for Parks and Pleasure Grounds be offset by a reduction in the spend on non-essential contractors,□ The Head of Housing be requested to identify where £150,000 could potentially be saved or held back to bring the predicted Housing Revenue Account balance back in line with the agreed policy.

Executive Board: 2 September 2009 (continued)

	Item	Decision
56	National Indicator: 179 Value for Money	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that the actual cashable efficiency saving achieved in 2008/09 of £962,000 compared with the target of £707,000 be acknowledged; this being in line with the 3% annual target set by Government for the Public Sector as a whole, 2. that the cumulative cashable efficiency saving target of 6.1% (£1,438,000) for 2009/10 and 10.3% (£2,438,000) for 2010/11 in line with Government expectations be agreed.
57	Local Government Pension Scheme – consultation on changes	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that the prospective changes to the Local Government Pension Scheme under consultation be noted together with the potential implications for the authority and its employees, 2. that the Council participate in the consultation exercise and delegated authority be given to the Corporate Director, in consultation with the Portfolio Holder – Resources, to respond to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government when guidance on the proposals has been received from Devon County Council as Pension Fund Administrating Authority.
58	Performance Monitoring report – for July 09	that the performance and proposed remedial action against the selected Performance Indicators for the 2009/10 financial year until July 2009 be noted.
59	Thelma Hulbert Gallery expansion	that an exemption be made to Standing Orders to permit the appointment of Jonathan Rhind Architects, Taunton, for reasons given in the report, to carry out work required for the expansion of the Thelma Hulbert Gallery, Honiton.
61	Authority to open negotiations for a variation of restrictive covenants on land at Gloucester Crescent, Heathpark, Honiton for Slades of Honiton	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. that the Council’s policy not to permit retail sales from industrial sites at Heathpark in respect of units 1, 2 and 3, Heath Trade Park, Gloucester Crescent, Heathpark be relaxed for the benefit of Slades of Honiton, 2. that, the Principal Estate Surveyor be authorised to open negotiations for a variation of the restrictive covenant with Slades of Honiton on terms and conditions to be agreed by the Economy Portfolio Holder.
62	Acquisition of a new recycling and refuse depot at Greendale Barton Business Park	that the Principal Estates Surveyor be given authority to agree terms for a lease to be taken by the Council on a new refuse and recycling depot premises to be constructed at Greendale Barton Business Park.

The above decisions will become effective on 10 September 2009 at 9.00am unless “called in”. The published procedure for a “call in” is on pages 133-135 of the Council Constitution , or contact Democratic Services for assistance or explanation. Recommendations by the Executive Board to Council are not included above, as they are not subject to “call in”.

Chairman's engagements

Thursday 3 September

Chairman to take part in a turf cutting event at Manstone Avenue, Sidmouth.

Saturday 5 September

Chairman to open St Peter's Church Fete, Sidford.

Chairman and Mrs Liverton attending the NODA (National Operatic and Dramatic Association) SW Gala Dinner at the Palace Hotel, Torquay.

News from the IDeA (Improvement and Development Agency)

► Recession: achieving more with less

How does a council balance citizens' demands for better services with the need to spend taxpayers' money frugally? Find out how Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council is meeting this challenge, a challenge that is set to become more acute as the recession deepens.

► Scrutiny and climate change



The Climate Change Act and national performance indicators have highlighted local government's role in tackling climate change. Yet some councils have already been using the overview and scrutiny function to examine how to address climate change. Find

out how and then add your thoughts in the comment box at the end of the article.

► Analysis and research latest – new routes to better outcomes

The latest LGA Analysis and Research bulletin includes reports on improving public services through local partnerships, parenting support assessments, children and young people's participation in organised sport, the role of alcohol in young people's lives and care provision within families.

► Shopping the smokers



Shropshire County Primary Care Trust (PCT) and Telford and Wrekin PCT are rolling out services to stop people smoking, via supermarkets and village halls. Discover how these informal settings are a far cry

from a doctor's surgery and so far are encouraging people to quit for good.

► Reducing crime and the fear of crime

Read a case study about how the Moreland Community Partnership has worked with young people and the local community to reduce anti-social behaviour and the fear of crime. Then hear from a youth project leader about how his grassroots work became part of a wider neighbourhood strategy.

News from the Rural Services Network (RSN)

► Rural schools in closure crisis

Village schools are closing at a rate of one every month, says a report. Closures are at their highest rate for years because families cannot find affordable rural housing, it warns. Figures show 62 country primary schools closed their doors between 2004 and 2008 - an average of 12 a year. See also '**Lack of homes threatens schools**' and **In the Press**

► Rural motorists hit hardest



Motorists living in rural areas are among those hardest hit by the rise in fuel duty. And rural fuel prices are often higher. Since the start of 2009, Britain's motorists have seen a 23% rise in pump prices, meaning an extra £11 per tank for the average car.

Note: Members of RSN (which includes Councillors and Council staff) can gain free and full access to RSN Online by **registering**.

Summer Licensing newsletter published

The Council's Licensing Service has published its summer newsletter which can be accessed through the licensing pages on the Council's [website](#). It contains news of the start of Licensing Authority's tri-annual consultation on its licensing policy relating to the Gambling Act 2005. It also includes information on changes to the Licensing Act 2003 including a new process for applying to make minor alterations to premises where a premises licence is held. Finally there's news of the recent change of law to allow community premises to disapply the requirement for a Designated Premises Supervisor where alcohol is to be sold.

Licensing News

(Includes News of the Licensing and Gambling Acts)



Time for East Devon schools to go for an Artsmark



The Artsmark scheme is an Arts Council England initiative which aims to encourage schools to consider the opportunities they offer in art, dance, drama and music. The scheme, which is entering its tenth year, has a strong impact on a school's curriculum activities and the experiences available for its pupils. It raises the profile and importance of arts education, encouraging schools to work together and supporting professional development for teachers.

Schools need to apply for an Artsmark. There are three different levels to be achieved: Artsmark, Artsmark Silver and Artsmark Gold. The scheme is supported by the Department for Culture, Media and Sport, the Department for Children, Schools and Families, Ofsted and the Qualifications and Curriculum Authority. The current round of applications starts on 1 September and the deadline for submissions is 18 November 2010.

EDDC's Arts Development Team is pleased to support this valuable arts initiative in our schools. Currently, Kilmington Primary School holds an Artsmark and we would love to encourage more of our schools to apply and benefit from this terrific scheme.

To find out how your school can apply go to www.artsmark.org.uk. Information about the scheme and a downloadable application form are available on this site.



Gambling Act 2005 Licensing Policy consultation



The Gambling Act 2005 requires the District Council to publish a statement of licensing policy for a three-year period, setting out how the Authority will administer its duties under the legislation. EDDC's first Licensing Policy relating to the Gambling Act was approved by the full Council on 6 December 2006 and came into force on the 31 January 2007.

EDDC has now started the process of reviewing our policy as we are coming towards the end of the three-year period. You can view and have the opportunity to make comment on the Council's draft Licensing Policy by going to the [Gambling Act 2005 Policy page](#) on the Council's website. Alternatively you can telephone the Licensing Team on 01395 517411 for a copy to be sent by post.

Contract awarded

The Council accepted the lowest tender received from N J Whittaker Limited, in the sum of £45,916.00 excluding VAT for the extension and alterations to 26 Winters Lane, Ottery St Mary.

Chris Brookbank (Programmed Works Officer - Housing Management Team)

Tel: 01395 516551 (Ext 2408) cbrookbank@eastdevon.gov.uk

Poltimore House – and finally, restoration begins!

Anyone with a long memory in East Devon knows the complex and varied story of Poltimore House, just north of Exeter. Once a grand and stately home, the end of the twentieth century saw hard times come to Poltimore, with the last thirty years seeing it increasingly neglected and vandalised.



With BBC2's *Restoration* in 2003 Poltimore became well known, and not just in the south west where it swept the board, winning a place in the national final. Though eventually it missed out on the Restoration money, now fortunes change as English Heritage awards £500,000 to start the repair and restoration. This grant begins the campaign for **Poltimore's Revival**.

English Heritage's award of £500,000 confirms both its architectural and heritage significance and a genuine confidence in Poltimore's new future. The Poltimore House Trust has ambitious plans to repair and restore the House and its grounds, with an emphasis on making sure that it is accessible to the public, and that its planned activities will create a valuable focus for creativity and enterprise in the region. Working with close partners, the Friends of Poltimore House, and with a growing group of other stakeholders the Trust is planning for Poltimore House to develop as a significant centre for creative thinking and practice, bringing together partners from business, public organisations, education and the arts.

Poltimore House will throw open its doors to the public during the **Heritage Open Days** on **12-13 September**, from 11 am – 4.30 pm. There will be information about the project with plans of the work to be done; tours of the building and grounds, and as a bonus an exhibition of historic fans from the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. And of course there will be tea and cake!

You can find further information on the website at www.poltimore.org.
Email Claire.donovan@poltime.org for any specific enquiries.



Licensing Act 2003 – simplification plan receives approval

The Government has recently introduced changes to the Licensing Act 2003 to fine tune two long standing issues. There is now a new simplified process for applying to make **minor** alterations to premises where a premises licence is held.



The other change relates specifically to community premises which will include village and town halls. Where these premises hold a premises licence to sell alcohol the licence holder can now apply to have the requirement for a Designated Premises Supervisor (DPS) disapplied (removed). If this is approved it will then become the premises licence holder's responsibility to supervise or ensure supervision of the sale of alcohol – there is no requirement for a Personal Licence to be held. You may access the **guidance** and **application forms** for these processes here.

In the press

▶ Schools to close as families are priced out of villages



One village primary school is closing every month in England as young families are priced out of the area because of the rising costs of housing, according to the National Housing Federation.

▶ An idiot's guide to the apostrophe

Council staff are being issued with grammar guides to stop incorrect use of the apostrophe on signs and documents. Salford, Hertfordshire, Devon, Derby, Salisbury, Plymouth and East Northamptonshire have all issued guidelines to staff.

▶ Cuts threaten schools and rubbish collections



Schools, housing and rubbish collections face deep cuts as local authorities are hit by a 'double whammy' of falling revenues and increased demands for services, according to a survey of councillors carried out by the pollsters Comres. A Local Government Association (LGA) spokesman is quoted: "Town halls are being hit by a perfect storm caused by the recession. Sources of income have dropped sharply at a time when more and more people are turning to councils to help them through tough times."

▶ Big idea touted as way to squeeze more for less

The FT has a full-page feature on the potential of the Total Place initiative, which is being led by the LGA Group. It aims to produce big savings by co-ordinating all public spending across an area. The FT describes the pilots as an idea "so simple and beguiling that almost everyone who grasps it believes it must make a difference." Birmingham and Cumbria councils are quoted.

▶ £58m social work boost

Television and film stars are spearheading a massive campaign to protect at-risk children. The drive aims to sign up 5,000 new social workers to watch over vulnerable children. In May, a survey for the LGA suggested the criticism of the profession following the Baby P case had had a 'highly damaging effect' on the ability of local councils in England to recruit social workers.

▶ Public to vote on keeping graffiti or cleaning walls



Residents of a city are being asked to vote on whether graffiti should be scrubbed off walls or kept as art. Bristol Council has set up an online poll to let people decide the future of murals on walls and fences that many feel blight the face of Britain.

▶ Child policy attacked



Record spending on children in Britain has not broken the cycle of low aspirations, under-age drinking and teenage pregnancy, according to a study by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. Public spending on children in Britain is well above average, at more than £90,000 from birth to the age of 18.

Production information

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. **If you wish to reproduce any of the images used in The Knowledge, please contact the editor who will seek permission from the contributor:** ☎ (01395) 517541 or Extension 2741. Email: dvernon@eastdevon.gov.uk

Submissions: If you have items that you wish to be included in the next issue, contact Democratic Services: ☎ (01395) 517542 or Extension 2742. Email: knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk