

# The Knowledge



Elmfield House, Honiton – to be expanded and improved for 2010 - see page 2

Meeting	DSO	Date	Time	Location
Licensing & Enforcement Sub-Committee	CL	Tuesday 10 November	9.30am	CANCELLED
Assessment & Hearings Sub / Review Sub Cttee	CEH	Tuesday 10 November	10.00am	CANCELLED
Quality Parishes and Delegated Planning Applications Working Party	CEH	Tuesday 10 November	2.00pm	Members' Area
Local Development Framework Panel	HJ	Thursday 12 November	4.00pm	Committee Room
Audit and Governance Committee	CEH	Thursday 12 November	2.30pm	Postponed until <b>3 December</b>
Independent Review Panel	CL	Monday 16 November	10.00am	Room 1
Licensing & Enforcement Sub-Committee	CL	Tuesday 17 November	9.30am	CANCELLED
Development Management Committee	CEH	Tuesday 17 November	2.00pm	Council Chamber
Overview/Scrutiny Coordinating Committee	DM	Wednesday 18 November	6.30pm	Council Chamber

6 November 2009

## This week in The Knowledge

- ❑ Final exhibition before Gallery closes for exciting expansion
- ❑ Executive Board decisions
- ❑ Chairman's engagements
- ❑ Airport Master Plan
- ❑ RSN news
- ❑ South West Ambulance Service
- ❑ Find out more about funding
- ❑ Vote for new play equipment - Newton Poppleford
- ❑ IDEa news
- ❑ Hemyock gets hands-on with history
- ❑ In the press
- ❑ 'Rugby Against Domestic Abuse' Charity Match
- ❑ Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue Service Draft Corporate Plan



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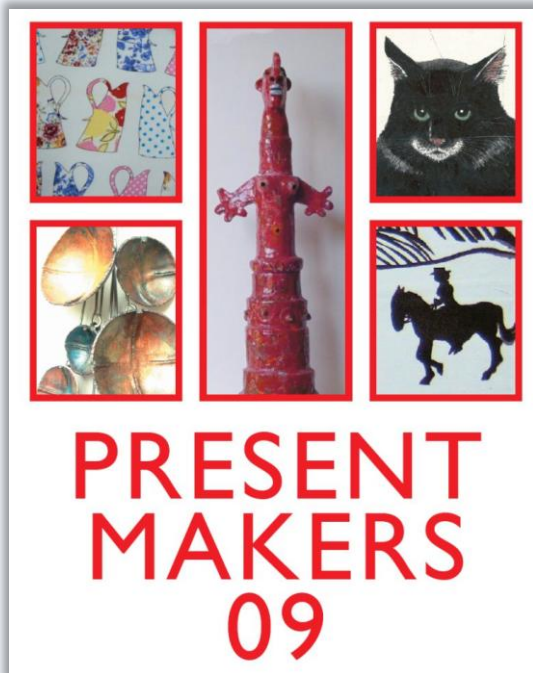
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Would Councillors please pass their apologies to Democratic Services if they are unable to attend a meeting so that post can be sent or withheld as appropriate. Please don't forget to check your pigeon holes whenever you are visiting Knowle. If you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

## Final exhibition before gallery closes for exciting expansion!



Honiton's Thelma Hulbert Gallery, which has become a well-loved landmark on the cultural map of the South West, is to undergo expansion and improvement in the next few months and will emerge next May with an exciting programme of exhibitions, workshops and events to appeal to all ages and tastes.

This elegant Grade II listed building, Elmfield House, thought to be Georgian, was once the home and studio of artist Thelma Hulbert, whose work is found in collections nationally and internationally, including the Tate in London.

The gallery will close temporarily on Christmas Eve 2009, when its final exhibition of the year, **Present Makers 09**, comes to an end. The exhibition runs from 7 November to 24 December and the gallery is open Wednesday to Saturday inclusive from 10am to 4pm. The final exhibition of 2009 starts with a private viewing on **Saturday 7 November** from 4pm to 6pm. There will be jewellery, textiles, small framed pieces, screen prints, ceramics and sculpture to suit all tastes, all of which would

make perfect Christmas gifts for family and friends. The gallery will remain open until 4pm on Christmas Eve, so you can snap up those last minute gifts.

During the next few months, the interior of the building will be sensitively reorganised by expert architects and conservationists to allow a much larger general exhibition space on the ground floor, where curator Angela Blackwell intends to display work produced by some of the most interesting and exciting creative minds of the past and present day.

Provision is also being made for a shop and coffee facilities downstairs, with a delightful view of Thelma's former courtyard garden through original shuttered glass doors. It is hoped that a Sculpture Garden may eventually be developed in the grounds at the front of Elmfield House.

During the past few years, the Thelma Hulbert Gallery has worked closely with organisations such as **engage/enquire**, and local schools and colleges, to encourage young people's participation in the arts and with a new "Messy Room" (working title), the gallery's after-school art group 'Masterpieces' will be able to expand its activities further.

The gallery is to be completely rebranded; the website will be revamped to be more informative and useful, and the Friends' scheme enlarged to offer more to sponsors. Staff will also be looking for volunteers to help man the new, improved Thelma Hulbert Gallery, so please make yourselves known to the Curator if you are interested.

The expansion is funded partly by EDDC and partly through a grant awarded by Arts Council South West.



Photo: jewellery by Ann Bruford

**Executive Board: 4 November 2009** Members are notified of the following decisions

	Item	Decision
87	<p><b>Minutes of the meetings of the Overview and Scrutiny Committees</b></p> <p><a href="#">Economy</a> 8 October 2009</p> <p><a href="#">Service Delivery / Performance</a> 21 October 2009</p>	<p><b>1. that the following decisions be noted:</b></p> <p>Economy Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes 11, 12, 13 Service Delivery / Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minutes 20, 21, 22(a), 23, 24, 25</p> <p><b>2. that the following recommendations be approved:</b></p> <p>Service Delivery / Performance Overview and Scrutiny Committee Minute 22(b)</p>
90	<p><b>Treasury Management Performance 2009/10 – 1 April to 30 September 2009</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. that the investment return for the first six months of 2009/10 be noted;</li> <li>2. that the existing external and internal investment strategy continue to be supported.</li> </ol>
91	<p><b>Financial Monitoring report 2009/10 – Month 6</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. that the variances identified as part of the Revenue and Capital Monitoring process up to Month 6 be noted;</li> <li>2. that the shortfall in interest be met from set aside reserve;</li> <li>3. that the Property Services Manager be requested to investigate whether the overspend on electricity at Knowle is a result of an inadequate budget or as a result of increased usage/charges;</li> <li>4. that the predicted overspend on the Housing Revenue Account be offset by rescheduling within the Modernisation programme.</li> </ol>
92	<p><b>Use of Resources Action Plan</b></p>	<p>that the Use of Resources Action Plan be approved.</p>
93	<p><b>Performance Monitoring April – September 2009</b></p>	<p>that the performance and proposed remedial action against the performance indicators identified in the report for the 2009/10 financial year until September 2009 be noted.</p>

**The above decisions will become effective on 12 November 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

### Sunday 8 November

Chairman and Mrs Liverton to attend the Exmouth Remembrance Sunday Parade and Wreath Laying Ceremony at the War Memorial 10.30am.

Vice Chairman to lay a wreath at Sidbury War Memorial at St Giles' church. Service and parade 10.45am.

Chairman and Mrs Liverton to attend Service of Remembrance at St Peter's Church, Sidford at 6.25pm.

### Wednesday 11 November

Vice Chairman to attend a Service of Remembrance with Sidbury School in the Churchyard of St Giles at 10.45am.

### Friday 13 November

Chairman to attend the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Lecture of the East Devon Branch of the Devonshire Association at the Manor Pavilion, Sidmouth

## Airport Master Plan



The Exeter International Airport Master Plan has been published and copies are available at:

[www.exeter-airport.co.uk/masterplan](http://www.exeter-airport.co.uk/masterplan)

## News from the Rural Services Network (RSN)

### ► Film showcases rural transport schemes



Local authorities are being urged to use integrated transport to link rural communities with nearby towns. Declining bus services had lead to increased isolation for rural residents, said the Commission for Rural

Communities. It has produced a film with Lincolnshire County Council to show how integrated public transport can improve life for rural people.

### ► Rural shoppers reliant on internet

Village shop closures are forcing rural residents to turn to internet shopping, says a report. More than 4 in 10 (42%) adults living in rural Britain are shopping online more than they did last year, reveals the study. Some 94% of people in the countryside now shop online, according to the report by the Future Laboratory.

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

## South West Ambulance Service



The South West Ambulance Service has written to EDDC to ask for comments on a consultation document. This document is in anticipation of it being accepted as a 'Foundation Trust' (an organisation that can show a track record of effective management and therefore get lighter touch performance management and some 'freedoms and flexibilities').

As well as more information on Foundation Trust status, the paper describes the intended governance arrangements, and gives opportunity for general comments about the way the trust goes about its business. Comments can be posted by mail, phone, text or internet: [www.swast.nhs.uk/ft](http://www.swast.nhs.uk/ft). The consultation ends in early December.

In the covering letter to the request it says:

"The South Western Ambulance Service is seeking your opinions on its plans to become an NHS Foundation Trust. If you have views on how the South West's Ambulances Service is run, or you have any comments about to make about your own or those of your family or friends using the emergency, urgent care or patient transport services, please go to our [website](#) for more information."

Peter Jeffs (Corporate Director)

☎ 01395 517452 (or Ext 2652) [pjeffs@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:pjeffs@eastdevon.gov.uk)

## Find out more about funding

### ▶ Films



The UK Film Council has grants available to support new filmmakers, fund exciting British films and give audiences the opportunity to see the best of world cinema. Click above for more information or ☎ 02078 617861.

### ▶ Music for under 18's

Youth Music often has funding available for activities that provide structured, regular and progressive music-making activities for children and young people. You must be a not-for-profit organisation more than one year old. Click above for more information or ☎ 02079 021060.

### ▶ Making and performing



The Performing Rights Society has funding available for making and performing music. There are usually a variety of funds available throughout the year. Click above for more

information or ☎ 02073 064044.

### ▶ Arts for older people

The Baring Foundation has funding available to constituted not-for-profit organisations that produce and present arts made by older people. You must have already undertaken high quality work led by or involving older people. The closing date for applications is 11 December 2009.

### ▶ Arts Council for England



The Arts Council has funding available for its activities that engage people in England or that help artists and arts organisations in England to carry out

their work. Grants for individuals usually range from £1,000 up to £30,000 and for organisations normally ranges from £1,000 to £100,000. There are 4 areas they are prioritising for 2008- 2011 which are:

- ❑ Digital opportunity
- ❑ Visual arts
- ❑ Children and young people
- ❑ London 2012

Click above for more information or ☎ 08453 006200.

To find out about funding opportunities for voluntary and community groups and individuals visit our website:

[www.eastdevon.gov.uk/grants](http://www.eastdevon.gov.uk/grants)

Jamie Buckley (Engagement & Funding Officer)  
☎ 01395 517569 (or Ext 2769)  
[jbuckley@eastdevon.gov.uk](mailto:jbuckley@eastdevon.gov.uk)

## Vote for new play equipment - Newton Poppleford



Over the past five years of the People's Millions competition some great projects have won funding, including community gardens, a skate park, a community transport project and many more.

The proposal to renew outdated and condemned play equipment, sited within Newton Poppleford playing fields, is in sixth place in the competition. The equipment would be replaced with modern, fun and age-grouped equipment that is safe, usable by both abled and disabled members of the village There will be a televised play off against Berrow Parish on **23 November** on ITV West Country News. On the day of the competition, voting can take place from 9am to midnight. Please make a note in your diary to vote!

If successful, the Parish Council would receive £50,000 towards this project. Details of how to vote are available on the [website](#).

## News from the IDeA (Improvement and Development Agency)

### ▶ Housing Knowledge



As the recession deepens, councils confront a variety of challenges – none more acute than those experienced in the housing sector. Access the IDeA's new housing resource, 'Housing Knowledge' to find out how to deal with your authority's strategic housing role and lead your community out of the recession. Read invaluable case studies from councils working innovatively with existing housing stock, while looking to provide new, affordable homes in these harsh economic times.

### ▶ Savings in construction procurement



Councils spend some £16.2 billion each year on construction and could save millions of pounds through more efficient and collaborative procurement. To find out how your council could benefit, read the latest members' guide giving top tips for making savings through better procurement in construction.

### Celebrating Black History Month 2009

Last month was Black History Month in the UK. This is an annual event to raise awareness about African and Caribbean cultural heritage, as well as celebrating its achievements. Read about the significance of this event and what councils across the country have been doing to mark the occasion.

### ▶ Sharing resources to tackle climate change

Finding the human and financial resources to tackle climate change – particularly during a period when budgetary constraints are tight – is not easy. This article looks at how local authorities around the country are pooling resources and staff to work on climate change.



### ▶ Working together to reduce crime

Exemplar sites have been using integrated neighbourhood working to reduce crime, the fear of crime and anti-social behaviour. Find out about the different ways they've worked with their local communities and partners, and what they have achieved.

### ▶ Plain English and the language of recession

The recession poses particular challenges for councils who want to communicate with their residents. Times are tough. Difficult decisions are being made about spending and local priorities. Communications consultant, Carol Grant considers how much plain speaking is needed – or welcomed – at a time of recession.

## Blackdown Hills AONB helps Hemyock get hands-on with history



In 2008, an archaeological excavation in Hemyock uncovered thousands of shards of pottery dating back to the sixteenth century. Now, the Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Sustainable Development Fund (SDF) is helping to bring the find to life for local people in the twenty-first century.

On Saturday **14 November**, school children and adults will be given the chance to try to reconstruct the ancient pots in a 45,000 piece jigsaw! Experts from Devon County Council's Historic Environment Service will be on hand at Hemyock Primary School from 10am to 5pm to help sort and classify the pottery pieces and a specialist potter will throw local clay to produce replicas of the Hemyock vessels.

You can even bring along finds from your own garden to be identified by the archaeologists! On Saturday evening, at 7pm in St Mary's Church, there will be a talk by expert, John Allen, on the late medieval potteries of the region.

For more information, contact Exeter Archaeology on 01392 665521 or email [exeter.arch@exeter.gov.uk](mailto:exeter.arch@exeter.gov.uk)

<http://www.blackdownhillsaonb.org.uk>

## Rugby Against Domestic Abuse Charity Cup Match



A special 'Rugby Against Domestic Abuse' Charity Match will be held on Wednesday **11 November** at Tiverton Rugby Football Club, Bolham Road, Tiverton. The teams will be Devon & Cornwall Police against Tiverton Rugby Football Club 15.

This game is to raise awareness of Domestic Abuse which is a very serious and under reported crime and accounts for approximately a quarter of all violent crimes reported in the Devon area. Gates open at 6pm with kick off at 7pm. Entry is £2 each which includes a free lucky programme for a charity draw that includes tickets to see Exeter Chiefs, Harlequins and London Wasps, as well as other prizes. Proceeds raised will go to Exeter Women's Aid.

For more information please contact Julia Ryder, Community Safety Partnership on 01884 234997 or email: [jryder@middevon.gov.uk](mailto:jryder@middevon.gov.uk)

## In the press

### ▶ Now judge puts green beliefs of a worker on a par with Christianity

A landmark ruling in which a judge has said that an employee's strong environmental views should be regarded a "philosophical belief", under the terms of the 2003 Religion and Belief Regulations. Legal experts claim the ruling could usher in future damages claims over the way firms handle environmental concerns.

### ▶ Cash squeeze threatens free nursery places



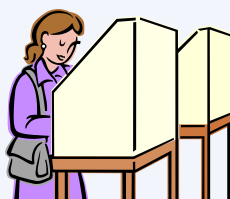
Thousands of families could lose out on free pre-school education due to a funding crisis that is causing state-run nurseries

to lay off staff, increase class sizes and in some cases close. It comes as a result of Government rules designed to spread funding more fairly between state-run, private and voluntary sector nurseries. Children's minister, Dawn Primarolo, last week wrote to local authority chiefs, ordering them to act to protect nurseries.

### ▶ Planning changes 'threaten countryside'

Tens of thousands of listed buildings and large swaths of countryside could be destroyed after two key planks of the planning system were disbanded. The Government is to downgrade protection on old buildings and those in conservation areas in order to "benefit developers" and "reduce the number of applications for planning permission rejected on heritage grounds".

### ▶ Polling stations face closure in election cuts



Thousands of polling stations would be closed and voting hours reduced under plans from the Ministry of Justice to cut the cost of elections.

### ▶ Town halls told to curb enthusiasm for snooping

Councils are to have their powers to 'snoop' on the public curbed under Government plans aimed at addressing alarm at the expansion of the surveillance state. Home Secretary Alan Johnson will say that only chief executives and officials at director level will be able to order investigations. Les Lawrence, Chairman of the LGA's Safer Communities Board, is quoted: "It is only by giving the elected representatives of local people more power that we will re-build trust in the use of techniques that councils need to crack down on serious criminals."



### ▶ Welsh lead blitz on plastic bags

Proposals from the Welsh Environment Minister for a compulsory 5p-15p charge on plastic shopping bags, to begin from 2011.

### ▶ New bank holiday planned

Britain is to get a new bank holiday - or ninth official day off - every October from 2012.

► **Graduates will struggle to find jobs as public sector cuts leave fewer openings**

A report from the Centre for Cities claims that 290,000 graduate jobs could be lost in the public sector by 2014. Tyne and Wear, Birmingham and Leeds have seen the largest rise in graduate unemployment in England this year.

► **Snow could halt transport again**



Britain could grind to a halt in winter blizzards because bus and train companies have failed to learn lessons from last winter's heavy snowfall,

council leaders have said. David Sparks, Chair of the LGA Transport and Regeneration Board, is quoted: "There need to be better plans in place for operating revised services so train and bus companies do not leave people stranded."

► **ASBO youths to be named and shamed**

Youths served with anti-social behaviour orders will be damned on the internet and in leaflets under Government plans.

► **5,000 rise in appeals over primary schools**



There has been a sharp rise in the number of parents appealing to get their child into the primary school of their choice, official figures reveal. Some 61,950 primary and secondary appeals were heard in England in 2008, compared with 56,610 the year

before. But the proportion of successful appeals fell from 34.4% to 30.9%. Shireen Ritchie, chairman of the children and young people's board, is quoted: 'Councils are concerned that there is a growing industry in lawyers seeking to cash in on a system that is set up to provide a fair and affordable means for all parents to try to get their son or daughter into the best school near where they live.'

► **easyCouncil should soon be taking off**

Barnet Council leader Mike Freer writes in today's Times about his no-frills vision for tough times in local government - and wants residents to decide what they pay for.

► **Adoption at birth aims to keep babies out of care**



A new type of adoption that allows babies to live with their prospective new parents within days of birth has been developed by Coram, the children's charity, to stop young

children spending years in the care system. The scheme, known as concurrent planning, runs for up to a year, during which the baby is cared for by the adoptive family while the natural mother is given a chance to turn her life around.

► **How do you solve a problem like 50,000 chaotic families?**

A feature in The Guardian looks at the Dundee Families project, which intervenes with chaotic families in the Scottish city and asks whether it is a model the rest of the country can learn from.

► **Allotments, parks and urban farms are rising above Britain's gleaming towers**



Parks, allotments and markets are set to spring up across Britain on the site of building projects that have been mothballed in the recession. According to a

report in Building Design, the architects' newspaper, the 'pop up' craze is seeing architects competing to find new temporary public uses for sites once earmarked for buildings worth hundreds of millions of pounds.

► **£65k cop at 'safe' crossing**

A council is splashing out £64,896 a year to police a railway crossing - though there has never been an accident there. Despite 1,200 pedestrians using it without incident for 31 years, worried health and safety bosses insist on the barrier being manned. Dorset County Council say it is one of the most dangerous crossings in South West England. A spokesman said: "A broad cross-section of the public ignore the warnings, which causes risk to themselves and rail users."

The Sun 29/10/09 p54

## Devon & Somerset Fire and Rescue Service Draft Corporate Plan

Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority is now consulting on its Draft Corporate Plan 2010/11 to 2012/13. The plan presents the intentions for the next three years and there are four specific areas on which your advice and opinions are sought.

More information is available on the [website](#).

If you would like a paper or copy of any of the consultation leaflets or the Draft Corporate Plan list documents you can contact the Consultation Officer on 01392 872354. The consultation period closes on **4 January 2010**.

### 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](mailto: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](mailto:knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk)