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EDDC News

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Meetings

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

Meeting	DSO	Date	Time	Location
➤ Licensing & Enforcement Committee	CL	Tuesday 14 June	9.30am	Council Chamber
➤ Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee (at 11am or on the rising of the L&E Cttee)	CL	Tuesday 14 June	11.00am	Council Chamber
➤ Development Management Committee	CEH	Tuesday 14 June	2.00pm	Council Chamber
➤ Cabinet	DM	Wednesday 15 June	5.30pm	Council Chamber
Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Tuesday 21 June	9.30am	CANCELLED
Standards Committee	DM	Tuesday 21 June	10.00am	CANCELLED
Housing Review Board	AT	Thursday 23 June	6.00pm	Council Chamber
Planning Inspections Committee	HW	Friday 24 June	TBA	Council Chamber

Portfolio Holder's decision

Decision by Portfolio Holder

Environment
Iain Chubb

Fencing of the Pebble Beds Heaths, Withycombe Raleigh Common, Exmouth – RSPB

Agreed to the granting of Landlord's consent to the RSPB for the enclosure of land at Withycombe Raleigh Common, subject to the granting of planning permission.

The RSPB hold a 99 year lease of part of the Withycombe Raleigh Common granted by this Council in April 1991 to be used only as a nature reserve. The RSPB has now requested the Council's consent, as Landlord, to the erection of an enclosing fence together with access gates for the public. The fencing is required to enable the land to be grazed so as to better preserve the lowland heath habitat.

The cost of the fencing will be met from a Higher Level Stewardship grant from Natural England.

A similar scheme is being implemented on the neighbouring Clinton Devon owned parts of Withycombe Raleigh Common.

The above decision will become effective on **16 June 2011** at 9.00am unless "called in". The published procedure for a "call-in" is on pages 139 - 141 of the Council Constitution, or contact Democratic Services for assistance or explanation.

Chairman's engagements

Monday 12 June

Chairman to attend Budleigh Salterton Town Council Civic Service at St Peter's Church

Planning Services

Training sessions on Development Management, Planning Policy and the delegation system were held during June for EDDC Councillors and delegates from Parish and Town Councils. The slides accompanying the [planning policy presentations are available to download](#). Please note that the information on the slides is provided by individual Officers and may not reflect the view of the Council. The Planning Policy presentation refers to the [Shelter website](#).

LG Knowledge

➤ Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill

The Local Government Association (LGA) welcomes the Government's desire to rebalance licensing by better supporting licensing authorities to take action locally. Yet, the cross-party LGA is supporting a small number of further amendments to the bill to ensure all the concerns and difficulties experienced by local government licensing teams are overcome. Keep up to date on the latest changes to this important piece of legislation on the LGA website.



➤ National Eye Health Week 2011

National Eye Health Week – a campaign to encourage the public to look after its eye health – takes place nationwide from the 13 June. Regular sight tests are vital in diagnosing vision problems but may also detect other health conditions, such as high blood pressure, or even tumours. Last year's campaign was supported by over 300 organisations; local councils, primary care trusts (PCTs), hospitals and local charities all came together to raise awareness of the need for regular sight tests.

➤ Healthy communities: world class youth hub

Discover how a Bristol youth centre – the 'Station' – is enabling young people to use state-of-the-art facilities, engage with one another, access support services, air their views and get involved in active project participation. Read how the £5 million 'youth hub' is set to transform young lives in the southwest.

Environment white paper welcomed



The Blackdown Hills Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Partnership has welcomed the publication of the Government's white paper on 7 June on the natural environment. The proposals offer new opportunities for wildlife and landscape conservation in the local area, while strengthening work which is already underway, according to staff. The measures include funding for partnerships to work together to protect green spaces – an approach which has been successful across the UK's 46 AONBs, including the Blackdown Hills.

The white paper will integrate into Government policy the true economic value of natural landscapes as carbon stores, sources of clean water and places for recreation. It also aims to get more people involved in learning, exercising and volunteering outdoors. Linda Bennett, Blackdown Hills AONB manager said: "I'm delighted that the government is backing the partnership approach to conservation which works so well here in the Blackdown Hills. I believe that we are very well placed to deliver many of the goals of the white paper locally, and we are looking forward to bringing these ideas to fruition on the ground".

The vital role of AONBs in achieving a healthy natural environment has been set out in 'Think Big', a joint statement of ambition from the UK's AONBs, national parks, RSPB and National Trust. 'Think Big' is available from the [Blackdown Hills AONB's website](#).

New documents in the Members' Area

East & Mid Devon Community Safety

Partnership – Minutes of the Steering Group meeting on 25 May (Outside Bodies file)

Village Green – the quarterly newsletter from the Community Council of Devon

'Back to the future'



Experience the Vintage Mobile Cinema and be prepared to be transported back in time by watching the East Devon AONB's 'Back to the Future' short film on East Devon life, work and play going back to the 1930s! The cinema will be at the Bicton College Open Day and Countryfayre, on **Saturday 11 June** from 11am to 4pm. If you can't come and watch it on the restored 1960's Ministry of Technology bus then book a place at the East Devon AONB Annual Forum instead – **29 June**, 6.45pm, Public Hall, Budleigh Salterton. Contact Kimmo Evans: kimmo.evans@eastdevonaonb.org.uk or 01404 46663 to reserve a place. (Image: www.vintagemobilecinema.co.uk)

In the national press

➤ Adults in care to receive legal protection

Adults in care homes are to be given legal protection for the first time in the wake of a Gloucestershire abuse scandal, amid growing fears about the perilous financial state of the industry. Care Minister Paul Burstow told The Independent on Sunday that the "absolutely appalling" systematic abuse of vulnerable adults at Winterbourne View residential hospital had moved him to act and he will put council safeguarding boards on a statutory footing.

£10bn of public land up for grabs to meet homes crisis



Thousands of acres of public sector land around hospitals, schools and military bases will be sold to help meet a critical housing shortage. Cabinet Secretary Francis Maude claims the sell off could net as much as £10 billion for the Treasury and allow 100,000 homes to be built by 2015. A Communities & Local Government spokesperson says there will be a requirement for some social housing to be built under local planning agreements, but it will be up to local authorities to decide how much. Times 7/6/11 p5

➤ Threat to Cameron's 'big society' pledge as number of charities falls

There are warnings that the coalition pledge to bring more charities into the public sector are at risk following a Guardian poll which shows 8,000 have been removed from the official register since May 2010. The Charity Commission, which manages the list, says it has also seen a 150% increase in the number of cases its mergers unit has dealt with since 2009. Charity heads say public funding cuts are behind the trend and warn that the 'big society' aim of utilising charities to deliver public services is at risk of failing.



➤ Any volunteers to run library?

David Cameron's faith in the "Big Society" is to be put to the test after Oxfordshire County Council announced professional staff will be removed from six libraries in his Witney constituency, leaving them to be staffed by volunteers. The Culture Minister Ed Vaizey will also see two libraries in his neighbouring constituency of Wantage run by a mix of volunteers and professional staff.

Eyesores face axe

Under plans in the Localism Bill residents will be given strengthened powers to ask councils to get rid of eyesores like tattered old billboards and shop signs. Under the proposals councils will conduct local audits with residents who will help them decide what features should be removed or altered. Times 6/6/11 p16

➤ **Not enough women in local government**

The Centre for Women and Democracy says that the representation of women in local government remains "stagnant" with only 20 more female councillors being elected at the May elections. Fewer than a third of councillors in England are women.



➤ **Registration drive adds 420,000 voters to lists**

Nearly half a million extra voters were added to the electoral register in 2010, latest figures show. Among the 100 constituencies with the largest increase, two-thirds were held by Labour.



➤ **View from your window could win protection**

Woodland views could be given the same protection as a national park under plans to be revealed in the Government's Natural Environment White Paper, it is reported. The overhaul in nature conservation will encourage children to climb trees, force supermarkets to plant woodland and make the Chancellor take wildlife into account when planning expenditure.

➤ **Get children off web and into libraries, say laureate**

Children are failing to learn properly because they are churning out facts copied from the internet instead of visiting their local library, according to the new Children's Laureate Julia Donaldson. She said she was 'heartbroken' at talk of library cuts and closures and aimed to spend her two-year tenure campaigning against them.



Armed Forces Day – 25 June

In support of the Armed Forces Day EDDC will raise the flag at 10.00am on Monday 20 June. The Chairman and Vice Chairman will attend the flag-raising and the flag will fly for the week. Find out more about the Armed Forces Day at www.armedforcesday.org.uk



Photos: Meadow grassland with ox-eye daisies; Self heal with cinnabar moth feeding; Bee Orchid
All photos taken at the East Devon Business Centre, Heathpark, Honiton. With thanks to Chris Woodruff, East Devon AONB Manager