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Meetings

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

Meeting	DSO	Date	Time	Location
➤ Licensing & Enforcement Sub Committee	CL	Tuesday 31 May	9.30am	Council Chamber
Manor Pavilion Management Steering Committee	CEH	Tuesday 31 May	6.00pm	Committee Room
All day planning training for members of Development Management Committee and all Councillors (to include a working lunch)	DV	Wednesday 1 June	10.15am for 10.30 am prompt start	Council Chamber
Morning licensing training for members of the Licensing Committee. (The training is specifically for members of Licensing & Enforcement Committee. Should any Councillor who does not serve on that Committee wish to attend, contact DV)	DV	Thursday 2 June	9.15am for coffee and 9.30am prompt start. Anticipate 1pm finish.	Council Chamber
All day planning training for all Members plus parish & town council representatives (to include a working lunch)	DV	Tuesday 7 June	10.15am for 10.30am prompt start	Council Chamber
ICT work shop and security training for Councillors who have yet to undertake this	ICT	Wednesday 8 June	6.00pm	Committee Room
East Devon Business Forum breakfast meeting	CL	Thursday 9 June	8.00am	Devon Cliffs, Sandy Bay, Exmouth
Overview and Scrutiny Committee	DM	Thursday 9 June	6.30pm	Council Chamber

LG Knowledge

➤ How planning works: an introductory guide for councillors

If you're a new councillor or a councillor new to planning and need to understand how planning impacts your ward, access a new guide from the Planning Advisory Service. This valuable document cuts through the jargon and will get you past any perceived complexity, so you can understand the most important elements of your role.



➤ Neighbourhood planning: a guide for ward councillors

Neighbourhood planning is about letting the people who know about and care for an area plan for it. If you're a ward councillor and have felt slightly removed from planning issues, read this handy new guide from the Planning Advisory Service. Accessible and jargon free, it will provide the inspiration to become more involved in neighbourhood planning.

Contact us:
knowledge@eastdevon.gov.uk

Democratic Services Officers

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New documents in the Members' Area

Annual reports for Rockbeare, Luppitt and Dunkeswell Parish Councils

> Creative Councils: call for ideas

The LG Group wants to hear from you. In collaboration with NESTA, it wants to hear from councils that share the vision for radical innovation that matters to your communities. The ambition over the next two years is to work with a small group of creative, pioneering councils throughout England and Wales to develop transformational new approaches. In June the LG Group will select up to 20 of the most promising ideas. As some councils have been busy during the May elections it has been decided to extend the application deadline until noon on **20 June 2011**.

> Decentralising the Localism Bill

Read an article on LGA's 'first' website and find out how the LG Group stands on the Localism Bill. With the bill currently in report stage and imminently to be further debated in the House of Lords, explore the pressing concerns with the proposals. The LG Group has identified a number of areas where powers prescribed to Whitehall should be deleted.



> Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill

The Government was defeated recently in the House of Lords after Liberal Democrat, Labour and Cross Bench Peers joined forces to oppose the plans to create elected police commissioners through the Police Reform and Social Responsibility Bill. Keep up to date on the latest changes to this important piece of legislation on the LGA website.

> Mental Wellbeing Impact Assessment Programme

LG Improvement and Development is seeking willing local authorities who wish to improve their opportunities for promoting and protecting the mental wellbeing of their residents. It wants to deliver a limited number of Mental Wellbeing Impact Assessments with local government by October 2011. If your authority is interested, please send your willingness to be involved by **June**.

Chief Constable's blog:



"This is the first of a regular blog that I will be writing for key stakeholders and partners in order to keep you up to date on the work that the force is currently undergoing to modernise the way we work, improve our service to the public and meet our budget savings. I aim to send you an update each month

outlining the latest developments which I hope you will find useful. I do hope that you find this is of interest. If you have any suggestions as to how this blog could be improved, or if you would like different information including in it in the future please do let me know. "

Stephen Otter, Chief Constable

<http://www.devon-cornwall.police.uk/InfoPages>

Free funding workshops

Workshops are on offer in Honiton and Dunkeswell to help businesses and communities looking for grants in the Blackdown Hills and East Devon Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty, as part of the £2.4million Making it Local funding programme. The workshops will be run by Making it Local grant advisors, who will go through the application process, give project management advice where requested and point people towards suitable match-funding.

The first workshop takes place in Dunkeswell Village Hall on Tuesday **7 June** at 10am. East Devon Business Centre, in Honiton, will be the venue for a workshop on Tuesday **14 June** at 10am. This session will focus on support for businesses and market towns, with a presentation by Honiton Town Council on how they have developed their exciting new Local Producers Market.

Places on the workshops are limited, so it is essential that you book in advance:

makingitlocal@devon.gov.uk or ☎ 01823 680626.

Sport and Play Enterprise conference



7 July, Fingle Glen Golf Hotel (near Exeter)

This is a joint conference between the Devon Playing Fields Association and a regional program Community and Social Enterprise (CASE). The event is for voluntary organisations, social enterprises town/parish councils and professionals who want to grow their organisation's income and look at new models of sport, play and leisure delivery. Email Charlotte2@devonrcc.org.uk for further details.

In the national press

> Britain's crippling elderly care bill

Britain faces one of the largest bills for elderly care of any leading industrialised nation, a major international study has found. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development research suggests a combination of low birth rates and rising life expectancy will force Britain to spend an extra £80 billion each year on pensions, long-term care and the health service.



> Popular schools to be freed from curbs on expansion

Restrictions on the expansion of the most popular schools will be lifted, allowing them to take on more pupils under plans being put forward by Education Secretary Michael Gove. The Government suspects that local authorities sometimes prevent good schools from raising their intake, it is claimed, because it becomes harder to sustain weaker schools when pupil numbers drop significantly.

> A tale of two academies

The Guardian looks at Plymouth, which has become the first city in England where the majority of secondary schools are academies. It claims that the withdrawal of so many secondary schools from council control, and the subsequent deduction in funds set aside for centrally run services like education psychologists and human resources, may mean councils struggle to fund those services for remaining schools.



> Libraries in fine mess

Libraries in the UK are owed millions of pounds and thousands of lost books by readers. In Surrey alone the total in unpaid fines is £700,000 and 10,000 books have not been returned. A council spokesman said: "Unpaid library fines are a thorn in the side of librarians."

> Fly-tipping rises as council skip prices soar

Soaring charges for waste disposal are leading to an increase in fly-tipping, according to an analysis of data released under the Freedom of Information Act. A survey of 148 councils across the UK reveals they have raised the cost of skip permits by as much as 650% over the past 5 years. Councils claim they have no option but to increase charges in a bid to balance the books.

> Duty to protect

New plans to tackle child sexual exploitation are being drawn up following recognition the problem is much more widespread than previously thought. Fears exist that current safeguards are failing because responsibility for tackling the problem is often split between local authorities and the UK Border Agency.

> Judicial Review launched to prevent court closures

A test case for opposition to Government plans to close magistrates courts has been launched in Sittingbourne, Kent.

> Truancy on the increase

Government figures have revealed an increase in school truancy with 64,000 pupils skipping school every day. The figures also show a 12% increase in the last autumn term, compared with the same point in 2009.



Street Market, Honiton
Photo by Sarah Jenkins