

## **District Councillors Report October Meeting 2022**

Cllrs Abbott and Holway:

- Recycling & Waste Collection - The transition to SHDC could be said to have been running for quite some time as there has been officer involvement for months. A fortnight ago, there was a welcome to staff transitioning to SHDC. The formal transition period started Monday and will take until the Spring to complete. The pause in brown bin collections will free up a few drivers and operatives to ensure recycling and waste is collected over the winter. It is planned to tweak a few of the collection rounds. After all these months, new challenges are still being revealed and it is hoped all existing anomalies and future exposures will be settled by June.
- The present non-statutory Garden Waste collection service will finish at the end of October. Any brown bins not emptied on the last scheduled date in October will be collected in early November. A chargeable fortnightly Garden Waste collection service will be introduced from early Spring 2023 at a charge of £49 per bin per year. This brings the service in to line with that of the other Devon district councils and will hopefully bring about an increase in home composting and/or the use of community composting facilities.
- Home composting is being encouraged. SHDC would like there to be community composting but the funds available address only c.50% of the cost. Garden waste can be taken to a Recycling Centre. An anomaly exists for those who cannot compost, cannot take their waste to a Recycling Centre, and cannot afford the £49. Cllrs would be grateful to hear of examples of this or other hardships. If you know examples how the current collection system could be improved please let Cllrs Holway or Abbott know.
- The Plymouth and South West Devon Climate Emergency Planning Statement will be adopted by SHDC. This, together with proposed changes to Building Regulations will hopefully secure the construction of energy efficient homes that will not require retro-fitting to achieve a good standard of insulation.
- The Council will write to the Prime Minister to stress the serious impact the Cost of Living Crisis is having on our residents and will ensure that all financial help is distributed without delay.
- The Council will continue to work towards achieving the Freeport in collaboration with Plymouth City Council and Devon County Council.