

Parish Councils update from South Hams Cllrs. Pannell & Smerdon

- **SHDC.** More meetings are now being held remotely using video conferencing. The Climate Emergency Working Group held a public session last week with contributions from organisations which had responded to the consultation.
- **Finance.** Officers have calculated that SHDC is facing a shortfall of £1.3million in its budget for the current year as a result of the Coronavirus pandemic – caused by extra expenditure on emergency measures and loss of income from sources such as car parks, leisure centres etc. We are holding budget meetings to decide how to fund this shortfall, possibly by taking money from some budgets and also from our reserves.
- **Planning. FOR THOSE NOT IN DNPA AREA.**
New applications are being accepted. Less controversial plans are being decided, as in the past, by officer delegation, with local Ward Member consent. Development Management meetings have resumed by video conferencing.
- **Waste services.** The introduction of the new recycling system with plastic boxes replacing bags has been delayed until March, because the crisis has halted construction of the specialised lorries needed, in Ireland, and the building of the new waste transfer station at Ivybridge.
SHDC is offering an officer to attend (virtual) Parish Council meetings to brief members on how it will operate.
- **Leisure Centres** have reopened in various ways. Ivybridge outdoor pool is open.
- **Covid heroes.** If you would like to thank someone for going above and beyond in the past few months, you can nominate them for a local Honour. The Leaders of South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council have been so moved by the extraordinary acts of kindness and support that they have seen in their communities, that they have created a special award scheme. The scheme would see residents, communities and businesses nominated to receive an award under specific categories. Everyone nominated will be recognised on a special web page, so send in your photos and images, showing what they did. The Councils will each hold an award ceremony to personally thank the award recipients and the Lord Lieutenant of Devon will be notified of their achievements. You can nominate someone under one of the following categories. Can you please do this online via the special form: Community Leadership - example - someone who took on a really big role in leading a response within your area. Star volunteer – example - someone who was out every day dog walking, collecting prescriptions. Key worker – example – a key worker who went above and beyond their duty.
Organisation – example – community group or business that went above and beyond. Innovative wellbeing scheme – example - a scheme that addressed isolation during lockdown. Keeping spirits up – example - someone who did things to keep people's spirits up. Young Community hero - a child, or adult, under 21 who went above and beyond. Please nominate online: www.southhams.gov.uk/covid-heroes You may also be interested to know that the National Honours this year are also recognising the great work that individuals have done through the pandemic, and a special category has been created for contribution to the response to the coronavirus crisis. **Nominate individuals for the National Honours Award -**
www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-honours-nomination-form
- **Regular meetings with Totnes Police.** Totnes police are considering setting up a virtual meeting to involve parish councils and District and County Councillors and other interested parties, to be held monthly, to discuss matters of note or issues they may like to raise. They are very aware these days they no longer have the

capacity to regularly attend parish council meetings (but can do so if you give them some notice or there is something you want to quiz Sgt. Perrin or one of his staff on).

- **Parking permits consultation.** SHDC has launched a public consultation on the permit system for the council's car parks. There is concern that the number of spaces taken up by permit holders in town centres is leaving few short term spaces for shoppers and visitors. Under the proposals a 24-hour permit for Leonard's Road, Ivybridge, would rise from £140 to £192 a year. People can have their say by going online to: www.engagement.southhams.gov.uk/parking
- **Alcohol and Entertainment licensing policy.** SHDC is inviting residents and businesses to have their say on the new Alcohol and Entertainment Licensing Policy. An eight week consultation runs until Friday 16 October. The renewed policy will decide how the Council makes decisions on alcohol and entertainment licensing issues over the next five years. The Policy will also be used by local residents and businesses preparing licensing applications and making comments on licence applications. The consultation is open for all local communities and businesses to comment and all comments received will be considered once the consultation has closed. The Policy will then be published, detailing how the Council intends to operate and promote licensing in the area, and ensuring there is the right balance between encouraging local culture and protecting residents from unreasonable disturbances. To read the new policy visit: www.engagement.southhams.gov.uk/licensing
Comments can be made by emailing: licensing@southhams.gov.uk
or writing to: Licensing Department, South Hams District Council.