

Diptford Parish Council meeting, 10th November 2020 – App. 2
DEVON COUNTY COUNCIL REPORT FROM COUNCILLOR RICHARD HOSKING

1. There have been 731 cases of Coronavirus confirmed in Devon in the last week to 8th November. This brings the total confirmed cases in the County to 6,014.
2. Sad to report 4 more Coronavirus deaths in Devon in the week to 30th October.
3. We are now in lockdown until 2nd December and whilst there has been good news on the development of a vaccine the Prime Minister has emphasised that we must continue to observe lockdown rules to prevent the NHS being overwhelmed by cases.
4. So a reminder that Hands, Face & Space is still the order of the day when you make those essential trips.
5. The Government has now made funding available for a hardship fund to help families over the Christmas break. This will be co-ordinated by Neil.Hawke@southwestdevon.gov.uk
An online application form can be found on the South Hams Website <https://southhams.gov.uk/help> and the helpline telephone number is (01803) 861297.
6. This additional funding has freed up the money Devon County Council had allocated for this purpose, and we are now able to offer grants of £300 to £700 for Parish Councils and voluntary bodies to help those obliged to self-isolate or quarantine and guidance including how to apply is provided on the Devon County website at <https://www.devon.gov.uk/coronavirus-advice-in-devon/document/covid-19-fund/>
7. The Chancellor announced further measures to protect jobs and help the self-employed to supplement the recently announced Winter Economy Plan. This includes extension of the Furlough scheme, potentially until March 2021, and other grants and reliefs.
8. Guidance on how to obtain help is available for Parishioners through;
 - a) the Citizens Advice Bureau 0344 411 1444
and soft touch signposting for businesses through;
 - b) the Heart of the Southwest Local Enterprise Partnership 03456 047 047
9. Devon County Council have confirmed that the verges on the draft designs for the restriction of access for large vehicles to Gara Bridge will be too high for vehicles to drive over.
10. Sorry to hear of flooding experienced by Councillor Peach. Regrettably the budget that may have enabled us to place a works order has been frozen to make savings on a predicted overspend. I can only suggest that we ask the District Council if they are able to sweep the roads, or whether your Lengthsman can help?
11. Pleased to report that a Traffic Regulation Order has been issued for the patching works from Gara Bridge to Crabbadon Cross.
12. Thank you for the intelligence regarding a drainage issue near Morleigh.