

Councillors met for their routine February meeting on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup>. The main points of the evening were:

The person from West Devon who was supposed to have been helping the council develop its housing needs survey has left West Devon's employ. The council is now seeking assistance from someone else in the Affordable Housing department but remains keen to establish exactly what the community's housing needs are going forward.

Two members of the parish have expressed an interest in joining the council to replace Nick Skeaping. Councillors will decide on filling the vacancy at the March meeting. If anyone else might be interested in throwing a hat in a ring, there is still time to let the Clerk know.

Discussions with the Sports Field Trustees have progressed and Councillors have agreed the form of words for a new agreement which would see the Trustees assume responsibility for repairs to the playground. The draft agreement has gone to the Trustees for their consideration, with the hope that the agreement can be signed off in March.

Councillors discussed how matters with the car park are progressing now that charging has been introduced. Thanks to parishioners who have notified the council that the charging machine does not recognise that Sunday mornings are free parking. This has been passed on to Richard Drysdale from the National Park who has promised to see this issue rectified. There has been no progress with DNPA's ambition to re-open the public toilets.

Autumn and early winter sees a lot of leaf and detritus fall onto the roads, which is not always cleared away by the owners of the offending trees and properties. As a consequence, many drains and covers become blocked during the winter rains, leading to flooding in places. The council is aware of two serious flooding risks which arose during the last heavy rains. One, under the bridge before the turning to Ingo Brake has apparently already been cleaned by Devon Highways. Another in the middle of the village has been reported for Highways' attention. Councillors are always keen to hear of other such problems.

Following a recent incident, members of the village Emergency response team will no longer attend "callouts" on their own but will always be accompanied. This might result in a slight delay in response should you need help.