

## **AGENDA ITEM 9e**

West Devon Borough councillor update to Tavistock Town Council members.

(Cllr James Spettigue)

Dear Members,

Please see below, my thoughts and some updates Re WDBC and community related matters in Tavistock.

### **Spring Hill**

With conditional approval granted for the demolition and rebuilding on this site in December 2021, The deadline for constructors to tender for this project closed this month. My understanding is that we have not yet identified a suitable contractor, which is a matter for concern. I have reached out to the appropriate officer to get further clarification on this and I hope we can bring you more encouraging news soon about the project getting underway.

### **Waste collection**

I am pleased to inform you that FCC has not missed a collection round for over four weeks. I realise that this under normal circumstances is simply them meeting service level agreement but in the wake of its performance in recent months, with regard to the staffing challenges, I would call it progress!

### **Baker Estates S106**

WDBC DM&L committee has not yet been given a date at which it will consider the S106 agreement for the Baker estates permission granted on however I have already written to Mr Fairbairn, the Borough legal advisor to enquire as to the format that the committee's consideration will take. I have asked him whether the public will have opportunity to support/object to the S106? Will members of the public/members of local authorities have an opportunity to register to speak at the meeting? I have not yet had a reply but will be in touch via your DM&L chair when I hear back from him.

### **Vandalism around the town**

It is disappointing to see that the blight of vandalism around the town continues. The damage to Whitchurch school and further destruction at the sensory garden are a source of frustration. For my part I have consistently called for increased funding to the community safety partnership, who were able to put additional funding in place for outreach youth work last year in both Okehampton and Tavistock. I will continue to lobby for this increase in funding to continue.

### **Summer closure of Crowndale Road**

As you will likely be aware, the mains sewer pipe under Crowndale Road needs renewing/repairing along an 1100m stretch of the road. This will result in a closure of the road which is scheduled from 4<sup>th</sup> July to 26<sup>th</sup> August this year. This is likely to cause significant inconvenience to residents but in respect of maintaining our infrastructure, is a necessary undertaking. The recycling centre WILL be accessible via the considerable detour through Gulworthy and the Bere Alston road, however the site will only be able to receive green/garden waste during this time as the larger waste containers and their vehicles are too tall to get under the bridge on the back road. Alternative recycling centres in WD/SH are available for other forms of waste disposal at Ivybridge and Okehampton. If you have your passport to hand there is also Launceston...

### **Community Speedwatch**

Our efforts to curtail excessive road speed around the town continue! We are a small group and our core of 5 volunteers undertake speedwatch activities 2-3 times a month. With additional volunteers this could be done more regularly, so consider this a request for volunteers! PCSO Williams has identified several new sites for us to use soon we will be able to operate on the A386 near Lidl (in both directions) and also outside Whitchurch school, this is in addition to our existing sites at Anderton lane and Parkwood road (next to the hockey pitch).

### **Community events post covid**

It is wonderful to see the town back to its vibrant best post covid. The food festival, jubilee and more recently the Pride celebration have all shown Tavistock at its very best. A Busy, vibrant and inclusive destination. Every time I have been in to town recently the high street has looked busy which is never a bad thing.

### **WD Councillor locality funds**

A reminder that West Devon councillors have a locality fund which can be applied to for funding for projects, purchases in support of local community groups. If you are aware of any local groups that need funding towards their efforts then please ask them to email one of us so that we can signpost them to the necessary application forms.

Kind regards

James