

## **November/December Report – Cllr Marcus Hartnell, Seaton & Colyton Division**

### **Motorhome Parking Task Group**

The motorhome task group was set up by the Corporate Scrutiny committee to investigate the impact of motorhome parking across Devon, in particular at seaside locations. Last year I received several complaints from residents and businesses owing to anti-social behaviour from motorhome owners parking overnight along Seaton seafront. I sit on the task group and have made some good progress discussing options with officers.

### **Seaton Flood Study**

Earlier this year Devon County Council commissioned consultants Arcadis to undertake hydraulic modelling work to evaluate the current and future level of surface water and ordinary watercourse flood risk in Seaton. This includes an evaluation of potential solutions that could be implemented subject to providing a successful business case to secure funding from DEFRA. Arcadis presented their draft report to members of the Seaton Flood group, which was well received. Members of the group were able to challenge the modelling and offer feedback regarding flood flows, velocities and depths based on first-hand experience based around the flood event of October 2021. Further work will continue to develop a final model along with a business case to apply for funding to deliver improvements to Seaton's drainage infrastructure.

### **Ongoing Gas works taking place in Colyton**

I've received the following update from Wales & West Utilities regarding ongoing gas improvement works in Colyton.

"I am writing to update you on the gas works taking place in Colyton. As suspected King street has been a challenging street that included the need for over 100m of trench work to replace the feeds to the tannery and farm shop. We are carrying out the final connection at the end of king street tomorrow (2<sup>nd</sup> November) and all being well final reinstatement done on Friday.

WWU planning department have now put in the notices for the new year to highways (Dolphin street, Queen street, Queens Square and Church Street). We will be sending a newsletter to the residents and sending WWU customer service team to carry out pre job door knocks to answer and queries they may have."

### **A3052 Resurfacing**

I am pleased to advise the stretch of the A3052 between Tower Services and just past the Three Horseshoes is now scheduled for resurfacing between 23<sup>rd</sup> January & 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2023, with road closure and diversions in place from 7pm-7am. I requested this work earlier this year following numerous customer complaints, and I have been persistently following up, so I am pleased my persistence has paid off!

## **Highways & Traffic management policy reviews**

Cabinet has approved the submission of an application to the Department of Transport to acquire powers to enforce moving traffic offences. Existing CCTV infrastructure is to be utilised to determine potential sites with images captured to identify contraventions, with a Civil Enforcement Officer confirming the contravention before a penalty charge noticed is issued. During the first six months of operation warning notices will be issued, with subsequent contraventions resulting in a fixed penalty notice. Initial sites evaluated are as follows:

The following sites are proposed for initial consideration as they are known to contribute towards congestion:

1. Heavitree Fore Street, Exeter – Bus Lane
2. Exe Bridges, Exeter – Bus Lane
3. Exe Bridges, Exeter – Yellow Box Junction
4. Penn Inn, Roundabout Newton Abbot – Yellow Box Junction
5. Topsham Road / Burnthouse Lane, Exeter – Bus Lane
6. The Square (near Boutport Street) Barnstaple – Bus Lane.

Further pay and display schemes are to be developed in communities where a parking and traffic management need is identified. On street pay and display assists in managing parking stock effectively and can ensure the right parking opportunities are available to support town centres and helps towards a prosperous future. The policy also works to address climate change; helping to reduce congestion, reducing carbon emissions and improving air quality, and any surplus can be reinvested in public transport or environmental improvements. The following communities are to be reviewed; Braunton, CREDITON, Dartmouth, Honiton, Okehampton, Salcombe, Sidmouth & Tavistock.

A contractor will be procured to manage sponsorship and advertising on highway assets such as light columns and roundabouts. This will bring in an income for DCC with no financial outlay. Around 100-120 roundabouts have been identified as suitable for sponsorship, similarly we have in excess of 79,000 lighting columns. It should be stressed that it is likely that only a proportion of lighting stock would likely be appropriate or commercially attractive for sponsorship.

## **We'd like your views on electric vehicles**

The sale of new petrol and diesel vehicles is expected to end in eight years, as we're encouraged to use electric vehicles (EVs), so having the infrastructure and capacity in Devon to support EVs is critical.

National Government is responsible for the roll-out of EV charge points, and websites such as Zap Maps show where the public EV charge points are and who's providing them.

But we're also involved and are working with district councils to put EV car chargers in public car parks and other locations.

We have a draft Devon EV Charging Strategy, setting out how and where we will need to intervene to help deliver the infrastructure, and [we'd like your views on it please.](#)

It includes details on numbers of current and predicted EV users, capacity, number and location of existing charge points, details about current local and national policy, and forecasts of future EV uptake and chargepoint demand.

## **Finance**

In October I reported on the financial challenges faced by DCC, and a further update by way of a report to cabinet can be viewed in the link below:

[2022-23 Month 6 Budget Monitoring Report.pdf \(devon.gov.uk\)](#)

## **Our new Fostering Devon website is live!**

A brand-new fostering website has been launched this month that showcases fostering to the wider public and represents an improved resource bank for current foster carers. By creating this new bespoke website, we hope to continue to inspire people to become foster carers and support those children currently in our service as best we can. Take a look at the website and help to continue to spread the message of our team and fostering as a career.

<https://www.fosteringindevon.org.uk/>

**END**