

CHAIR'S REPORT (Cllr John Tresidder)

I was very pleased to lay a wreath on the War Memorial on behalf of the Parish Council on 9th November. The service was conducted by the Rev Jacques and was very well attended.

EAST BUDLEIGH COMMUNITY SHOP

The shop manager, Mel Ferrers, retired on 9th November having been with the shop from its beginning. Katherine Jayasekera and Sophie Wilkins have joined the management team with Clive Moorhead and Sally Tresidder.

GREEN SPACES & RECREATION GROUND

I jet washed the War Memorial and seemed to spend days clearing leaves so that it all looked presentable on Remembrance Day.



Nothing to report from the Recreation Gound, except that the vehicle gate stay repair is in hand.

EMERGENCY RESILIENCE

No incidents to report despite awful weather and unending rain! Sandbags have been renewed as usual and are available outside the store at the Community Shop.

Clerk's Notes and Correspondence (Lucinda Francis)**Devon Air Ambulance (DAA) Landing Site**

I understand that the remote switching equipment is now working, following checks carried out by the original installers, and reprogramming by DAA. I have queried with the electrician the charge for three hours labour for two visits to identify that this was a DAA programming issue, not an electrical problem. In response they have said that this was because DAA were not available to carry out their test on the first visit. The three hours appears to include travel time from Pinhoe. A lesson to take from this is that in the event of the equipment failing again we should ask DAA to attend to check the programming in the first instance.

Thank you to Councillors for their comments on the draft memorandum of understanding (MOU) between the Parish Council, Clinton Devon Estates, the Football Club and DAA. I have fed these back to DAA.

Brick Cross/Bicton Cross

At the October Parish Council Meeting, District Councillor Charlotte FitzGerald reported road safety issues resulting from motorists using the wrong side of Brick Cross when turning right off the B1328 into Sleaf Lane towards Otterton, due to faded road markings. Brick Cross is in East Budleigh Parish. Cllr FitzGerald has raised this with County Councillor Nick Hookway, and asked Otterton Parish Council to keep a log of

incidents. I have since received an email from an Otterton resident reporting a near miss at this junction. There are seven recent reports of problems with road markings and signs at this location on the Devon County Council website. The tracking for these has not been updated, suggesting that they have been assessed as non-urgent, to be rectified through routine maintenance.

Agendas, Minutes and Reports

I am gradually updating the layout and appearance of these documents. Items on the agenda are now numbered for clarity to make the meeting easier to follow, and for ease of reference in the minutes.

New Laptop

The laptop completely died the day after the October Parish Council Meeting. A replacement has been purchased at a cost of £379.99 (excluding VAT). Fortunately, I have been able to recover all documents from a recent back-up of the old machine, although this has been quite time-consuming.

Village Hall Report (Cllr Louis Allan)

The Village Hall chairs are finally sorted after a plea to retain the older heavier chairs. We now have separate stocks of new lightweight chairs plus the original heavier ones and some spares for the latter.

Following a request on 'Village Events' for new trustees, a number of villagers have expressed interest and one, Hilary Hasset, has been recruited and welcomed to her first meeting.

Ms Julie Reynolds has been appointed as Advisor to the Board of Trustees on the matter of safeguarding.

Quotations are awaited from firms of quantity surveyors for costings associated with the hall refurbishment.

Parish Paths Partnership (P3) Report (Jon Roseway) - Nothing to report

Landscape Recovery/Heaths to Sea (Cllr Derek Wensley) - Nothing to report

Community Pub (Cllr Angie Canning)

All shareholders are invited to the AGM on Wednesday 19th November 2025.

Local Liaison/Salem Chapel (Cllr Kathy Moyle BEM)

The Chapel was to have been handed over from charity to charity transfer to the new East Budleigh's Salem Chapel Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) Chairman Mr Dan Davey on Friday 7th November 2025. This did not take place because myself and other people have been in touch with Historic England with many worries about the transfer. We have all been in touch with Mr Peter Arnold of Historic England to tell him of the many points we want answers on. He is hoping to get a meeting with Historic Chapels Trust and Mr Dan Davey in the next couple of weeks, to talk about the worries we all have, and the fact that we all hope to have some answers. The new drain has been put in last week.

Report to Budleigh Salterton Town Council, East Budleigh Parish Council, Otterton Parish Council and Colaton Raleigh Parish Council November 2025 (Cllr Charlotte FitzGerald, EDDC)**Local Government Reorganisation**

On 26 November, East Devon District Council meets to debate and vote on a proposed unitary authority area to the Department for Local Government Housing and Communities. Following months of work evaluating options, in collaboration with other Devon district councils and including a public consultation period attracting 6,000 responses, the following recommendation for the East Devon submission to government will go before Full Council:

Known as the '4-5-1' model, the following authorities would combine to form unitary authorities. This group of three unitary authorities would then share a Mayoral Authority (which would oversee certain services including police and transport). The 4-5-1 would comprise:

4 = West Devon, Teignbridge, South Hames, Torbay

5 = East Devon, Mid Devon, North Devon, Torridge, Exeter

1 = Plymouth (slightly expanded)

It is anticipated that Exeter and DCC will propose different solutions from that proposed by East Devon District Council and the other districts (which, following months of cross-district conversations, are all set to propose either exactly the same or a very similar arrangement).

The deadline for submission of all proposals to DHLGC is 28 November.

A period of consultation will follow in which town and parish councils will be asked for their feedback on the various solutions proposed for their parish (dates tbc).

Exmouth Remembrance Day Parade and Service

I was honoured and humbled to represent East Devon District Council as Vice-Chair at the Exmouth Remembrance Day parade on 9 November. The service, led by Reverend Steve Jones of Holy Trinity Church, brought together veterans, serving personnel, civic representatives, local organisations, and residents from across the town to honour all

those who have served and sacrificed for our country. Exmouth's strong tradition of service as a garrison-supporting community was in evidence from the parade, which marched from Imperial Road to The Strand, accompanied by the Exmouth Town Concert Band. Veterans received a great many wreaths presented from members of the armed forces and the town.

Councillor Report November 2025 (Councillor Melanie Martin. EDDC)

Local Gov Reorganisation.

Final proposals to reshape and reimagine the future of local services in Devon are set to be formally considered by councillors later this month.

Reimagining Devon: Believe in Better has been published by seven of Devon's district councils, outlining a new model for local government to secure a brighter and more prosperous future for the county and its communities.

In December 2024, the UK Government announced plans to simplify the structure of local government across England. Areas such as Devon, which currently has a 'two-tier' system comprising a county council and district councils, are being asked to develop new unitary authorities.

East Devon, Mid Devon, North Devon, South Hams, Teignbridge, Torridge and West Devon district councils have been working together to shape the proposal. Torbay Council has collaborated with the districts in developing the case but is pursuing its own submission which would see it remain as a unitary authority.

The districts' proposal, known as the 4-5-1 model, includes:

- Torbay and Southern Devon – a unitary authority made up of South Hams, Teignbridge, Torbay and West Devon.
- Exeter and Northern Devon – a unitary authority made up of East Devon, Exeter, Mid Devon, North Devon and Torridge.
- Plymouth City Council remaining a standalone unitary authority.

The 4-5-1 model has been designed to create three robust and balanced unitary authorities in which services are designed and delivered close to communities, as well as unlocking place-based economic growth that will ensure no community is left behind.

It facilitates the transformation of public services and promotes integrated delivery across health, social care, education, housing and community services. Financial modelling conducted as part of the proposal forecasts savings of at least £77.1m from year six, and a cumulative saving of £508m by 10 years.

The initial investment associated with setting up the new councils would be recouped within three years.

In a joint statement, the councils' leaders said: "We believe this proposal truly delivers the best possible outcomes for all of Devon's 1.2 million residents, with three authorities that are big enough to be financially sustainable and deliver major services while remaining local and accessible with communities at their hearts.

"This proposal has been built by rigorous evidence-based analysis and assessment, and extensive engagement with residents, businesses, partners and community groups. The result, this reimagining of Devon, will give our residents the local services they want, tailored to their needs, and ensures our councils are future-proof and resilient for generations to come."

Each council will formally consider approving the proposal at their own respective meetings between 25 November and the deadline for submission of proposals on 28 November. view at www.reimaginingdevon.org.

Budleigh Salterton Toilets Overview Committee Meeting 30 September

I attended the Overview Committee meeting, Henry was also there as he sits on the committee.

I put forward the comments that BTC made, including their wish to remain on the funded programme, and to see a much better process and communication for phase two. I asked why Steamer Steps toilets are not on the schedule for the winter 25/26, about Radar keys, and discount cards for locals.

The meeting was very productive and there was a good debate about the way forward. The overriding message that came across was that LGR will most likely result in Parish and Town councils taking responsibility for local toilets, or toilets closing, and that now is the time to make sure they are handed over in the best condition possible.

There were interesting options discussed, including whether to ask the council for the shortfall to complete the project, or offer councils the 1.95m remaining budget to spend on toilets as they see fit, there was a third option to do nothing but this was not supported, but has to remain an option.

The final recommendation was to recommend to Cabinet an options appraisal is undertaken to inform on the direction of travel, specifically noting the appetite by the committee to prioritise discussions with TC's regarding asset transfer as one possible option. It was noted that options may flow from the appraisal. The most important message that came out of the meeting was that EDDC will consult with Town and Parish Councils before any decisions are made by Cabinet. There is however a crucial time imperative, as not only does EDDC have to find savings of 10m next year, but the government is likely to issue a Section 24 Notice in Dec 2026, and this will halt all significant spending.

Radar Keys –

Project team spoke to industry bodies and the advice was to move away from Radar Keys.

The accessible cubicles are available for anyone with a disability whether obvious or hidden and access isn't restricted.

Difficult to understand benefit of having Radar Keys which also have an administrative burden.

Discount System

The Overview Committee can make a formal formally recommendation to explore this.

- Investigations would be needed to ascertain how it can be delivered and what the cost implications would be.
- There would be cost and administration to obtain.
- Possibility of an app.

The planning application for the Steamer Steps toilets has now been submitted.

Cliff Management Project and Drop In

Budleigh Salterton residents, businesses and visitors are being invited to attend the first public drop-in session for the Budleigh Salterton Beach & Cliff Management Plan (BCMP). **The drop-in session will take place at Budleigh Salterton Public Hall, Station Road, Budleigh Salterton, EX9 6RJ on the 5 December between 2:30pm – 7pm.**

The BCMP will set out how coastal flooding and cliff erosion risks are managed along Budleigh's coastline in the years ahead. This first public stage of engagement focuses on raising awareness of the project and gathering local views to help the team better understand community experiences, issues, concerns, opportunities and priorities for the town's seafront and surrounding coastline.

Alongside the drop-in session, an online survey will be available from the 5 of December.

<https://budleighsaltertonbeachandcliffmanagementplan.commonplace.is>