

Okehampton Hamlets Parish Council

CLERKS REPORT – July 2023

- 1. New developments and dog waste bins I have received complaints from a couple of residents re lack of bins in Redrow Development, I have explained the difficulties experienced with Redrow. Alternative location needed or more questioning of Redrow decision required.
- 2. **Speedwatch** the Okehampton Hamlets Speedwatch Group has been set and I have completed and passed the required training. More volunteers are now needed to undertake the training and sites for undertaking the Speedwatch exercises need to be agreed before submitting them to the Police. Update required.
- 20's Plenty for Devon consideration to be given to supporting this initiative and if agreed appoint Councillor to attend future meetings/briefings. Extract from email from Sustainability Officer at Totnes Town Council below -

'You may be aware that a growing number of Devon Parish Councils are campaigning to make 20mph the default speed limit where people and motor vehicles mix, with 30mph being an exception.

These Parish Councils have started their campaigns with the support of 20's Plenty for Us, a not-forprofit organisation which campaigns to make cities, towns and villages better places to be.

I am supporting the campaign through my role at Totnes Town Council as any effort put into getting 20mph limits locally might as well be put into the Devon-wide campaign to get DCC to change their default policy.

We are now trying to contact those Parish Councils that are not yet involved (as far as we know) to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to participate in this countywide initiative. Could you therefore please bring this email to the attention of your councillors.

If you already support this campaign, please do let us know and we will add you to our ever-growing map: https://shorturl.at/imqEP

We have two webinars coming up: 28 June, 1-2pm and 6 July, 7.30-8.30pm.

We can also arrange for 20's Plenty for Us to give you a Zoom presentation directly if neither of these dates are suitable.

- There is increasing evidence that residents (and voters) want a 20mph default speed limit. They are fed up with intimidatory and anti-social driving, air and noise pollution and in particular they are concerned for their own safety and that of their families.
- There is now a considerable amount of research showing that the introduction of 20mph limits can be low cost and bring wide benefits, including fewer road casualties, less air and noise pollution, and increased walking and cycling.

- At present, Devon County Council's process for introducing 20mph limits is expensive, slow, ad-hoc and village-by-village. We are asking them to change their speed management policy to make 20mph affordable for local communities.
- Devon and Cornwall Police have indicated that they are supportive of 20mph limits. Even without their support, the evidence suggests that the imposition of 20mph limits means that drivers voluntarily reduce their speeds by up to 6 mph on faster roads.

If you or your Parish Council are interested in becoming part of this campaign, please reply to this email or visit the 20's Plenty for Us website (<u>https://www.20splenty.org</u>) or ask any questions. Whatever you decide to do, please let us know.

We have also prepared a map showing which parishes are already supporting 20mph. It would be great to see your parish represented there: <u>https://shorturl.at/imqEP</u> '

Webinar registration links

Wednesday 28th June @ 1-2pm https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUrdemvqz4vG9BaHJTJlxm6ZT2lkheYd2m0

Thursday 6th July @ 7:30-8:30pm https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMsfumhpjltGNMyeIC5Y1oLtUOga9LqAMcS

4. 2024 D Day 80th Anniversary 6th June –I have requested use of Okehampton Showground, Air Cadets are accepted an invitation to be part of the event. Others still to be contacted. Some while ago as agreed at a previous meeting I suggested to OTC that the Councils work together on this event. I was advised this would be put to OTC but not yet received any updates.

Humming Birds – contract circulated, agreement needed to accept terms together with payment of deposit.

Other bookings - eg generator, marquee, stage, other entertainers etc

5. Rural Services Network – I am due to be included in regular newsletters from this organisation which will be forwarded to all Councillors. Please review these for a period – Cllr Goffey advises - 'They are starting a 'villages' group for populations under 2,750 the cost is £70. p.a. On matters like rural housing, rural employment, alternative energy sources etc. they have sent reports up to Parliament. They are (although begun in Tavistock by3 ex WDBC staff,) now a national organisation and very well regarded.'

There is no cost for receiving the newsletters, the cost above is to join the Villages group. I will ask for your views on joining this Group after a review of the newsletters and consideration given to the potential benefits. Bear in mind the Subscriptions budget does not include this organisation, funds would have to be available from an alternative budget line if progressed.

5. **Dartmoor Marshalls** – DNP are currently going through the official procurement process and will advise when this is completed. Aim is still to commence the service end of July.