

Tavistock & Gulworthy DCC Councillor report January 2023

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Highways and Parking.

On-street car parking in Tavistock Town is wanted by DCC. Tavistock bus services receive approximately £180K support funding per year in underused bus services.

Other areas in Devon which have established on-street car parking charges support Tavistock buses. Tavistock is being asked to make contributions.

From the outset, I requested DCC officers to invite WDBC off street car parking officers, Tavistock Town Council Mayor / representative, and the Tavistock BID manager to be included. I was advised that time for this hadn't been factored, so I politely explained that I was not prepared to make such decisions without democratically elected local member representation.

DCC parking officers are re-thinking their original proposal after what we may describe strong representation from me!

Bannawell Park

DCC highway officers are seeking more information so unfortunately, I don't have any useful additional information. I do realise TTC members and staff are frustrated, however I have left this to the officers who know that I am keen to have this sorted.

Pot holes

Despite many pot holes being repaired, the very cold, then wet weather has caused an eruption of pot holes in places around our area. West Devon's geology is less susceptible to pot holes & other areas are experiencing severe disruption and flooding. Highway engineers are trying to manage issues as well as they can.

Education

Tavistock College has finally secured much needed funding to re-build condemned class rooms. I have worked over the years with our local MP, and we are glad that finally students and teachers will have safe and modern buildings.

I have asked the Police to observe traffic around Gulworthy School and in general on the rural roads between Lamerton and the Bere Peninsula.

Budget

DCC budget remains in a vulnerable position, and I suggest councillors seek a link to the teams meeting on **Thursday 9th February at 7pm** with **DCC leader John Hart** which will have been shared with the Parish Clerks.

Devon Communities Together have produced a Rural Cost of Living Survey which link has also been sent to clerks.

The Police, the Fire & Rescue Authorities DCC and WDBC have yet to agree their budgets, however, it would appear all areas will increase the Council Tax. Inflation, the increase in the Living Wage, plus more that budgeted potential pay rises and general increased demand influence budget needs as we know.

