



October Newsletter 2017. Langport & Curry Rivel Division Somerset County Councillor, Langport & Huish ward SSDC District Councillor

Dear All

Somerset Rivers Authority;

The scrutiny panel of the SRA had a very informative bus tour of key sites to highlight the ongoing work and bring about a better understanding of the functionality of the SRA. This tour provided opportunities for questioning to board members and included invited representatives from various communities. Initial feedback is that it was a very worthwhile exercise and will be repeated. Highlights of the tour of SRA-funded works included visiting Beer Wall on the A372 near Othery to see two new river channels with sophisticated tilting weirs, plus a large flood alleviation pond at Curry Mallet (one of nearly 120 natural flood management schemes so far backed by the SRA). Members also stopped in North Curry (to discuss enhanced highways cleansing), Burrowbridge (dredging past and future) and Moorland (community flood planning and resilience).

Library Service;

Thriving, modern library services are very much a part of the future of Somerset County Council. A three-year plan is being developed to redesign the service and place it on a sustainable financial footing for the long-term. We will do this in a structured robust way that maximises integration and optimisation of library resources with other customer facing services. This will ensure we continue to fulfil our statutory duty to deliver a comprehensive and efficient library service.

Education Business Partnership;

On the 5th October the Planning Obligations Board will meet and a decision will be made on a funding bid for the EBP. The EBP is a new vision, working collaboratively with the Economic Development and Children's cabinet members, designed to bring the two elements of education and business together. A skilled workforce is essential in assisting the delivery of economic growth and will help increase productivity. If the bid is successful it will aid the relationships with business and educators, highlighting opportunities for our next generation of workforce. District councils are supportive of the bid as is The Somerset Growth Board.

I am sure most have heard about the resignations from Langport Town Council; three district council members have been temporarily drafted onto Langport Town Council to allow the council to govern whilst it goes through the process of election of new councillors. I of course am one of those drafted on.

Couple of helpful links

www.somersethealthchecks.co.uk

www.somersetnewsroom.com

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