

District Councillor Report June 2017

As you will be aware, the County elections were held in early May and our local County Councillor, Derek Yeomans, retired. I would like to take the opportunity to thank Derek, for his outstanding and committed support to our community, in his role as County Councillor for the past 16 years. During his time he was Chair of the Regulation Committee, which is the Planning Committee for the County, involved with the Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Authority, Scrutiny Committee, including Audit, and for the past eight years has been Chair of the Somerset Waste Partnership, a role he hopes he can continue as the designated representative from SSDC. He has worked tirelessly for our area and will be greatly missed. However, his worthy successor is Clare Aparacio-Paul, who will be known to many of you due to her involvement in the setting up of Much Thorn FloodWings and her ceaseless work in supporting the flood victims during 2014. She has also been actively engaged in all community matters including fundraising, leisure, business and education; her achievements have already been recognised, by the new leader of the County Council, David Fothergill, by being offered a junior cabinet member role. Should you wish to contact Clare on any issues relating to County her email address is CAPaul@somerset.gov.uk or 07879 423117. I look forward to working with Clare in the future on all matters, which affect our local community.

SSDC is working on supporting South Somerset's economy. SSDC's response to the Government's Green Paper setting out its vision for building a future UK Industrial Strategy has been to highlight the importance of South Somerset's economy and its potential for growth and future job creation provided it gets the support it needs, most specifically investment in the aerospace industry. The aerospace activities in Somerset are part of a globally significant South West aerospace cluster and contribute £300 million a year to the local economy. If Somerset is to capitalise on remaining at the forefront of the aerospace industry we will need government investment and collaboration in infrastructure and skills, both from the public and private sectors.



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