**Graeme Barnell Mid Devon District Councillor**

**Newbrooke Ward Report August 2019**

## Mid Devon estates

This summer I've been round the Mid Devon Council owned estates accompanied by Mid Devon staff most recently in Shobrooke. We have identified various property and grounds maintenance issues for attention. I would appreciate the help of Parish councillors in keeping an eye and letting me know if there are problems that ate not being dealt with.

## Road and Cycle Way improvements

I've been continuing work to get improvements in road safety, include highway improvements along and adjacent to the A377 and to reduce the need for car use and journeys. Many local people share my belief that we cannot continue with road traffic dividing and dominating our communities in the way that it now does. We need safer road crossing points, more pavements, and dedicated cycle ways.

I am aiming to get a local highways and transport plan drawn up and agreed by Devon County Council with the support of the Parish Councils. I hope this will give us away forward with the large number of road and transport issues that have been waiting for progress. It should help the local authorities involved to respond to local people who are asking for action.

In July I met with Officers from Devon County Council and County Councillor Margaret Squires together with Roger Cashmore Newton St Cyres Parish Councillor. I am meeting them again in September to discuss how to get this plan done. Like all such plans it will need to be costed with a timetable for implementation. It will also need to be the subject of discussion and consultation with local people. Please let me know if you would like more Parish Councillors to get involved.

I will be keeping local people informed and updated on progress. If you have views or proposals let me know.

### Twenty is Plenty

Some residents in West Town and along West Town Lane and also in Sweetham have told me they want to see a change in speed limits in their locality. The are concerned that 30mph is too fast in narrow country lanes where people live, walk and where children play. The know that this takes time to achieve so they are also asking for informal "Twenty is Plenty" signs along the roads that are causing concern. I agree with this but, before I take this up, I need to ensure that it has the support of most people in these localities. starting in West Town Lane and West Town in September I will be putting a letter in our mailbox asking for your views. I hope to be able to report the outcome next month.

### Langford Lorry Traffic

Residents of Langford are asking for action because their lives are being badly affected by a large volume of heavy lorry traffic through their village. I've been working with Devon County Councillor Margaret Squires to in an attempt improve matters.

### Climate emergency

I am interested in setting up a local Climate Emergency Action Group. The idea is to bring local people together to: -

- Share information about good practice and other local schemes aimed at reducing greenhouse gases.
- Plan local action to reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Engage with local authorities, businesses and local people to reduce carbon release.

Are you interested? Let me know.

**Mid Devon Planning and Regeneration**

I have the lead role in Cabinet for Planning and Regeneration. This continues to involve me in a lot of work in and around Cullompton and Tiverton where there are major developments planned. At the moment there are no new developments planned in Newbrooke Ward. The Greater Exeter Strategic Plan (GESP) may have implications for our Parishes but this continues to be delayed

**Graeme Barnell**
District Councillor

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