# Cllr Steve Keable

**Devon County Councillor** - Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe:
Bickleigh • Brushford • Cadbury • Cadeleigh • Chawleigh • Cheriton Fitzpaine • Coldridge • Cruwys Morchard • Down St. Mary • Eggesford • Kennerleigh • Lapford • Morchard Bishop • Newton St. Cyres • Nymet Rowland • Poughill • Puddington • Sandford • Shobrooke • Silverton • Stockleigh English • Stockleigh Pomeroy • Thelbridge • Thorverton • Upton Hellions • Washford Pyne • Wembworthy • Woolfardisworthy • Zeal Monachorum

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**Mid Devon Councillor** - Taw Vale:
Chawleigh • Lapford • Nymet Rowland • Wembworthy

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*07967 655045*




*1st November 2026*

**Dear Councillors and Clerk,**

Please accept my apologies for your Parish Council meetings in November and December 2026.

**Background**
The Creedy, Taw and Mid Exe division of 29 Parish Council with some 200 Councillors is by far the largest DCC area in the County (compared average 6.5 parish councils for other DCC Councillors). Having attended many of your meetings in my first 18-months as your County Councillors (average 73%), I promised to stay close to your parish to improve communication with local and national government and represent your local community. To be effective I must make some changes which I shall review in the New Year.

Attending so many monthly parish meetings is a huge time, travel, preparation and follow-up provision that exceeds 2-full working weeks each month (100 hours). On top of this I have County Council & District Council meetings, residents' casework, follow-up of your parish business, and especially Highways matters.

Plan Mid Devon, spatial development (where to build), strategic infrastructure (road & rail) and economy are all at critical and demanding points within my MDDC Cabinet responsibilities, and as I have reported to you in my Monthly Councillor Reports.

I now wish to trial for the next 2-month, 4 new ways of working with all 29 parishes:-

**4 New Ways of Working**
My proposal is to trial, for the remainder of 2026, a series of new initiatives:

1. **Weekly Teams on-line Briefing with Q&As** – every Wednesday 7pm to 8pm - *extendable by request*
2. **Parish Business on-line via Teams: a**rranged on-line attendance to your Parish Council meeting or specially arranges business meeting.
3. **Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe What's App Community** for:-
   a) Business Info & Updates *
   b) Diary Booking Requests *
   c) Highways Matters – Info & Reporting *
   d) Councillors Monthly Reports – current & past-publications *
   e) My Surveys – e.g. 2026 Creedy, Taw & Mid Exe *
   f) Parish Community & Social Events – post your local event *
   g) General - working together with information and comment across parish councils.

   * a to f) 'posting' information only: not open to running comments
4. **Councillor attending Parish Council** meetings in-person can still happen but this should be booked through Diary Booking (3b. above) or by acknowledge email.

On-line Teams facilities will be immediately available through email and What's App. The What's App Community will develop over time as links with "forms" and other web services are implemented. All the above are ways in which I plan for effective and better use of time for all, ways that must be effective to work, with efficiency, better use of digital management, less impact on environment (reduced travel & costs), or abortive meetings due the unforeseen, (bad weather or lack of quorum).

Telephoning me on **07967 655045** is always a choice open to you.

Thank you for your assistance.

Best Wishes

Steve Keable


**Cllr Steve Keable, Bromstone Cottage, Lapford, Crediton, EX17 6PZ**