

## **Division members report for Whimble & Blackdown**

### **June 2021 - DCC Cllr Iain Chubb**

Firstly, a warm welcome to any newly elected or co-opted members of the Parish Council where I wish you all the best as Councillors working on behalf of all residents in the parish, also to all Councillors where you have a busy time ahead of you working with your colleagues providing a healthy and happy environment to live in.

After a very different Devon County Council election held in sometimes difficult and unprecedented circumstances due to Covid 19, I am very pleased to have been returned for a second term of office as the Division member for Whimble & Blackdown, where like you I will be working and acting in the best interests of everyone in the Division as well as the County in a wider sense.

### **New opportunities, new ways of working, fresh challenges and not re-inventing the wheel**

#### **Highways**

The number one 'postbag' item for me is that of Highway issues, whether potholes, drainage, footways, reducing speed limits, parking enforcement and many other related items. It is certainly a good idea and to save time to report any issue direct to DCC on the 'Report a problem' web site for items such as potholes (the definition of what constitutes one is shown) to defective road markings, fallen trees etc. I would emphasise that actions reported on this site are undertaken on a risk to life, safety first policy so may not be dealt with immediately if sufficient resources are not available. The link to the site is <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roadsandtransport/report-a-problem/>

DCC has a 'framework' of contractors to undertake the various roles that maintain our highways and byways with a main one for the bulk of works and arrange of others for specific roles. A new main contractor M Group (you may know them in another iteration as utility services group Morrison's) have been appointed to take over from Skanska, where clearly more working efficiencies will be sought within the contract based on what is called the DCC 'Doing What Matters' policy

## Climate Emergency

Devon County Council is committing significant human and financial resources in to addressing climate change issues with carbon reductions is a major part of that with DCC leading by example working with partners for all sectors and areas of life in Devon and beyond.

It is without doubt one of the biggest challenges that DCC has ever had to address and covers massive range of areas Nationally, regionally, and locally in order to influence change. You can read more at the specialist climate emergency web site <https://www.devonclimateemergency.org.uk/>

Everyone needs to 'buy in' to this agenda and from a very local perspective I am delighted that one of our local community transport provider TRIP have invested in a no emissions electric mini bus to show us the way forward, operating from their base in Honiton serving our area and beyond!

## Health

The Integrated care system for Devon or ICS is being rolled out currently and aims to provide a one stop shop from Primary Care to Acute care under one commissioning (funding) umbrella with the sole purpose of improving how healthcare is delivered in Devon.

To coin a phrase really is a 'game changer' with an emphasis on keeping people, fitter, healthier and longer, putting less pressure on to the whole Healthcare system and you can find further details on this by clicking <https://www.icsdevon.co.uk/> or E Mailing me on [iain.chubb@devon.gov.uk](mailto:iain.chubb@devon.gov.uk) where I can point you in the right direction if I can't offer an immediate answer.

Iain Chubb

07932 459595

