

Outside Body	Number of Representative(s) and Name(s)	Notes For Consideration
Barnstaple and District Chamber of Commerce	1 Hunt	Report to follow.
Barnstaple Town Centre Management	2 Clayton and Jusef	Has not met since Member was appointed, and thus no report to give.
Barnstaple Youth House Association	1 Orange	No report received.
Braunton Marsh Internal Drainage Board	3 Bell, Maddocks and Spear	Report received.
The Bridge Trust	2 Haworth-Booth and Prowse	Report received.
Chulmleigh Town Hall Committee	1 Davies	Report received.
Citizen's Advice (Torrige, North Devon, Mid Devon and Bude)	1 Bishop	Has not contacted appointed Member, and thus no report to give. Supporting documents provided.
Combe Martin Business Association	1 Lethaby	No report received.
Campaign for the Protection of Rural England (CPRE)	1 Maddocks	Report received.
Devon and Cornwall Police Crime Panel	1 C. Leaver	Report to follow.
Devon Districts Forum	2 (1 Member and 1 Officer) Roome and Chief Executive	No report received.
Devon Rail Forum (formerly Devon and Exeter Rail Project Working Party)	1 R. Knight	Report received.
Devon Waste Reduction and Recycling Committee	1 D. Knight	No report received.
District Council's Network Assembly	1 Worden	No report received.

Exmoor National Park Authority	2 Milton and Patrinos	Report received.
Fremington Quay Environment Group	1 Denton	No report received.
Ilfracombe and District Business Tourism Association	1 Williams	Report received.
LGA General Assembly	1 P. Leaver	Report received.
LGA Coast Issues Special Interest Group	1 + 1 Reserve Wilkinson (Renshaw as Reserve)	Report received.
Mid Devon Mobility Board	1 York	Has not contacted appointed Member, and thus no report to give.
North Devon Against Domestic Abuse	1 Biederman	No report received.
Northern Devon Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty	1 Wilkinson	Report received.
North Devon Athenaeum	1 York	Report received.
North Devon Biosphere	1 Stevenson	No report received.
Northern Devon Growth Board	1 Roome	No report received.
North Devon County Locality Committee <i>(This meeting follows immediately after HATOC)</i>	2 D. Knight and Spear	Has not met since Member was appointed, and thus no report to give.
North Devon Highways and Transport Orders Committee	3 D. Knight, R. Knight and Spear	Report received.
North Devon +	1 Prowse and Roome	Report received.
North Devon Voluntary Services	1	No report received.

	Cann	
One Barnstaple	1 York	Report received.
One Ilfracombe	1 Roome	No report received.
PATROL	1 Walker	Report received.
Safer North Devon Community Safety Partnership Board	1 C. Leaver	Report received.
South West Provincial Council for Local Authority Services	1 Worden	No report received.
Trustees of Pilton Charities	1 Hunt	Report to follow.
Woolacombe and Morteohoe Tourism Association	1 Wilkinson	Report received.

Braunton Marsh Internal Drainage Board

Report by Councillor L. Spear

So far this council year the Board has met 5 times. I have missed two of them, one which was in May 2023 which I was not invited to and the other in January 2024 as it clashed with Policy Development Committee at NDC which I chair.

The Agendas consist of various updates from Board members and landowners regarding the conditions of the drains, dykes, ditches etc, the upkeep of which the Board is responsible. The Board collects levies from landowners on the Marshes towards these repairs.

The Board are consulted on Planning Applications which affect the Marshes including the White Cross Offshore Windfarm application to which it gave a detailed response.

Various Policies reviewed and updated and annual reports including one to Defra completed.

Report by Councillor Maddocks

Since May the board has met five times and I have been present in three times. I have also spent half a day being shown around to see how the drainage system works and where they are.

The purpose of the board is to maintain the good working order of the drains to allow the land to be used for farming and to prevent flooding.

The body helps the council with its biodiversity and its carbon neutral aims as it provides great natural habitats and protection and the drainage system itself is driven by gravity alone.

The achievements this year are that nothing has changed the drainage system. It is constantly maintained to a high standard. It does have a problem with an invasive weed called parrot's feather which they are on top of.

The body is very effective in meeting its aims due to the fact that the committee is consisted of farmers that have been working on the marsh for generations.

It not be useful to appoint another member to the body.

Bridge Trust

Report to Council: March 2024 Malcolm Prowse

The Bridge Trust owns some clusters of listed buildings within the town centre of Barnstaple. Over recent years the high level of empty properties, and some in poor repair, has left the charity unable to carry out its purpose in helping the needs of the town's communities.

I am pleased to report that recent changes and appointments, together with the brilliant work of Alsion Mills in bidding for Arts Council funding, have led to the complete reversal of this decline. The successful bid to the Cultural Development Fund will not only support our work with the FHSF works in Boutport Street but will breathe new life into the iconic Bridge Chambers of the riverbank.

The work across the past two years of Steve Shortridge as an external advisor has also led to a number of new leases. The CAB and a local firm of architects have taken up vacant capacity in Bridge Buildings and the properties are now fully occupied – and a new bin store completed for the pedestrianised Maiden Street.

With Graham Lofthouse taking on the new role of Clerk to the Trust and Gerry Duffy the day to day management of the estate have under-pinned turning around the fortunes of the ancient body. The properties in the High Street are occupied and the Property Committee are negotiating with potential partners to revitalise the mainly empty block of properties in Boutport Street between Joy Street and Green Lanes.

Things are certainly more optimistic than they have been in my 5 years as a Trustee and the financial stability of the Bridge Trust is now assured. One of the Council's priorities is the regeneration of Barnstaple town centre and the continued partnership with this major and strategic landowner certainly meets this objective. I would definitely encourage to continue nominations from North Devon Council to this organisation to help promote the vitality of our Regional Centre. At the moment this fits my portfolio and Mark Haworth Booth's wide range of cultural knowledge and experience. The main Trust meet twice a year and the Property Committee on which I sit similarly, the only meeting I missed and had to apologise was the pre-Christmas Trust meeting – so no mince pies and sherry for me!

Campaign For the Protection of Rural England

Report by Councillor Maddocks

My first meeting with them other than a phone conversation is going to be in March.

The charity aims are a thriving beautiful countryside for everyone from tackling the climate emergency to improving access to England's landscapes for everyone.

The charity runs many workshops one which stands out for me is planning workshop for parish councils and members to replay to planning applications correctly.

The body has achieved many things this year to many to mention helping members on aggressive planning applications, litter picking, plastic waste and countryside education.

The body is very effective in reaching its goals, look on their website for more information.

REPORT TO:

Date: 2ND MARCH 2024

**OUTSIDE BODY: CHULMLIEGH TOWN
HALL COMMITTEE**

REPORT BY:

Councillor KEVIN DAVIES

1 Activity

- 1.1 The committee have met five times formally during the year including the AGM although most of the committee will meet informally, sharing ideas and resolving various issues on a weekly basis. I continue to be a Trustee and have been elected as Chair and re-elected as joint Health & Safety Officer. I am pleased to report a 7th member has recently joined the committee and we all look forward to a busy year and fulfilling our purpose as best we can.

2 Purpose

- 2.1 The Committee are responsible for the general management and control of the Trust Premises being the Town Hall. The Committee make and alter the Rules and Regulations for the conduct of its business and for the summoning and conduct of its meetings and in particular with reference to: the terms and conditions upon which the Trust Premises may be used; the appointment of an Auditor, Treasurer and officers and their terms of office; the engagement and dismissal of such paid officers and servants for the Trust Premises and the number of members who shall form a quorum at its meetings.

The Town Hall is held upon trust for the purpose of physical and mental training and recreation and social moral and intellectual development through the medium of reading and recreation rooms, library lectures, classed recreations and entertainments or otherwise as may be found expedient for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Parish of Chulmleigh and its immediate vicinity without distinction of sex or of political, religious or other opinions.

- 2.2 The Town Hall is a publically accessible 'hub venue' in the centre of Chulmleigh. It hosts and promotes numerous activities including for education, social engagement and leisure & fitness. I am in no doubt that the body engages and furthers the interests, quality of life, well-being and development of the community. Involvement with the body aligns with the councils priority areas.

3 Achievements

3.1 The Town Hall continues to attract a myriad of users and groups from all sectors of the community. These include the following: Yoga and Ying Yang, Police Drop-in, Line Dancing, CAMEO, the Parish Council, Chulmleigh Old Fair, Folk Club, various celebrations/ private functions & parties, Sunday Lunch Club and Violet & Sage Sisterhood Circle.

Coffee Mornings are held on Saturdays. These are available to and run by local groups, clubs and charities. These include: Chulmleigh and Chawleigh Churches, local sports clubs (tennis, table tennis, football, cricket, badminton, bowls etc), other clubs (Pre-School, Cubs, Scouts etc), Garden Society, Chulmleigh Recreation Association, Chulmleigh Old Fair, Little Red Hen Craft Group and North Devon Hospice.

Various seasonal events are held in particular for Christmas and The Chulmleigh Old Fair. Pancake day is a favourite and there have been a number of fund raising events to support Red Cross Ukraine.

3.2 The usage is stable and we are pleased that the new Chair Yoga classes and the Folk Club are getting established and proving very popular.

3.3 To help generate additional funds, in order to help cover increased energy costs, the committee is now running quarterly craft markets and hosting live music. Both have been extremely popular and we are delighted these are well supported.

3.4 The Chulmleigh Town Hall Committee remains financially sound.

4 The future

4.1 The body is effective in trying to meet its aims.

4.2 At this time I do not see that it is necessary for the council to make a further appointment to the body.

5 Other

5.1 The acoustic improvements have now been completed. This included the provision of acoustic insulation to separate the upper and lower halls, the installation of six acoustic rafts to the underside of the ceiling of the lower hall and fitting blinds to both halls and the upstairs 'backroom snug.' We are very grateful for the s106 and community councillor grants received.

5.2 In order to accommodate the newly formed Folk Club great efforts were made to tidy up and put back into hire usage the upstairs back room now renamed the 'snug.' This room has also been used to increase the area available for the craft market and stall holders.

5.3 The Chulmleigh Town Hall website has been launched and we hope this simplifies the booking process and makes our offering clear.

**REPORT TO: NORTH DEVON
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Date: 12.03.24

OUTSIDE BODIES:

1. DEVON RAIL FORUM

REPORT BY:

Councillor RICKY KNIGHT

Activity

3. Met twice; attended once.

Purpose

Similar to above but Devon-wide – more clout – not always easy to spot relevance to ND/NDC – but it does marry well with 2.

Achievements

As above, chaired by Cllr Andrea Davis - and very well too. Lots of 'achievements' – as per the minutes. Very useful on passenger numbers – and the post-Covid recovery. Ongoing quandary over number of students taking the rush hour services to Exeter.

The future

It would be churlish for me to intimate that any of these bodies are not 'reasonably effective' in meeting their aims! I sincerely believe they are. At every stage, communication is well maintained, agendas are followed, minutes taken and disseminated. All members have the chance for input and taken seriously. So yes, as such, all four are effective outreach bodies for NDC – *in my considered opinion*.

REPORT TO: NDC

Date:3/3/24

**OUTSIDE BODY : EXMOOR NATIONAL
PARK AUTHORITY**

REPORT BY:

Councillor ROBIN MILTON

Activity

ENPA meets on a monthly basis for main authority business and planning as well as informal members forum and workshops sessions.

As Deputy Chair of ENPA I have attended 8/10 authority and planning meetings, at least 10 meetings as chair of 'Farming in Protected Landscapes' grant assessment panel and 3 Exmoor and Parish consultative Forum. Also meetings with Leadership team and Chair on a monthly basis.

Other committees associated that I attend on a regular include the 'FAPAP' (financial affairs), Moorland and Farming Board, Exmoor Hill Farm Network.

I also attended National Parks UK meeting in Cumbria.

Purpose

Exmoor National Park Authority has 2 statutory purposes and a duty to seek to foster economic and social wellbeing

As a statutory planning authority within North Devon area (1/3 of Exmoor is in North Devon) its policies are intrinsically linked to NDC whilst the purposes are directly beneficial to NDC in delivering nature and climate change objectives as well as maintaining the natural environment benefits so obvious to all.

Achievements

ENPA has a considerable list of achievements that can be easily accessed on its website. Whilst struggling with funding constraints it has delivered a robust planning service whilst addressing the problems of ownership of a considerable land and property estate in order to ensure best public value for money against current environmental objectives. A Landscape recovery scheme has been approved for further development, many trees have been

planted and the considerable funds in the Farming in Protected Landscape Scheme allocated fully to best effect.

The future

ENPA is more effective than many National Parks at managing its limited funds for maximum impact and value. It is a vital and necessary partner to NDC over the area designated National Park in North Devon and may well provide opportunities for NDC to offset carbon and biodiversity to enable appropriate economic development here.

Further appointments to ENPA are vital to ensure the opportunities for partnership working continue and North Devon is fully represented in the policy context of this protected landscape as members of the ENPA

Other

As past chairman of ENPA and currently elected deputy chair then I fully understand the complexities of working in a protected landscape and the different approaches required as a body funded by DEFRA with specific responsibilities. I am certain that I can represent the interests of NDC fully as an appointed member of ENPA

REPORT TO: NORTH DEVON COUNCIL
Date: 27 MARCH 2024
OUTSIDE BODY: EXMOOR NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY
REPORT BY: Councillor JOHN PATRINOS

Activity

ENPA meets on the first Tuesday of each month, although the structure is changing slightly in 2024/25 to include a separate Planning Committee which I will be a member of.

Purpose

National Parks have two purposes:

- To conserve and enhance the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage, and

- To promote opportunities for the public understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Parks.

Parks also have a duty to promote the sustainable economic and social development of the areas communities.

ENPA covers one sixth of the land area of NDC and provides services that would otherwise be provided by the Council.

Achievements

ENPA has achieved a lot in the last year, within the constraints of a budget that has basically been the same in cash terms for several years because the great majority of it is funded by a grant from the Department of Environment Food and Rural Affairs.

A detailed report on ENPA's achievements can be found in item 7 of [this](#) report.

Ilfracombe and District Business Tourism Association

Report by Councillor Williams

Body made up of many different members who all, appear, to have the interest of the town. Members include Hoteliers and business owners who, wish to, promote their own business, and swell visitor numbers to the town

Is it useful, to have a Cllr as a rep on this

Yes it is as it enables NDDC in my opinion and in my case also ITC to have an insight into, the thoughts of this organisation and where possible support and encourage members who appear to want to continue the work previously put in by members. historically Ilfracombe has always had a TIC but with the present financial climate this has not proved financially viable and a new way of promoting, Ilfracombe has had to be implemented.

Unfortunately this years short term plan will mean a slight change to previous years but it is hoped that with careful planning we can still see the benefits and hopefully a way forward for future years

I therefore consider that a rep on this body is necessary and with the support of Dominie and Sarah Jane from NDDC this organisation/body will see a benefit



NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Open

REPORT TO: COUNCIL

Date:

**OUTSIDE BODY: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ASSOCIATION
CONFERENCE**

REPORT BY: Councillor PETER LEAVER

Activity

I was appointed to represent North Devon Council at the Local Government Association Conference.

Purpose

The Local Government Association (LGA) is the national voice for local councils and works to promote, support and improve local government. I attended the LGA conference in July 2023 and, as a newly elected councillor, I learnt about how councils across the country are addressing many of the issues that are facing North Devon. Some of this has been fed back into the strategic plan for North Devon Council and into the debate on Strategy and Resources committee.

Achievements

Nationally, local government is on the news agenda in a way that it hasn't been for decades. The spotlight has been on councils who have had to issue S114 notice. Less newsworthy, but equally important for the communities we serve, are the cuts in real term funding over the last 14 years and the additional costs caused by increased levels of homelessness, changes to the asylum system, the impacts of climate change and high levels of inflation. Local council staff and councillors trying to work within this context, find themselves facing increasing levels of intimidation and hate at the hands of social media in particular.

The LGA has been promoting a series of campaigns to share good practice among councils and to campaign for changes in government policy and the conduct of public life.. These campaigns include:

Debate Not Hate Anyone, regardless of their background or political affiliation, should feel safe to become a councillor and be proud to represent their community. But the increasing level of abuse and intimidation aimed at local politicians is undermining local democracy and putting councillors at risk. Our new campaign is working to challenge the toxicity of public debate and pushing for change.

(<https://www.local.gov.uk/about/campaigns/debate-not-hate>)

Make It Local Public services can be delivered faster, better and more efficiently at a local level. The Government will only be able to tackle challenges and achieve the ambitions of its electorate if it resets the relationship between national and local government. This means trusting that communities, through their local councils, are best placed to take decisions on how frontline services are delivered. To deliver priorities for the public the next government needs to #MakeItLocal.

(<https://www.local.gov.uk/about/campaigns/make-it-local>)

Save local services The future financial sustainability of councils is on a cliff-edge. Without Government action, they will have no choice but to significantly cut the local services our communities – and economy – rely on.

(<https://www.local.gov.uk/about/campaigns/save-local-services>)

Back Local Climate Action Tackling climate change is one of the biggest threats facing our communities and ranks high in peoples' priorities. Councils have **some impact on over 80 per cent** of an areas' emissions, and direct impact over a third of emissions given their central role in housing, transport and energy. The impact of local climate action can be enormous, and councils are united in the call for devolved approaches that realise this potential.

(<https://www.local.gov.uk/about/campaigns/make-it-local/back-local-climate-action>)

Be a Councillor Increasing the pool of talent from which councillors are elected is a key task for local government. We need different kinds of people willing to stand for election so that parties get a choice of quality candidates.

(<https://www.local.gov.uk/be-councillor>)

The future

The LGA is an effective voice for the local government sector and one to which it is useful for the Council to continue to support and engage with. The annual conference provides a great opportunity for members and senior officers to share experiences of other councils around the country and to influence government policy. It is useful for the Council to continue to be represented on the organisation.

REPORT TO: NORTH DEVON COUNCIL
Date: 20/03/24
OUTSIDE BODY: LGA COASTAL ISSUES GROUP
REPORT BY: Councillor Malcolm Wilkinson

Activity

The group meets 4 times a year. Two of the meetings were held virtually and the December meeting was held in London. The September AGM and conference took place in Skegness, which I also attended. I was able to attend 3 sub-committee meetings concerned with Bathing Water Quality. There are currently over 60 member authorities in the group covering 60% of the coastline and representing over 16 million people.

PURPOSE

The Objectives of the Group are:

To increase awareness and debate at a national level of the environmental, economic and social issues that directly or indirectly impact coastal, estuarine and maritime communities;

To act as a focus for liaison between member local authorities and other bodies representing coastal, estuarine and maritime interests;

To secure improved cross-departmental co-ordination with Government on coastal, estuarine and maritime issues with a view to ensuring consistency in policy and the provision of resource;

To work in partnership with other organisations This group's principal aim is to establish improved governance, management and community wellbeing to ensure that the UK has the best managed coast in Europe, and to identify appropriate and sustainable funding strategies to support this aim. It also works towards achieving the recognition that England's coast deserves in policy and decision making. As per Government and North Devon Council priorities there is now a real importance levied on the effects of climate change and the management of our coastline in this changing environment of local government.

Communities on Britain's coastline have fallen behind the rest of the country but the government could unlock their potential by adjusting its Levelling Up policy, according to research published on 1st February 2023 in the Communities on the Edge – Pragmatix Report. Household income in coastal areas is almost £3,000 per year lower than in non-coastal communities. This deprivation, both financial and mental, was highlighted by Sir Chris Whitty in his annual CMO report.

Achievements

The key accountabilities of the Group are:

1. Raising the profile of the challenges, issues and opportunities faced by coastal, estuarine and maritime communities;
2. Representing the best interests of local authority members across all opportunities, with a primary focus for those located in England as in-house expertise allows;
3. Acting as a discussion forum for issues raised, with a view to reaching a consensus of opinion where required and preparing discussion papers or inviting presentations on issues of specific interest to coastal, estuarine and maritime communities;
4. liaising with other Special Interest Groups, LGA Boards and Executive of the LGA, and delivering for coastal, estuarine and maritime communities by developing and maintaining strong collaborative partnerships;
5. Making representations to Government, in so far as they are consistent with and will not conflict with or undermine LGA policy as a whole or damage the interests of other member authorities, to ensure that issues affecting coastal, estuarine and maritime communities are reflected in Government policy and the result is an adequate distribution of funding/resources;
6. Maintaining an annual Workplan formed around the Groups' Strategic Priorities to be agreed each year, normally at the March meeting;
7. To uphold the Nolan Principles of Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership. Although three of the four meetings have been virtual, a considerable amount of work has been undertaken this year. As previously mentioned, I have been an active part of the Bathing Water Quality sub-group and am delighted with the recent bathing water results for North Devon, in particular the improvements at Combe Martin. I compliment the work of the village Water Action Group and Combe Martin Parish Council.

I continue to represent the authority on The Northern Devon Coastal & Taw/Torridge Estuary Working Group. This is a joint sub-committee working with Torridge DC to try and address the very real problem of coastal erosion.

I also sit on the North Devon Council/North Devon Homes sub-committee which concentrates on the regeneration/protection of rural coastal communities and also the South West Coastal Productivity Planning Group.

THE FUTURE

I am delighted to report that the 2024 LGA Coastal Issues AGM and Annual Conference will be hosted by North Devon Council. It is a real opportunity for us to showcase what we have achieved, what we are working on and what still needs to be addressed. It will be based around the corporate priority of the regeneration of Ilfracombe and I have been working with officers to prepare the agenda. Clear reference will be made to the HMO report of Sir Chris Whitty and the "Communities on the Edge" Pragmatix report.

WORLD/NATIONAL SURFING RESERVE

I am a steward for North Devon World Surfing Reserve and was delighted that all of the hard work by the committee resulted in the designation in 2023. This group is very forward thinking and recognises that the award is really the

starting point for protecting our wonderful coastline both geographically and environmentally.

MOTIONS TO COUNCIL

I brought forward two motions to North Devon Council this year. The first was to support the call for an independent review of the actions of all of the Water Authorities and the second was to reinforce the request from the LGA Coastal Issues group for a dedicated Minister for the Coast. Unfortunately neither received government backing!

OTHERS

I have found that working with members and officers from other authorities has enabled me to gain a far greater insight into the problems experienced by our coastline and has also enabled me to have a better understanding of how to develop strategies to overcome them.

Several of the other committees that I sit on dovetail together coastal issues: The A.O.N.B. (now rebranded as National Landscapes), The Woolacombe Tourism Association, Morteohoe & Woolacombe CLT and the Ilfracombe Harbour Board.

Our coastline is one of our greatest assets and we must do everything possible to retain and enhance its character as well as put in place effective and positive policies to combat the effects of climate change. I therefore urge continuation of the membership of this outside body. This has been a busy year in my role as Lead Member for Coastal Communities. There have been some exciting and rewarding results but there have also been some that cause concern for the future. I was delighted with the announcement that North Devon has been awarded status as a World Surfing Reserve. This is only the 12th designation awarded and the only one in the cold waters of the Northern hemisphere. I am privileged to be a steward of the reserve and am well aware that the aims are both environmental and promotional. There is much concern within the group regarding the discharge of sewage into our waters, and this links to a motion that I took to Full Council to request support for independent reviews of all of the Water Authorities. This is a nationwide problem and is being pursued by the LGA Coastal Issues group on which I represent N.Devon Council. There is a real need to look closely at the monitoring of bathing water quality, particularly in light of the emergence cold water swimming throughout the year.

In my role as Chairman of Ilfracombe Harbour, it was a real pleasure to attend the opening of the Ilfracombe Water Sports Centre. This is a tremendous facility, not only for the residents of Ilfracombe, but for all of North Devon. There are further plans afoot to increase the leisure facilities around the harbour and make it central to the regeneration programme.

The disparity between property prices and average income in coastal communities is a massive cause for concern. Not only are people being forced out of the towns and villages in which they were born but also the hospitality industry is having real problems recruiting staff because of spiralling rental costs and lack of affordable accommodation. I sit on the Woolacombe Community Land Trust and we have just submitted a planning application to build 21 affordable, rent only dwellings in Woolacombe. There will be a much needed local needs connection and will help, not just the local

industries, but also retain the integrity of village life. I was interviewed by the BBC "Escape to the Country" team regarding the CLT scheme and it was aired on national television on 4th March 2024.

North Devon Plus

Report to Council from Malcolm Prowse; March 2024

I represent North Devon Council on the board of North Devon+ alongside the Leader of the Council. I have been a Director for a number of years and have been pleased to ensure there is a vehicle to intervene and help improve the economic environment.

The board meets on a 6-8 week cycle and is chaired by Alan Dykes of Lambda in Ilfracombe. I think I may have missed just one meeting in the past 12 months when I tendered my apologies.

The mission statement can be found on the website: northdevonplus.co.uk but in laymen's terms it seeks to promote economic growth in Northern Devon by helping new and existing businesses, seeking to raise skills levels and hence wages across the patch. Encouraging innovation and the use of new technologies.

This Company certainly helps achieve one of North Devon's Priorities.

Main activities include:

- Rolling out the UK Shared Prosperity funding to help local business across North Devon & Torridge
- Managing programmes to help the changing financial outlook facing farmers with the reducing SFPs. Exploring ways to support diversification and new initiatives. (Working in partnership with both planning teams to help and support the agricultural sector through the planning process)
- Acting as the delivery organisation for a raft of 'grant making' activities. Town Centre refurbishment grants and Torridge councillor grants

North Devon+ is an effective, slim and efficient body that can react in pace and intervene to support our Council's priorities. It is vital that the Council continues to nominate leading members to North Devon Plus.

REPORT TO:

Date: 20/03/24

**OUTSIDE BODY: NORTH DEVON AREA OF OUTSTANDING
NATURAL BEAUTY (NATIONAL LANDSCAPES)**

REPORT BY: Councillor Malcolm Wilkinson

Activity

This year I have attended 3 of the 4 meetings. Many different organisations from Northern Devon are represented on this committee.

Purpose

The intention of the organisation is to protect and enhance our beautiful area of Northern Devon, paying particular attention to conservation, enhancement and the threat of climate change.

There is a small management team who help to deliver the Management Plan by making things happen, working with partners, advising on planning, obtaining external funding, developing projects, engaging communities and businesses, delivering results and outcomes to make a difference.

Achievement

There continues to be a large number of opportunist planning applications within the AONB area and Dave Edgcombe and his planning committee have been really busy formulating their responses as a consultee. In many cases the responses to applications had a significant impact on the decisions made by the relevant planning authorities.

Many local organisations have benefitted from the grant scheme which focusses on sustainable projects within the locality.

The future

There will be some significant changes to the dynamics of the organisation this year with the recent retirement of both Dave Edgcombe and Jenny Carey-Wood. Both have worked tirelessly for the organisation and will be sorely missed.

**REPORT TO: NORTH DEVON
DISTRICT COUNCIL**

Date: 12.03.24

**OUTSIDE BODIES:
HATOC**

REPORT BY:

Councillor RICKY KNIGHT

Activity

Met four times; attended twice

Purpose

DCC Highways-led but focus is on North Devon. Everything from potholes to LTZs. Definitely helps NDC by definition.

Achievements

I would say a great deal but the brief is possibly too wide/complex to do justice to the time allocation. Useful input on LTZs and from the police re: enforcement

The future

It would be churlish for me to intimate that any of these bodies are not 'reasonably effective' in meeting their aims! I sincerely believe they are. At every stage, communication is well maintained, agendas are followed, minutes taken and disseminated. All members have the chance for input and taken seriously.

So yes, as such, all four are effective outreach bodies for NDC – *in my considered opinion.*

REPORT TO: ANNUAL COUNCIL

Date: 11/03/2024

**OUTSIDE BODY: NORTH DEVON
ATHENAEUM**

REPORT BY:

Councillor LOUISA YORK

Activity

The Board have met four times and I have been able to attend two meetings.

Purpose

The North Devon Athenaeum has several collections and archives documenting North Devon's history. They collect and preserve information about North Devon and the people who have lived here over the centuries. 2.2 This helps to meet the following NDC Corporate Priority: "We become focussed on delivering the best for our citizens".

Achievements

No Annual report received to date.

The future

See forward plan attached. NB some of the plans will not be achievable this year as priority has been given to developing new governance plans after the sad death of Peter Christie.

No

Other

<https://northdevonathenaeum.org.uk/>

North Devon Highways & Traffic Orders Committee

Report by Councillor L. Spear

The Committee has met twice during the year – I attended both meetings.
Topics for report/discussion included:

Sensitive Streets Review – a statutory duty of DCC to co-ordinate works activities on the road network – including power to designate certain streets as “sensitive” – such designation allowed works on a road to be better regulated to ensure the free flow of traffic.

New Barnstaple Longbridge Junction scheme to improve pedestrian and cycle facilities.

Update on future works of the Dragon Patcher and also cleaning and jetting of drains.

Tarka Trail – a very welcome update on Phase 5 and the Phased Strategy – approval given for Phase 5 between Willingcott and Knowle.

Local Police also attended a meeting to answer any questions.



NORTH DEVON COUNCIL

Open

**REPORT TO: ANNUAL
COUNCIL**

Date: 11/03/20204

**OUTSIDE BODY: ONE
BARNSTAPLE**

REPORT BY: Councillor LOUISA YORK

Activity

One Barnstaple usually meets monthly. I have attended some of their network meetings including The Blue & Green Network and the Youth Forum.

Purpose

Our mission is to effectively address challenges faced in and by our community.

To work together, with compassion, to improve the wellbeing of our community; the place itself, those living, working and visiting it.

This helps to meet the following NDC Corporate Priorities: "We become focussed on delivering the best for our citizens" and "We plan for North Devon's Future".

Achievements

Please refer to <https://onebarnstaple.org.uk/>

The future

Please see attached Community Action Plan.

Yes, because One Barnstaple has several networks which different Councillors will find useful in which to be involved.

Other

REPORT TO:

Date:

OUTSIDE BODY:
PATROL

REPORT BY: **Councillor WALKER**

[Activity](#)

AGM

[Purpose](#)

Parking and transport decisions outside of London.
Not really, but impacts on motions brought to full council

[Achievements](#)

Support for councils implementing changes in parking and road traffic orders in various locations, explaining the mechanism for this to be done.

[The future](#)

N/A

[Other](#)

It would be useful for the representative for this organisation to be a member of the HATOC committee in future.

REPORT TO:

Date: 4 MARCH 2024

OUTSIDE BODY: SAFER NORTH DEVON COMMUNITY SAFETY PARTNERSHIP

REPORT BY: Councillor LEAVER

Activity

The North Devon Community Safety Partnership (CSP) is made up of statutory partners including North Devon Council, Devon & Cornwall Police, The NHS, Devon and Somerset Fire and Rescue Service and the Office of the Police and Crime Commissioner. There are also non-statutory members such as North Devon Against Domestic Abuse and North Devon Voluntary Services.

Purpose

The purpose of The Partnership is to bring local key agencies together to deliver multi-agency solutions to Community Safety issues by pooling resources, expertise and experience

Involvement in the Community Safety Partnership helps in North Devon Council's priority of "Becoming Focused on Delivering The Best For Our Citizens".

Achievements

ASB Steering Group - continues to develop and focus on ASB prevention and addressing local ASB issues across Northern Devon. The multi-agency meetings take place monthly and look in detail at individuals and areas of reported issues, with an emphasis on hotspots and emerging issues. This approach has been particularly well received in relation to the street drinking issues in Barnstaple.

Street Marshals continue to be active in Barnstaple following funding being agreed with North Devon Council. The marshals, provided by a local security company, are patrolling the town on a daily basis. They helped to increase feelings of reassurance amongst both the public and businesses and dealt with incidents as and when they occurred.

The CSP engaged with a local training provider to develop and provide training to 8 local primary schools to increase resilience in their pupils - topics included relationships, social media, dealing with emotional development and confrontation. The course provided an improved understanding of self, self-

management strategies, better relationships, recognition of impact of behaviour and self and others.

Public Space Protection Orders have been renewed and two small areas that have been subject to Anti-Social Behaviour have been added to the map due to an increase in incidents. The new order will be effective from January 2024.

The CSP has been part of the planning for the duty to prevent serious violence. The focus is violence amongst under 25 year olds.

The Partnership contributed to The Devon Counter Terrorism Local Profile. An Officer now attends the monthly Channel that attempts to divert referred individuals away from terrorism.

The CSP have prioritised Hate Crime over the last year and are currently engaged on both a local and Devon level in an effort to increase the reporting of incidents, increasing feelings of safety amongst all our communities.

The future

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Other

The North Devon Community Safety Partnership acts jointly with its Torridge equivalent who currently hold the secretariat. Administration will switch to North Devon at the end of the current year.

REPORT TO: NORTH DEVON COUNCIL
Date: 20/03/23
OUTSIDE BODY: WOOLACOMBE & MORTEHOE TOURISM ASSOCIATION
REPORT BY: Councillor Malcolm Wilkinson

Activity

This group meets approximately 5 times a year. I attended 4 meetings in 2022/2023

Purpose

The intention of the organisation is to promote Tourism in Morteheo, Woolacombe & Croyde. This falls in line with N.Devon Council and North Devon + priorities for tourism.

Achievement

This TIC, unlike many others in North Devon, is flourishing with a strong membership and the production of an excellent website. Recognition has been made of the changing face of advertising and the rapidly increasing use of the website compared to the guide. The website is regularly updated and has links to many local organisations and businesses. The TIC manager also produces an online, monthly guide to activities in and around North Devon. The management committee held two very successful Farmers Markets during 2022 highlighting the produce of local farmers. The TIC was also responsible for the highly popular Scarecrow Festival.

The future

I am encouraged by the work being undertaken by the Woolacombe Plastics Free and the N.Devon Plastics Free organisations and am very keen to see their mantra carried out regarding the sales of cheap plastic surfboards and the use of non bio-degradable equipment in the local hostellers and accommodation providers. They also provided a wooden shed that housed a toy library of beach items such as buckets and spades etc. It is essential that a further appointment is made in order to continue the working partnership between the council and TIC's.