



Credon Town Council



Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held at 7.00pm on 14 June, 2011
At the Old Town Hall, High Street, Credon

Present: Councillor Mr F Letch (*Chairman*)
Town, District and County Councillors
Parishioners (Electors of Credon Parish) & Non Parishioners
(*attendance register attached*)

In Attendance: Mr M Maggs (Town Clerk)
Mr D Wood (Chief Officer, Involve Mid Devon)
Mr K Yarnley (Manager, Credon & District Community Transport)

1. Welcomes and Introductions

The Chairman opened the meeting, made introductions and welcomed all present. He especially welcomed Duncan Wood and Kevin Yarnley who would deliver a presentation on Voluntary Action in Mid Devon and Credon Community Transport.

The Chairman also briefly outlined the meeting process and the Town Council's responsibilities. He hoped that the meeting would prove valuable and interesting.

He reminded everyone to sign the attendance register and, when asking questions, to clearly state their name. In the interests of good meeting management, he asked that as many questions as possible be reserved for the Public Forum item at the end of the meeting.

2. Apologies

Apologies had been received from Richard Adams (Credon Town Council), Nick Way (CTC, MDDC and DCC), John Downes (CTC and MDDC).

3. Minutes of the Annual Town Meeting 2010

The minutes of the Annual Town Meeting held on 20 April 2010 were confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

None. All actions had been taken.

5. Presentation by the Involve (Voluntary Action in Mid Devon) and Credon & District Community Transport

Duncan Wood made a short presentation (*see appended supporting documents*) outlining the work of Involve in Mid Devon. He continued by answering questions from electors and elected representatives.

Kevin Yarnley outlined the functions of Credon & District Community Transport (*see appended supporting document*). He explained that the organisation was a local charity whose transport services are aimed at increasing the independence, mobility and peace of mind of older and disabled people, helping to combat the problems of loneliness and rural isolation. Run by a voluntary management committee, it was funded through donations and grants including support from Devon County Council, Mid Devon District Council, Credon Town Council and some Parish Councils. He answered questions about funding issues and the services provided which included: Shopmobility, Ring & Ride, Community Car Scheme, Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle, Community Minibus Hire, Meeting Room Hire.

The Chairman thanked both for attending.

6. Transport Issues in Crediton

The Chairman introduced Liz Brookes-Hocking and asked her to outline some current issues to include, in particular, accessible transport, air quality and traffic levels.

There appeared to be a huge number of possibilities as far as transport was concerned and Liz Brookes-Hocking made reference to the emerging Town Council transport policy. She explained that there was a valuable opportunity for members of the community to bring forward ideas and suggestions.

Electors raised several issues:

- Exeter Road - overgrown hedges. The problem had been reported to the Highway Authority. It was hoped that action would increase traffic flow and reduce the amount of pollution at this narrow section of road.
- Jockey Hill – parked cars were obstructed use of the cycle path. This was a known problem but posed problems for enforcement (see 7b below).
- Town Bus Service. Changes to the timetabling had restricted access to a suitable service for people living in the Long Meadows area. This was a recognised problem and the relevant elected members would approach the Transport Authority. Additionally, a bus stop sign was requested outside the Crediton Hospital.
- Parking Issues – irresponsible/inconsiderate parking on pavements and cycle routes was continuing to cause problems. This had been taken up by the Police who were taking action.
- Peoples Park Road – congestion problems caused by parked vehicles were reported. St Saviour's Way car park appeared to be less used. Consideration should be given to the introduction of residents parking. Lack of sufficient on-street parking was recognised as an increasing problem. There was a need to know what the District Council planned to do about parking issues in the town. The MDDC ward member (Martin Binks) was asked to investigate.

7. Reports

a) *Chairman of Crediton Town Council*

The Chairman delivered his annual report for 2010/2011 (*appended*). He made a particular point of expressing his thanks to the Vice Chairman/Deputy Town Mayor, the Town Clerk and the Assistant Town Clerk for their support during the last year.

b) *Mid Devon District Council Ward Members*

Two ward members presented short reports on district council activities during the previous year:

- Exeter Road – issues relating to overgrown hedges, potholes and other highways issues could be reported through a new website "Fix My Street". Registration of any problem would be reported to the appropriate authority.
- Jockey Hill – the cycle lane was not officially recognised, only advisory.
- Parking – the district council had agreed to provide free parking for four consecutive Saturdays before Christmas.
- Speeding – community speed watch was still in operation.
- Recycling – a working group had been set up to investigate better ways of recycling - reducing the amount sent to landfill. Further investment was required including new vehicles. He continued to explain the revised recycling proposals which would be trialled before consideration would be given to implementation.
- Mid Devon Business Forum –MDDC ward members had agreed to attend. Town councillors and members of the Chamber of Commerce were encouraged to attend.

c) *Devon County Council Ward Member*

The ward member had tendered his apologies but had provided a written report which the Chairman read out (*appended*).

8. Public Forum - Open Questions from Electors

The Chairman invited electors to ask questions. David Smith (Crediton & District Access Group) asked a question about the problems associated with public access along Mill Street between Mole Avon and Morrison's. He wished to enlist the "good offices" of the Town Council to progress improvements. Martin Maggs explained that both the District and County Councils had agreed to take every opportunity to implement change at this location as part of a S106 scheme. This would only happen if a development application was submitted which would enable the appropriate authorities to instigate the required improvements.

There were no further questions; most questions had been asked and answered during the preceding items..

In conclusion, the Chairman of the Meeting thanked all speakers for their interesting and valuable reports. Special thanks to those members of the public who had also taken the time to demonstrate an interest in their community.

The meeting closed at 8:20pm with a total of 22 attendees.

Signed:

(F Letch – Chairman 2011)

Date:

**Crediton Annual Town Meeting
14 June 2011
Attendance Register**

NAME	CREDITON ELECTOR	ORGANISATION
Kevin Yarnley	N	Crediton & District Community Transport
E Huxtable	Y	
Liz Brookes-Hocking	Y	Town Council
C Pounds	Y	
J Shorney	Y	
Laura Conygham	Y	Sustainable Crediton
R H Shorney	Y	
Martin Binks	Y	Mid Devon District Council
M E White	Y	
Anne Hughes	Y	Town Council
Michael Szabo	Y	Town Council
Joyce Harris	Y	Town Council
Sue Read	Y	Crediton Country Courier
Frank Letch	Y	Town Council
Ashley Leighton Plom	Y	Town Council
Georgina Ford	N	
Bob Wright	Y	Mid Devon District Council
David Smith	Y	Crediton & District Access Group
Frank Letch	y	Town Council
Rebecca Hurst Smith	Y	Crediton & District Access Group
Duncan Wood	Y	Involve
Martin Maggs	Y	Town Council



Duncan Wood - Chief Officer
Mark Bailey - Development Worker
Sue Snell - VC Co-ordinator
Matt Appleyard - Office Manager

Involve
Ground Floor
Raymond Penny House
Phoenix Lane
Tiverton
Devon
EX16 6LU

Open Monday to Friday
(10am to 4pm)

Tel **01884 255734**
 Fax **01884 232198**

office@involve-middevon.org.uk



If the steps are a problem,
 please ring our Help Bell at the
 front door in Phoenix Lane.



Please note we have an
 induction loop facility

Website www.involve-middevon.org.uk

Our work has been made possible
 by funding from the Devon County
 Council, Mid Devon District Council
 and Devon Primary Care Trust

Involve has been awarded
 the Investing in Volunteers
 Quality Mark



Stationery/General Leaflet
 Last Revised: 07/09/2010



Voluntary Action in Mid Devon

Including Mid Devon's Council for
 Voluntary Service &
 Volunteer Centre Tiverton & Cullompton

Helping Voluntary Organisations to help the Community



Involve is a member of VE and
 a member of NAVCA
 Registered Charity 298345





We serve the District of Mid Devon by supporting voluntary activities.

Involve provides advice and assistance to charities and voluntary organisations on a wide range of issues. We work with organisations from their beginning, as they develop and expand, as well as supporting the organisation in its continuing work.

In addition *Involve* recruits, places and supports volunteers in Tiverton, Cullompton and surrounding areas. It also provides information, support and advice on volunteering issues.

It also provides support for the day-to-day running of the organisations

There are offices support services and equipment hire available to our members at close to cost price:

- o Photocopying service
- o Internet and e-mail service
- o Laminating & colour printing
- o Website hosting
- o Free access to word processing/spreadsheet facilities
- o Display boards, Flip Chart
- o Data & Overhead Projectors
- o Laptop Computer



We also offer the following free support services to our members:

- Free membership
- A quarterly newsletter
- Ideas about best practices on a variety of functions
- ICT support
- Support with funding applications
- Help with policies and procedures
- A resource library of relevant books and publications
- A referral service to other training providers to meet training needs
- Provision of specific training and tailored to needs (where possible)
- Help recruiting volunteers
- Face to face and telephone support and advice, including personal visits
- Representation of your views to statutory bodies
- Membership of the 'Inter Agency Forum'

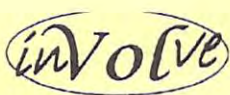


- o Do you have dreams or visions for your community and want help turning them into reality?
- o Do you have a bright idea that will help your community?
- o Are there needs you have identified in your area?

Call us, email us, come in and see us or we can come and see you

We can help you to develop your organisation to become more effective and sustainable

Involve aims to provide a non-discriminatory service with an active approach to equal opportunities



Voluntary and Community Groups Supported

- Abbeyleigh Tiverton Society Ltd
- Acorn Community Support
- Advisors Network
- Age Concern - Crediton
- Age Concern - Tiverton, Cullompton & District
- Air Training Corps 1079 Tiverton Sqn
- Anglo-Polish Organisation Of Tiverton
- Anne Hughes
- Apple Seed Counselling Ltd
- Arthritis Care
- Baby Bistro
- Back To Basics
- Bampton Charter Fair
- Bampton In Bloom
- Bampton Players
- Bampton Scout Group
- Bampton Women's Institute
- Baseline
- Bickleigh Church Conservation Group
- Bickleigh Gardening Club
- Bickleigh Pre-School
- Blackdown Productions
- Blackdown Support Group
- Blue Cross
- Book Cycle
- Bow & District Historical Society
- Bow Parish Council
- Bow Village Hall & Field Management Committee
- Bow Waterworks
- 'Bradninch Developments'
- Bradninch Scouts
- Bradninch Tennis Club
- Bradninch Town Council
- Bradninch Town Trust
- Brain Injury Rehabilitation Trust
- Brainwave
- Breast Friends Café
- British & European Geranium Society
- British Horse Society (Devon)
- British Trust for Conservation Volunteers
- Burlescombe & Westleigh Community Hall
- Burstone Manor Centre For Christ
- Café Club
- Cameo Club (Hemyock Age Concern)
- Campaign To Protect Rural England
- CARD Project
- Care and Repair (Safe as Houses)
- CARE Devon
- Carewise
- CCTT - Christian Communities Together In Tiverton
- CHAT (Churches Housing Action Trust)
- Chawleigh Post Office/Shop Fundraising Committee
- Cheriton Fitzpaine Welcome Club
- Cheriton Out of School Club
- Chicks-Country Holidays For Inner City Kids
- Children's Craft Club
- CISCO
- Clyst Hydon Womens Institute
- Coldharbour Mill Trust
- Coldridge Village Hall
- Colebrook Youth Club
- Colebrooke Playgroup
- College Surgery Partnership Patient's Support Group
- Contact Youth Counselling Service
- Copplestone Parish Council
- Copplestone Toddlers
- Crediton & Culm Valley Children's Centre
- Crediton & District Access Group
- Crediton & District Community Transport Assoc
- Crediton Art Centre
- Crediton Congregational Church
- Crediton Festival 2009 Co-ordinating Committee
- Crediton Foodbank
- Crediton Multiple Sclerosis Society
- Crediton Neighbourhood Family Centre
- Crediton Rural Arts & Music Project
- Crediton Special Needs Playscheme
- Crediton Upper Deck Restoration Project
- Cruwys Morchard Parish Hall
- Cullompton Ace Majorettes
- Cullompton Allotment Association
- Cullompton Community Association
- Cullompton Cubs
- Cullompton Family Centre
- Cullompton Pre-School
- Cullompton United Charities
- Cullompton Youth Project
- Culm Valley Majorettes
- Culm Valley Voluntary Car Scheme
- Culm Valley Young Farmers Club
- Culmstock Pre School Playgroup
- Devon Community Foundation
- Devon Consortium
- Devon County Association for the Blind
- Devon Discovery
- Devon Federation of Young Farmers Clubs
- Devon Gateway Trust
- Devon Link (Mid Devon)
- Devon Mediation Service Ltd
- Devon Wheels 2 Work CIC
- Dexter Cattle Society
- Diocese Of Plymouth
- Drop In Tiverton
- Duchy Pre-School & Playgroup
- Eating Disorders Association
- EDP Drug & Alcohol Services
- Elmore Football Club
- Exe Valley Community Bus
- Exe Valley Enterprises
- Exe Valley USA
- Exeter, Mid & East Devon Samaritans
- Extended School Tiverton & Culm Valley
- Family Education Development Trust
- Farm Crisis Network (Devon)
- First Cullompton Scout Group
- First Steps To Freedom
- Forest Inspirations
- Friends Of Amory Park
- Friends of Coldharbour Mill Museum
- Friends of Tiverton Skatepark
- Funky 5-11 Club
- Gateway Club
- Grand Western Canal Country Park
- Green Roots
- Halberton Sports & Social Club
- Hare Preservation Trust
- Headway Devon (Tiverton)
- Health and Well Being Sub Group
- Heathcoat Community Centre
- Help the Aged
- Hemyock Parish Council
- Home Start Mid Devon
- Hospiscare
- Hub Devon Compact Working Group
- Huntsham Village Hall
- Inner Wheel
- Intercom
- John Tallack Centre
- Joint Agency Team-Children With Special Needs
- Journey Counselling Service
- Just People
- Kentisbeare Playing Field Association
- Kids@Copplestone (After School Club)
- Kingfisher Childcare Centre
- Knowstone Parish Plan Steering Committee
- Lansdowne Over 50's Club
- Lapford Village Hall
- LEEP - Langford Environment Education Project
- Living Options Devon
- Make A Wish Foundation
- Marie Curie Cancer Care
- Market Centre Youth Drop-In
- MASC - (Mid Devon Alliance for Special Children)
- Massage In Schools Association (MISA)
- Mid Devon Children's Centres
- Mid Devon Community Recycling Ltd
- Mid Devon District Citizens Advice Bureau
- Mid Devon Indoor Bowls Centre Ltd
- Mid Devon Messenger
- Mid Devon Outreach
- Mid Devon Young Carers
- Mid Devon Youth Games Voluntary Group
- Moorhayes Community Centre
- Moorland Club, The
- Moors Youth Football Club
- Morchard Bishop Playgroup
- Morebath Parish Council
- Morebath Village Hall
- Motor Neurone Disease Association
- National Trust, Killerton
- Newcombes (Crediton) Housing Association Ltd
- Newton St Cyres Parish Hall
- Newton St Cyres Young Farmers
- North & East Devon Advocacy Service (ReTHINK)
- NSPCC - Young Witness Support Project
- Oxfam Shop (Tiverton)
- Pennymoor Singaround
- People4Ponies
- Plymouth & Devon Racial Equality Council
- Poughill Youth Club
- Prince's Trust
- Puddleduck Pre-School
- Rainbow Crafts and Recreation
- Reach Youth Club
- Relate Exeter & District
- Rewe WI
- Riverside Court
- Riverside Hall
- Riverslip Pottery Co-operative
- RSPB
- Sacred Stone Theatre Company
- Salvation Army Hall Tiverton
- Sampford Peverell & District Garden Club
- Sampford Peverell Caring Friends Group
- Sampford Peverell Memorial Hall
- Sampford Peverell Pre school
- Sampford Peverell Youth Club
- Sandcastles Pre School
- Sandford Area Community Action
- Sandford Heritage Group
- Sandford Parish Hall
- Sandford Pre School Playgroup
- Scallywags 0-5 Club
- Silverton Brownies
- Silverton Pre-School Playgroup
- Silverton Youth Club
- SOBS (Crediton Branch)
- Soroptimist International of Tiverton & District
- SOS Global
- South West Foundation
- St Andrews Church Youth Club
- St Andrews Residents Association
- St George's Church Recycling
- St John Ambulance (Tiverton Div)
- St John Ambulance Library Service
- St Johns Pre School
- St Mary's Church
- St Michael & All Angels Church
- St Pauls Scout Group
- Steelyard Art
- Stockleigh Pomeroy Village Hall
- STOPIT
- String Of Pearls
- Sue Ryder Shop
- Sunningmead Community Centre
- Sustainable Crediton (Was Crediton Climate Action)
- Taw Valley Ventures
- Tecstarite Majorettes
- The Cinnamon Trust
- The St Andrew Lodge
- The Valley Nursery School
- The Venue
- Thelbridge Parish Hall
- Thornbuds Pre School
- Thorverton Memorial Hall
- Thorverton Pre-School Playgroup
- Thyroid Patient Advocacy UK
- TICVAC
- Tidcombe Community Association
- Tidcombe Community Out Of Hours Club
- Tidcombe Craft Group
- Tiverton & District Community Transport Association
- Tiverton & District Scout Council
- Tiverton & Mid Devon Museum Trust, Tiverton Museum Of Mid Devon Life
- Tiverton Action 4 Youth
- Tiverton Adventure Playground Association
- Tiverton Almshouse Trust
- Tiverton Archaeological Group
- Tiverton Art Society
- Tiverton Blind Club
- Tiverton BMX Club
- Tiverton Bowling Club
- Tiverton Children's Centre
- Tiverton Civic Society
- Tiverton Fairtrade Support Group
- Tiverton Garden Club
- Tiverton Gateway Club
- Tiverton High School
- Tiverton Junior Operatic Club
- Tiverton Little Stars Pre-School
- Tiverton MS Support Group
- Tiverton Swimming for People with Disabilities
- Tiverton Swords
- Tiverton Town Majorettes
- Tiverton Town Twinning
- Tiverton Volunteer Litterpickers
- Tiverton Weightlifting Club
- Tiverton Youth & Community Centre
- Tiverton Youth Orchestra
- Tornington Family Project
- Trafalgar Court Residents Association
- Trio Childcare Connection Ltd
- Tumbleweed Freestyle
- Two Moors Primary School
- Twyford Spartans Youth Football Club
- Uffculme Action Group
- Uffculme Baptist Church
- Uffculme BMX Club
- Uffculme Community Group
- Uffculme Compost Magic
- Uffculme Parish Council
- Uffculme Pre-School Playgroup
- Uffculme Primary School
- Uffculme School
- Uffculme Skateboard Park (provisional name)
- Uffculme Spotlight
- Uffculme Toddlers Group
- Uffculme Toy Library
- Uffculme Village Hall
- Uffculme Youth Club
- UNITE - Carers In Mid Devon
- Upstream - Healthy Living Centre
- Valley Nursery School
- Voluntary Support Scheme (Umbrella)
- Voluntary Youth Services
- Walk & Talk Tiverton
- Wednesday Club (The)
- Willand Community Composting Scheme
- Witheridge Pre-School
- Womens Running Network
- Woodside Centre Nursery
- Worlington W.I
- WRVS Books On Wheels
- WWF - UK
- Yeoford Playgroup
- Yeo-Yeos - Yeoford Youngsters

Whilst we actively engage in awareness raising campaigns, no membership drive has ever been undertaken, Involve membership is a direct result of groups contacting involve to access its support services.

What is Transport for Your Community?

It's for the many people, especially in rural Devon, that may live miles from the nearest bus route, or are unable to afford taxi fares or are physically incapable of using the public transport services provided.

Transport for Your Community provides transport to shops, services and leisure activities where no transport or no suitable transport is available.



Who can use it?

From north to south, east to west, Transport for Your Community helps people right across Devon. This is for you if you:

- Have no public transport where you live
- Have no suitable transport of your own
- Have a permanent or temporary disability
- Need assistance when making journeys
- Find it difficult to get to or use public transport



It's for people of all ages!

Transport for Your Community



Retain independence

Get out and meet new people

Make shopping easier

Gives you help when and where you need it

Safe and friendly service

Reasonably priced fares

Many services operated by easy access minibuses

Enjoy excursions and days out

If you want to help in your community...



Transport for Your Community is only possible with the excellent work and dedication of our volunteers.

Volunteering

- Do you have time to help?
- Do you have a friendly manner and a sympathetic approach to the elderly and people with mobility issues?
- You can help in various ways including office support, fundraising, becoming a driver or serving as a trustee

Donations

All Transport for Your Community services run on a not for profit basis. The groups work hard to raise donations and recruit volunteers to keep their charges affordable. If you would like to make a donation or think you could help with fundraising then please call your local office. You'll find their number in this leaflet or at www.tfyc.org.uk

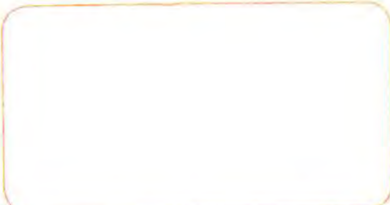


Contact us

This leaflet was produced with support from Devon County Council, who provide advice, support and some financial assistance to help keep community transport services on the road.

If you need to contact the team at DCC please call 01392 382123 or email: admin@tfyc.org.uk

Alternatively contact your local community transport organisation:



To see a short film on Transport for Your Community, please visit our website: www.tfyc.org.uk

Sponsored by



What Community Transport services are available?

Ring & Ride

- A local easy-access minibus service that provides transport door to door:
- Picks you up from and returns you to your home
 - For shopping and local services
 - Drivers will assist you on and off the minibus if required
 - It's operated by minibuses that are wheelchair friendly
 - An escort may travel with a passenger for a charge



Shopmobility

- Provides manual and powered wheelchairs and scooters to people with limited mobility (temporary and permanent) so they can shop and use town centre facilities.
- Easy to use - training provided
 - Located close to public transport and car parking
 - Can link to Ring & Ride services

Community Bus

- A bus service that provides regular, local bus journeys to a published timetable.
- Run by the community
 - Provides a bus service where there is no public transport
 - Available to all members of the public, no matter what your age

Community Car

- A local car service where volunteer car drivers use their own vehicle to provide transport.
- Volunteer drivers pick you up from and return you to your home
 - Ideal for medical appointments
 - An escort may travel with a passenger for a charge

Devon Wheels 2 Work

- Supplies motorbikes and scooters to young and unemployed people to help them get to work, training or interviews.
- Makes looking for a job easier in rural areas
 - Available to eligible people between the ages of 16 and 65
 - Easy to use with training and maintenance provided
 - Includes safety clothes and equipment

Vehicle hire

- Many Community Transport groups have minibuses which can be hired by community groups, clubs and associations when they are not being used to provide other services.
- In general, these vehicles can accommodate wheelchairs by removing seats on board
 - Vehicles may be available to hire with or without a driver
 - Contact your local scheme for more details

Other options

There are many more community transport services other than those detailed in this leaflet. To find out about your local services please use the **contact us** details at the end of this leaflet.

Transport for Your Community

If you want to get out and about in Devon, all you have to do is...



www.tfyc.org.uk

Chairman's Annual Report 2010-2011

The past year has seen the country enter into a new government which has brought with it its major policy of cutting expenditure which has filtered down to county, district and town council level. I'm pleased to report that the Town Council has again been able to deliver a 0% increase in council tax. The encouraging thing about this is that the Council has been able to maintain its previous high level of service to the town.

The High Street has again been an indicator of the nation's problems. Several businesses have remained closed for a considerable time. Others have changed hands and we must praise the owners for their courage and commitment to the town. We just hope that their businesses flourish because a vibrant High Street means a lively and viable town. There have been several shops opened around the town square. The town square has been slightly better used in the past 12 months partly because of the efforts of the Crediton Arts Centre which again intends to organise a series of events during the summer. The Town Council was pleased to provide additional financial support.

The town council's floral working group has again put in a stunning effort with cooperation from the Chamber of Commerce and Mid Devon District Council to make the High Street and town entrances look attractive and colourful. Their efforts have been so successful that a Britain in Bloom judge whilst driving through the town last year suggested that we should enter Southwest in Bloom. The floral working group has taken on this daunting challenge. This will hopefully draw together several groups within the town because the competition is really about social pride in your town and not just pretty gardens.

Another group that has been active is the Peoples Park & Scout Memorial Garden Working Group. The group is looking to re-landscape the garden to include access for those with mobility problems. The Town Clerk has been instrumental in applying for significant funding to progress the group's plans.

As Town Mayor I have continued to have surgeries two days every month. I spend an hour at the Farmers' Market and this has proved most successful. Because of the relaxed atmosphere and good weather (I jest not, we had no rain on any Saturday!), many people have come up to talk about the town and to make suggestions for improvements. The main areas of concern have been the bus service to the town, which has been fairly drastically cut, and the state of the roads and traffic. We have still not resolved Crediton's perennial problem of parking! The town councillors would like to see Mid Devon District Council allow free parking at St Saviours Way car park on Saturdays because this would obviously help the High Street shops. They can do it before Christmas so why not all year round? The Town Council would like to see the district council take a more imaginative look at parking both on street and in its car parks.

This May saw local elections taking place but sadly there were not enough candidates putting themselves forward for the town council and so all councillors were elected unopposed. As four long-standing councillors had decided not to stand again we have now been left with three vacancies because fortunately one member of the public put himself forward. Mike Szabo has been a member of the floral working group for some time and I am sure he will prove an excellent councillor, hard working and committed. The Town Council will co-opt three new councillors to bring us up to strength and then look to develop and implement the town plan.

Frank Letch
Chairman and Town Mayor Crediton Town Council

County Councillor's Annual Town Meeting Report 2011

As County Councillor I sit on the Devon & Somerset Fire & Rescue and the Dartmoor National Park authorities. I am also a member of the following committees: Environment and Culture Scrutiny, Mid Devon Highways and Traffic Orders, Mid Devon County Committee, Devon & Exeter Rail Project Working Party, Devon Waste Reduction and Recycling Committee, Crediton Air Quality Monitoring Group. Some of the Issues I have been dealing with are:

Locality or Community Fund

The Locality fund total budget last year was £10,000 and helped the following community organisations or funded town events including:

Crediton Community Transport, Food Festival, Unite 'Kids who care', Underage Drinking Theatre at QECC, Crediton Arts Centre, sessions for children with disabilities, Crediton Cancer research UK, Churches Housing Action Team Surgery, Home Start Mid Devon, Fairtrade Partnership, Crediton Library – equipment activity sessions, Floral Crediton – planting to enhance the entrances to the town, provision of 10 Grit & Salt Bins, Senior Citizens Christmas Party, hanging flower baskets, Day Hospice, Tarka Rail booklet, security lighting for Haywards, Youth Games and Kirton Youth Squash Club.

Link Road

The Crediton Link Road project remains in the County's Capital Programme and is progressing through its various stages. It has not been a victim of the cuts as many other area's schemes have been. I have again asked the road planners to organise liaison meetings keeping the Traffic Action Group, Town Council & Chamber of Commerce aware of their plans for its next stage. The Planning application for the Hillside Route is due to be heard during the summer or autumn at County Hall, Exeter.

Bad Winter Weather

Thanks to the Locality Fund and help from the Town Council we have been able to provide 10 new Roadside Grit and Salt bins within the town at key locations. There is several more on order to be installed shortly and will increase the total to over 30. I was a member of the Task Group scrutinising how the council responded to these bad weather events.

Highways

I have organised several site meetings with the Highway officers and the police, often responding to resident's concerns. Speeding, lack of road maintenance and parking continue to be an issue in some areas and highlighting them is important. We have also organised the petition against the introduction of parking charges within the centre of town. I was also pleased to support the community Speed Watch scheme which was recently launched at Exhibition Road and covers several other areas.

Schools and Children

I attend meeting of the Children's Centre Monitoring Group through out the year and am a regular visitor to the town's three schools. I am also a governor at QECC.

Public Transport

It was disappointing that the council decided to cut local bus services this year which included reductions to our own Town Bus. I and my group on the council opposed these cuts and I am working with others in an attempt to get services reinstated. On a positive note, the new late rail service on Fridays on the Tarka Line is being used well by passengers. Total passenger numbers on the line are likely to reach the 500,000 mark this year. An all time high.

Action Days

I have attended and taken part in several action days covering many areas. With the Police, Firefighters, and Council officials, visiting residents and explaining about community services that are available, including home fire prevention checks etc.

Family or one to one casework

Much of my time is taken up visiting people in their homes and representing them at meetings with council officials.

Nick Way, County Councillor for Crediton Rural