

## **Parish Council News November**

**Community Housing Meeting October 10<sup>th</sup> 2019** – the council hosted this meeting in partnership with representatives from North Devon Council Housing, Devon Communities Together and the Wessex Community Land Trust. Over 70 people attended the meeting with 30 coming forward to put their names forward to form a steering committee to form a Community Trust in the Parish. If you are interested in getting involved or would like more information, please contact the Parish Clerk on 01271 870247

email: [sallyatmorteheopc@gmail.com](mailto:sallyatmorteheopc@gmail.com) or look at the Parish Council website: [w.w.w.morteheopc.co.uk](http://w.w.w.morteheopc.co.uk). If you, or anyone you know are looking for affordable housing in the Woolacombe, area it is important that you register on the North Devon Housing Register. Visit the Devon Home Choice section of the North Devon Council website or ring 01271 388870

**Devon Communities Together** – is an independent charity engaged in a wide range of projects and services that support Devon communities.

**What is a Community Land Trust** - is a social enterprise set up to benefit a specific community by owning important local assets. Managed by a local elected board, a Community Land Trust's first project is usually to help develop an affordable housing scheme, often in partnership with a housing association. By owning the land, the Trust controls things that are important to the village such as the location, number and design of the homes. It also ensures that local people have priority to live in them.

The Trust would also generate an income from ground rents from its housing association partner; an income which would pay for the Trust's running costs. Look on the Parish Council website where there is more information on the Wessex Community Land Trust.

**Highway Problems Pot Holes, Blocked Drains, Flooding, Road Signs, Road Subsidence etc.** If you are aware of a problem, report it directly to the County Council via their website with links through to the Highways 'Report a Problem' link.

**Small Businesses** - Devon County Council are looking for micro businesses to be part of a research trial to help boost the economy. Devon County Council is looking for freelancers, sole traders and businesses with fewer than 10 employees, (micro businesses), to work with them on a research trial designed to boost Devon's economy.

Government funding via Innovate UK is paying for the research, which will help inform the way that the Council supports rural micro-businesses in the future, helping them to reach their full potential.

The trial will run across Devon, and the Exmoor and Blackdown Hills areas of Somerset, working specifically with micro businesses, freelancers and sole traders working in four less-productive sectors: tourism (including food, accommodation and retail); health and social care; trades such as construction, market traders and lifestyle businesses; and manufacturers.

Businesses that would like to take part in the trial can sign up online at <http://bit.ly/engagingruralmicros> or request more information by emailing [engagingruralmicros@devon.gov.uk](mailto:engagingruralmicros@devon.gov.uk) before the end of December 2019.

