

DITTISHAM PARISH COUNCIL
Incorporating the Hamlet of Capton and the Manors of Bozomzeal and Coombe

Monthly meeting Wednesday 2 September 2026

Item 13 Correspondence and contacts summary

To note:

- 20260713 Temporary Traffic Order - BRUCKTON COPSE TO ASHPLAT COPSE, Dittisham (TTRO2670729) Cllrs are informed that a road closure notice will be in place between 28 Sept to 9 Oct 2026 between the hours of 08:00 to 18:00, to enable tree cutting, pole installation, cabling and splicing by Airband. A signed diversion will be in place.
- 20260716 DALC LGR bulletin #5 Cllrs are advised this bulletin includes a link to Central Government's Announcement Local Government Reorganisation in 13 areas across England. The announcement relevant to Devon, Plymouth and Torbay follows: *"11 councils being reorganised into 4 unitaries. This will align boundaries with economic geography to unlock housing and infrastructure growth, supporting Plymouth's defence sector and Exeter's expansion as key urban engines"*.
- 20200716 Government confirms four unitary council model for Devon A newsletter from Devon County Council provides a link has been provided to a statement made by the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government, with the following reference to the preferred option for Devon, Plymouth and Torbay: *"Four unitary proposal submitted by Exeter City Council and Plymouth City Council. I will exercise the power to modify the proposal to achieve the boundary change Exeter City Council and Plymouth City Council requested alongside the proposal"*. The Bulletin notes that Government's announcement marks the next stage in the reorganisation process. Work will now continue nationally and locally to develop detailed implementation plans, and the arrangements required to establish the new authorities. Devon County Council will work with partners, stakeholders and government to support the transition process.
- 20260716 Riverside Road Tree Report Cllrs are informed that the Tree Officer visited Riverside Road on 9 July in response to resident concern raised. Inspection of a semi mature copper Beech located on HMPE highways verge next to Dittisham FC. Recommends crown lift to 2.5m on the roadside/ track leading into the football club to allow for correct highways clearance on the roadside and footpath side. Works will be scheduled within 6 months of the inspection date. In addition, overgrown brambles adjacent to the Ham Lane junction were reported 15 Jul, and notification received that this has been passed on to SHDCs contractor for cutting back. Cllrs installed cones to prevent car parking 11 – 14 Aug until works were completed. To maintain the visibility for vehicles going to and coming from the Ham 3 cones have been put out re parking by junction with notices that quote from the Highway Code: *"You MUST NOT leave your vehicle or trailer in a dangerous position or where it causes any unnecessary obstruction of the road [...] Opposite or within 10 metres (32 feet) of a junction, except in an authorised parking space"*.
- 20260717 An update on Local Government Reorganisation in Devon A bulletin from South Hams District Council advises on the Government's announcement on plans for LGR, noting that the Government's preferred option will result in a substantial part of the South Hams incorporated into Plymouth (in the West), Torbay (in the East) with the remainder of the district incorporated into the new Devon Coast and Countryside council, and with a quote from the Council Leader commenting on the Government's *"failure to understand or appreciate the needs of Devon's rural towns and villages or our coastal communities"* and criticising the Government's *"flawed obsession with economic growth solely in urban areas, it demonstrates a lack of understanding for what matters for our residents and businesses, and what will actually support growth and prosperity for our area"*. The District Council's priority is to ensure a smooth, well-managed transition that protects essential services.
- 20260722 Scoping Consultation: South Hams and West Devon Joint Local Plan Cllrs are advised that the Councils are seeking views on: the vision and objectives for the new Joint Local Plan; the key issues for the new Joint Local Plan to address; and, how the Councils should engage with people throughout the plan-making process. The best way to read and respond to the local plan scoping consultation is on the council's online consultation platform 'Commonplace.' Representations must be received by the Councils by 11.59pm on Thursday 24 September 2026.
- 20260738 Temporary Traffic Notice - HIGHER STREET, Dittisham (TTRO2771089) Cllrs are informed of a road closure notice between 13 – 15 April 2027 to enable a water meter installation. A signed diversion will be in place.
- 20260730 #34 2026 e-bulletin Cllrs are informed that the senior responsible officer and deputy senior responsible officer for local government reorganisation in Devon, will provide an update on the reorganisation programme at

DALC's annual conference on 7 October 2026. The bulletin also advises that the Revised National Planning Policy Framework has been delayed until September.

- 20280814 TAPs update - LGR in Devon Cllrs are informed via a Town and Parish Council update from South Hams District Council, the Senior Responsible Officer for Devon has developed new warding arrangements for the 4 new unitary authority areas on the request of Central Government. These are interim/temporary warding arrangements to intended to enable safe, lawful and deliverable elections for the new shadow authorities in May 2027. A [presentation providing a full update on the details is available here](#) (HTML). The decision to accept these rests with the Secretary of State who will set out the final arrangements as part the draft Structural Change Order, expected in the autumn.
- 20260815 The Ham (toilets) The Parish Council has received a complaint about the lack of cleanliness of the toilet facilities at The Ham. The Clerk has requested an update on the cleaning cycle from South Hams District Council. It is noted that Cllrs Neale reported a broken toilet seat and dirty toilet area in the ladies on 14 Aug (ref. RI33432) also calling SHDC to request same day cleaning. Cleaning was undertaken 15 Aug and seat replaced by 25 Aug.
- 20260820 DALC e-bulletin #37 2026 This bulletin provides further information on interim warding arrangements for Devon, providing links to [DCC Cabinet papers for the special meeting of the Cabinet on 14 Aug 2026](#) (HTML), and a [YouTube recording of the meeting here](#) (HTML).
- 20260826 Replacement for the Parish Magazine Cllrs are advised that DVHMC is being helped to set up a version of the 'Hear From the Halls' email newsletter, as used in Cornworthy. The plan is for it to be monthly for Dittisham, with a quarterly newsletter that will include Cornworthy events (and vice versa). The main focus will be events in the village hall but DVHMC will be happy to include other one-off events in the village. The aim is to produce the first for circulation in September which will probably be an introductory breakdown of the organisations and events that happen in the village hall such as bowling, WI, bridge etc with contact details to join or for information. The Parish Council is invited to forward any parish council events that are open to the public for future monthly editions.

To consider:

- 20260707 All Town & Parish Council Briefing: Planning Decision-Making Process Cllrs are informed of an online meeting via MS Teams at 5pm on **Thursday, 24 September** to provide information on changes Central Government is making to how planning applications will be determined, with the objective to '*introduce greater clarity and consistency in the role of planning committees in Development Management (DM) decision-taking*'. A meeting link will be provided for any cllrs or officers who wish to attend.
- Promoting external links on the Parish Council Website The Parish Council has received two similar items of correspondence requesting information dissemination:
 - 20260804 Bathing Water Quality Information for Dittisham Parish Council The Parish Council has been asked to include a link on its website to a new site, SwimSafe UK, that helps people check latest water quality and safety information before they visit a beach. The Dart at Dittisham is included as follows: [Dittisham, Dart Estuary Water Quality | SwimSafe UK](#). The Parish Council has also been asked for local photographs, swimming tips, historical information etc for inclusion on the Dittisham pages of the site.
 - 20260825 Free first aid page for Dittisham The Parish Council has been asked to circulate the following link, posters and include on the Parish Council's website and social media: <https://brity.co.uk/communities/dittisham>. The page shows the defibrillators in and around the Dittisham area.