

Homes Policy Development Group

Chairman's Annual Report 2020/2021

The aims and progress of the Homes Policy Development Group, like all other theatres of life have been stymied by the Covid Epidemic and its consequences; but where possible the Committee has tried to assist and improve. Progress on the future of the Council's garages has been initiated with better use of assets a priority.

The cutting and husbandry of grass verges and other verdant areas has also lead to much discussion and disparity of ideas; the working group for this thorny issue has striven hard for a solution to appease all views. The desire of our Committee plus and, many citizens of Mid Devon to assist with the Syrian Refugee Scheme were constrained by procedural and practical complications, good intentions being thwarted.

Homelessness during the pandemic seemed to have abated somewhat, but a long with an undersupply of social accommodation is a long term cause of concern.

Input from the General Public during the year was welcome; comment on finance and use Council's funds demonstrating the ideals of open and fair governance.

The efforts of every member on the Homes Committee have been appreciated, likewise the diligence and toil of all our officers; with special thanks to Sarah for her excellent guidance.

The events of the last 12 months could not have been foreseen but the effects may endure for many years. I fear more hard decisions lie ahead.

Ron Dolley
Chairman