

State of the District Debate

Table 6 MDDC Charter with Towns and Parish Councils “Working Together”

Feedback from Parishes – Broken into sections

NB: some of these suggestions have already been followed through

Feelings and the Charter

- The Parish Council feel on the outside
- The Town Council are being ignored
- Towns and Parishes felt that they were not included
- One Town Officer felt that engagement with MDDC was hostile
- Not enough active communication
- Educate District Council Officers as to what T&P's do
- Purpose of the Charter
- It was easy to understand the proposed changes to the Charter
- Responses to be taken seriously
- KPI's – measurable for the Charter

Communication

- Lack of response from Devon County Council (DCC) – meaning that they needed representation at County Level
- Upflow of Information from T&P's wanted
- MDDC Website – no information about Town and Parish Councils
 - Give examples of work they have done
- Misunderstanding as to what each tier of Local Authorities do?
- Who's who (officers) at the Council for the use of the Clerk not general dissemination
- Points of Contact/Directory – maybe generic for departments
- Portal for T&P Clerks

Planning

- Planning Charter works well
- Planning Enforcement needs to be seen to be taking place
- Justification of Reasons
- Planning Portal (Material Interest)
- Conversation with the Conservation Officer
- Planning Training
- Training days wanted in Planning for Towns and Parishes (T&P)
- Planning Café
- Incentivising Developers not to breach conditions