

TALK OF THE TOWN

THE NEWSLETTER OF HONITON TOWN COUNCIL

DECEMBER 2011

**The Mayor, Councillors and Staff of
Honiton Town Council would like to wish
you and your families a happy and
peaceful Christmas and New Year.**

EVENTS DURING CHRISTMAS PERIOD

02.12.11 5.30 pm Carol
Service and Christmas Tree
lighting at St. Paul's

03.12.11 Christmas
Carnival gets underway at
5.30 pm

12.12.11 Nativity Procession
from the Church of the Holy
Family to St. Pauls

16.12.11 7.30 pm
Honiton Community
Cinema presents "Un Conte
de Noel" (A Christmas Tale)
in the Mackarness Hall

CHRISTMAS MARKETS

The Town Council will be
running three Christmas
markets in the week
commencing 18th December.

These will be on:
Tuesday, 20th December
Thursday, 22nd December
Saturday, 24th December

All regular stallholders will
be there - together with your
new favourites from the
monthly local produce
market. Make sure you visit
the markets to find gifts and
stock up for Christmas.

FREE PARKING - There will be **FREE PARKING** in all the EDDC car parks in Honiton from 2 pm on **SATURDAY, 17TH DECEMBER**. Take advantage of the opportunity to explore the town for your Christmas shopping.



WINTER WEATHER

We all know that the last three winters have been harsh and severe. The County Council has informed us that it is making sure this year that along with all the main A and B routes in Devon, links to all secondary schools, bus and railway stations will now be included in the road salting network.

In addition East Devon District Council is taking steps to ensure that car parks are kept clear wherever possible.

It is of course not possible to ensure that all roads in the town are kept clear in the event of heavy snowfall or very icy conditions but the Town and County Councils will do their best to ensure that the current grit bins are kept full so that residents may use them to clear local roads.

Devon County Council has issued the following advice on taking care this winter:

- Never assume a road has been salted and remember in extreme cold even salting will not stop ice from forming
- Is your journey necessary? If it is, allow extra travel time and reduce your speed
- Drive with care and according to the conditions. Pedestrians should also take care on pavements.
- Avoid overnight travel unless absolutely essential
- If you have vulnerable or elderly neighbours, think about how they could possibly be helped

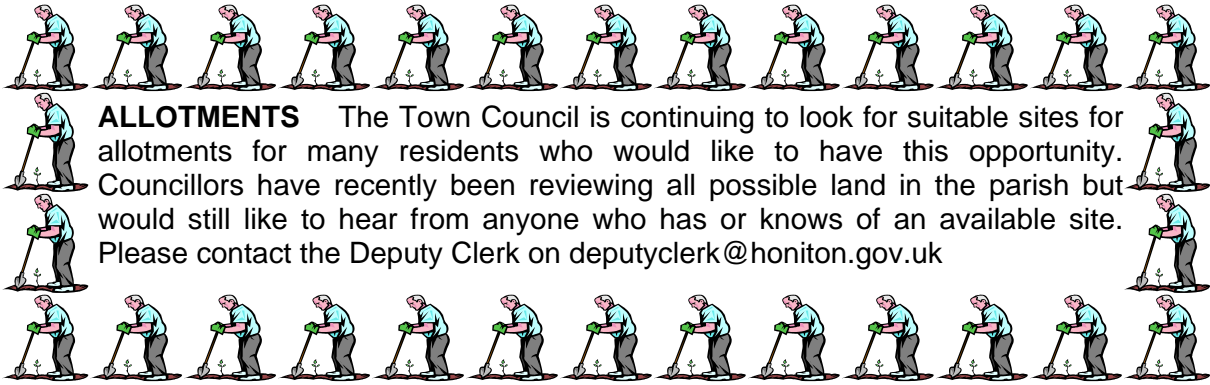
For more information and advice please visit www.devon.gov.uk/winter



ROYAL BRITISH LEGION - NEW CONTACT DETAILS

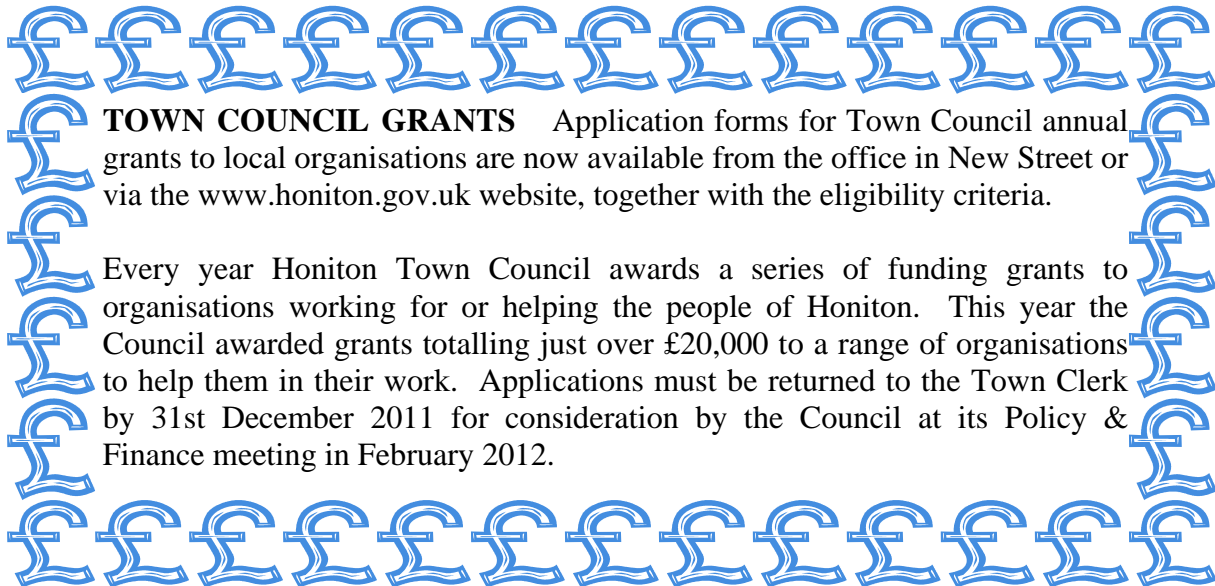
Please note the following new contact details for the Royal British Legion in Honiton:
BRANCH MATTERS - MICK ROBSON 01404 548754
WELFARE - EVE LEAMAN & CHRIS SINDEN 01404 43627 OR 44474
POPPY APPEAL CO-ORDINATORS - EILEEN BORKOWSKI & KEVIN GIBBS
01404 43970





ALLOTMENTS The Town Council is continuing to look for suitable sites for allotments for many residents who would like to have this opportunity. Councillors have recently been reviewing all possible land in the parish but would still like to hear from anyone who has or knows of an available site. Please contact the Deputy Clerk on deputyclerk@honiton.gov.uk

EMERGENCY PLANNING The Town Council is currently drafting its plan regarding immediate action in the town in the event of any emergency. This plan takes account of a wide range of potential emergencies from road and train accidents through to health epidemics and winter weather and is intended to ensure that Honiton can cope in a planned and effective way in those first few crucial minutes or hours before the full emergency services can attend. The plan depends very much on the community working together and the Town Clerk would be pleased to hear from any residents or local organisations who would like to be involved.



TOWN COUNCIL GRANTS Application forms for Town Council annual grants to local organisations are now available from the office in New Street or via the www.honiton.gov.uk website, together with the eligibility criteria.

Every year Honiton Town Council awards a series of funding grants to organisations working for or helping the people of Honiton. This year the Council awarded grants totalling just over £20,000 to a range of organisations to help them in their work. Applications must be returned to the Town Clerk by 31st December 2011 for consideration by the Council at its Policy & Finance meeting in February 2012.

NEW COUNCILLOR Following our recent advice of a vacancy for a Town Councillor, no nominations have been received and the Town Council is therefore arranging to co-opt a new Member.

East Devon Local Plan

Over the past few months East Devon has been working on its Local Plan covering the next fifteen years. Copies of the draft Plan are available on www.eastdevon.gov.uk and the Town Council's submission on behalf of Honiton is available on www.honiton.gov.uk. The East Devon Local Plan is now open for public consultation – comments must be received by the end of January 2012.

No Rise to Town Precept

At its meeting on Monday 14th November 2011 Honiton Town Council decided to make no change to the precept charged to residents as part of the Council Tax bill. The Council was particularly pleased to be able to do this whilst still accommodating the need to budget for the loan repayment to the Public Works Loan Board for the building of the community complex. The cost per household per annum therefore will remain at £40.55 at Band D.

In its business plan the Town Council had estimated that a maximum rise of £7 per household would be necessary to enable the loan repayment to be covered but with cut backs mainly relating to Council overheads, this increased expenditure by taxpayers will no longer be required.

The planning application for the complex is being submitted to East Devon District Council and final amendments are being made to the business plan to take account of latest developments with a range of partners. The complex, which will include a main hall to seat 300 people as well as a range of smaller meeting rooms and a café/internet café, is due to be completed in early 2013.

Mayor of Honiton, Cllr Vernon Whitlock, commented : "The Town Council has worked hard to keep down costs in these difficult times. Being able to fund the Public Works Loan with no increase in the Town Council's proportion of the community charge is good news for the residents of Honiton, and brings the much needed Community Complex a step nearer."

COUNCIL MEMBERS

St. Michael's Ward

M.R. ALLEN	50 Marker Way, Honiton, EX14 2EN	46755
N. CORNWELL	15 Woodmans Crescent, EX14 2DY	47478
D FOSTER	17 Roundball Close EX14 2NU	45106
Mrs. S. GROVES	8 Gronau Close, EX14 2YT	47654
P. HALSE	Eddystone, Langford Road EX14 1QA	43854
Mrs. S. PAVEY	59 Hazelwood Close, Honiton EX14 2XA	07740 973990
J.B. TAYLOR	The Annexe, Beechwood, Feniton, EX14 3ED	07742 559244
V.C. WHITLOCK	30 Rosemount Lane, EX14 1RJ	43959

St. Paul's Ward

Miss V. ASH	3 Hillside, Combe Raleigh, Honiton EX14 4TJ	42028
L.G. BAYLISS	69 Langford Avenue EX14 1QE	42450
R.E. COOMBS	9 Hill Crescent, EX14 2HY	47347
J.P. CORKE	19 The Orchard, Otter Valley Park EX14 4PT	47437
R.A. FARNHAM	Golesworthy Cottage, 16 Dowell Street EX14 1LT	44723
Miss M.V. HARMAN	12 Mount Close, Honiton EX14 1QZ	41585
Mrs V.A. HOWARD	Hale Farm Cottage, Axminster Road Honiton, EX14 9TQ	47127
Mrs E. TIRARD	1st Floor Flat, 53 High St. EX14 1PW	47361
J.Z. ZARCZYNSKI	7 Kendall House, Mead View Rd. EX14 2JQ	41215

TOWN CLERK: Mrs. Lyn Hargood
DEPUTY CLERK: Mrs. Sarah Jenkins
Town Council Offices, New Street, Honiton EX14 1EY
Tel/Fax: 01404 42957 towncouncil@honiton.gov.uk
www.honiton.gov.uk

M E R R Y
C H R I S T M A S !