Cllr Horner Report for Kingskerswell Parish Council

17th November 2025

Local Government Reorganisation – as of 11th October 2025

On the 5th November 2025, I was advised that Torbay had released details of their plans for LGR in Devon. Their preferred option was that Plymouth would remain the same, and their "new" unitary authority would take in Teignbridge up to Teignmouth and Chudleigh, and that Exeter would become a unitary authority taking in the surrounding area up to and including Dawlish. The remainder would be Devon Unitary Authority. Devon's plan has already been created (by the Coalition and DCC officers). We were told that the upfront costs would be £100m. A special full council meeting on the LGR was held on 14th November. The 9-1-1 proposal set out by the Coalition was presented to the full council and discussed. The Cabinet meet tomorrow (18th November) to vote on the bid that will be put forward to Central Government on the 28th November.

A379 Wall-collapse Shaldon – Meeting at County Hall

On the 5th November, 2025, I met with the Devon County Council Monitoring Officer, Maria Price and Director for the Climate Change, Environment and Transport, Meg Booth. They have agreed that work would begin to repair the wall, beginning with an Engineering Design Survey. It was mentioned that the repair work could include temporary road closures. I emphasised that repair needed to be completed before the start of the 2026 holiday season, given the expected seasonal increase in traffic. The survey and repair programme is being prepared which will be shared with me as soon as possible, which I will forward to the Parish Councils on in due course. The liability for the repairs has still to be resolved.

Devon Educational Trust - As one of two DCC appointed Trustees to the board I attended my first meeting of the Trust on 5th November. The Trust was set up in November 1988 by DCC and Claude pike to act as a resource for young people up to the age of 25 whose normal place of residence is within the County of Devon by providing financial assistance as a means of:

- Advancing in life and helping young people by developing their skills, capacities and capabilities, to enable them to participate in society as independent, mature and responsible individuals.
- Advancing education.
- Providing recreational and leisure time activity in the interests of social welfare for people living in the area of benefit who have need by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disability, poverty or social and economic circumstances with a view to improving the conditions of life of such persons.

At the meeting various requests for funding were considered and c. £35,000 in grants were issued to young people of Devon. I am looking forward to learning more about their activities over the coming months.