

District Councillors report to 18 April

Devolution is the big word at the moment and despite all we read in the papers MSD Councillors, apart from the executive know very little and even then the Executive are being driven from all sides. I have had some parishioners ask me about it and we will have seen the first candidate putting his hat in the ring for position as Mayor. That is far from clear or agreed!

We will be given more information but I do fear we will be told rather than asked and I am doing all that I can to redress this.

There have been a flurry of Planning applications to beat the 'CIL' deadline so much so we had an extra planning meeting and then one cancelled as other work was not put forward early enough for the next meeting to go ahead. I have made representation over this.

Overall the Council has a Conservative majority and a new Leader has been elected for the forthcoming year. As it has to be ratified it would be inappropriate for me to name the new leader but I can advise you that I remain (as requested) as Chair of Planning, Chair of Licensing and licensing hearings and also deputy for various other groups. I am happy with the allocation of work and will do my best for the community.

More planning applications are coming forward in the Debenham area and as it is a Key Service Centre no doubt there will be more pressure to do more. I am hopeful that any land bids/allocations will be brought forward soon for the community to see proposals from the District Council which should link in with the Parish Council and their valuable work on the Neighbourhood plan

Kathie Guthrie