

Brendon Parish Council

County Councillors Report

June 2025

Recent Election

Thank you for returning me as your County Councillor, I look forward to working with you and the other parish councils for our area.

The election has completely changed the Council and now Devon County Council is left under no single party control. Of the 60 seats, the Lib Dems won the most with 27, but that left them just short of the 31 seats needed to gain overall control.

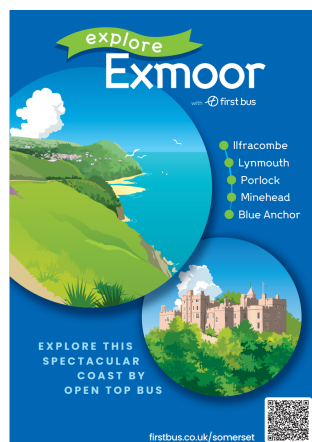
Reform UK, new to the council, won 18 seats; the Conservative Party – seven seats; Green Party – six; Independents – two; with the Labour Party now having no seats on the council.

With Local Government reorganisation looming I do not know how long this term of office will be. What I do know is that we will need to make sure that we are not forgotten in our corner of Devon and my main priority will be standing up for us and the future of our services in Combe Martin Rural. It is all too easy for the more urban areas to have little or no regard for the remoter areas and as you might expect, I have no intention of being quiet.

I will be updating you regularly about developments on the reorganisation in Devon. Both the District Councils and the County Council will be disappearing and a unitary structure will be in put in place.

Exmoor Coaster

If you fancy a day out....£3!



EX1 Exmoor Explorer (formerly *Exmoor Coaster*), First Bus (Buses of Somerset)
Off Peak Timetable from 25 May to 23 July 2025



MONDAYS TO SUNDAYS											
Minehead, Butlins Main Gate	0835	1130	1430	1720	Ilfracombe Harbour Ropery Road	-	1100	1400	1700		
Minehead, WSR Rail Station	0837	1132	1432	1722	Ilfracombe Wilder Road Car Park	-	1103	1403	1703		
Minehead Avenue	0840	1135	1435	1725	Hele Bay Hotel	-	1110	1410	1710		
Bratton Turn	0846	1141	1441	1731	Watermouth Castle	-	1114	1414	1714		
Selworthy Turn	0851	1146	1446	1736	Sandaway Beach	-	1119	1419	1719		
Allerford, Bus Shelter	0852	1147	1447	1737	Beach Holiday Park	-	1120	1420	1720		
Porlock, Doverhay Car Park	0858	1153	1453	1743	Wildlife and Dinosaur Park	-	1132	1432	1732		
Whitstone Post View Point	0908	1207	1507	1757	Blackmoor Gate	-	1141	1441	1741		
County Gate	0918	1217	1517	1807	Woody Bay Station	-	1150	1450	1750		
Countisbury, Blue Ball Inn	0926	1225	1525	1815	Barbrook, Shelter	-	1155	1455	1755		
Lynmouth Lyndale coach park arr	0933	1233	1533	1823	Lynmouth Lyndale coach park arr	-	1209	1509	1809		
Lynmouth Lyndale coach park dep	0940	1240	1540	-	Lynmouth Lyndale coach park dep	0927	1215	1515	1815		
Barbrook, shelter	0952	1252	1552	-	Countisbury, Blue Ball Inn	0932	1222	1522	1820		
Woody Bay Station	0958	1258	1558	-	County Gate Car Park	0941	1232	1532	1829		
Blackmoor Gate	1006	1306	1606	-	Whitstone Post View Point	0951	1242	1542	1839		
Wildlife and Dinosaur Park	1015	1315	1615	-	Porlock, Doverhay Car Park	1004	1254	1552	1848		
Combe Martin - King Street Stores	1022	1322	1622	-	Allerford, Bus Shelter	1008	1258	1556	1852		
Sandaway Beach opp holiday park	1027	1327	1627	-	Selworthy Turn	1009	1259	1557	1853		
Watermouth Castle	1031	1331	1631	-	Bratton Turn	1014	1304	1602	1858		
Hele Bay Hotel	1035	1335	1635	-	Minehead The Parade	1020	1310	1608	1903		
Ilfracombe, Wilder Road Car Park	1042	1342	1642	-	Minehead, WSR Rail Station	1024	1314	1611	1906		
Ilfracombe Harbour Ropery Road	1048	1348	1648	-	Minehead, Butlins Main Gate	1030	1320	1617	1912		

NOTE: This timetable has been prepared by Exmoor National Park Authority (ENPA) based on timetables published by First (Buses of Somerset) who operate the Exmoor Explorer Service. It has been provided to aid users, but no responsibility can be taken for any errors or changes made to the timetable by the operators. You can check against the latest published timetables at www.firstbus.co.uk. First Bus Customer Services can be contacted on 0345 646 0707.

Find Your Exmoor

Further information and inspiration on exploring Exmoor National Park is available online at www.exmoor-nationalpark.gov.uk
 Or visit one of our **Exmoor National Park Centres** at Dulverton, Dunster & Lynmouth open 10-5, 7 days a week April to October (limited winter opening).



Summer Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme.

The Government-funded scheme provides activities and nutritional meals over the holidays for children aged five to 16 who receive benefits-related free school meals.

If your child is not eligible for benefits-related free school meals they still may be able to access activities under the 'extended criteria.'

More information about the extended criteria on [information for parents and carers on our children, families and education webpage](#).

It is now possible to [book activities](#) online. The new EEQU system displays all the holiday activities on offer, with links detailing where and when the activity is, how to get there and other important information. Once you've applied the booking system will carry out an instant assessment of their eligibility to attend. If eligible, you will receive a confirmation of the booking and you will be sent reminders ahead of the session.

If you need to cancel its easy to do and will free up the slot allowing those on the waiting list the chance to book.

There are over 100 holiday activity providers around Devon who provide a wide range of activities for children and young people.

From arts and crafts workshops to sports and outdoor activities, the programme is designed to keep children engaged, active, and well-nourished during the school

break. All clubs will be operating for a minimum of four hours and will include a hot meal.

One of the venues available is the Calvert Trust which offers a range of activities and is a great opportunity to try something new.

The DCC website is very useful for reporting highway problems and the reports go straight to the contractor.

[Report a problem - Roads and transport](#)

Alternatively, the highway contact number is 0345 155 1004

If it's a river flooding the environment agency can be contacted on 0345 988 1188

Winter road updates; <https://www.devon.gov.uk/roads-and-transport/safe-travel/winter-travel/>

Travel Devon website; [home - Travel Devon](#)

Andrea Davis

County Councillor

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