Teignbridge District Councillors Report Febuary 2026

On 26 th Febuary is our next Full Council Meeting at Teignbridge. It seems likely that there will be the usual increase in Council Tax of a rise of 2.99%. Thus the Teignbridge element, which Teignbridge keeps equates to just 8% of the total you pay.Using the band D example that is an increase of £6.05 to a figure of £208.33.

Also on the agenda is what is called a Notice of Motion(NOM) which I have introduced which has been seconded with the resquisite number of signitures for it to go forward for debate for adoption or not. Teignbridge runs the memorial benches that we see so many of in Shaldon.My NOM gives the public a choice or not of being able to have such a bench becoming a Chatty Bench.
Chatty Benches are in place nationally, not not widely known about in this region and painted yellow to help combat loneliness in life, to improve peoples mental health. Thus if you decide to sit on such a bench it is expected of you to talk to strangers if they decide to sit on the bench with you, or pause with the intention of making conversation with you.I am told there will be no increase in fees for opting into this, its purely a choice at the time of wanting to put in place a memorial bench.I am very much hoping members will support this and that the vote will be unanimous in favour of introducing this.

On the 10th March,with the approval of Shaldon Parish Council, I am meeting with the past contractors who looked after the Ness Floodlights. As most realise they were turned of and made safe by the contractors towards the end of last season. Teignbridge have no intention of wanting to get them up and running again. However, it is unfortunate that two LED lights have broken off the seaward pylon .On that pylon just one of the three floodlights remains in place. However, the two LED lights were recovered and given to me to look after and I intend to give them to the contractor who hopefully in his report will cover, following a lighting test, to access the entire situation. I suspect a bit of work needs doing as the other pylon all four LED lights now are set down to light up the foreshore rather than the Ness Headland itself. With no budgets in place any benefactor is welcome to get in touch with me and of course this may well be an opportunity for crowd funding.As the project thanks to a benefactor about four years ago, which cost just over £6k then,to replace with new, I am hopeful that before too long once again the Ness Headland will become floodlit, rather than being lost to the sea so to speak.

Meanwhile SPC deliberate on the 24 th March the best course of action to take with regard to the state on the beach.
Chris Clarance