

EDDC Cllr Vicky Johns December Report

22nd November- I attended the members development workshop online.

23rd November - I attended the virtual Scrutiny refresher training.

30th November - I attended the EDDC consultation at the Institute alongside Cllr Lucas, where we met lots of very unhappy residents who don't like the idea of so many houses being built in Ottery when the infrastructure is already struggling. The residents didn't feel that the officers that were present could answer the questions that they had and they were very concerned about the new settlement line. As well as the sites that have been put forward particularly those that have already been turned down for previous planning by EDDC. The residents I spoke to felt that Ottery was just being used as somewhere to put the houses so that EDDC could fulfil their government requirement and not what was in the best interest of Ottery. There was many comments about our lack of transport links especially since Stagecoach have reduced their services, plus the schools and doctors surgery all being over subscribed. I advised that this is the consultation period and that each resident should contact EDDC and put their own view points across.

1st December - I attended the Safeguarding training being that was run at Blackdown House where I realised that there is an awful lot of information that is available but finding it can be an issue. I found the session itself very useful and would recommend it to anyone who has the opportunity to attend.

As we are aware there is an issue with the lack of a safe walkway from the Butts Road side to the Garden Centre and although we have been trying to get a footpath this does appear to be very problematic. So in the meantime I have been working alongside a local resident, our Devon County Councillor Jess and highways at DCC to see if we can get 'pedestrians in the road', signs put up to try to assist the situation. I am delighted that DCC have agreed and have advised of the costings, due to their own budget cuts they can not pay for them. So if the council agrees, through our regeneration budget and with Jess's help we will hopefully get the signs up soon.

Stay safe

Vicky