

East Devon Local Development Framework

OUTCOME OF CONSULTATION EVENTS

SEATON



Spring 2010

The Outcome of the Consultation Events

Spring 2010

Introduction

This report has been prepared following the public engagement that took place during Spring 2010 to inform the preparation of the Core Strategy for East Devon. The Core Strategy will be a key document within East Devon's Local Development Framework (a new type of development plan that will replace the Devon Structure Plan and the East Devon Local Plan). One of the main principles of the new planning system is that local communities and stakeholders should be involved from the outset in the preparation of planning policy documents. The Core Strategy will set out an overall vision for East Devon and the strategic elements in the planning framework for the District. It will not allocate specific sites for development, but it will identify which broad areas are suitable for new homes or jobs. The Core Strategy will look ahead to 2026, which is the same timescale as the emerging Regional Plan.

The purpose of this report is to outline the consultation which informed the production of the Core Strategy and to summarise the process and results of the consultation.

Consultation Process

In order to manage the consultation process effectively, and in accordance with the guidance of the Planning Advisory Service, the following process was undertaken:

Step 1- Set Objectives	Inform stakeholders about the LDF and the requirements of the RSS for growth Identify the community's key concerns and aspirations for the future- Parish Plans and Vision Statements will be used as the starting point for discussion Involve stakeholders (and the wider community) in prioritising options and shaping future policy
Step 2- Review Schedule	6 weeks to organise, book venue and prepare briefing papers- commence consultation w/c 8.3.10 Complete all events by mid-May Feedback over Summer
Step 3- Identify who to involve	Equalities Impact Assessment- identify minority groups Stakeholders Including statutory consultees Interest groups Elected representatives Wider Community
Step 4- Choose the right method	Method will depend on consultee group but it is envisaged that standard approaches will be tailored to meet the needs of the process and the attendees- Towns- Afternoon/evening workshops in each main town using RSS requirements and Parish Plan/Vision Statement as starting point, with stakeholders present to discuss constraints and issues pertinent to each settlement. Parishes- Evening meeting open to all PC's using Parish Plan/Vision Statement as basis for discussion. Parishes provided with clear and specific guidance on which to base discussion at their next meeting, following which they will be asked to provide a written report. Hard to reach/minority/interest groups will be consulted depending on their individual needs. East Devon Talk, Forums, Local Press etc
Step 5- Deliver Activities	Town meetings (at which there may be stakeholders with strongly opposing views/interests) will take form of workshops, with Officers present to answer questions and explain the process

	<p>Officers will facilitate the Parish meetings as these will focus on explaining the process and enabling Parish Councils to produce the information required themselves</p> <p>Hard to reach/minority/interest groups consulted according to individual needs</p> <p>All representatives will be asked to provide copies of any credible, relevant evidence they may have to justify their opinions, ie survey results from Parish Plan production, so that they can be used to support the Council's position.</p>
Step 6- Collate, review and export	<p>As far as possible information will be quantitative to enable statistical analysis and collected through structured proformas or in a standardised format so that comparison is possible.</p> <p>Raw, qualitative data (ie from meetings, records of workshop discussions, questionnaire returns and notes) will be presented discursively to minimise subjectivity before interpretation. Everything will be retained to provide an auditable evidence base.</p> <p>Analysis will be carried out by Officers, assuming sufficient resources are available, then reported to the relevant Committee</p> <p>Outcomes will be assessed to identify key themes and areas of broad consensus, as well as other relevant points.</p> <p>Some issues, ie significant objections from key stakeholders, may require additional information and research.</p> <p>Attendees will be provided with notes of the meetings</p>
Step 7- Evaluate Effectiveness	<p>As part of the 'consultation statement' the methods of engagement, parties involved, key outcomes and their role in shaping the core strategy will need to be set out. The process will need to be shown to be effective and questionnaires to all attendees will inform this process and enable evaluation.</p>

If you have any queries relating to this document please contact:

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Meetings with Town Councils and Local Organisations in Spring 2010

A series of 6 afternoon and early evening workshops were held, in Axminster, Exmouth, Honiton, Ottery St Mary, Seaton and Sidmouth. Each meeting consisted of two main facilitated exercises prepared and conducted by the planning policy team, together with an introductory overview explaining the role of the Core Strategy and the opportunities and constraints facing the town over the next 20 years. A District wide map was also available for people to comment on.

In the case of Exmouth, LDA Consultants were commissioned to produce a Development Brief for Exmouth Town Centre, and a visioning exercise formed a fundamental component of this. The timetable for this dovetailed with the LDF workshops and interested parties may also wish to view the LDA Brief for additional information on the town centre issues. The Exmouth workshop followed the same format as the other town workshops.

Attendance at the meetings

Attendance at the meetings was usually by postal invitation (followed up by an e.mail), and these were issued to the Town Council, Ward Members, local interest groups (including business, amenity, local interest, sports, elderly and young persons groups etc) and relevant statutory consultees (ie Environment Agency, Highway Authority). Details of the invitees are listed in the Appendix but the list for every town was extensive, with around 500 people asked to attend across the District. A press release informing the public that these meetings were taking place was issued to numerous local newspapers and this invited interested local organisations to put themselves forward if they had not been asked. It also informed the public that they could become involved through the subsequent Town Council meeting in their town if they wished to.

Thirty-five people attended the Local Development Framework workshop in Seaton on 23 March; around 18 people attended the workshop in Honiton on 24 March; 22 people attended the Axminster workshop on 29 March; and 21 people attended the Ottery St Mary workshop on 30 March. The Exmouth workshop, held on 11 May, was attended by 56 people.

A central venue was selected in each town, and these were all hubs of the communities within which they were located. The feedback on the quality and accessibility of the venues was generally positive and the timing of the meetings, 1.30-5.30pm, was considered appropriate by most attendees. It should be noted, however, that the timing may have been a factor in preventing some bodies from being represented. Refreshments were available before and during the meetings.

Each attendee was provided with an information pack specific to their settlement, containing statistics taken from the most recent census, house building rates and numbers, Council house waiting list numbers, a synopsis of their Town Plan and a summary of the responses to the Issues and Options report relevant to their particular town. A questionnaire relating to the attendees experience of the event and a pre-paid envelope was also included.

Format of the meetings

An introduction to the meeting was given by Planning Officers. This set out the strategic context of the Core Strategy and explained the Government requirements for additional development in the District, stages of Core Strategy preparation, key-drivers for change, spatial issues and additional information about the consultation.

The first of the two workshops took a 'speed dating' format, with two Officers (one to facilitate discussion and one to note points made) addressing each of the following subjects:

- Economy
- Housing
- Environment
- Transport and Infrastructure
- Community

- Rural Issues

Attendees were allocated their first subject upon arrival; this determined the order in which the subjects were discussed by each group in rotation. Officers noted all the points made on their particular subject during a 15 minute period and then moved onto the next table to repeat the exercise. This session culminated in the identification of key themes by Officers, which were presented to the whole group as a basis for subsequent discussion. Summaries of the points are presented in the next Chapter, the full text is available in the Appendix.

This was followed by a 'fun' exercise where attendees were asked to write a postcard from the perspective of a visitor to the town in 2030. This was well received by most attendees and produced some thought-provoking results, available to read in the Appendix.

The second workshop was a map-based exercise, again led by Planning Officers. Attendees were asked to consider how their town might grow over a twenty year period and illustrate this on A1 maps. They were asked to identify areas for retention, areas of particular importance for sport/recreation, employment, housing, landscape character and other facilities/land uses. Again this was well received and, although many different opinions were expressed, there was a surprising degree of consensus. Results of this exercise are collated onto maps presented in the next Chapter.

All material produced at the meetings is available to view at the District Council offices.

Local Development Framework Core Strategy Consultation

Seaton 'Speed Dating' Workshop

23 March 2010

Method

58 representatives of established voluntary and community groups, all members of the Town Council and all East Devon Elected Members from Seaton were invited along to an event to discuss the future of Seaton up to the year 2030. 35 people attended the event, these were as follows:

- Various from Seaton Town Council
- Seaton & District Chamber of Commerce x2
- Devon and Cornwall Police
- Sustainable Seaton
- Seaton Councillor (EDDC) x2
- Seaton Design Statement Working Party
- Seaton Design Statement Working Party/ Seaton Rotary Club
- Seaton Visitor Centre Trust x2
- Seaton's Voice
- Senior Council for Seaton
- Royal British Legion- Seaton
- Seaton Youth Service
- Seaton Phoenix
- Seaton Football Club
- Sense
- Seaton Library
- Seaton Garden Club
- Axe Yacht Club
- Seaton Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club
- Friends of the Axe Estuary Reserves
- Axe Bird Ringing Society
- Magna Housing Association
- Friends of the Axe Wetlands

The full list of invitees is provided in the Appendix.

The attendees were split into 6 different tables. Council Officers moved round the tables spending 15 minutes at each table discussing one of the following topics:

- Community
- Economy
- Environment
- Housing
- Transport

The following are summaries of the results of those discussions.

Housing

- Doubt over the numbers of new homes needed in Seaton, and whether the numbers proposed were accurate.

- There is a need for more affordable homes- including mentions of between 140 and 250 new affordable homes. Community Land Trusts could become involved.
- There are lots of elderly people in Seaton and more moving in, this needs to be taken into account when planning new housing.
- Use of existing buildings should be improved first with re-occupation of empty homes and improvements to existing homes. This included utilising flats above shops and roof spaces.
- There are physical constraints within Seaton that limit the locations where new homes could be built. Maybe they could be built adjacent to existing boundaries.
- Concern about the new Common Housing Register and the way it works.

Community

- Seaton has a good primary school but it needs to expand, especially if extra homes are built. Also if extra homes are built a secondary school should be built.
- Seaton desperately needs a youth centre.
- If Seaton is to expand extra healthcare provision will be needed e.g. doctors, NHS dentists, expanding the hospital. The hospital needs to increase the services it offers.
- There is a need for more outdoor recreation/ open spaces. More football pitches are needed along with a ladies changing area and toilet facilities. A rugby pitch is needed. There is no focal point such as a civic park.
- There is a big need for mixed use indoor recreation/ sport buildings for all ages. There is no swimming pool, sports hall or gym in Seaton.
- Make more of the seafront by improving its appearance and usefulness e.g. watersports.
- There is a need for more multi-purpose community buildings.
- There is a fairly good sense of community spirit in Seaton but this could be improved by regenerating the town.

Environment Issues

- Green tourism is very important to Seaton. The existing natural environment needs to be capitalised upon especially the Wetlands.
- More green open spaces are needed maybe including beach gyms and sports fields.
- Improved walking access is needed to other areas e.g. Lyme Regis and Axmouth.
- There was concern about the environmental impact if the Tesco's development does or does not go ahead.
- The seafront area needs enhancement and investment.

Economy

- A lot of the jobs in Seaton are low wage. If new housing is to be built there needs to be greater variety of jobs at higher wages. There was some concern that Seaton may not be able to accommodate many new jobs and so people may need to travel out of Seaton.
- Small scale business development units are needed.
- High speed broadband is needed.

Transport and Infrastructure

- Cycling is important to Seaton, more cycling links are needed. Seaton needs to be more linked up with paths and cycle routes.
- More integrated public transport is needed.
- Could we make more use of the sea and estuary for transportation.
- The timetable of buses is poor and there is no rail link.
- 20mph speed limits need enforcing.
- The road system needs upgrading- larger vehicles erode the road and cause traffic issues.
- Car parking charges are too high, Tesco's provide free parking spaces but too far from town.
- Access to the Yacht Club needs improving.
- There were mixed views about the Marina development- whether it is good or bad.
- More provision of green energy is needed in Seaton.

APPENDIX

	Seaton LDF Consultation Event 23rd March 2010	Full list of invitees
	Seaton LDF Consultation Event 23rd March 2010	Full list of points made in workshop 1
	Seaton LDF Consultation Event 23rd March 2010	Postcard Exercise results

Seaton LDF Consultation Event

23rd March 2010

Invited	Organisation	Attended
e-mail	Seaton Town Council	Yes (6+)
e-mail and phone	Seaton & District Chamber of Commerce (x2)	Yes (x2)
e-mail and reminder e-mail	Devon and Cornwall Police	Yes (x2)
e-mail and phone and letter	Sustainable Seaton	Yes
e-mail	Seaton District Councillor (x2 – 1 current vacancy)	Yes (x2)
e-mail	Seaton Hospital	
e-mail	Seaton Design Statement Working Party	Yes
e-mail	Seaton Design Statement Working Party/ Seaton Rotary Club	Yes
e-mail	Seaton Visitor Centre Trust	Yes
e-mail	Seaton Visitor Centre Trust	Yes
letter	Seaton and District Hospital League of Friends	
letter	Seaton Primary School	
EDVSA	Seatons Voice	Yes
EDVSA	Senior Council for Seaton	Yes
call and e-mail	Royal British Legion- Seaton	Yes
call and e-mail	Seaton Youth Service	Yes
call and e-mail	Seaton Bay Accommodation Providers	
call and e-mail	Seaton Tramway	
call and e-mail	Seaton Phoenix	Yes
call and e-mail	Seaton Football Club	Yes
STC- call and e-mail	Seaton Guides	
STC- call	Seaton Martial Arts	
STC- call and letter	Seaton Lions	
STC- call	Seaton Scouts	
Letter	Seaton and District Lions Club	
Letter	Seaton Mothers Union	
Letter	Age Concern Devon- Seaton	
Letter	Seaton Adult and Community Learning	
Letter	Axe Valley Heritage Museum- Seaton	
Letter	Seaton over 50's activities club	
Letter	Sense	Yes
Letter	St John Ambulance- Seaton	
Letter	Seaton Music	
Letter	Seaton Library	Yes
Letter	Seaton Womens Institute	
Letter	Seaton Methodist Church	
Letter	Seaton Garden Club	Yes

Letter	Seaton and District Probus Club	
Letter	Axe Yacht Club	Yes
Letter	St Gregorys Parish Church- Seaton	
Letter	Seaton Allotments	
Letter	Seaton Bowling Club	
Letter	Seaton Cricket and Lawn Tennis Club	Yes
Letter	Crossroad Christian Fellowship- Seaton	
Letter	Seaton Drama Group	
Letter	Seaton Carnival Committee	
Letter	Speak Now Panel (x6)	
Gen letter	Churches Together in East Devon and the Diocese of Exeter	
Kate Tobin	Friends of the Axe Estuary Reserves	Yes
Kate Tobin	Axe Bird Ringing Society	Yes
E-mail and letter	Magna Housing Association	Yes
Kate Tobin	Friends of the Axe Wetlands	Yes

Comments in full

Housing Issues

Numbers of houses to be built:

- Numbers – difficult to know – statistics – what do you believe
- Does Seaton's census statistics require new housing.
- Need may be exaggerated.
- 150 affordable houses.
- 240 affordable homes.
- 500 people have noted that Seaton would be their preferred area.
- Inadequate housing.
- Do we need that many more new houses?

Affordable Homes:

- More rented (100%) – In affordable housing rather than other mechanisms.
- More affordable – but what scale
- Piggy back onto open market housing
- 'Council' built housing
- Money from selling historic Council houses – what happened to it.
- Community land trusts as facilitators.
- More – affordable
- Affordable housing for Community not just young people
- Housing trusts.
- Balance affordable and open market.
- Community land trust.
- Who is affordable housing for?
- Problem of affordability of housing.
- Affordable must be for Seaton.
- Regeneration area different than rest of Seaton? Should have required more affordable housing.

Housing for the disabled/ elderly:

- Care Homes needed/elderly – there is enough already.
- Can carers for elderly afford to live in Seaton.

- Lots of elderly incomers!
- Housing issue of newly retired moving to Seaton
- Elderly population
- Sheltered – more – very popular?

Energy Efficient Housing:

- Does it save money – fitting solar panels.
- Quality of homes – Energy efficiency important
- Elderly/disabled (Energy Efficient) – there is a need

Improving/ Use of Existing Homes:

- Why are flats and houses empty? What can be done?
- Repairs and help or maintenance
- Improve existing, stock, grants, investment. Contributions as opposed to open market.
- Empty homes need using. Need legislation before development.
- Better usage.
- Use of roof space.
- Private sector under occupation.
- Use of first floor above shops.

Second Homes:

- Second Homes (Existing Homes) – too many
- Second homes then turn into retirement homes.
- Second – restrictions?
- Second homes – 200% Council tax.
- It is a problem.
- It is not a problem. (Difference of opinion).
- 20% second homes in Seaton?
- Boundaries.
- Exception sites v. Boundary.

Where to Locate Homes:

- Adjacent to existing boundaries?
- Open space in the town has already been built on.
- Estuary site 36 elsewhere within Seaton would be good.
- Exception sites adjacent to the boundaries.
- Land at Seaton Down Hill (EDDC).
- Is this a good site? (not keen)
- Topography?
- Physical constraints.
- Physical space – sea/hills/valley
- Housing growth physical constraints.

Housing Register:

- Website not working
- Couldn't up date old entries – site not working
- Not familiar with system
- Help from Knowle – none
- Entry at local library – lack of time
- Has everyone re-registered? On housing list.

What Type of Housing:

- Who will move into these homes.
- Other open market houses needed.
- Tesco development controlling residential development.

- Private housing very open market
- For young people
- Integrated development.
- Integrated development – socially balanced.

Other- Housing:

- Houses are not supported by community facilities – employment opportunities.
- Commercial development stopping housing
- Growth linked to employment opportunity.
- Wider family connection
- Infrastructure first – jobs, community, facilities, transport links. (Lifetime homes).
- Quality of housing – private.
- Capacity of private sector housing.
- No recreation.
- Employment lacking in Seaton to provide jobs for young people
- Link to place of employment (transport)

Community Issues

Better School facilities:

- Secondary school needed
- Primary School bursting at the seams
- Killed off adult education (St Claire's) by government policy.
- Secondary School (Axminster or Sidmouth) cost of travel – issue of size of town stress on parents.
- Good primary school but not big enough especially if population increases.

Youth club/ young people:

- co-ordinate issues & facilities/activities
- Building as well as management/running of facilities.
- All enthusiastic about youth facilities
- Seaton had a youth club built by builders but finance raised by car boot sales to meet Health and Safety requirements
- Membership was 350 young people.
- £20,000 to fix youth centre. Could we re-do old one rather than have a brand new centre.
- Tesco need to give more than 80,000 if they are demolishing the youth centre because it would cost much more to provide a youth provision
- A youth steering group for Seaton – to action plans for youth
- Need to get the views of young people

Healthcare facilities:

- One of doctors surgeries only has 5 car parking spaces, will need an extra doctors and dentists for extra people.
- Healthcare – needs to be allowed to expand.
- Make hospital into more of a community hospital – its too limited (Seaton Community hospital). No x-ray facilities/mammogram facilities
- A&E & Ambulance Station – emergency medical facilities not available.
- NHS dentists.
- No preventative health activity

Leisure / Recreation Facilities:

- Need: Swimming pool, Sports hall, Youth Centre, Adult Recreation, Gym (Honiton/Axminster)
- Need to provide for both sides of population – not build facilities which separate youth and senior (mixed used –multi-purpose buildings).

- Football pitches – teams travel out to other areas to play as only 1 pitch available for multiple teams.
- Can't have a ladies football team – no changing space
- Football pitches, not adequate land. 1 adult pitch and 1 youth pitch- 13 teams. Would love to see a second pitch.
- Rugby pitch needed.
- Basket ball facilities
- Young people not been given access to facilities to enable us to encourage them to take part in sport.
- Football – need two pitches close together Elizabeth Road, no changing facilities or toilet facilities
- Harepath Road – community made their own football pitch but got told by Seaton Town Council to take it down.
- Lack facilities for all sorts of sport/recreation and open space.
- Outdoor activities for teen group – skate park, biking – expanding to other activities – bigger space.
- Walking/cycling facilities.
- Only facilities for individual sports
- Not enough playing space proportionally
- Have a cricket, football, tennis and canoe club. These facilities/groups need funding and support.
- No indoor sports facilities, could combine provision for indoor and outdoor facilities
- Reinstate Lido on the seafront (sea pool).
- Bandstand would be appealing for young and old.
- Getting S106 money but cannot get hold of it to spend it (play and recreation audit needed).
- Playing fields/skate park available/beach.
- Community safety good nightclub (1) busiest in area – attracts visitors from outside town.
- No outdoor focal point like a civic park, nowhere people feel is a community space
- Better theatre facilities – more effort, Put into Seaton Town Hall as a theatre
- No cinema
- More recreation spaces
- Make Seaton Reg. Site into an open space
- For everything we have to travel
- Need community food growing.
- Community gardens – existing not much used
- Putting green/bowling club high use – better promotion

Seafront:

- Could do a lot with seafront
- One of most lovely beaches ever – need to make more of it.
- Remove sea wall (enhancement, improvement of its appearance)
- Watersports – Windsurfing, Parasending
- Better use of beach (jet skies, boats)
- Pedestrianise part of sea front – raised road/walk to front of pub.
- Can't put a boat on the beach anymore, can't launch from it

Community Buildings:

- Loss of community buildings – Jubilee Youth and Community Centre, TIC Building, adult facilities St Claire's, (Scout Hall?).
- Only one community building – this one
- Library and town hall available.
- Potentially have regeneration area which could have been used.

Community Spirit:

- Community spirit not strong but being worked on.

- Experience of caring community but been 'battered' by recent events – feeling being ignored/not listened to – Sidmouth gets attention not Seaton.
- Building in back gardens is spoiling the community of Seaton. Apply Seaton Design Statement to planning applications.
- Give the people power and land to do things about their community.
- People live here because they love it.
- People of Seaton love Seaton
- Filling empty homes would improve community
- No community infrastructure
- Would be lovely to have all community facilities together.

Community- Other:

- Cemetery/crematorium facilities
- Need more facilities if more houses are built.
- Make things happen, stop just talking about it.
- No person within Council to do funding bids and advise in funding bids.
- Improved signage for facilities to tourists

Environment Issues

The Natural Environment:

- Green tourism – unlock potential of Jurassic Coast, Wetlands.
- Expansion of Axe Wetlands and associated facilities.
- Landscape protection of whole wetlands.
- Management of water-based activities, etc. on estuary.
- Excellent access to natural environment – maintain and enhance.
- Capitalise on natural environment – invest in tourism, transport facilities.
- Better publicity and communication of existing environment and associated issues.
- Retention of agricultural land.
- Retention of views to draw visitors to services and assets.
- Capitalise of Seaton's heritage.
- Trees on reclaimed land at Harbour Road are unhealthy.
- Trees – more planting, less being lost to development. Woodland not street trees.

Climate Change:

- Climate change – good or bad?
- Access to information on local climate change. Cliff surveys, beach management etc.

Recreational Environment:

- Green open spaces – parks, gardens, recreation areas, places to sit, gather, enjoy, maintain and enhance existing spaces.
- Lack of sports fields.
- Green gyms. Beach gyms.
- Investment in youth facilities and overnight accommodation.
- Seaton flood plain development. Recreational and tourism activities not development.

Access to Nature:

- Improve access to Undercliffs/Lyme Regis footpath.
- Improved links with Axmouth – pedestrian/cycle.
- Ability to take bikes on buses.

Tescos:

- Absolutely crucial to make Tesco development successful.
- What happens if Tesco development does not go ahead?
- Long term environmental issues posed by infill for Tesco.

Improvement of seafront and esplanade:

- Enhancement/decoration of deteriorating buildings, sea wall.
- Flower beds – community/private involvement in environment/services.
- Investment in seafront/flood defences.
- Pedestrianise the Esplanade and develop shops, facilities along there.

Other- Environment:

- Light pollution.
- Cohesive community input needed in pushing forward plans/services.

Transport and Infrastructure Issues

Walking and cycling:

- Walking – ideally sited for tourism (travel lodge market – not luxury).
- Walking, tourism, birds – critical.
- Round Britain Cycle races – Seaton could host national events.
- Cycling and walking – don't want cars to impact on quality experience.
- Continuation cycle route Colyford – Axminster vital – Sustrans goes to Axminster.
- Parts of Seaton cycle friendly – some dangerous roads, however.
- Wide road in with cycleways needed
- Get on with cycling – Sustrans link.
- 2,300 grizzly runners – where is accommodation?
- Walking country can be inaccessible – out of town it is rugged – 'Walk this Way Programme' levels/surfaces of variable quality – 'rugged' is an attraction to some people.
- Cycle links – CPO required to complete links.
- Project needed - % for links – children's walks, kids walks, blue plaque walk.
- Lovely parts of Seaton but not linked beach, harbour, Wetlands – how do we join them.
- On your bike.
- Visual queues to link – fishes or birds – to stimulate and for use by everyone.

Public Transport:

- Buses need to be integrated with cycle routes/carrying bikes.
- Buses designed for leisure not work – no leisure facilities in town so people go out.
- More integrated public transport – all forms bus/train/tram – make it possible to not use public transport.
- Public transport needed on Sunday.
- Hail and bus – bus stops required.
- Buses should wait in beach park not seafront.
- Transport required into cemetery.
- Pretty good bus service in town but not at weekends.
- Youngsters should have half price transport – like old people.
- Links to Science Park and Skypark required.
- Very poor public transport.
- Can't get to 'anywhere'.
- Can't go to cinema, youth club – Axminster.
- Bus stop at 7.00 p.m.
- Tram – green transport link to Colyton – green energy bus to Axminster station.
- Water transport – Bay of Naples model – every 4/5 miles – jetty – small boats can stop – water taxis.
- Water taxis Poole – Seaton – Torquay.
- X53 not answer to all transport problems. Great for tourists – but funnels people along southern route.
- Buses to the north – links airport/Science Park.
- Buses very poor – don't get you there at 9 a.m.

- More transport into Seaton.
- Railway link – line still there at Shute.
- Light rail.
- Transport links Exeter public transport.
- Train – tourism.
- Seaton to Axe Valley by bus.
- But public transport to Exeter college.
- (Post 16 not good).
- Need to carry bikes on train.
- Use existing infrastructure for rails.
- Taxi ranks not used – where do taxis exist.
- No co-ordinated and integrated bus services.
- Buses do not link to trains.
- Young people need to leave town to access facilities.
- Those without cars are isolated – facilities lost in Seaton so people have to leave town.
- Small transport up Axe – boats up river? (could go up to Whitford by small boat).
- Tesco development – short of small units – public transport required to business units.

Policing of roads:

- Policing Seaford Road required – 20 mph.
- Limit needed – elderly residents, young (20 mph on Fore Street).
- Police may not enforce 20 mph limit. Can be self enforcing but not always.
- Pedestrianisation is not working more policing required.

Roads:

- Large vehicles cannot pass at pinch points.
- Traffic routes – vehicle directions need looking at.
- Upgrade roads?
- Roads into Seaton are torturous.
- Roads converge into narrow lanes.
- Tesco lorries – Tesco generate need!
- Tesco – 600 car spaces – roads will not bring people in – vehicles damaging roads.
- Roads very poor – roads worn out down to base.
- No real congestion – comments from Devon County Council not accurate.

Car Parking:

- Harbour car park waste of land as it is rarely full – is it the best use of land? But, in summer it is quite full!
- Visitors like parking on sea-front – but can't look over wall.
- Roads and parking – concern of parking meters in town – street furniture overbearing too much signing.
- Walking town centre to Tesco car park is going to be very challenging.
- People will not bother to park at Tesco and walk into town.
- Why does EDDC have drop barriers to ensure parking is charged for amount of time used.
- Car parks – too expensive, no winter charge and no parking meter.
- Car park – Tesco will give 600 free short stay car park spaces. Unknown if you need to shop to get free parking. Free Tesco parking will impact on people using seafront and town centre.
- Cars and car parking – potentially high.
- Lost factual high cost disincentive to visitors – parking charges will kill shops.
- Tesco shopping will free for shoppers.

Marina/ Yachts:

- Marina development – sea borne up and down coast. Pier/landing stage required.
- Marine could encourage long-distance commuting – big energy use.

- Marina development not appropriate/technically credible – no access to Seaton Hole.
- Moorings at Yacht Club very good but difficult to do much more – bridge is a major constraint.
- Access for disabled to seafront/yacht club is very poor – need access through yacht club.

Green Energy Production:

- Sea power green energy and wind power and tidal surge – photovoltaic.
- Seaton green hub – exemplar town.
- Green energy – potentially high-tech.
- Need to be concerned about green energy being ‘dumped’ in Seaton.
- Green trees wanted to ‘eat’ carbon.
- Solar energy up to individuals.
- Green energy production – Seaton ideal location.
- Green Energy
- Green energy led.
- Wind turbines not needed/but so say yes to it.
- Energy from sewage.

Gas, water and sewage etc provision:

- Sewage will be an issue – capacity limits at present.
- Under-ground electricity lines need – particularly across marshes and in the town. (Cables have adverse impacts).
- Water saving. (See River Dart corkscrew example).
- Sewage capacity is inadequate and should be improved.

Broadband:

- 50 mega bytes Broadband required.
- 50 mega bytes is achievable to serve collection of units.
- Electronic links need Broadband – 50 mega bytes required.
- Business units need Broadband.

Other- Transport and Infrastructure:

- Limited infrastructure on sea front.
- Transport out of our hands it’s Devon County Council.
- Carbon neutral housing – core 5/6 required.
- Fuel club required in rural areas – where big oil deliveries required.
- Big lorries can cause big problems.
- Seaton should accommodate city workers and other workers.
- Promotion of car share scheme – incentive it.
- Broadband probably ok but not very good in Axmouth and no gas. Villages – poor mobile.

Economy Issues

Jobs:

- Accept that Seaton can’t accommodate jobs requirement.
- Low wage ‘care’ industry.
- Axminster should be employment provider for Seaton.
- Tesco – part-time/low wage.
- Care industry.
- Don’t want to be a ‘dorm’.
- Buses to employment – Seaton – Axminster – Honiton – Airport – Exeter.
- Jobs necessary to ‘serve’ new housing.

Employment land, buildings and infrastructure:

- Limited economic base for Seaton.

- Small scale business units.
- Promotion of business development units.
- Empty property – small enterprises.
- Very limited 'building plots' availability.
- Small scale technology/business park – starter/second phase units.
- 'Satellite' location to Exeter.
- Shared facilities.
- Small business encouragement – financial incentive through local taxation?
- PFI for business parks.
- High speed broadband.
- High tech industries.
- Broadband.
- IT – footloose industry.
- E-commerce (Seaton needs USP).
- Broadband!

Tourism:

- Natural resources that are unique.
- Land provision for promotion of tourist accommodation/activities.
- Sustrans and walking holidays.
- Green tourism.
- Gateway to Jurassic Coast.
- Promoting environmentalism.
- Utilise assets.
- Surfing, fishing, watersports.
- Hostel accommodation.
- Green accommodation (eco lodges).
- Leisure facilities.
- Outdoor activities.
- Better range of tourist accommodation.
- Audit of tourist activity – package.
- Exploitation of environment – why tourism is here.
- Jurassic Coast – assets to be realised.
- Wetlands.
- Overnight accommodation.
- Retail needs heritage/green/specialist 'hook'.
- Lack of alternative holiday accommodation.
- Day visitors.
- Hotel accommodation increase.

Other- Economy Issues:

- Needs to translate vision – LDF.
- What role for the Council?
- Investment – from where?
- Next step from 1st establishment.
- Flood plain – accept it!
- Doubts linked trips from supermarket.
- Investment from public sector.
- University hub – Harepath Road? 'High End'

Young people representation.

POSTCARD COMMENTS FROM SEATON WORKSHOP 2010

The visit to Tesco was just like Tesco anywhere, I had hoped to enjoy the cycleways and nature reserve but all was spoilt by the huge delivery vehicles and distribution vans. Beer, Lyme Regis and Sidmouth were worth the bus ride.

March 2020

What a wonderful relaxing holiday appreciating our natural environment. The Wetlands stretch all the way from the harbour area to the A3052. Lots of hides some suitable for families, others for more serious birdwatchers and mammal watching. We saw an "otter" from the Tram which runs alongside the reserves. Also saw lots of birds. What a great idea a Tram just like the old days. They have got an education centre for schools, I wish our school was nearer, and a marvellous visitor centre with a TIC. We got all the information we needed and there were wonderful displays. Lots of paths to walk around and cyclepaths to get away from cars.

Also had a wonder boat trip from Seaton to Lyme Regis along Jurassic Coast. History of the cliffs is amazing. Local People take us on walks in the area. I'm getting fit, so nice to go to a seaside town that's not flash/noisy. It's not a "kiss me quick" "candy floss" place. It's relaxing yet stimulating. Don't want to come home.

Dear Grandson

Here I am in Seaton in a rickshaw being pedalled around the Wetland area. Afterwards I will go for a swim at the leisure centre by the marina and a boat trip with your Uncles Danesh and Mohammed. If you catch the train down here it will bring you in right to Harbour Road. We can take the tourist bus along the coast and point out the ecological delights and the variety of restaurants.

We can then prepare for your interview at the IT Business Park in Harepath Road. I'm sure you will be successful. See you very soon.

Remember our strapline – Seaton, giving you more, for less.

Dear Rosie

You'll never believe it but the town hall that you sat in that summer of 2010 was heaving today with people talking about the coast and our environment. It was fab, they were talking about the hotel they stayed in and all the "green" things in it. There were walkers and bikers all over the place and the little train to Axminster was working overtime.

Jenny says, hello, can you believe her children are now 10 and 12 – "do you feel old". They have just enrolled on our community scheme and are really excited to be doing the "old people" homes and gardens.

Can't wait for you to come down honey, walking the old walks full of new faces passing through. Have told Jenny we'll meet in the parks.

Lots of love Mum

PS She can make time after 3 as she works from home after Bill gets in from home at the Technology Site.

So much to discover, Seaton is the jewel in the crown of the Jurassic Coast. There is so much to do here we will need to keep coming back again and again. The beauty of the countryside is outstanding and the wealth of natural habitats is immeasurable. With so many areas to explore which are all accessible by bike or by foot we just left the car at home! Such a well balanced community with lots of little shops and a fantastic and beautifully designed seafront area there is something for everyone. It is just a shame about the vast and sprawling Tesco site that spoils the heart of the town." Yes, have to see it to believe it.

Recognise unique environmental assets to develop tourism.
Improve visitor accommodation offer across whole spectrum.
Facilitate support small business development.
E-commerce broadband enhancement.
Innovation links to universities.
Look for unique selling points to enhance Seaton's retail offer week heritage green.
Recognise and work with Seaton's demographics.
Recognise we can't turn the job tide overnight.
Land situation constrained, answer not to attract major new manufacturing employment.

Seaton was almost perfect – a really green friendly place – good local sea and home grown food – a real detail in the planning of this seaside town – there was a place for all ages – the old had a real feeling of being important to the town.

A welcome site.

Seaton 2030

Looking to the future Seaton 2010 dull with little or no visitors, 2030 Tesco a large blot on the land. The old town looking very much like an old cowboy scene.

The beach oil sodden with spills from the anchored tankers in the bay. On the up side there will be plenty of parking spaces for the few that are left.

Many thanks.

I require the continuation of a unique, living, working, holiday town bordered by carefully maintained seafront, beach cliff and enhancement of our cherished buildings and river. The need for careful planning of pedestrian and cycle ways are paramount and development carefully monitored especially the wetlands.

Hi there!

The last time I was in Seaton 20 years ago, it was a sad place, their District Council had misallocated land and lacked foresight and empathy within planning and direction. Although the coast and wetland were wonderful! But now – wow! It is wonderful. The beautiful natural landscape is enhanced by wonderful eco tourist lodges, an amazing visitor centre, a wonderful wetland walk and a cycle route terminus with practical facilities and an amazingly integrated public transport system that even includes cycle transport. The seafront has been pedestrianised, and visitors are able to stroll along or take a break at the continental style eating facilities overlooking the bay, cliffs and sea. I really am enjoying my stay and have decided to stay longer! Tell you heaps more when I see you – it is wonderful!

Love me x

In 20 years time I see a PSO active local government who deliver quality facilities – one not tied to 106 development money. I see affordable small housing developments with water savers and solar panels as standard. I see large spacious natural parkland with broadleaf woodland planting to halt erosion. Beach facilities provided as standard, solar heated sea water pool for swimming for the town of Seaton.

Seaton 2010

Dear Grandson

I'm writing this whilst sitting on the beach near the yacht club. Plenty of water sports going on here, jet-ski, skiing, windsurfing, powerboat rides etc. Although the supermarket is a bit overpowering at least it's brought jobs and visitors and of course the new sports facilities provided alongside mean we don't have to travel to Honiton/Axminster to use theirs now. The town gardens are looking a treat and the new dog ban on beach and promenade is a big improvement for the large number of tourists we now attract. There's no doubt that the hostel accommodation for walkers and bike riders and the new hotels have attracted many people to our town who would not previously have come.

The controversial up graded road entry, only the one road in and out now, has meant the town can cope with the large increase in visitors and of course the new car park with reasonable charges.

Well that's all for now from sunny Seaton. Grandad.

We thought it would be as nice as Sidmouth or Lyme Regis but it wasn't. It was dull and uninspiring even though they have a beautiful bay. It seems that the "main event" is shopping in yet another Tesco store. They still have that ugly sea wall and car parking all down the seafront, what a waste!

We thought we would catch the tram but rising sea levels meant it closed last year. And boy are the wetlands wet now!

Such a shame – they had such wonderful plans to beautify it. They were going to pedestrianise the shopping centre and the seafront but it was, as usual just talk and empty promises.

There were some good things: the bay is still gorgeous and the people are still great but I won't be visiting again, it's just an anonymous concrete jungle!

I have just come back from the most amazing holiday. Unrivalled natural environment, views to die for, walks, history, tranquillity. The shops are delightful with everything you could wish for to support the green tourist. There are excellent links to other coastal towns by boat and bus, for those who don't want to explore the coastal footpath. This is a hidden jewel along the World Heritage Site. There is so much to see and do. Can't wait to return. We didn't even need to use the car!

Seaton is a community where people live as a community. Some working locally, more pursuing leisure interests together, more gardening together, growing, selling, and buying local produce, supporting each other physically, emotionally through shared and inter-related activity.

I would like to see local energy generation in sympathetic ways, small-scale rather than massive single operations, but biomass supplying new developments, hopefully combining business and residence.

I would like to see groups involved in community gardens, looking after a local patch for growing or just "food for the eyes".

Out key feature is the view of the bay, and things must focus in that direction.

Dear Ann

Seaton – 2030

I am looking forward to showing you all Seaton now has to offer. It has changed so much in the last 30 years.

There is a nice eco-friendly hotel, a superb visitor centre, the cycle route to Axminster running through the Wetlands Reserve and along the River Axe, study courses for those interested in the World Heritage Coast, both east and west of Seaton.

The shops are thriving. All our food needs, where possible are from local farms. The schools, in particular, have young people involved in caring for the environment. Those same schools produce their own electricity. Many young couples have moved here who can work from home. For the older ones they have the Green Gym which meets outdoors for their exercise. This is now a thriving community with a wonderful spirit. We are so fortunate living in such a lovely place. Who would have thought we would have all this 30 years ago!

See you on Wednesday. J.

Housing Key Points

- Seaton's physical constraints.
- Affordable homes should be for local people.
- Need to balance homes with jobs/facilities/community infrastructure.
- Second homes should legislate. Majority felt this was a problem but some support and view that they were not vacant in winter due to economic necessity of retiring out.
- Little concerns on housing numbers but little support for major expansion but acceptance that could be outside.

It's a wonderful place to live, but East Devon dictate what happens!

East Devon have taken services away from us.

General Question

Will East Devon listen this time?

Have been discussing this for 20 years.

Too much emphasis on west and north of District, need to consider terms, not close to area of benefit.

- Evidence that very deprived area – need to work holistically. Need comments put on website.
- Danger of raising expectations and need positive feedback or we will think it's a waste of time. Lack of investment in Seaton. Time Seaton got something from East Devon.
- Is there a unique selling point for Seaton? Help marketing – it's a wonderful network env. And we are not captivating. Biggest asset people of Seaton and they need to take a partnership with East Devon. We can help deliver.

