

District Councillor's Report July/August 2026 – Beer, Branscombe & West Seaton

I hope you've all had a restful and enjoyable bank holiday.

- 1- Beer beach has had further improvements to the matting on the western side of the beach and commendation needs to be given to the workmen who installed the additional matting. Beer beach is now far more accessible to disabled users and families with pushchairs. I have worked very closely with the beach manager to facilitate these improvements.
- 2- I contacted South West water councillor's hotline just under two-weeks ago to complain about the delay in repairing the water leak from Higher Meadows through Clapp's Lane. SWW inform me that the repairs have now taken place and the leak has been resolved through drain repairs. UPDATE – Another leak has subsequently arisen in Clapps Lane which appears to be a leaking stop cock. I have shared a reports portal supplied by SWW. Whether they act as diligently as they like to portray regarding responses to the reporting of leaks whether by councillors or members of the public is highly questionable.
- 3- I met with the EDDC Streetscene manager and the operative responsible for Beer on Thursday 20 Aug and we did a walk around the village. Beer cemetery will be cut back and the public footpaths cleared of overgrowth. This is likely to happen in September.
- 4- The road from Seaton to Beer and from Beer to Hangman's Stone B3174 to A3052 will be given new road markings from 1 - 4 Sept working hours 19:00 to 07:00. I have been informed by DCC Highways that resurfacing work is scheduled to take place in October as part of a programme of planned works, I'll hold them to this commitment conveyed to me in a letter dated 20 July from the Eastern Neighbourhood Highways Engineer by contacting the engineer closer to the end of October so I can update residents. So far I haven't seen any evidence that this work has started!
- 5- Beer parish council through Cllr Simon Whitelock is working with EDDC, DCC and SWW to enable repairs to the culvert under Fore St, adjacent to the Mariner's Hall.
- 6- I have reminded constituents in Beer, Branscombe & West Seaton that my ward comprises Branscombe, Beer, and West Seaton to the western side of Marlpit Lane so if you need my representation and support, please contact me. This was in response to a constituent in West Seaton stating she had never heard of me despite me canvassing last year and distributing election leaflets in 2023 & 2025 and putting notices on Seaton Noticeboard via Facebook.
- 7- The scheduled completion dates for repairs and renovations of the Peazen Flats in Beer is the third week in September. The views of tenants have been positive and the works carried out appear to be of a high standard so my thanks to the workmen.
- 8- Regarding LGR – Local Government Reorganisation – Greater Devon County & Coast, there is likely to be two unitary councillors for Seaton, Beer & Branscombe replacing me in Beer, Branscombe and West Seaton and three district councillors covering

Seaton. So, there will be a decrease of 50% covering a wider geographical area and 28 councillors in total covering East Devon into the new unitary authority. I will update you as I receive more information from central government and from senior officers in East Devon.

John Heath