

Dartmoor Forest Parish Council 28th July 2026 Meeting Report

Date:	21st July 2026
Name:	Abi Horn

10.1 Emerging Dartmoor Local Plan 2026 – To consider a response to Dartmoor National Parks scoping consultation which closes on 23rd August 2026.

Details of the consultation can be found at <https://www.dartmoor.gov.uk/living-andworking/business/planning-policy/emerging-local-plan>

In accordance with Regulation 20 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026, Dartmoor National Park Authority gives notice that it is undertaking a Scoping Consultation on the emerging Dartmoor Local Plan 2026.

This is an early opportunity for communities, organisations, businesses and other interested parties to help shape the matters the new Local Plan should address and the way the Authority engages people during plan preparation.

The Authority is seeking views on:

- the vision for the new Local Plan;
- the scope and content of the new Local Plan, including how well the current Local Plan is performing;
- how the Authority should engage with people throughout the plan-making process, and what could be improved. To help inform this discussion, we have prepared

a [SWOT](#) (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities and Threats) analysis based on evidence gathered through the [State of the Park Report](#), [Local Plan monitoring](#), and [workshops](#) held during the development of the Partnership Plan.

10.2 Scoping consultation

Notice of the scoping consultation for the new joint South Hams and West Devon Local Plan. As required by the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2026, Part 4, Regulation 20.

South Hams District Council and West Devon Borough Council give notice that they are undertaking a Scoping Consultation on the emerging South Hams and West Devon Joint Local Plan.

The local plan Scoping Consultation commences on Monday 20 July 2026 and is open until 11:59 p.m. on Thursday 24 September 2026.

During this period the councils are inviting representations on:

1. What the vision and objectives for the local plan should be.
2. What the key issues are for the local plan to address, including in relation to topics such as:
 - Settlement hierarchy
 - Housing
 - Economy

- Climate change
- Natural environment and landscapes
- Historic environment
- Health and wellbeing
- Transport, infrastructure and facilities

3. How the authorities should engage with the public in the preparation of the local plan.

<https://www.westdevon.gov.uk/your-council/council-plans-policies-and-reports/policies/planning-policies/south-hams-and-west-0>

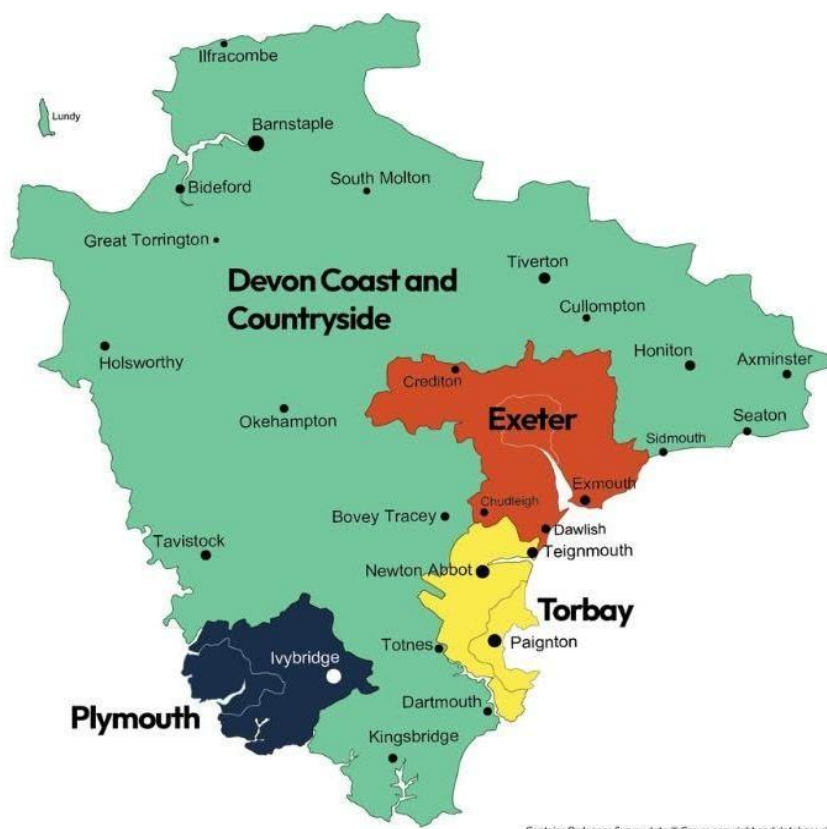
10.3 Local Government Reorganisation – To consider the Government announcement that Devon will consist of 4 Unitary Councils with elections scheduled for May 2027 ahead of vesting day when the new councils to begin delivering services in April 2028

The Unitary Councils will be:

- Expanded Plymouth
- New and Expanded Exeter
- Expanded Torbay
- New Devon Coast and Countryside which is where Dartmoor Forest will be

The Government have issued a statement confirm that Devon will consist of 4 Unitary councils <https://questions-statements.parliament.uk/written-statements/detail/2026-0716/hcws286>

The executive summary of the proposal can be found here <https://www.plymouth.gov.uk/sites/default/files/2025-11/Joint-Executive-Summary.pdf>



12.1 Sensory Garden

Proposed garden outcomes - (April 26)

The hopes and uses expressed and prioritised by the community for the sensory garden can be grouped into five main outcomes

- . Be accessible, inclusive and welcoming to everyone.

Studies show that people with disabilities and long-term health issues are often excluded from easily accessing green spaces.

- . Be a space to individually sit and reflect and allow people to benefit from the healing and wellbeing impact of being in nature.

This is strongly supported by research over many years.

- . Be a space for conversation and promoting community positivity and cohesion.

This aids with combating loneliness and mental health issues through enabling connection with nature and informally with other people.

- . Be a space for learning and celebration of Princetown's rich natural and social heritage.

This will support a positive future outlook for the village.

- . Be a space that can be a destination for visitors, such as a letterbox location, a location for story-telling and act as a 'break out space' for other Princetown activities, events and festivals.

This will support the wider goals of Princetown to attract more visitors.

Within the design we will identify design elements that could provide an opportunity for local groups to create elements that will form part of the garden infrastructure such as mosaic, decorative metal work, stone and woodwork. These elements could be matched with local artists and artisans (proposed and commissioned by the Parish Council) and who can design and deliver these elements working with specific community groups (identified by the Parish Council) such as the youth group and school. The design, development and delivery of these elements are not part of the Sensory Trust commission.

12.2

Project Budget Headings - Amend as needed	Year 1 Total Project Cost	Year 1 request from The Fund	Year 2 Total Project Cost	Year 2 request from The Fund	Total request from The Fund
Salary 1 (inc. on costs) Clerk Additional hours	£676.00	£676.00			£676.00
Salary 2 (inc. on costs) Lengthsman additional hours	£1,210.00	£1,210.00			£1,210.00
Consultancy Fees - Sensory Trust	£3,350.00	£3,350.00			£3,350.00
Ground works & Water Supply	£5,262.00	£5,262.00			£5,262.00
Fencing and Hedging - Materials and Instalation	£5,996.00	£5,996.00			£5,996.00
Ground Cover - sub base, decorative gravel & wheelchair accessible surface	£4,012.00	£4,012.00			£4,012.00
Planters, Compost, Topsoil, Plants	£2,905.00	£2,905.00			£2,905.00
Seating, Pergola, Tool shed, Recycling bin,	£5,192.00	£5,192.00			£5,192.00
Garden Features - Sculpture, water feature, Talk tubes, Sound Flowers Info board/signage	£9,396.00	£9,396.00			£9,396.00
Office costs	£55.00	£55.00			£55.00
Community Engagement Activities	£1,590.00	£1,590.00	£600.00	£600.00	£2,190.00
Volunteer Costs	£275.00	£275.00	£75.00	£75.00	£350.00
Ongoing -maintenance costs			£930.00	£870.00	£870.00
Marketing & promotion	£300.00	£300.00			£300.00
Evaluation	£150.00	£150.00	£350.00	£350.00	£500.00
Contingency	£4,000.00	£4,000.00			£4,000.00
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Total	£44,369.00	£44,369.00	£1,955.00	£1,895.00	£46,264.00

12.3 Planter

I have attached a picture of the planter that we make. This is constructed using treated tgv on the sides.

Dimensions of this are 15" wide x 15" deep and 2M long £199 plus vat.

