

**MEMBURY PARISH COUNCIL – Annual Parish Meeting – 27<sup>th</sup> April 2013**  
**Report from County Councillor, Andrew Moulding**

I am now nearing the end of my fourth year as County Councillor for the Axminster Division. I am currently Vice Chairman of three committees, Policy and Resources Scrutiny Committee, Audit Committee and Pensions & Investments Committee. I am the County Council representative on the Devon Playing Fields Association which has now merged with the Devon Community Foundation. I am also the DCC nominated board member of the Babcock Learning and Development Partnership, which provides educational services to Devon schools.

**County Council Budget**

We have now set the budget for the third of four County Council years of austerity, which will culminate in a 28% reduction in spending. We have frozen the Council Tax for a further year. I recently chaired a Task Group which produced a report on the unintended consequences of the proposed Welfare Reforms.

**Highways**

This year's weather has left the County Council with a massive maintenance bill. Devon County Council has managed to secure government funding to assist with road repairs, but budgets are struggling to keep pace with pothole and verge repairs. I arranged a useful tour of the parish with Nick Yool and Bill Foster and our new Neighbourhood Highways Officer, Richard Brown, regarding road, ditch and drainage maintenance.

I have been involved with a spotlight review to look at how County Council Highways works with parishes. This has included better communications, the work of the lengthsmen and training for Parish representatives.

**Superfast Broadband**

I am pleased that the contract has been signed for the delivery of Broadband Services in Devon and Somerset. It is important that we push for early installation to assist the economic future of East Devon.

**Parishes Together Fund**

I was able to coordinate support towards the cost of a new vehicle for the Ring and Ride scheme from the Parishes Together Fund. This has resulted in a sum of £11,512.00 towards the project from the parishes of Axminster, Colyton, Kilminster, Membury, Musbury and Uplyme.

Councillor Andrew Moulding – April 2013