



# THE BRAUNTON EXPRESS

November 2016

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## Action is needed to improve Braunton's Air Quality

North Devon Council are responsible for monitoring air quality across the district. In Braunton the air quality has been proven to have a slight exceedance and has resulted in NDC declaring an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) in Caen Street.

Proposals which include 14 measures to help improve the air quality and traffic issues in the village by creating a 22% reduction in road-created nitrogen oxide were unanimously agreed at the NDC Executive meeting held on 3 May.

It would appear that the poor air quality is predominantly traffic related – meaning that Devon County Council (DCC) are the responsible authority, in relation to implementing most of the measures which could help to improve the situation. NDC have recently written to the Head of Highways requesting what plans they have to address or implement the list of measures identified in the Air Quality Action Plan (AQAP). The Technical Working Group which consists of technical members of staff from North Devon Council - Environmental Health

and Housing Services, Planning Policy and Devon County Council - Highways, Transport Planning have not met for some time. Cllr Derrick Spear said that he was "concerned and surprised that meetings of the Technical Group had not already happened, as the County would need to allocate funds in its budget for 2017/18 in order to implement any of the measures identified in the AQAP." He further expressed his concerns regarding health implications particularly amongst the young and elderly as there is evidence that poor air quality attributes to heart and respiratory diseases, and he is mindful that there is a primary school located within the declared AQMA.

Cllr Bunyard stated "the purpose of carrying out our own monitoring is so that we are comparing non bias corrected results, which to date show an increase in NO<sup>2</sup> levels in Caen Street compared with North Devon Council's data collected last August rising from 43.86 ug/m<sup>3</sup> to 50.39 ug/m<sup>3</sup>." At its October full Council the Parish Council agreed to continue carrying out its own air quality monitoring until January.



To view the AQAP go online to: [www.northdevon.gov.uk/environment/air-quality/](http://www.northdevon.gov.uk/environment/air-quality/) and click on the Local Air Quality Action Plan (pdf)

The Parish Council is carrying out its own air quality monitoring in Caen Street outside the London Inn, Caen Primary School and on the Square.

## Braunton Parish Council



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Devon, EX33 2ES

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Twitter: @brauntonparish  
Hours: 9am -12 noon, Monday to Friday

Tracey Lovell, Clerk to the Council  
Angela Corner, Senior Council Officer  
Jane Fewings, Admin Assistant

## Meetings Calendar 2016

Full Council Meetings are held in the Council Chamber at the Parish Hall on the second Monday of each month and additional meetings, to primarily consider planning applications, are held on the fourth Monday of each month.

- 7pm 14 November 2016
- 7pm 28 November 2016
- 7pm 12 December 2016

