

Yeo Ward Newsletter – April & May 2026

Spring has brought a busy period across Mid Devon, with updates on planning, waste and recycling and upcoming parish events.

Planning Training & Updates -Recent training sessions focused on strengthening consistent, lawful and policy-led decision-making:

- **Planning Committee Training (18 March)** – refreshed requirements for evidence-based decisions, material considerations, correct procedure, and avoiding predetermination or bias.
- **Parish Planning Training (26 March)** – reinforced the role of Town & Parish Councils as statutory consultees and the importance of timely, policy-led comments.
- **S106 Update** – overview of how planning obligations secure site-specific mitigation (e.g., highways, open space, community facilities).
- **Conservation Officer Briefing** – protecting heritage assets including listed buildings, conservation areas and historic sites. **Enforcement Update** – summary of current enforcement work and priorities.

Key message: Parish influence is strongest when comments are timely and focused on material planning considerations.

Waste, Recycling & Depot. Garden waste service remains opt-in; annual charge frozen for 2026/27. Recycling guidance updated to include metal pots and pans. Extra containers and recycling advice available. Councillors will be invited to depot tours later this summer.

Mid Devon Lifeline Alarm Service

24-hour digital alarm support to help residents live independently. Installation: **£40** and weekly charge **£6.23** Self-referral available.

Gypsy & Traveller Site – Tiverton

A delegated decision on 24 February approved refurbishment of the Last Meadow site (Uplowman Road), providing three pitches. Supported by Tiverton Town Council.

Community Asset Transfer (CAT) Policy

A draft CAT Policy is being considered by Cabinet. It is expected to favour long-term leasehold arrangements, with freehold transfers only in exceptional cases. Several parishes have already expressed interest. Subject to approval, each Town/Parish Council will have one opportunity to submit an Expression of Interest by end of June 2026, aligned with Local Government Reorganisation timelines. Information on Council-owned land and buildings is available via the MDDC Transparency Code.

Meetings & Events

- **Town & Parish Clerks' Annual Meeting** *Wednesday 29 April, 6.00pm – Phoenix House, Tiverton*
- **Landlord Networking Event** *Wednesday 13 May, 5.00–8.30pm – Upton Barn & Walled Garden, Cullompton*