

# ‘Minding our Business’

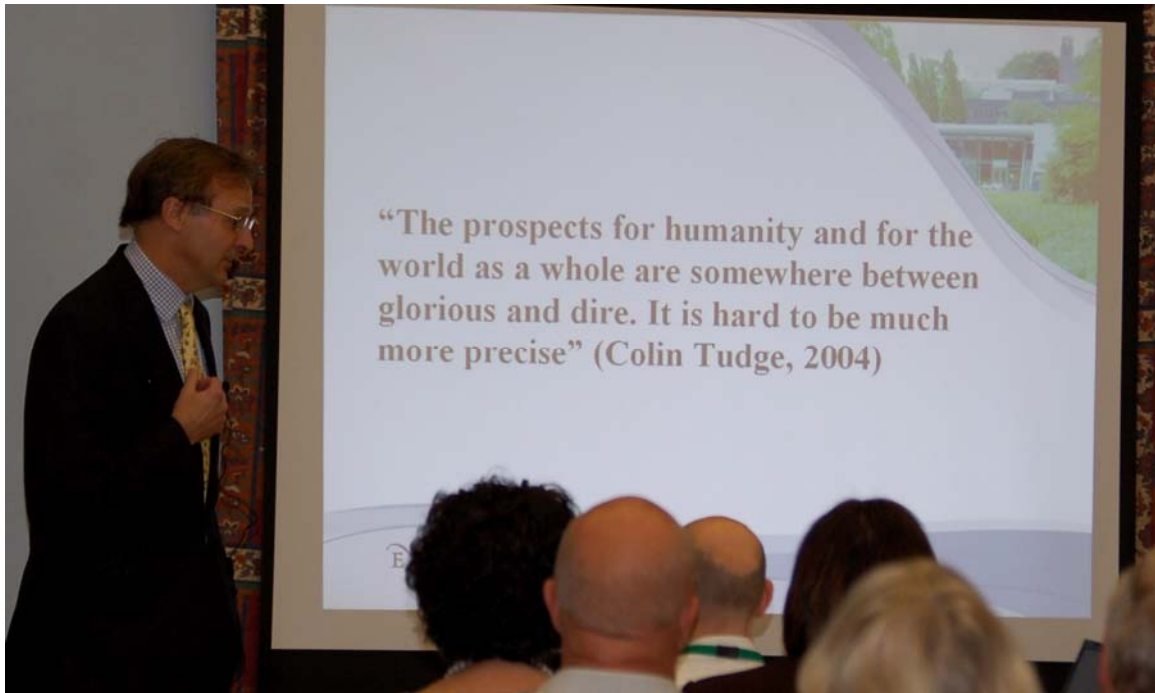
Wednesday 21 October 2009 TEIGN VALLEY COMMUNITY HALL, Christow, EX6 7NA

## CONFERENCE REPORT

“The rural economy means different things to different people. Whilst agriculture and land based activity is no longer the sole economic activity, it does shape our environment, which itself continually generates economic opportunity. Community life is under stress because of economic realities, but it is vital that we all sustain the networks and local institutions that support those in need, and provide the bright ideas to solve community problems and invent the enterprises of the future.” *Peter Dunning, CCD Vice President*



This year’s conference looked at the changing rural economy. A combination of community, business and academic speakers together with 2 workshop sessions are reported in the following pages.



**This document is available in large print and alternative formats upon request. Please ring 01392 383443**



**Stephen Reed from Hemyock being presented with the Devon Calor Village of the Year 2009 © certificate and Jean Allen Memorial Cup by David Kinross.**

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**NOTE: Powerpoint presentations from the day are available as separate PDF files**

**\* A short summary of the Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion report on Rural Deprivation in the South West which highlights some key Devon statistics is available in print from CCD or can be downloaded from the the publications page of our website [www.devonrcc.org.uk](http://www.devonrcc.org.uk) from mid November.**

## Welcome

**Bill Hitchens, Chairman, Dartmoor National Park**

Bill welcomed everyone to the CCD 2009 conference, Christow and Dartmoor. He commented that the remit of the National Park is to foster economic prospects of the National Park, engaging widely with the community who live and work in the park and also the industries of tourism, farming etc. There are issues around the sustainable future of the park, the skill base and the challenges of maintaining the landscape and addressing the challenges ahead of climate change.



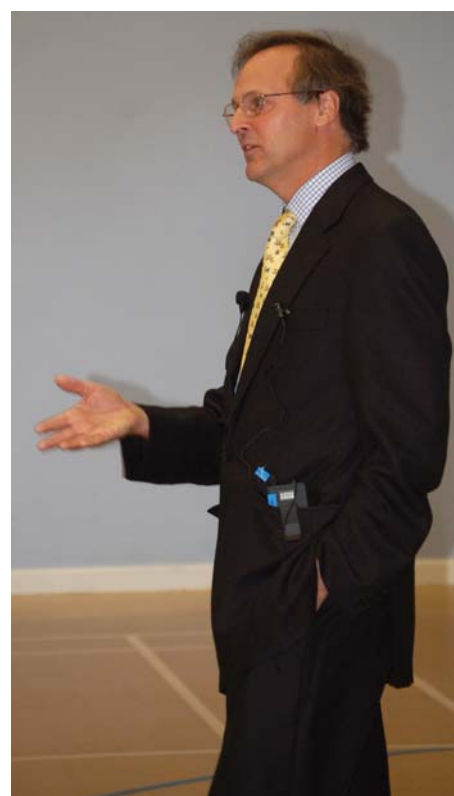
## Overview and Context for Devon's changing rural economy

**Prof. Michael Winter OBE,  
Centre for Rural Policy Research, University of Exeter**

see PowerPoint slides on separate pdf document: [Michael Winter](#)

Professor Michael Winter gave an overview of the perceptions of rural communities, exclusion, deprivation, mental health issues, isolation and low wages. He explained that in trying to predict the future, it lies 'somewhere between glorious and dire. It is hard to be more precise'. Issues that could shape the future include transport, home based working, distance, concentration of population, place and space - how we live/where we live.

Policy needs to encompass new technology, smarter ways of working to gain advantage; knowledge, research and innovation is hugely important. Devon and the South West are well placed for technology to forge forward. Rural Devon can build on its expertise i.e. on a small scale, the Exbourne shop, clustering of interests/skills is part of the opportunities for rural Devon. Investment for 'glory' – technologies, consumer interest, localness and niche.



'Direness': geopolitics, uncertainty around ideas about Devon re climate change, issues around food and water for example. Need to be smart to build a competitive and socially competitive economy which is resilient, and within environmental needs – we can't have one without the other. There are issues of population growth, changing patterns of demand, e.g. food.

World food production needs to double. How do we also maintain the other issues around tourism, health, there is emphasis on food and fuel and how the land is used. We need to remember that rural Devon is part of global issues. Energy – we need to cope with peak oil. Agriculture is oil/energy reliant, this will have to change profoundly. And will agriculture be prioritised in oil terms?

Fresh water – there is already moderate stress in Devon. Devon has a lot of people, it's densely populated, what do we do with water? Gloriousness and direness - the challenge is to get the balance right.

Q In the long term additional food will be eaten up by more mouths - Malthusian disaster how do we cope long term?

A We are adept at bringing through technological advances there is only one planet and we have to live within our means .

Q How do we avoid this situation as we face the future? There are authoritarian examples of family size restrictions in China?

A Not sure we are at that point, and we may never, it is more likely that standards of living restrict family sizes naturally.

Q The issues of personal carbon credits and marketing this, is this a policy being considered?

A Anything that helps thinking through the issues is of use, and they are presently being considered. The down side - is the voting population ready for this. We do not know what will happen, historically we have not had an interventionist policy but possibly in an emergency situation this may happen. It is possible that we will face more intervention in terms of energy.

Q How can we persuade the government to take the countryside more seriously, make sure that the importance of the countryside is not forgotten? In urban areas people think differently and forget the countryside.

A What is the countryside offering? Natural resources and climate change solutions therefore we need to get this right in the countryside. The countryside is important; therefore pressure needs to be applied. The Rural Advocate has close links with the Prime Minister. We should have more value and interest recognised for the countryside.

Q A point made from the floor about letting rural communities know what is current - publicise through papers, TV etc

Q Interventionist policies need to be around recognising speed of change, can we afford democracy (which is arguably too slow)

A Can we afford not to do it democratically? Bureaucracy needs to be at a much more local level and empower local communities. There has to be smart ways to do this – i.e. democracy for purpose. Get value back into the community – this will speed up the process.

## **'Women Do Business' (and they are feeling optimistic!)**

**Jan Spencer, CCD Women's Business Development Officer  
Janet Wise, Greater Dartmoor Natural Health**

see PowerPoint slides on separate pdf document: Women 1 and Women 2

Jan Spencer gave an overview of the project, supporting women's enterprise in Devon. Why women? Issues for working women are compounded by caring roles, access to transport, lack of confidence and self esteem to point out some of the issues.

Self-employment offers a flexible solution. In 2006 Women and Micro-enterprise (WAM) enabled 22 networks with 340 women supported, created at least 18 new jobs. The project was successful in winning the Prowess Flagship Award – the first in the South West.



Key learning points: woman to woman support, networking, and role models. The work of WAM adds value to mainstream business, e.g. through using and signposting to Business Link. The 'host group' model was used, with locally based community activity, and funding available for support.

New phase: women's enterprise is the key route out of the recession, Prowess developing business quality standards, women's key drivers bring about economic change. Women do Business will be on the hub and spoke model; rural business host group providing mentoring, learning, encouraging mutual support etc. This project aims to cover the whole of Devon.

Janet Wise talked about how and why Woman's Ivybridge Network was set up in 2006. This network has hosted a women's enterprise fair which enabled women to learn about the business process, building confidence, websites and I.T. training etc.

The group is formally constituted and is working towards encouraging a more professional approach... making things happen, empowerment, goal setting and prioritisation, thinking through issues, researching, development of self belief and confidence. These have developed business know how and are an essential part of the business process.



## Community Shops – surviving and thriving in Devon

### Shelagh Beak, Dalwood Community shop

see PowerPoint slides on separate pdf document: Dalwood



Shelagh gave an overview of Dalwood Community Shop and the community's experiences.

The shop opened in 2001 and later expanded to incorporate a village Post Office.

The shop came into being from a steering committee and had support from East Devon District Council, who helped with the premises.

Shelagh stressed the work that needed to happen with a community, in terms of questioning what stock needed to be provided, how the shop is run with volunteers and how to encourage the community to use the shop to keep it a viable institution in the community. Volunteers have responsibility for areas of the shop – this they found has worked well, their experience has shown that the shop should always look clean, bright and stock kept up to date. The shop is open 7 days a week, 365 days a year.



Newcomers to the village are always made welcome; it helps to integrate them into the community. New views and ideas are always welcome; they are always looking for new and improved ways to run the shop. They will always support local suppliers wherever possible; the products they stock are high quality.

Top tips were around adapting your shop to the needs of the village and look to local branding, i.e. paintings, postcards, T-towels etc. They have now started a syndicated vineyard which should produce wine the year after next.

The profile of the village is raised, the community shop adds a premium of 10% to house values, fosters good community spirit and links other groups in the village. Children are able to use the shop for community service initiatives and disabled learning volunteers have been welcomed and have greatly enjoyed the experience.

**Key message:** spread the load of the work and make sure that the shop belongs to the community.

## WORKING SESSION 1, the changing rural economy – agreeing THE ISSUES

*The set of issues generated by the working session have been transcribed below as written (with most acronyms explained). They have been roughly grouped to try and bring related points together within each section.*

### ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION

- **Incomers** needed to bring skills, contacts etc
- Local **planners** sometimes force rural businesses out (into towns)
- Does the planning process discourage enterprise?
- Communities know what is needed not only now but what the likely future needs will be. Funders, planners do not understand this and keep within their own little zones and have no imagination.
- Some public sectors (many public servants) are very bad at working with either community initiatives or local businesses. Only perceive their narrow remit and prevent synergy /innovation
- Too many rules and regulations
- Poorer **broadband** service in rural areas – reducing competitiveness
- Low Broadband speeds
- Nationalise broadband - the transport of the future
- Issue: why tax phone users to pay for it
- **Devon** is about quality not productivity
- North Devon – issue of not so much help/support events from Business Link
- Umbrella **community land trusts**
- **Skills** availability (low skills)
- Encourage **community** involvement and enterprise

### SERVICES AND FACILITIES

- All services have to be financially viable – need to get the mix of need and viability correct
- Capital **funding** for rural facilities, shops, village halls, play and recreational
- Support & £s for village halls
- Local autonomy and the development of community boards which will give communities control over their affairs
- Community facilities audit (parish plan)
- **Transport** – 38% of households no access to car or van in rural areas
- Social use of the private car
- Alternatives to private cars
- Every 'pro' has a 'car' – who decides?
- Too many cars, cars with only the driver
- Urban centralisation to services – ability to travel

- Lack of public transport means owning a car is essential
- No access after the last bus
- All the car parks are full
- Give them cycles and set Devon County Council (Highways Dept) to create more cycle paths. Good for: environment, health, pollution, (even) mental health, Community networking
- **Policing/security**
- Poor specialist **health** services
- More has to be done to encourage the **young** to stay in village
  1. Affordable housing
  2. Good access to transport
  3. Local jobs
- Lack of affordable **housing**, Too many second homes
- Linking various alternative energy options
- **Communication** problems, local newspapers struggling, help for local publications that are trying to foster local initiatives.
- **POST OFFICE CLOSURES** which are compounded by Government policy/activity in removing eg licence issuing – GIVE BACK to the Post Office some of its former activities AND add new ones
- Loss of services accessed through Post Office eg TV licence
- Closure of garages (petrol and servicing)
- Availability of ICT – not sports
- **Broadband** speed
- Mobile phone reception

## ENVIRONMENT

- Open up **funding** streams especially to public projects
- Windmills: have support from manufacturers who profit immediately
- Long term investment in other energy requires investment in terms of funding therefore financial aspect of energy provision
- Farming grant systems
- Renewable **energy** costs
- Water power harness
- How can waste to energy be made acceptable?
- Gearing up for woodchip takes 15 years
- Encouragement for local energy generation
- Food versus fuel
- Transferable skills in energy industry
- Sharing knowledge locally on eg energy production
- Use of all technology available
- Increased demand for **recreation**

- **Cars** too cheap – fuel going up
- Too much traffic especially re schools
- **Public facilities to set examples**
- Pressure on **biodiversity**
- **Don't print in blue! Make energy generators visually acceptable**
- **Demonstration projects** not commercially based – who to believe
- **Difficult for parish councils to engage with money making energy enterprises**
- Role on/for **transition movement**
- **Local food – need to help people to grow**
- Lobby groups can disrupt progress – short cuts needed
- **Planning** processes around energy production
- Too much planning control – too much consultation get on with it!!

## DISADVANTAGE AND INCLUSION

- **No general “hub” – residents go out of the community – lose community spirit/ identity (border village)**
- **One stop shop**
- **Local hubs**
- **Localism**
- **Cluster of communications**
- Difficulty of **access to services** (providers)
- Car pools for rural areas too??
- Good practice of Moor Car should be spread more widely
- CCD should explore gap left by DRTP (Rural Transport Partnership)
- Travel – young/older people – one car households
- Issue of public transport not available / limited and/or expensive
- ‘Moor’ car schemes – expand – community transport
- Safety issues – walking in rural areas – no transport for youngsters – wheels to work – free transport / cheaper transport for everyone not just the pensioners
- **No community infrastructure resources ie. Mental health issues, learning disabilities**
- **Mental health sustained by work ethics – volunteering and paid work**
- **Employment opportunities**
- Lack of skills
- Lack of jobs
- Increase minimum wage to encourage going back to work – incentivisation

- **Fuel poverty** /services – services available to connect to but can't access service, no service available.
  - Fuel poverty – Low income families
  - Increase in fuel prices and transport cost will have greater impact on rural areas
  - Fuel poverty – household difficult to reach – investment needed to fund groups to work with.
- 
- Availability of **training** facilities in rural areas, deemed too expensive and travel to large colleges expected.
  - Increase education funding to increase academic achievement
- 
- National agencies use index of multiple deprivation and doesn't reflect area.
  - How can we achieve rural voice to campaign
  - **Urban bias**
  - Perception of everything being 'rosy'
  - Pick low hanging fruit 1<sup>st</sup> – rural is at top of the tree
- 
- Nothing for young teenagers – anti social behaviour
  - Issue – **young people** – isolation 11-18 yr olds.
  - Lack of young adults – leave and don't return until much later (retirement age)
  - More support for young people – what would attract young people to stay in rural areas.
  - Social concerns if young people are 'trapped' in rural areas
  - Rural areas have history of young people who volunteer
  - Also unemployed graduates – graduates possibly voluntary work helping younger unskilled within the community
  - Move away from change mindsets from £ notes to potential mentors as community support 'internships' for youngsters – use as volunteers older volunteers should be harnessed ageing volunteers
- 
- **Gender stereotyping – missed opportunities – how do we break these down?**
- 
- Incomers – taking rural **housing** therefore prices escalating beyond the reach of local people
  - Percentage of 2<sup>nd</sup> homes makes difficult – tipping point is different in each community – balance has to be right
  - Affordable housing – need to ensure % in each community not all in one place
  - Need a small amount of new affordable development to sustain
  - Lack of affordable housing
  - Can we build our own affordable homes – community land trusts
- 
- **Allotments – shortage of allotments and affordable food – better 'policing' unused allotments**
- 
- More capital **funding** for rural facilities ie. Village halls, play areas, environment projects
  - How do we get funding in? cake is much smaller
  - Do a better job with what money we have

- Money focused on places such as Ilfracombe with high profile
- Fair share of a shrinking pot of money
- Greater priority given to urban growth points
- Availability of work space (starter and progression ) in rural areas – often has less support
- **SELF HELP** in communities
- Get together locally to make a scheme work
- Working together as communities make us stronger and spreads the load
- Innovative programmes
- New people are a major energy source in communities
- Local employment opportunities **INTEGRATED PLANNING**
- Planning issue – how do we finance? 3 way approach to affordable housing
- Better **broadband** / IT / Mobiles for work at home and new small business  
ALSO impact for social use and advice
- Northlew solution to Broadband – RDPE funding (Rural Development Programme for England)
- **Post office** services in rural areas for new / small business to post sales (ebay)
- Access to **information**.
- Disadvantage and inclusion are middle class words – GOVT policy/programs need translating for people we want to target!
- Language and context [East Devon – services bought together by joining up different organisations with enhanced services for those who are bereaved]
- CCD should promote and advise our communities



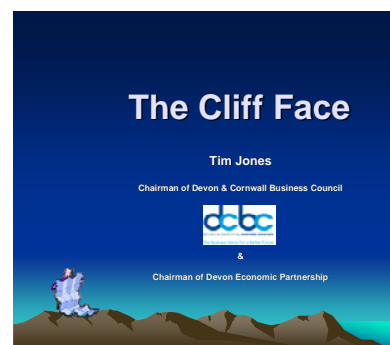
## Business in the rural community – prospects and challenges

Tim Jones, Chairman, Devon and Cornwall Business Council

see PowerPoint slides on separate pdf document: Tim Jones

Tim gave an overview of the issues and facts for communities and business support. Trends showing where investment should be targeted in Devon indicate the decline of energy, manufacturing, agriculture and fishing. Employment distribution across Devon indicates 12% manufacturing and 3% agricultural.

Today patterns of employment have changed i.e. people voluntarily accepting 3 day working weeks and 20% pay cuts. 2009 figures show 18% of dairy farmers planning to increase production but also 13% thinking about quitting. There is a potential gap of 14% = 2 billion litres of milk. Tesco are paying 4.5p more than the average to their dairy group. Predictions are favourable. Agriculture and fishery is shown as 3% of the economy but for a rural setting such as Holsworthy this is actually nearer to 18%.



Diversification – the rural communities are good at this. A good example is peat and Dartmoor. There is a need to rewet bogs in order for this to work for carbon capture.

There are however interesting projects around the South West. We need to take on board the challenges and opportunities, the burden of Government legislation is a great barrier. Unemployment for the 16 to 24 age group is possibly around 40% in rural Devon. 2<sup>nd</sup> homes bring wealth and underlying opportunity to communities.

Technology – broadband plus, Christow is a good example of a place with no mobile phone reception and lack of broadband provision. Rural planning charter, there is a difference between rural and urban systems, this needs to be decentralised. Community engagement in the rural communities is different and crucial.

We need to utilise skills that exist in communities i.e. mentoring – this is a great untapped resource that Devon has.

- Q There are examples of wind farm initiatives, but what about water?  
A Austria is a good example – small hydro electric schemes, we used to do all this stuff (mills everywhere), they are forgotten skills .
- Q What or who are obstacles to broadening broadband access in Devon?  
A There are issues of rural communities not having it and if they do, do they use it? There needs to be a range of schemes to help some communities – this is not just a rural issue. There are hardware issues. Telecoms is the future of business – 3G issue
- Q An army of Devon mentors?  
A Broadband plus – feasibility study being carried out through personal computers, there had not been a good response. Broadband is the front door to opportunity we haven't even thought about yet.

## **Rural Deprivation in the South West: Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion report: the Devon Launch**

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**Peter Harding, Assistant Chief Executive, CCD**

see PowerPoint slides on separate pdf document: Deprivation

Peter gave an overview of the rural share of deprivation in rural Devon and how the statistics can be interpreted. This work was commissioned from Oxford Consultants, and is being launched by South West ACRE Network (SWAN) and CCD.

### **Some of the facts:**

57% of all pensioners live in the rural areas  
47% all rural people are income deprived  
44% of benefit claimants live in the rural areas  
45% are employment deprived in rural Devon  
48% of adults have no qualifications in rural Devon – this is 18% of the total population.

### **Access to Services**

Key issues:

Over 99% live over 6 kilometres from a doctor's surgery  
Over 99% live over 5 kilometres from a secondary school  
69% of households in West Devon live 10 kilometres from a job centre  
38% of rural households have no access to a car or van  
42% of all socially rented housing is rural  
37% of rural households are overcrowded  
47% of rural households have no central heating

Therefore rural Devon is substantially deprived. The Government system to show deprivation is inherently urban-biased. The issue is the numbers of deprived people not the location of deprived areas in rural Devon.

### **Issues to take forward:**

- Policy makers should recognise the true nature of deprivation
- Target resources appropriate to meet the challenge
- Further comparator research should be done on the data – the rural share of deprivation in Devon
- Further information can be found in the Executive Summary which will be available of the CCD website and also as hard copy.

Q More of a comment – make sure that Commission for Rural Communities pick up on the report

Q There is an issue around qualifications versus skills, there are many skilled workers in rural Devon who don't necessarily have formal qualifications and are skilled through life and time.

Q How will this be rolled out?

A This is the official launch and other presentations will be made. Hard copies will be available to relevant bodies with as wide a cover as possible.

## **WORKING SESSION 2, the changing rural economy – agreeing SOLUTIONS**

*The set of issues generated by the 4 working groups have been transcribed below as written (with most acronyms explained).*

### **ENTERPRISE AND INNOVATION**

Greater co-ordination; one 'gateway' for all recruitment and marketing

#### Lack of business support

Advice+ grants loans for pre-start → start-up

#### New Transport Linkages

- Linking suppliers & drivers/providers
- Alternative transport hosts/hubs run by proactive group.
- For models see Jeremy Farr (Moor Cars)
- David Inman West Devon Borough Council & Laura Payne South Hams District Council – Community 'kiosk', feasibility study
- Needs 'think tank – pilot proposal e.g. spend budget on iPhones for people in need **not** on empty bus contracts.

#### Communication Infrastructure

100% cover of fast Broadband + Mobile + 3G network extension, coverage cable

See model: Northlew community broadband Community Interest Company (Carol Trent &@ Sally Horden to send contracts in)

#### Finance

Community 'angels' - Investors as in the USA & Big Issue/ John Bird scheme but for local communities

Finance/Investment in Small and Medium Enterprises.

Funders should take more risk.

#### Planning Barriers

Need local community based policies to support businesses

Not national blanket/centralised policy decisions.

### **SERVICES AND FACILITIES**

#### Transport Solution

- Cycle routes + bridleways
- Community Transport solutions – Community networks
- Car Clubs
- Flexible taxi services
- School route plans
- Community transport plans

## Technology

- Mobile Coverage – Difficult issue
- Communities to take lead
- Village halls as wi-fi hotspots
- Use South West grid for learning

## Post offices

- Use it or lose it

## Affordable Housing

- Keeping up the info base by Rural Housing Enablers
- Making sure value stays increments

## ENVIRONMENT

### Transport

- ½ fare all day
- Bring services into rural communities
- Self help transport e.g pool cars/park and ride
- “no oil” plan
- Rail-links

### Employment

- Industrial/office units
- Planning = Rural rules
- Technology
- Home working
- Flexibility
- Added value jobs

### Energy

- “no oil day”
- Supply Chain of alternative fuels – Time/cost
- Self reliant
- Can local be sustainable?
- Do we need more state control? Direction?

## DISADVANTAGE AND INCLUSION

### Disadvantage + inclusion

- Self help in communities
- Rural areas should aim for a fair share of a shrinking pot of ££
- Working together as communities ( or a cluster of communities will make us stronger + spread the load)



The differing professional and community backgrounds of those attending created a unique forum for discussion of the rural economy at a critical time. The fears and anxieties within rural communities are very marked, but matched by some creative thinking and much existing good practice.

Many of the key issues are already familiar to those living or working in the countryside. The centrality of transport, the importance of broadband and communications, environmental and energy concerns, affordable housing and the particular issues for young people emerged time and again. As did a degree of frustration with bureaucracy, funding and the planning system.

The role and potential role of communities (including Town & Parish Councils and village halls as hubs for local action and services) seems now to be accepted by all. Highlighted were the central importance of community-led plans; the potential for mentoring and greater use of the skills and 'social capital' that lie dormant; insufficient awareness of good practice; and direct action on the economy, illustrated by the success of community-owned shops across Devon. The new Oxford Deprivation report highlights more clearly than ever before the deficiency of area-based measurements as a means of combating poverty and disadvantage for rural communities.

We hope you also can use the data and ideas produced during the working sessions and conference material presented by our speakers. CCD itself has already identified the following actions in response:

- We will publish a printed summary of the Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion (OCSI) deprivation research as it affects Devon. The full data-set will be freely available to all public and voluntary sector agencies (on disc only – it is too extensive to post on our website). We will use all possible channels and networks to influence statutory and funding bodies.
  - We are able to sustain and in some cases now plan to increase our support for women's enterprise, village shops, social enterprise, inclusion, and local food.
  - We are hopeful of increasing the resource available to our community buildings team so that the 'multi-service' hubs concept can be further developed.
  - We will support and publish some of the ground-breaking community based activity highlighted by the conference – such as Moor Cars, community energy initiatives, and Northlew Broadband.
  - We will seek to identify funding for a pilot project on the social use of the private car as part of broader thinking about transport and peak oil.
  - The information from this conference will inform our new Business Plan (post 2010) which will be available for public consultation in December.
  - We will use our website and Village Green to publicise this work.
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Some of the factual statements and evidence posted around the conference hall to stimulate discussion.

<p><b>29.6% of Devon population employed in the public sector (25.4% nationally)</b> State of the Devon Economy 2008</p>	<p><b>Devon ranked 7<sup>th</sup> out of 87 local authority areas for house prices compared with income</b> State of the Devon Economy 2008</p>	<p><b>Continuing outflow of young adults from Devon due to lack of career opportunities</b> State of the Devon Economy 2008</p>	<p><b>An increase in micro renewable installations is particularly noticeable in Devon</b> Renewable Energy for Devon 2009</p>
<p><b>17% self-employment in Devon compared with 9% nationally</b> ONS Annual population survey 2007</p>	<p><b>Broadband usage by businesses increased from 11% (2003) to 64% (2008)</b> Digital Devon 2009-13</p>	<p><b>Gross annual workplace Pay of £13,114 in Torridge – 407<sup>th</sup> in UK out of 408 areas</b> State of the Devon Economy 2008</p>	<p><b>30% of the rural working age population travel more than 10 km to work</b> Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion 2009</p>
<p><b>Of Devon's 30,000 VAT registered businesses 96% had less than 20 employees</b> State of the Devon Economy 2006</p>	<p><b>38% of all households in Devon with no access to a car or van are in rural areas.</b> Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion 2009</p>	<p><b>44% of all Devon's working age benefit claimants live rurally. (10% of population)</b> Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion 2009</p>	<p><b>Over 1/2 of Farm Business Income derived from EU's Single Farm Payment</b> Lobley, Winter, McMahon: 2009</p>
<p><b>Productivity is a major issue for Devon, at 77% of the national average UK figure.</b> State of the Devon Economy 2008</p>	<p><b>Post Office Ltd proposed 37 closures and 32 outreach services (over 20% of Devon Offices)</b> Challenging the Cuts 2009</p>	<p><b>18% of the adult rural population have no qualifications</b> Oxford Consultants for Social Inclusion 2009</p>	<p><b>On current trends we will produce less than 5% of energy consumed within the region by 2020.</b> Regen SW 2008</p>
<p><b>Devon productivity growth prospects for 2005-10 are the lowest in the region, 1.2% per annum</b> State of the Devon Economy 2005</p>	<p><b>Devon now has 18 village shops that run as social enterprises</b> CCD social enterprise dept 2009</p>	<p><b>Difficulties still exist with basic literacy and numeracy in Devon</b> State of the Devon Economy 2008</p>	

## APPENDIX 2

### Rural Presentations: Devon Calor Village of the Year © Devon Rural Housing Partnership

#### Devon Calor Village of the Year ©

Hemyock (Mid Devon) was the Devon Calor Village of the Year 2009.



David Kinross (CCD Senior Projects Officer) stood in for Stu Cook from Calor to present the award with CCD Vice President, Professor Michael Winter. The award went to this year's winner Hemyock (in Mid Devon) who received the Calor plaque and the Jean Allen Memorial Cup. (for picture see inside front cover, page 2)

Roy Turner accepts the award for Woolfardisworthy in Torridge, who received the 2009 runners up certificate.

#### Devon Rural Housing Partnership

The annual Devon Rural Housing Award has been awarded to a local Teignbridge man with a passion for his local community. **Philip Vogel, from Chudleigh**, was the winner of this award that recognises the importance of local leadership when trying to achieve new low-cost housing.

Graham Davey from Teignbridge District Council called Philip a "trail blazer with a full understanding of how affordable housing supports the sustainability of rural communities".

Philip was instrumental in setting up the Land In Hand Trust, an Umbrella Community Land Trust set up to benefit local people in Teignbridge.

The award was presented by Matt Dodd from the Homes and Communities Agency.



## APPENDIX 3

### What Delegates Thought (Evaluation summary)

82% of delegates thought the **location** of the conference, and 78% thought the **hall facilities** were good or excellent. The score was a little lower than other venues in recent years, possibly because of heating and acoustic problems! Conference **administration** and **organisation** also scored very highly, both at just under 90%.

**Objectives** for attending the conference most quoted were, once again, networking and sharing and finding out information, and also learning about CCD. There was one person who wanted to 'hear the community's perspective on the state of the rural economy, rather than just economists'. 90% attending felt that their objectives were met to a large extent, and over 80% thought the content of the conference was good or excellent.

The **morning presentations** were considered good or excellent by 70%. This slightly lower figure was probably influenced by poor audio-visual functioning. Response to the open style of **working sessions** was also very positive with 90% scoring good or excellent. "*Its great to have the flexibility to move around the workshops, though this can make group discussion more difficult*".

The **afternoon presentations** were scored good or excellent by 89%, with many positive comments on the presentation by Tim Jones.

Among the **most valuable things learnt** from the conference were:

- The private sector view of rural Devon's economy and the grass roots level case studies
- A few contacts for further action/information help
- How to access up-to-date deprivation information
- The Issues never change
- Figures of rural deprivation
- More networking
- Further identification of rural problems
- The talk on deprivation and statistics
- Communication is still most important between all organisations
- Very interested in the layout of the venue
- Workshops worked well

**Finally, among the post conference comments:**

- *Professor Winter was a good chair.*
- *Commendation to the ladies of the community hall who not only provided an excellent spread, but took the trouble to go home to find heaters, fantastic level of service.*
- *Shame about the heating but village halls are always cold, wear sensible clothes!*
- *The speakers were thought provoking and the presentations an opportunity to share the successes of social enterprises across the county. These together with the break-out sessions and the splendid lunch made for an excellent celebration of CCD's involvement in the community.*

## APPENDIX 4

### List of Attendees

Those booking to attend the conference are listed below – late bookings will not be included

John V.H.	Allen	
Tom	Archer	Dartmoor National Park
David	Baker	Upton Pyne Parish Council & CCD Trustee
Jill	Baker	Newton St Cyres Parish Council
Tim	Barnaby	CCD administration
Shelagh	Beak	Dalwood Community Shop
Juliet	Bidgood	NEAT
Michael	Britian	Vision Group for Sidmouth
Queenie	Broom	Community Buildings Grants Committee
Jill	Cave	Devon Conservation Forum
John	Channon	CCD Trustee
Bob	Collier	Chairman, Devon Assoc of Parish Councils
Louis	Collins	CCD administration
Stu	Cook	Calor
Leanne	Crawford	Devon Rural Network
Graham	Davey	Teignbridge District Council
Kirsten	Day	Ilington Community Shop Project
Matt	Dodd	Homes and Communities Agency
Peter	Dunning	CCD Trustee
Dawn	Eckhart	CCD Staff
Shelagh	Fearnley	Dalwood Community Shop
Jeremy	Farr	Moor Cars
David	Fletcher	Energy Action Devon
Chris	France	Dartmoor National Park Authority
Margaret	Garton DL	CCD Vice President
Gill	Gray	Land in Hand Trust
Sean	Grinsted	Auditor, Francis Clark
Charlotte	Hanson	CCD Assistant Chief Executive
Salli	Hardern	
Peter	Harding	CCD Assistant Chief Executive
Peter	Hardy	Lympstone Village Hall
Mollie	Hemens	CCD Trustee
Gail	Hickson	CCD administration
Gerald	Hirsch	Mid Devon District Council
Sue	Hitchcock	CCD Rural Housing Enabler
Bill	Hitchins	Chairman, Dartmoor National Park
Charles	Hodgson	Diocese of Exeter
Judith	Holder	

David	Hynd	Business Link
Tim	Jones	Devon and Cornwall Business Council
Elaine	Kelly	
David	Kinross	CCD Staff
Rosalyn	Kriteman	CPRE
Doug	Laing	Land in Hand Trust
Kathy	Laing	Dalwood Community Shop
Michael	Lee	Devon County Council
Andrew	Lightfoot	Devon County Council
Matt	Lobley	University of Exeter
David	Macklin, CBE	CCD Vice President
Vin	Marshal	Lifton Social and Community Centre
Dan	Mildenhall	Lympstone Village Hall
Chris	Owen	CCD Treasurer
Tony	Philips	Lifton Social and Community Centre
Stephen	Reed	Hemyock Parish Council
Martin	Rich	CCD Staff
John	Scott	CCD Rural Housing Officer
Amble	Skuse	CCD Staff
Trevor	Smale	Lloyds TBS Foundation
Joy	Smerdon	Rattery Village Hall
Elaine	Smerdon	Shaugh Prior Parish Council
Lesley	Smith	Devon Association of Parish Councils
Jan	Spencer	CCD Womens Business Development Officer
Margaret	Squires	Sandford Parish Council
Heather	Stallard	CCD Members Forum
Jean	Stewart	Harbour Bideford - Homeless Charity
Geoffrey	Sworder	C.P.R.E
Jay	Talbot	CCD Chief Executive
Martin	Taylor	Devon Wildlife Trust
Carol	Trant	South Hams District Council
Roy	Turner	Woolsery Parish Council
Philip	Vogel	Land in Hand Trust
Jane	Warner	CCD Staff
Philip	Watts	Devon Conservation Forum
Richard	Weaving	Christow Parish Council
Martha	Wilkinson	Devon Community Foundation
Juliet	Williams	Living Options Devon
Prof. Michael	Winter OBE	University of Exeter
Jo	Winterburn	'Home Grown: Community Owned'
Janet	Wise	Greater Dartmoor Natural Health
Andy	Wood	South West RDA

## Thank you all !

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CCD is grateful to all those who attended. The willingness of everyone to engage in discussion and contribute ideas and experience was what really made the event a success.

CCD is also very grateful to our speakers for providing a great deal of information and analysis which set the context. Some found time in very busy diaries to enlighten us, and some presented local project information in a way which our audience found very relevant.

And finally CCD thanks Teign Valley Community Hall, its volunteer committee members, and its local catering team who all worked extremely hard to make the day a success, not only with a fine lunch but also by raiding their homes for emergency heating!

## Community Council of Devon

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