

Summer Conference: Sidmouth, Devon

Thursday 5th July ~ Friday 6th July 2012



Venue

The venue for this year's event, hosted by Devon County Council, will be the Sidmouth Hotels Groups (www.hotels-sidmouth.co.uk) This group of three family run, adjacent hotels are situated on the picturesque Jurassic Coast in the centre of Sidmouth.

- We currently have rooms held across the three properties (Kingswood & Devoran, Dukes & Hotel Elizabeth). There are a combination of singles, doubles and twins; all rooms are ensuite, dogs are permitted at the Kingswood & Devoran only.
- Delegates will have breakfast in the hotel in which they are staying.
- A meeting/dining room has been reserved in the Kingswood for our sole use for the whole of the conference – all meals and sessions will take place here.
- Tariff is £110 per person, to include: all meals, tea/coffee servings and use of conference facilities, and overnight accommodation on the night of 5th July.
- If people wish to bring partners/spouses, there will be an additional charge of £40 per person for bed and breakfast, or £50 for dinner, bed & breakfast
- The hotel requires a deposit of £40 per person at time of booking - this can be paid by credit card or by sending a cheque.
- Please complete the attached booking form and return to rachel.phillips@devon.gov.uk as soon as possible

Agenda

- The agenda for the two days will follow a similar format as to that of previous events – guests will arrive in time for lunch on Thursday, and we will then hold two sessions in the afternoon. The PTC Business meeting will be first thing on Friday morning, followed by another two sessions before lunch and departure. We will issue a full agenda prior to the meeting.
- Planned sessions are as follows (subject to confirmation):
 - Welcome to Devon/ The Devon Approach
 - Growing the Bus Market
 - Community Transport; Opportunities & Challenges
 - Rail services: growth and Community Rail Partnerships
- On Thursday, we are organising an optional trip to the Norman Lockyer Observatory – more information on this trip is provided on the following page.

Travelling to Sidmouth

Train/Bus:

- Sidmouth is situated 20 miles from Exeter St David's main line rail station – we will organise a bus transfer from St David's on Thursday morning at 11am, and again back to St David's after the meeting finishes on Friday. If you require this transfer please indicate on your booking form.
- Bus 52B provides a direct link every hour from Honiton rail station to Sidmouth Triangle, close to the hotels (35 minutes journey time).

Car: Parking is available at the hotel.

NORMAN LOCKYER OBSERVATORY



The Norman Lockyer Observatory in Sidmouth, Devon is a historic working optical observatory and an educational centre for science, especially astronomy, meteorology, amateur radio and sciences of the coast and countryside. The Society promotes public awareness of and interest in science, and supports science education in schools, colleges and universities. It is operated by The Norman Lockyer Observatory Society, a registered charity.

The Observatory was established in 1912 by Sir Joseph Norman Lockyer to continue his astronomical research when his South Kensington observatory was closed. Now it provides a facility at which individuals and groups may participate in projects and pursue recreational study of science in a practical way. **For more details on the Observatory visit:**
www.normanlockyer.com

We have arranged an optional visit to the Observatory on the afternoon of Thursday 5th July, leaving the hotel at 4.30pm – this will last approximately 2 hours and include a talk, planetarium show and telescope tour. You will then return to the hotel with time to freshen up before the evening meal.

Please indicate if you would like to take part in this trip on the Booking Form.

We look forward to welcoming you to Devon in July! If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact stuart@publictransportconsortium.org.uk or rachel.phillips@devon.gov.uk.