

District Council Report June 2010

I was unable to attend Planning Committee in June owing to a work commitment. The only application for consideration at Committee was for Sainsbury's on Lisle Lane in Ely. The Committee approved the application.

Work on the review group for Ely markets has continued apace, with several working party meetings followed by a Member's Seminar to present our initial findings on how we can improve the markets whilst also achieving the savings requested by full Council. We presented the findings to Overview and Scrutiny Committee which approved the findings for public consultation. This has started and is being sent to all those people who registered an interest in participating in ECDC consultations, as well as to market traders and other interested parties.

At Environment and Transport Committee the Chairman announced that there is to be a review of the Waste Service, commencing shortly. He also announced the provision of 5 TetraPak recycling banks across the District, including at Tan House Lane. These are being provided and emptied at no cost to ECDC for 12 months initially. The Committee referred back a paper regarding improving energy efficiency in housing, which would have involved taking thermal images of houses. The Committee felt that we needed much more information on the use of the images. We approved the Environmental Enforcement Policy and also agreed to continue the current recycling bank emptying service, pending further work on procuring this service County-wide. We also agreed to fund a transport initiative to help young people attend two events in Ely during the summer holidays, including young people from Burwell.

I attended a Members' Seminar regarding the next stages of the Local Development Framework, including the Site Allocations map which will be issued for public consultation in early July.

The RECAP Board met to receive updates on the work of the Waste and Recycling Partnership. Recycling figures are down slightly across the country as well as the county with suggestions that this is due to a combination of the economic climate as well as the weather (hot, dry spells see less organic matter being sent for composting).

David Brown