

8. CORRESPONDENCE

Further correspondence had been received from a resident in Station Road regarding the continuing problems with loose straw littering the road and causing problems. The Clerk will write to the District Council again and ask for the road to be cleaned on a regular weekly basis to try to alleviate the issue. She also advised that she had received notification that one of the trees in the old vicarage, which overhangs Station Road, is due to have some crown lifting work carried out and this should help as well. The Clerk will also advise the resident of these actions and ask him to write to the District Council about the road cleaning to add support to the letter from the Parish Council.

The District Council has given approval for the provision of additional bins for **garden waste only**. An annual licence fee of £48 will be charged to the householder and this will be reviewed annually. Initially 500 bins will be made available but if there is a higher demand additional bins will be ordered and made available. It is hoped that residents will be able to submit an application mid February and that the bins will be available from the beginning of April. They will be allocated on a first come first served basis and once the initial 500 have been allocated further applications will be placed on a reserve list. Only one additional bin per household will be available in the first instance. Payment for the licence will be accepted by telephone using a debit or credit card. Currently the one blue (recyclables) bin per property restriction will remain but all policies connected with the new bin services will be reviewed in September.

Following meetings with local parish councils and working groups the 106 and 110 bus service timetables have been revised to reflect feedback from those meetings and develop what will hopefully be sustainable services based on current and potential future usage. The number of 106 passengers travelling from Cottenham and Rampton accounts for approximately 20% of the existing passengers. The new timetable removes the Cottenham to Wilburton section of the route but this enables the frequency of the service to the villages where the majority of passengers are travelling from to be increased to hourly. An additional service for Stretham and Lt Thetford will be provided as well as enabling journeys to be made to Cambridge by transferring at Stretham, all of which should increase the usage of the revised service. To partially offset the reduction of service from Cottenham to Ely the 110 service will operate on Saturdays in addition to Thursdays and on both days will divert via Rampton. The next stage is to tender for the services and then register them with the Traffic Commissioner and it is estimated that the new services will be in place around July this year and the Parish Council will try to advertise them as widely as possible in the parish. Cllr Norman asked for clarification on if there two stops for High Street and Hop Row as they are shown on the timetable as one. The Clerk will query this and also ask for the Aldreth arrival and departure times to be shown more clearly on the finalised timetables. Cllr G Wilson wished to propose a vote of thanks to Cllrs Parr and Lyon for their hard work in helping to bring about these changes and this was seconded by Cllr P Wilson and carried unanimously. Thanks were also given to Cllr Hunt for his involvement especially with the Stretham Hub.

Two men have been charged with several offences after they stole a vehicle in Haddenham and went on a two-day crime spree. The owner of the car had left the keys in the ignition whilst he popped into a local shop and the offenders took the opportunity to steal it. They will appear at Cambridge Magistrates Court in the near future.

Following the consultation on establishing a local register of "Buildings of Local Interest" the project has now been approved by the District Council and Lorraine Brown the Conservation Officer is seeking nominations for buildings/structures to be included on the register. It is hoped this will identify and formally recognise the significant assets, which define the district from: houses to bridges, war memorials and walls, as well as street furniture, monuments and designed landscapes. Nominations should be lodged by 4.00pm on Friday 2nd May and application forms and more information can be obtained from the Clerk.

An event will be held on Sunday 6th April giving a unique opportunity to ride/run the washes from Mepal to Welney and enjoy the outdoor attractions and wildlife whilst raising money for charity. Participants can register on line at www.rotaryclubely-hereward.org.

9. INFORMATION FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

Cllr Gareth Wilson reported that the Development and Transport Committee had discussed the Draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) on Renewable Energy Development (commercial scale), which sets out the Council's proposed approach to large-scale renewable energy proposals. This will be going out to consultation and comments and suggestions can be made on the District Council website.