

A resident in Hop Row had written regarding his concerns about heavy traffic speeding through the village and particularly along that road. He feels the new 30mph limit out of the village towards Wilburton is largely ignored and that it needs to be policed. The Council took on board his comments and a copy of his email had also been sent to the Road Safety Group for consideration. The Clerk will advise that a Speedwatch session is due to be held in Hop Row and Station Road in the coming week.

PCSO Annie had spoken to two young Haddenham men over the past week regarding their speeding and inconsiderate driving around the villages, both had received a verbal Section 59 warning and further behaviour of this kind could result in their vehicles being seized and crushed. Residents are being warned to be wary of people impersonating Standards Trading Officers and also about sales people visiting homeowners to sell alarm and security products at very low prices. Reputable security firms will advertise their accreditation by SSIAB (Security Systems & Alarms Inspection Board) or NSI (National Security Inspectorate).

14. INFORMATION FROM DISTRICT & COUNTY COUNCILLORS

District Cllr Allen advised that the Planning Officer was happy that the aviation issues relating to the anemometer application for Berry Fen Wind Farm had been dealt with properly by the District Council. REG have announced their intention to reduce the height and number of turbines when the formal planning application is submitted. Cllr Hugo advised that receipt of figures so far show that the balance is tipping towards more people being opposed to it rather than for it.

Cllr Allen also spoke about the Community Land Trust at Stretham/Wilburton, which is being used as a pilot and could then be rolled out across the district for other parishes to investigate. There are some concerns that this could become more about a business opportunity than a community gain.

Cllr P Wilson reported that talks regarding the redundancy and staff situation at the District Council are on going. The Local Government Pension and Pay Schemes are being looked at and 21 staff currently receive a salary below the living wage threshold. A 1% pay increase has been budgeted for but there will be a ballot in June regarding possible industrial action.

She also reported that new build properties will have to pay £21.50 per wheelie bin but the fees can hopefully be incorporated in the developer's costs. Existing wheelie bins that need to be replaced due to damage will be free of charge. Recycling in the District is now up to 52% since the introduction of the bins.

The District Council has received funding of £17,000 to which residents can apply for grant funding for "green deals" such as insulation, etc. The Cambridgeshire Green Deal Partnership has been awarded £7.8 million from the Green Deal Community Fund launched by the government on 1st October 2012 and householders can apply for grants up to £6,000 towards insulation for solid wall properties.

The District Council has agreed to put £45,000 per annum in a fund to replace the Smaller Villages grant funding from Section 106 money, which will run out shortly.

An application has been made to the Sport England Strategy Fund for funding of up to £2 million for the proposed Ely Leisure Facility.

Cllr G Wilson reported that options are being investigated to expand the car parks at Littleport and Ely rail stations.

A special Council meeting had been held to discuss the restructuring of committees but this would not be implemented until 2019. The Policy Committees will reduce from 4 to 3 and the reporting system is changing. Members are also being encouraged to become member champions of departments within the District Council.

A bye-election had been held in Sutton and the Liberal Democrat candidate won the seat.

15. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, WORKING PARTIES & GROUP REPRESENTATIVES

- A. **Finance & Emergency Committee:** All councillors had received a copy of the draft minutes FM 02/2014 from the meeting held on 29th April 2014.
- B. **Road Safety:** All councillors had received a copy of the notes from the last Group meeting held on 1st May 2014. The Duck Lane traffic calming works had been discussed and the Clerk was asked to find out