

Development Plan Steering Group – Tuesday 19th January 2010 @ 9:30am

Councillors Present: Baker, Blair, Dryden and Ward (Vice Chair)

Also present: Dave Roberts (Head of Policy and Projects)
Joanna Gilbert-Wooldridge (Senior Planning Officer)
David Bethell (Cambridgeshire Horizons)

1. Minutes

The minutes from the meetings held on 17th November 2009 and 1st December 2009 were approved.

2. Apologies

Cllr Reid

3. Declaration of Interest

None

4. Public Questions

None.

5. Cambridgeshire's Green Infrastructure Strategy : Review and 2nd Edition

Joanna Gilbert-Wooldridge introduced the report. It was explained that the current version of the Green Infrastructure Strategy was endorsed by the Council in July 2006 and related specifically to the Cambridge Sub-Region. The Group was informed that the second edition would be reviewed and expanded to cover the whole county. The Group were advised that the consultation would begin at the end of January 2010 and run into March 2010.

Cllr Baker sought clarification on the practical changes that the strategy would introduce, and whether these were covered by existing planning documents such as the local plan. Joanna Gilbert-Wooldridge explained that the majority of the projects were already covered in the Cambridge Local Plan, Area

Action Plans or the South Cambridgeshire Local Development Framework.

Cllr Baker asked for an explanation of the term “geo-diversity”. David Bethell explained that it was a new term to explain the variety of soils, land forms and minerals.

Cllr Dryden questioned whether the recent reduction in funding for rights of way would have an effect on the delivery of some of the projects, and also asked for an update on the Cambridge East Country Park. David Bethell explained that funding had been secured until the end of the current financial year, and that projects were being re-phased to maximise the availability resources.

David Roberts explained that it was unlikely that the Country Park would be delivered without the wider the airport re-development project.

Cllr Ward welcomed the scheduling of a consultation in Cambridge outside of normal working hours.

Meeting ended at 9.36am.