

District Councillor's Report for Wells Town Council, 5th Mar. 2012

Peter Terrington (PT). To be read in conjunction with report from (JS).

1. Items from previous minutes:

- Derelict land, Unoccupied Homes: Units 1-4 on the Maryland Commercial Estate are not listed for business rates.

2. Outstanding Items:

- Localism: The Big Society Fund was approved by Full Council. The fund supports local authorities to stimulate community led planning. A seminar was held for town councils to outline the benefits of Neighbourhood Plans. Individual towns or parishes may come together to produce neighbourhood plans. Wells is in a unique position to benefit from such an approach, being at the centre of plans to establish the surrounding area as a wind farm service hub. Much of the development will fall outside of the Wells parish boundary but will impact on the community of Wells. A Wells Area Neighbourhood Plan would ensure that the communities could influence planning decisions and, therefore, benefit from infrastructure levies to improve local facilities.
- Car Parking: There were a number of oral representations by town councils and the NN Labour Party, opposing the increase in parking charges. A report outlining the objections received is going before Cabinet on 12th March. The report and cabinet response will come before the Scrutiny committee on 28th March. A review of charging has been promised.
- Waste Collection and recycling: The contract for collection of recyclable waste is being reviewed and it may be possible in future to add additional items to the recyclable list.
- Marine Planning: The MMO East of England inshore plan appears to pay little attention to the needs of tourism and leisure activities. Further representations need to be made to MMO to address this issue.
- Dudgeon Offshore Ltd cable Route: Despite the Development Committee turning down the application for the cable route, Full Council voted not to defend the

appeal. The matter is being referred back to the Development Committee for further discussion. The determination cannot be altered at this stage.

- Land at East End: I have received representations from two of the residents using the land. It would appear that the area to the south is not registered. Mr Whiddett is abroad at present but would like to discuss position on his return. If title cannot be proven the options are to register the land as an Open Space or seek Village Green status.