

Environmental Sub Committee report for the QDCC meeting on the 25th November 2019

Formation of Environmental Sub-Committee and setting out our plans

The first meeting of my committee members: Andy, Graeme, Anne and Emilia will be held on the 3rd December 2019 when we will look to develop our Terms of Reference which will set out amongst other things the overall aims and objectives of the group and our priorities for the year ahead

Tesco Recycling Site

The operation of this site continues to cause concern due to:

- Contamination of recycling receptacles leading to contactors having to be paid by CEC to take the material to landfill which is counterproductive.
- Frequency of servicing is insufficient /units are too small leading to the units regularly being full up so all types of waste and glass bottles are then simply dumped on the ground surrounding the recycling units. In addition this causes waste material to blow onto the road side verge and beyond creating a littering issue.
- Poorly marked receptacles leading to confusion amongst the public which units to use for the various materials.
- Both CEC and Tesco are operating recycling units on the same site with some duplication.
- Fly tipping of all sort of items TV's, land fill waste etc.

Tesco have now given notice that they will be removing the large glass recycling unit due to them being able to secure a contactor to empty and transport the contents for recycling. In addition CEC are proposing to remove their recycling units due to the contamination issues. My concern that this action will lead to other recycling facilities in the town e.g. Scotmid being "swamped" as people look for another site or worse still they simply dump their waste elsewhere.

I have e mailed John Thompson the Tesco Store Manager with a view to setting up a meeting with Keith Giblett and myself and also one of the CEC waste unit managers to discuss these issues and consider solutions to address matters in the short term and also be clear on the longer term recycling strategy of both CEC and Tesco.

Bridge Walk Experience

This Network Rail project contains a number of proposals including the development and construction of the supporting infrastructure which will impact on the environment in the area. This will include amongst other things the creation of new pathways, realignment of existing pathways, tree removal, building a hub for the bridge walkers and the decommissioning of the existing "Jacob's Ladder".

At the time of this report the project is still going through the Planning Application stage but it is clear that many Ashburnham Loan residents are not happy with the responses from Network Rail to the 12 key points which they previously raised with them. Diane Job and Graeme McKinley are in correspondence with the residents' action group on these issues and in line with my environmental role responsibilities I will be keeping a close watching brief on this project as it progresses to ensure all environmental related matters are dealt with effectively and sympathetically.

