

A View from the District (January 2010)

The weather and the Christmas break meant that I have had a very easy month, with almost all my meetings cancelled, so there is little to report.

The only significant issue was the Council's response to the A14 Draft Orders. On 10 December the relevant Portfolio Holders (Councillors David Bard, Tom Bygott and Nick Wright) met to approve a response from SCDC. The document before us was pathetically bland; do carry on but please be nice to us. My suggestion that we should not support the scheme in its current form was politely declined; I did however manage to achieve two minor improvements. 'The Council has no objection to the Scheme on the grounds of noise impact providing *the proposed* mitigation measures are fully implemented and maintained' was changed by including the word 'adequate' instead of 'the proposed'; and that SCDC 'Seeks confirmation from the Highways Agency that they have *taken account of* the latest position in relation to the Council's Local Development Framework, particularly concerning revisions to allocations for development' changed to 'requests public scrutiny of the Highway Agency's modelling data to make sure that it complies with the Council's Local Development Framework and, in particular, revisions to allocations for development'. Pretty well all other proposed tightening-up of the wording was rejected. The Parish Council's own submission was somewhat meatier.

If you would like a fuller monthly report emailed to you please contact me at scdc@de-lacey.org and I shall add you to the list of recipients. If you have any District Council issues you would like to discuss please don't hesitate to ask me.

Douglas de Lacey
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