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23 December 2010

To: Chairman – Councillor Charles Nightingale  
Vice-Chairman – Councillor Tony Orgee  
All Members of the Council  
Quorum: 15

Dear Councillor

This is a supplement to the previously published agenda for the meeting of **COUNCIL** on **THURSDAY, 25 NOVEMBER 2010**, containing the Chairman of the Council's formal letter to the Government notifying them of the motion passed by Council on 25 November 2010 and the Minister's response.

Yours faithfully  
**JEAN HUNTER**  
Chief Executive

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## AGENDA

## PAGES

### 11 (a) **Standing in the name of Councillors Ben Shelton and Tony Orgee**

We would like to request that the Council support and forward to central government the following proposal for a change in planning legislation, viz.:

That a designation in planning law be created of a "Dynamic Local Centre". The designation to be applied for, by a specified process, by communities wishing to protect their local shopping centre. A dynamic local centre will be deemed to have the necessary food retail provision to serve their local catchment area therefore movement from a non-food use to a food use in Class A1 of the Use Classes Order 2010 will require planning permission.

An appendix is attached.

We therefore believe that this change would be a valuable and popular addition to planning law, increasing local planning control.

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**CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL**



Our ref: CN/JC/LET  
Your ref:  
Date: 06 December 2010

Telephone: 03450 450 500  
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Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP  
Department for Community and Local  
Government  
Eland House  
Bressenden Place  
London  
SW1E 5DU

Dear Mr Shapps,

**NOTICE OF MOTION TO THE GOVERNMENT**

The Council, at its meeting on 25 November 2010, instructed me to contact you in respect of the following resolution.

“That a designation in planning law be created of a “Dynamic Local Centre”. The designation to be applied for, by a specified process, by communities wishing to protect their local shopping centre. A dynamic local centre will be deemed to have the necessary retail provision to serve their local catchment area, therefore duplicate existing retail facilities, which could include movement from a non-food use to a food use in Class A1 of the Use Classes Order 2010, will require planning permission.”

I am therefore writing on behalf of South Cambridgeshire District Council and have enclosed an appendix for your consideration.

Yours sincerely

**Councillor Charles Nightingale  
Chairman of the Council**

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The Rt Hon Greg Clark MP  
Minister for Decentralisation

**Department for Communities and Local  
Government**

Eland House  
Bressenden Place  
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Our Ref: GS/GC/040643/10  
Your Ref: CN/JC/LET

Cllr Charles Nightingale  
South Cambridgeshire District Council  
South Cambridgeshire Hall  
Cambourne Business Park  
Cambourne  
Cambridgeshire  
CB23 6EA

15 December 2010

*Dear Cllr Nightingale*

Thank you for your letter of 6 December to the Rt Hon Grant Shapps MP. I have been asked to reply as the matters raised fall within my Ministerial responsibilities.

I am grateful to you for bringing the Council's motion to our attention. I will consider carefully the points made. As you may be aware, the Government is committed to decentralising power and returning responsibility for decision-making to the local level. As set out in the coalition programme, our longer term objective is to give neighbourhoods far more ability to determine the shape of the places in which they live based on the principles set out in the Conservative Party publication *Open Source Planning*.

We are seeking through our Localism Bill to create a planning system that can deliver locally supported sustainable development by lifting the burden of centralised controls, reducing the need for appeals, creating real incentives for communities to accept development, and a presumption in favour of sustainable development. Our aim is to publish and present to Parliament a simple and consolidated national planning policy framework covering all forms of development by April 2012.

*Yours sincerely*

**GREG CLARK MP**

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