

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Development and Conservation Control Committee

10th May 2006

AUTHOR/S: Development Services Director

RECYCLING FACILITIES AT CAMBOURNE

Purpose

1. To consider a request to remove / not provide some of the neighbourhood recycling facilities at Cambourne.

Effect on Corporate Objectives

2. Quality, Accessible Services	Whilst there would be some reduction in the neighbourhood level recycling service, it can be argued that facilities are overprovided now that the Council has introduced its kerbside scheme. Therefore, the population still has access to a household level service as well as a community facility that would be retained at Morrisons car park.
Village Life	Recycling facilities would still be provided at Morrisons and by the kerbside recycling scheme, and the removal of the facilities from the village greens would prevent the nuisance and danger presently experienced, thereby improving people's enjoyment of these public open spaces.
Sustainability	Negligible as the Council's kerbside collection scheme has since been introduced, and there would still be a community facility at Morrisons.
Partnership	None

Background

3. I have received a request from the Cambourne Consortium of developers to remove the recycling "igloos" from Great Cambourne village green, and not to be required to provide them at Lower and Upper Cambourne village greens. (The facility at Morrisons supermarket will remain). The reason given is that they are apparently not felt to be needed and that complaints have been received about broken glass and general untidiness. Additionally the Council's kerbside recycling scheme has been introduced since these communal locations were decided.

Considerations

4. Recycling facilities were required to be provided by the original Cambourne Section 106 Agreement, and were originally allocated on a site north of the business park near the entrance to Cambourne. However, at a very early stage in the development it was decided between the Developer and the District Council that it was more practical for a development of this size to spread the recycling points around, locating them more centrally to where people live. As such, it was decided that there should be permanent recycling facilities by the supermarket and by all of the village greens. This would encourage at least local people to walk to these recycling centres rather than drive, obviously more sustainable and is common practice in all of our villages.

A set of “igloos” has been provided at Greta Cambourne Village Green, and was programmed for the car park at lower cambourne village green, to be installed once the cricket pavilion was complete. A more extensive facility, including clothing, books and plastics recycling, has been installed at Morrisons car park.

5. Subsequently, the Council has introduced its successful kerbside recycling scheme, thereby duplicating the service provided. Whilst the facilities that have been provided are well used, there are alternatives as described above. The developers’ consortium has agreed to provide a bench on the site of the facility at Great Cambourne village green, and the site allocated at Lower cambourne would be turned over to additional car parking.

Options

6. A reduction in provision would require an amendment to the main Cambourne S106 Agreement but this is considered acceptable in the light of changed policy.

Financial Implications

7. To be reported.

Legal Implications

8. A formal change to the Section 106 Agreement (deed of variation) is not necessary, a simple letter outlining the Council’s decision will suffice.

Staffing Implications

9. None.

Risk Management Implications

10. The actual and perceived risk to public safety caused by the proximity of glass and litter in the vicinity of children’s play would be removed.

Consultations

11. Cambourne Parish Council – “The Parish council would like the recycling centre on Monkfield Lane removed as its use has diminished since the introduction of doorstep collections and the siting of the new recycling centre at the Morrisons car park. The Parish Council’s other concern is over children’s safety as it is adjacent to an open space and they tend to use them as an extension of the play equipment. Fortunately there have not been any injuries yet.”
12. The comments of the Council’s recycling and waste minimisation officer will be reported verbally.

Conclusions/Summary

13. The removal / non-provision of the recycling facilities from Cambourne’s three village greens would appear to be popular locally, and have little effect upon actual recycling opportunity.

Recommendations

14. To **APPROVE** the amendment to the requirement for land at the village greens for recycling facilities, subject to the developers' Consortium submitting for approval, and subsequently implementing, alternative uses for the sites already used /allocated at Great and Lower Cambourne village greens.

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report: Letter from cambourne Consortium requesting removal / non-provision of facilities on the village greens.

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