

PUBLIC QUESTIONS

Question 1	Parish Councillor Duncan Wallace to ask Cllr Vicky Glover-Ward, the Executive Member for Planning and Growth
<p>The constitution of the Development Management Committee specifically states at point 15.11.7 “Members should make sure that if they are proposing, seconding or supporting a decision contrary to Officer recommendations or the development plan that they clearly identify and understand the planning reasons (underlined) leading to this conclusion/decision. Be aware that Members may have to justify the resulting decision by giving evidence in the event of any challenge”.</p> <p>With this excerpt in mind, what is the role of DMC and its elected members and what direction is provided to officers to ensure they give their support to the elected members who wish to vote against officer recommendation, enabling them to represent the wishes of their constituents and seek to protect their communities by managing growth responsibly, with objective balanced considerations without bias?</p> <p>This would be more achievable if the District Council could demonstrate a five year housing land supply, which would enable development plans to carry the weight for which they were created thus removing obvious conflict between officers and elected members, which was very evident at DMC in November 2024 and January 2025, promoting the democratic process and role of DMC to one of respected importance and responsibility in which the public can have confidence, not one which appears submissive in totality to predetermined recommendations.</p>	
Question 2	Town Councillor Susan Barber to ask Cllr Tim Hoskin, Executive Member for Environmental Sustainability
<p>Folly Island is described by the Council’s Conservation Area Appraisal as “... a most delightful area ... worthy of careful protection.”</p>	

Nevertheless, despite the well known concerns and objections of the residents, East Herts District Council is ploughing ahead with its plan to introduce wheelie bins throughout Folly Island.

Folly Island is not big enough to take multiple bins or the related garbage trucks. Their arrival will destroy the visual charm that makes Folly Island famous. This is not in the best interest of the residents, Hertford or East Hertfordshire.

Residents are still awaiting information on the garden waste bin situation which is due for renewal in March. There is much anxiety felt by many Folly Islanders at what will be coming next.

This Council claims to be a "listening council". Will it after all listen to residents and cancel the introduction of further wheelie bins into Folly Island?