

Motion – Swifts

In June local activists, Politicians and residents united to declare Ware the first swift town in the eastern England region, this comes on the back of an enormous amount of work from local swift groups and other voluntary organisations like our Mens sheds.

The reason for this work is that while swifts are beloved by many as a sign of summer, they have suffered large declines in number and are unfortunately now red listed, the causes for this are many but one driver is the reduction in their nesting sites something which we can help offset by mandating swift bricks in all new domestic buildings in the UK.

The UK rightly works to preserve its historic buildings and cultural heritage, our natural heritage is equally as important to who we are, more than that we have a moral duty to preserve for the future the wonders we are so fortunate to have inherited. The only circumstance in which we should want to compare the scream of the swift with the purr of the turtle dove or the song of the nightingale is in their ubiquity not in their absence, Therefore this council should resolve, to empower its leader to write to all MP's representing areas in East Hertfordshire, on the councils behalf encouraging them to support (EDM 1065) which urges the government introduce regulations that "would require the incorporation into all new domestic buildings of swift bricks"

Proposed by Councillor George Williams, seconded by Councillor Vicky Glover-Ward