

Council

Monday 19 December 2022

Agenda Item 8 (a), Written Questions

Question From: Councillor Les Sibley

Question To: Leader of the Council, Councillor Barry Wood

Topic: NW Bicester ECO Development

Question

“The Leader will be aware that several planning applications for the NW Bicester ECO Development have been, or are about to be submitted to Cherwell District Council.

Can the Leader say, if he expects these planning applications to be in line with the North West Bicester Masterplan, in particular, the realignment of the A4095 Howes Lane?”

Response From: Leader of the Council, Councillor Barry Wood

“The North West Bicester Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) provides planning guidance to supplement adopted Local Plan Policy. It includes a ‘Masterplan Framework’ illustrating a new strategic road alignment. The SPD states,

“The junction of the Howes Lane, Lords Lane and Bucknell Road will need to be reconfigured to improve the A4095 strategic route along Howes Lane and Lords Lane to accommodate the forecast growth in traffic arising from the proposed developments in the town”, and

“The vision is to maintain the strategic route to accommodate the predicted volumes of traffic while providing an environment that is safe and attractive to pedestrians, cyclists and any person that is using the services and facilities proposed...”

A railway under-bridge has been provided. The funding of the road re-alignment is a matter being considered by County and District Officers.

In the meantime, developer proposals are coming forward for consideration which propose variations to the road alignment and masterplan framework.

Officers will need to consider the Local Plan, the SPD and all other material considerations in reaching recommendations for the planning committee in due course. This will include the level of compliance with planning policy.”