

STATEMENT BY THE LEADER OF THE COUNCIL

26 JULY 2011

Weekly Bin Collections. At last commonsense has prevailed over the debate by Government concerning the frequency of “Bin” collections. Here in Hambleton alternate weekly collections has been in operation for 10 years. The latest Waste and Street Scene survey shows a 90.8% satisfaction level from our residents. With 76.4% of residents satisfied with recycling collections I believe we are providing value for money in our approach to this necessary service. A return to weekly collection of “black bins” would have been a massive and unwarranted cost, the like of which we would have found difficult to fund. In addition, the temptation not to recycle would have been evident. Although our satisfaction levels are high, we need to improve. Recycling for example must improve from the present 44.4% and reach 50% very quickly.

Local Enterprise Partnership. You will recall that the York and North Yorkshire LEP is being chaired by a very successful businessman, Barry Dodd. He has held his first board meeting. Hambleton, Richmondshire and Ryedale DC’s have been grouped together and Cllr Keith Knaggs, Leader of Ryedale D.C. will be representing us for the first 12 months, and he has reported back saying.....

“The Chairman Barry Dodd is a dynamic person who has given a lot of thought to how the board could hit the ground running. With monthly meeting scheduled we are going to be quite busy. The meeting was brisk and business like, not at all “local government” in style. In one meeting we selected an enterprise zone and worked out our programme for the next 12 months. It can be said that it would have taken our District Councils somewhat longer to get through the same agenda”

We must now wait to see the outcomes. I have invited Barry Dodd to Hambleton so that we can get a better idea of his views concerning our area and equally we can tell him of our aspirations and concerns.