

**Liz Pickering**

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**From:** Customer Services  
**Sent:** 29 March 2011 10:48  
**To:** Liz Pickering  
**Subject:** MDDC Call Ref: MDIE-33522 - Mid Devon Green Infrastructure Strategy " Initial Consultation

An email has been received by Customer Services on 29-Mar-2011 09:54 from: MARTIN BODMAN [REDACTED]. An acknowledgement email has been sent and the call has been assigned a reference number of MDIE-33522.

The body of the email follows below. Please deal with this as appropriate. If you have any queries please contact Customer Services.

If the email below appears as 'html' code then [click here](#) to view it as a web page.

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25 Chaffinch Drive, Cullompton, Exeter, EX15 1UJ. 25 March 2011

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Dear Liz Pickering  
Mid Devon Green Infrastructure Strategy " Initial Consultation

Thank you for inviting me to comment on local issues and priorities.  
If Mid Devon District Council and central government are in earnest about achieving a low carbon society then I think the following should be considered " again, if necessary:

ã€¢ A re-instated railway station for Cullompton. With more housing due for construction in the town consideration should be given for rail services to Wellington, Taunton and Exeter. I"ve raised this in the past with your colleagues and was given a polite brush off. It was suggested I contact the train operating companies [ROCs]. I see this as a non-starter. They may be here today but gone tomorrow. The initiative has to come from government. You should be working with your opposite numbers in Somerset to promote the reinstatement of a railway station at Wellington, too. New stations can be built quickly and effectively on existing lines " Warwick Parkway is a good example, built on an embankment. Clearly parking has to be a consideration, but the 350 bus service could be extended to the new station site, thus reducing dependency on cars.

My point is that building housing in Cullompton so that the occupiers then commute by car to work in Taunton or Exeter is undesirable. There is little opportunity for employment in the town as far as I can see for existing school leavers living here.

ã€¢ Street lighting. Many county [Powys, Essex, Cheshire, from memory] and district councils [eg Oxford City Council] are looking at turning out street lights in the period around midnight-5am. I think if you are really serious about reducing the council"s carbon footprint and your expenditure, this should be a priority.

Failure to address this issue would indicate your commitment to a reduced carbon

footprint is mere tokenism.

â€¢ You could also look at reducing long term costs by going solar. How many solar panels do you have on the roof of Phoenix House? No doubt you are also looking at your vehicle fleet and reviewing the number of vans and cars you really need. Private car allowances should only cover the cost of fuel used on council business.

Re health and recreation

â€¢ It is good to see Cullompton getting a new library when other counties are making front line cut backs: I think the credit for this has to go Devon County Council? And the church has a new community centre under construction too. I understand Cullompton people have long campaigned for a swimming pool and ideally this should remain on the agenda, to be built when funds permit.

Finally, while I accept that some climate change is taking place I do not subscribe to the concept of catastrophic anthropogenic global warming, and anthropogenic global warming may be less than is assumed by many in government circles, where climate change has assumed an importance out of all proportion: indeed, has become endemic. There is no proof that carbon dioxide is causing global warming and some authorities argue that we have seen a decline in global temperatures [very difficult to measure] in recent years. With China building a new coal fired power station every week or every fortnight, efforts to reduce the UK's carbon footprint will have minimal effect. However we should be good stewards of the planet and attempt to conserve resources, and where possible, save costs.

Regards,

Martin Bodman