



Welland Seniors' Forum

For people in South Holland aged 55 and over

Leader of the Council
South Holland District Council
Priory Road
Spalding

3rd September 2024

Dear Mr Worth

Welland Seniors Forum was set up in 2002 as a watchdog for the concerns of older people in Spalding and surrounding villages. We now cover the whole of South Holland. We hold open meetings five times a year and we regularly have over 30 people attending. Our aim is to listen to concerns of older people, shared at our meetings or at any time, which the committee then investigate and try to resolve. As part of this process, at a recent meeting, we had the opportunity to discuss the issues that older people are facing at present.

We would therefore request feedback on the following matters.

Cash is no longer accepted for certain purchases eg Castle Sports Complex, car parks. We therefore ask why has the council adopted a zero cash policy (or allowed its contactors eg Lex Leisure, to do so and what possibilities are there of these services returning to a cash option?

Litter and fly tipping were also a major concern for our group. We are of course aware of some of the work already done by the council to combat this issues, but as we continue to read in local media this is clearly not resolving the problem. For instance there is allegedly a very good CCTV coverage in the town centre, yet graffiti and other issues still appear and remain unresolved. What further action is the council taking to ensure our members and indeed the residents of South Holland are able to feel safe and walk around in a clean and pleasant environment?

Last but not least, (and another well documented issue) is the appearance of shop fronts, especially those with windows covered over and those of empty premises often used by rough sleepers. What is the council doing to enhance the appearance of town centres to, again, make them more inviting and allowing residents to feel safe in their local environment?

I look forward to hearing from you in due course in order that I can report back to the group meeting.

Yours faithfully

Tim Barzycki
Chair

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