

## **QUESTION TO COUNCILLOR WHITE**

### **CHAIRMAN OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE**

#### **QUESTION PURSUANT TO COUNCIL PROCEDURE RULE 37**

**Question raised by:** Councillor Richard Everett

*“Members will be only too aware that we have been blessed with a long and hot summer this year. This has had the effect of encouraging many more tourists to our area than we have hitherto attracted. Our region predominantly relies on tourism for its main income. To have that activity disrupted by road works causing traffic jams for tourists only serves to discourage those same tourists from re-visiting the area.*

*Is it a concern to the Chairman that these tourists coming in increasing numbers are being put off visiting our area again because they encounter long queues on our main tourist routes often caused by roadworks associated with increased housing development? Numerous examples are available to cite regarding this issue including but not limited to the experience of Kirby Cross. There have been many traffic jams in Kirby Cross this summer created in association with one particular housing development and this has affected anyone travelling to and from Frinton and Walton – and in one case with queues stretching back as far as Thorpe-le-Soken.*

*Will the Chairman instruct Officers to bring proposals to this Committee on how to include in all planning permissions given by this Local Planning Authority a condition that prevents road works on all our major tourist routes from disrupting vehicle movement during the peak season? This may or may not require such works to take place at night during peak season and/or restricting work to take place out of the peak season completely. Meanings of peak season, times of day and major routes will need to be defined.”*

#### **RESPONSE:**