

CHERWELL DISTRICT COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MEETING – 30th March 2009

At a crowded meeting of the Executive, Councillors discussed two recommendations:

- CDCs response to DCLG Consultation on Eco-Towns: Weston Otmoor
- CDCs response to DCLG Consultation on Eco-Towns: North West Bicester

The **Weston Otmoor** proposal was strongly criticised and there was unanimous support for the Council's response document to the government's draft Planning Policy Statement on Eco towns and the Sustainability Appraisal of the eco towns. However, more than one speaker issued a warning that although there was widespread criticism of the scheme and no local support whatsoever, the recently issued Financial Viability study indicated that Weston Otmoor could still be in the running if the government choose to ignore the other assessment reports.

For **North West Bicester** proposal there was much criticism by representatives from the local villages of Bucknell, Caversfield and Chesterton and local landowners.

However, councillors unanimously agreed that the development would bring prosperity and investment to Bicester. It would be the only way that Bicester would get the infrastructure that it needs to survive and grow.

A Ten Point Plan was put to the executive which supported the North West Bicester proposal but with a number of caveats – some of these, if accepted would go some way in mollifying the growing criticism of the scheme.

The Plan (see link on Home page) was unanimously agreed by the Executive.