

## **Motion submitted by Councillor Tim Taylor**

### **Labelling of Meat for Fenland Consumers**

Meat slaughtered in this country and packaged for sale, primarily in our supermarkets, has an abattoir code prominently printed within an oval shape on the packaging.

The abattoir code shows at which abattoir the animal was killed.

Some abattoirs use a Halal approved slaughter method. Others stun the animal before slaughtering it.

The abattoir codes are not well publicised, but they are neither secret nor restricted.

Consumers in Fenland and elsewhere are not well served by the current method of displaying abattoir codes; religiously observant Muslims cannot easily tell if supermarket and other shops' meat has been slaughtered in accordance with Halal requirements, and those residents who have ethical objections to consuming meat where the animal was not stunned before slaughter cannot easily identify such meat either.

To promote the interests both of religiously observant Muslim residents of Fenland and of those residents with an ethical objection to non-stun slaughter, Fenland District Council calls upon DEFRA to change the labelling requirements for meat so that the abattoir code for those abattoirs which kill animals in accordance with Halal requirements is preceded by the letter 'H' within the oval shape on the meat packaging.