

**Motion submitted by Councillor Dal Roy
regarding the Fenland Flag**

Fenland has a large diverse community encompassed in the four market towns, as well as the small villages in between. The population in the Eastern region has grown since 2011 by 8.3% and in Fenland around 7.6% from 2011 to 2021, that's 95300 up to over 102,500 in that time, and we continue to grow.

Fenland is now a very culturally diverse area with people from around the globe contributing to our economy, and yet we have no identity. The people of Fenland need an identity to bring them together as Fenlanders. Not just with the foods they introduce us to, the fashion but also the fabric of languages and customs making Fenland a great place to live and work.

To gain official acceptance, the flag needs to be added to the Flag Registry held by the Flag Institute. James Bowman, who originally came up with the idea of 'The Flag of the Fens' already has strong backing from individuals and business as well as our very own MP, Mr Barclay. The application for registration would however benefit from further expressions of support from elected representatives in the area.

It is considered that registration of the flag would give our people an identity. People of all faiths and religions, brought together in one place under one identity. I therefore put this to full Council that we officially endorse and formally record our support for the Flag of the Fens, as have many Councils around us, giving us an identity in this very fragmented world. Let's be proud to be called Fenlanders.