

Report to Parish Councils in the Fulbourn Division for September 2024 from Cllr Claire Daunton

Quy Issues

LHI bids: I am delighted that the bid to the county council for funding for MVAS units has been successful. The site visit to choose suitable locations has taken place and I was pleased to take part in that with the clerk and Councillor Hughes. I hope to report on the 20mph bid at the meeting.

Buses: the details of new bus routes put forward for funding through the CPCA's bus precept arrangements is yet to be finalised, but it is understood that there will be a new regular—11 service route linking Soham to the City, via Quy, this in addition to the hourly 12 service from Newmarket to Cambridge stopping at Quy church. Cllr Williams may have more to report on bus services.

Anglian Water: AW held a meeting recently with county councillors to discuss issues across the county. They are carrying out a review of the operation of all their assets – pumping stations and pipelines - taking account of the impact of climate change. I raised with them our local issues in relation to breakdowns and capacity. These discussions will be taken forward.

Greenway: there has been further engagement with the design team on points of detail with regard to sections of Stow Road and particular concerns in relation to property, but we are now close to final design for the Quy area.

Park and Ride: At its meeting of 12th September, the GCP Assembly agreed to recommend to the Executive Board that site P1, close to the Airport, be taken to the next stage and that a planning application be made for this site for a travel hub. The concerns of Quy parish council in relation to sites closer to the village were made in the paper to the Assembly and commented on at the meeting, along with comments on traffic modelling along the B1102. Most of the traffic going into Cambridge at Quy roundabout comes from the A14 east, with A14 west as the next largest group. Also pointed out were: GCP engagement with the AtoB1102 group which I had requested and the option for a more limited/smaller park and ride/park and cycle area, possibly on county farm land, to the east of the Quy roundabout, to take pressure off the Quy roundabout. Many other points were made in relation to the concept of travel hubs, vehicle access to the proposed site, walking and cycling access, arrangements for Marleigh after the move, and many more. I am happy to add to these points at the meeting.

Highways Quarterly meetings: I am putting in place quarterly meetings with Highways officers for parishes in my division, as happens in other divisions. This brings together colleagues from different parishes who share concerns on, for example, speeding, safety, maintenance, drainage, HGV traffic. I hope it will offer an opportunity to share these concerns with each other and with relevant Highways officers, on a regular basis. The first meeting will take place on 14th October. I have been talking to the chair and clerk for Quy concerning parish attendance either in person or online.

Cambridge Biomedical Campus (CBC): briefing

Councillors from the City and South Cambs were invited in mid July to take part in a briefing from the consultants advising on the development of the biomedical campus (CBC). CBC includes two major hospitals, along with commercial laboratories, research centres, university medical school, housing, technical buildings, car parking, bus routes, administrative buildings, and soon to be completed, Cambridge South Station. It is a densely developed site.

We were informed about:

progress towards the building of the Cancer Research Hospital (outline planning permission now granted), the services this will provide and the key role of research linked to treatment; full funding yet to be secured; there were questions related to the size of the hospital and scope of the work;

the intention to increase the planned housing on site from the proposed additional 11,000 dwellings to 16-18,000;

the proposed site for the Children's hospital; the hospital, now approved, will have special significance locally as it will bring together onto one site physical and mental care for children in an innovative way, thus moving some of the care currently provided for children and young people on the Fulbourn site to new facilities on the Addenbrooke's site the development of Cambridge South Station and associated bus arrangements; there will be limited space for buses at the station as well as for cars.

There are concerns over the future density of the site, the tightness of the area around Cambridge South Station and approaches to it; and the general movement of people (those working there, patients, visitors, students, commuters) within and across the site. It was agreed that the next forum meeting in the autumn would concentrate on transport. Access to the train station would be by bus (probably shuttle bus), foot or cycle, not by car.

Community Forum East, 9th July

The forum took place in the Marleigh Hangar. There were presentations on Marleigh and Springstead Village from the developers, on local GP services from the NHS's Integrated Care Board (ICB), primary school places from the County's education service.

Concerns on Marleigh over contractor parking, use of the Hangar building, use of the park and ride site for Marleigh visitor parking. On Springstead Village there was an update on progress with the house-building, provision of community facilities and green spaces, liaison with the local community. The parish council might want to ask for more regular meetings with the Springstead developers on the accessibility to community facilities.

On school places, it is clear that there is currently an over-provision of primary school places in and around Teversham and Cherry Hinton and that this is likely to feed through into the next few years. As a result, the start date for the Springstead primary school is likely to be

pushed back. There was no suggestion at present that this would happen with the secondary school.

ICB staff explained that the East Barnwell surgery was not taking new patients for a few months, its being staffed at present by locum GPs as a result of unhappiness by former medical staff with contractual arrangements. A longer -term arrangement with GPs both for their service contract and a new maintenance contract for the NHS-owned building would, it was hoped, be in place by October. Marleigh residents not yet registered with a GP practice, were provided with contact details for nearby surgeries.

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Former County Council Offices in the City

The County Council's Assets & Procurement Committee has agreed to enter into an exclusivity arrangement with a preferred bidder for a freehold sale of the old Shire Hall, on Castle Hill in the city. The move comes after the previous preferred bidder pulled out of a proposal for a leasehold arrangement, and a new marketing exercise was undertaken. The Committee agreed to make arrangements in the event that contracts are not exchanged by 9 October. The Committee has also agreed to establish arrangements for strengthened oversight of companies in which the council has an interest as owner, and to recommend the council's Constitution & Ethics Committee to establish a shareholder sub-committee to consider how this should be done.

COMMUNITIES, SOCIAL MOBILITY & INCLUSION (COSMIC) Household Support Fund

The Household Support Fund in Cambridgeshire closed to new applications on 26 July as the national scheme finishes at the end of September. The July closure was to ensure that demand was managed and the fund did not overspend. In April 2024, Cambridgeshire County Council was awarded over £3,580,000 to support households in need and help with the rising cost of living. The scheme has experienced significant demand, with large numbers of applications being submitted every day both directly and through partners. The council's Household Advice and Support Team will continue to process applications, with the current processing time being approximately three weeks. If funds remain after all outstanding applications have been processed, the scheme will briefly reopen for new applications. Although the scheme is being discontinued, advice is still available to those struggling with the cost of living. Help with utility bills, housing support, emergencies and benefits, and the Holiday Activities and Food (HAF) programme from Cambridgeshire County Council can be found on the council's website.

www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/council/communities/support-with-the-cost-of-living

The Government offers help and advice with living costs, childcare and maternity costs, managing money and debt and guidance for those over 60 or those who have a disability or health condition. www.gov.uk/cost-of-living

UPDATE: the new government has just agreed to re-start the household support fund. I will provide details of the new scheme at the meeting.

HIGHWAYS & TRANSPORT

Weed Treatment

Chemical weed treatment is applied directly to any weeds in the gullies of roads and at the back of footways abutting a building, wall, or fence line. A period of about three to five weeks is typically required for the weed treatment to take effect. After this, road sweepers are deployed to remove dead weeds. A second programme of treatment will take place in October. This will help to get the weeds under control before the next growing season. Seven areas of the county have confirmed that they do not wish to be part of the chemical weed treatment programme, so they have been excluded.

Vision Zero and iRAP (International Road Assessment Programme)

An update on the Vision Zero Partnership will be presented to the County Council's Highways & Transport Committee in December. At the same meeting, a report setting out the analysis of the Council's A roads using the iRAP methodology will be considered.

Vision Zero is a road safety partnership including local councils, police, fire, NHS and other relevant organisations. It is committed to preventing all road deaths across Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, and to significantly reducing the severity of injuries, costs and social impacts resulting from road traffic collisions. iRAP is a registered charity working with governments, highways authorities, and others to provide the tools and training to make roads safer.

Highways projects overview

The council wants to use its website more to enable residents to see more up to date information on highways projects. This is very much a work in progress, but some of the larger projects can be seen at <https://www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/residents/travel-roads-and-parking/highway-projects/our-projects-and-programmes>

Local Highways Improvement schemes

Local Highways Improvement applications are being scored and will be presented to the Highways & Transport Committee in October for approval. 36 of the 77 schemes added to the programme last year have been delivered, with a further ten ordered. Of the remainder, fourteen are with the contractor for pricing, fifteen are in design and consultation stage. Five schemes prior to 2023/24 have not yet been completed.

20MPH schemes

Scoring of the new and updated applications took place in May and June in preparation for presentation to the Highways & Transport Committee in October. These remain popular, with 65 applications received this year, many of which were re-submissions from the previous year. Some of the 2023/2024 have been delayed as applicants undertake further informal consultation following feedback from residents, or due to changes to guidance from the Department for Transport, and the amount of time the formal consultation phase is

Winter gritting

Preparations are under way for the 2024 winter, which starts on Friday 1 November, with salt barns being replenished and servicing of gritting vehicles.

Combined Authority for Cambridge and Peterborough(CPCA)

The CPCA is the responsible authority for bus transport across the region. Services on a number of new or revised bus routes across South Cambs are due to start in September, funded by the new bus precept, visible in all council tax bills. Many of these provide public bus transport to secondary schools. *Locally, if all goes to plan, from 29th November, an hourly bus service will connect Bottisham, the Wilbrahams, Fulbourn (via Cambridge Road, Queen Edith Way, Hills Road) to Netherhall, school, the Addenbrookes' site and Hills Road sixth form college.*

In the meantime, some new routes are likely to be introduced in South Cambs. Locally, these are proposed to include a bus connection between Newmarket Road park and ride, Cambridge North station and Cambridge Science Park.

Tiger Pass: Information about the Tiger Pass allowing £1 fares for young people up to the age of 25 can be found here <https://cambridgeshirepeterborough-ca.gov.uk/onepoundbusfare/>

The Combined Authority Board has also decided to proceed to consult on proposals concerning future funding for bus services, either a franchising or enhanced partnership scheme, in the hope of improving bus services in Cambridgeshire. The consultation closes on 20th November and both residents and parish councils are encouraged to take part. Here is the link:

<https://cpca-yourvoice.co.uk/bus-franchising-consultation/>

Further travel consultations

The county is consulting on two areas of travel and transport: one is asking for comment on the hierarchy of active travel - walking, wheeling, riding – routes. The purpose is to gather information on usage which will then lead to a hierarchy of signage and connectivity and maintenance. The details for response are here below, with deadline now extended to 30th September:

<https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/active-travel-hierarchy>

Finally, as part of central government's Transforming Cities initiative, funds are available to extend the coverage in residential roads of the city's 20mph zones out to surrounding areas, including Teversham and Fulbourn. A survey of households is being undertaken. Depending on the findings from this survey, whether or not there is support for extension and indeed how extensive that might be, a formal consultation might be triggered. Here below is the link to the details of the survey and the form to take part:

<https://consultcambs.uk.engagementhq.com/cambridge20mph>.

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