

District Councillors' Report to Parish Councils – Sep 2022

Communication and Digital - Broadband Tariffs

Most Broadband companies for the internet now offer what's called a Social Tariff at around £ 15 to £20 a month. My own provider BT offer a Broadband and Landline package for £15/month (or £20/month with unlimited minutes) to those on Universal Credit or on a Pension or Pension Credit. You could ask your own provider if they offer a similar package.

Greater Cambridge Planning Service - Planning Compliance

As part of the review of the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service (GCSPS) officers have been reviewing the part of the service relating to ensuring compliance with planning controls. The rise in the number of complaints received reflects a national trend and it is important to respond efficiently and effectively whilst keeping people informed. Our strategy is to promote a proactive approach to responding to breaches of planning regulations with appropriate interventions. Therefore, we have moved to the use of the term compliance. In the last six months work has been undertaken to examine existing processes, to streamline them, adopt new IT systems to aid reporting, and to improve the information available on these matters.

In relation to information available to the public, from 2 August 2022 all the information on compliance with planning regulations has been updated and consolidated onto the Greater Cambridge Shared Planning Service website

(<https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/http://greatercambridgeplanning.orghttps://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/> with links available from the Cambridge City and South Cambridgeshire District Councils websites. There is written guidance on what is (and what is not) a breach of planning control, as our experience is that many do not understand that some building works are able to take place without the need for planning permission to be granted. In addition, there is a helpful, explanatory video. Where it appears that there is a breach of planning control complaints can now be submitted using an e-form. This allows any documents and/or photographs to be uploaded which will help the compliance team with their investigations.

We hope that this will enable residents and others to understand the issues involved in securing compliance with planning regulations. We continue to seek improvements to the way we respond to complaints about unauthorised developments with the development of a new Enforcement Plan and restructuring of the Compliance Team.

Waste

The person responsible for fly-tipping in Fen Road, Milton in May 2021 has been successfully prosecuted. Through investigation of the waste, it was linked to an address in Huntingdonshire. During the investigation a couple admitted they had paid someone to take their waste away but they did not check to ensure the company was a registered waste carrier. Their waste had been dumped in Milton. Their case was heard at Cambridge Magistrate's Court on 23 August 2022 at which they pleaded guilty under Section 34 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 "Duty of Care as respects Waste" and were fined over £550. All households have a duty of care to ensure that any contractor or business removing waste from a property is checked against the [Environment Agency registers for authorised waste carriers](#), and that a Waste Transfer Note is completed before it is taken

away. If waste is allowed to be taken away by unlicensed carriers, it can lead to fines and a criminal record.

If you see someone fly-tipping, call the police on 999 and report it as an environmental crime in progress. If you find a fly-tip, report it at www.scambs.gov.uk/report

You can find out if an operator is registered here <https://environment.data.gov.uk/public-register/view/search-waste-carriers-brokers>

Support for Ukrainian Refugees

We are marking Ukrainian Independence Day (24 August) by flying the Flag of Ukraine all week outside South Cambs Hall. As part of the homes for Ukraine Scheme we now have almost 600 Ukrainian guests in South Cambridgeshire across 70 of our parishes.

The **small grants scheme** is supporting volunteers to set up and run programmes such as language teaching and conversation classes.

Zero Carbon Community Grants

The latest round of the ZCC grant scheme has been assessed and decisions taken at the Grants Advisory Committee in late July. Out of the applications submitted within the ward, Milton Community Centre and Recreation Grounds were successful in their bid for funds totalling £13,296 to add solar battery storage to the existing solar PV array to allow the building to become self-sufficient.

In total twelve community projects were awarded funding totalling £120,554 with a scoring for each application based on two separate categories; Carbon Reduction/Locking up Carbon and Community Engagement on Climate Change.

Waterbeach Community Forum

The next Waterbeach Forum will be on **Wednesday 16 November**. There will be drop-in from 6-7 where you can visit information stalls, followed by presentations from the main stakeholders, with an opportunity to ask questions from 7pm. Details will be available here when the agenda is confirmed [Waterbeach Community Forum - South Cambs District Council \(scambs.gov.uk\)](http://Waterbeach Community Forum - South Cambs District Council (scambs.gov.uk))

A10 path 'lighting'

Anna has contacted County Highways Development Management Team and Engineers, requesting that either solar studs or a white line need to be added to the edge of the cycle path (and perhaps also on the carriageway) to provide a greater visual distinction between the path and the road – for cyclists and for drivers.

Cambridge Research Park – bridlepath upgrade for cycles

I have emailed the estate managers (on behalf of local Councillors and Cycle Campaign) acknowledging that the proposed plans have been accepted by the County Council but asking that they take additional steps, as a matter of discretion, to make this route safer for cyclists. The delivery of Condition 9 of the planning application is another Section 278 project, in which the designer has proposed plans, which the County Safety Assessment Team has approved. None of this is subject to public consultation, so we can only seek to prevail upon the developer. For example we have suggested improving the southern end of the track joining Green End, as well as making the crossing of Car Dyke and the path next to it safer.

CLIs Paul Bearpark, Anna Bradnam and Judith Rippeth

Noteworthy schemes/strategies and projects to be consulted on in future / consultations recently closed

Scheme name	Type of scheme	Main consultation contact	Status of consultation	Website link
LTCP	Transport plan	CPCA	Live Closes 4/8/22	https://yourltcp.co.uk/
C2C	Environmental impact assessment	GCP	Live. Closes 11/7/22	www.greatercambridge.org.uk/c2c-eia
New road classification	Road categorisation	GCP	Live Closes 18/7/22	www.greatercambridge.org.uk/RoadClassification2022
Water Resources East Water Resource Management Plan (WRMP)	Water Resources Management Plan updated every five years	Water Resources East Ltd	Closed	Link to Water Resources East website Link to Consultation
North East Cambridge Area Action Plan	Area Action Plan	South Cambridgeshire District Council & Cambridge City Council	Approval to progress to consultation Spring 22. Formal engagement phase (Reg 19) to follow conclusion of Development Consent Order process for Cambridge Wastewater Treatment plant relocation (see above)	Link to Greater Cambridge Shared Planning website
East West Rail	Nationally significant infrastructure project	East West Railway Company (Created by Department for Transport in 2018)	Latest consultation closed in June 2021. A statutory consultation is expected next year when communities will be asked to give their comments on detailed proposals.	Link – East West Rail company

Waterbeach to Cambridge	Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO)	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Aim is to undertake a public consultation on the preferred route for the Waterbeach to Cambridge project later in 2022	Link to Greater Cambridge Partnership website
Cambridge South East Transport	Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO)	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Application to Government for TWAO to build busway and active travel route in 2022	Link to Greater Cambridge Partnership website
Cambridge Eastern Access	Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO)	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Consultation was held in late 2021. The results of this consultation will be taken back to the GCP Executive Board - alongside further technical work – in 2022 to decide on next steps on the preferred options.	Link to Greater Cambridge Partnership website
Greenways	12 x local greenways feeding into Cambridge	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Outline business case being prepared. Consultation expected Oct 22.	Link to Greater Cambridge Partnership website
Cambridge South West Travel Hub	Local - A new Travel Hub site at Junction 11 of the M11	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Application currently with Cambridgeshire County Council – determination delayed	Link to Greater Cambridge Partnership website