

District Councillors' report to Parish Councils – February 2023

Homes for Ukraine: Hosts still needed for guests already in South Cambridgeshire

Hosts are still desperately needed across South Cambridgeshire to support families who have already arrived from Ukraine, with hosts eligible to receive up to £500 a month as a thank you payment. Around 770 people from Ukraine have already arrived in South Cambridgeshire and with the war continuing - and it not being safe for many families to return - there is an ongoing demand to provide them with a safe place to stay. Under the Homes for Ukraine scheme, hosts sign up to provide a home to guests for a minimum of six months. However, around 20% of current hosts are not able to continue past that initial six-month point. It means that guests who have been staying with them would benefit from alternative accommodation locally, so they can continue to build on the relationships and community connections they have already been able to make. Hosts receive comprehensive support from the District Council, along with a £350 monthly Government 'Thank you' payment. The District Council also offers an additional opt-in monthly payment to hosts of £150. This takes the total host payment to £500 per month. Anyone who can offer a spare room and warm welcome is being asked to text ROOM to 88802 so the Council can support them through the process and match hosts to guests who have already started to settle in the local area.

Waterbeach to Cambridge busway consultation:

At the time of writing the GCP consultation has just gone live and is open until midday on Friday 24th March 2023. The GCP are consulting on two elements. Firstly on two route alignments, one of which would go to the west of Landbeach and the other more eastern one would be a more central route through the village of Landbeach. Secondly, the GCP are consulting on three possible site locations for an additional new Park & Ride site on the A10 to the west of Waterbeach New Town. Please see the updated consultation chart at the end of our report for a link.

There will be the following online and in-person events:

- 9/2/23 Online meeting via Microsoft Teams 18:00-19:30 (registration required)
- 8/2/23 The Bradfield Centre (lunchtime event) 11:30-14:00
- 8/2/23 Landbeach Village Hall 16:00-19:00
- 13/2/23 Online meeting via Microsoft Teams 18:00-19:30 (registration required)
- 21/2/23 St. Andrews Centre, Histon 16:30-19:30
- 23/2/23 Online meeting via Microsoft Teams 18:00-19:30 (registration required)
- 27/2/23 Waterbeach Baptist Church 16:00-19:00
- 7/3/23 Milton Community Centre 17:30-20:30

Six new pods at Emmaus, Landbeach:

Last Monday 23rd January all three ward councillors attended the official opening of six modular homes at Emmaus! Whilst Cllr Judith Rippeth was trustee at Emmaus in her district councillor role, The Hill Group approached the charity with the offer of pods as part of their 'Foundation 200' initiative to combat homelessness. The homes are purpose-built, fully furnished and highly energy efficient, being heated via an air source heat pump which will keep running costs low. This will enable the six companions living in them to be more independent. South Cambs are supporting the set up of the scheme through funding a housing support worker for Emmaus for the first year to support those six companions and to

get the project up and running. Some of the companions may move on and use this as a stepping stone to getting back on their feet or as a lifetime home as part of the community. It's been really rewarding to work on this project with Emmaus and South Cambs housing officers to see it through the planning process and to fruition.

Youth Engagement at Shirley Community Primary School:

Last Tuesday 24th January, Cllr Judith Rippeth was very privileged to attend an awards ceremony for Year 5 pupils for their bench designs for the St John's Innovation Centre. Jane Coston (Milton Parish Council and former County Councillor) was also there giving a talk about her campaign to have a bridge built over the A14. This provides a safe connection for pedestrians and cyclists between Milton and on into the city of Cambridge. It took twelve years for Jane's campaign to secure this essential bridge! The children's bench ideas were imaginative and inspirational, and two overall winners were selected for their creative and accessible benches which will be built and in place once they have planning approval. It was also really interesting to hear about what the children wanted to see in their environment and their engagement through this outreach work was amazing. I was very honoured to give some of the budding young designers their certificates and trophies.

Introducing the Oxford – Cambridge Partnership

Government has confirmed support for the establishment of an Oxford to Cambridge Pan Regional Partnership. The endorsement follows a proposal submitted to Government by leaders from local councils, local enterprise partnerships, the Arc Universities Group and the area's transport body, known as 'England's Economic Heartland'. Backing for the pan-regional partnership unlocks access to up to £2.5million of Government funding for the Partnership to support its priorities in delivering sustainable growth and environmental enhancements for the region. The Partnership's role will be to champion the region as a world leader of innovation and business, acting to achieve environmentally sustainable and inclusive growth. It will strengthen cross-boundary collaboration among its partners to focus on tackling the issues that matter to the people who live and work in the region.

The Partnership's initial programme is to:

- develop a set of propositions to attract international investment and profile the region on a global stage; and
- continue the work underway to embed shared Environment Principles.

Following the official commitment from government, the Partnership will begin active recruitment of an independent Chair. In the interim, a Shadow Board has been set up to oversee the Partnership's programme and agree governance and funding.

Cllrs Judith Rippeth, Paul Bearpark and Anna Bradnam

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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
Waterbeach to Cambridge	Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO)	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Consultation from 30 Jan until 24 Mar 2023	https://consultcambs.uk/engagementhq.com/gcp-waterbeach-to-cambridge-2023?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery
Cambridge Eastern Access	Newmarket Road improvements. Park & Ride preferred site.	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Consultation open until 20 Mar 2023	https://consultcambs.uk/engagementhq.com/gcp-newmarket-road-23
Greenways	12 x local greenways feeding into Cambridge	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Consultations on Haslingfield, Comberton, Melbourn, Sawston and Horningsea Greenways have taken place. Waterbeach Greenway consultation is expected Q1 or Q2 2023.	https://www.greatercambridge.org.uk/sustainable-transport-programme/active-travel-projects/greater-cambridge-greenways
Sustainable Travel Zone	City Access	Greater Cambridge Partnership	Closed midday 23 Dec. Results of consultation expected to be published in June 23	https://consultcambs.uk/engagementhq.com/making-connections-2022
Greater Cambridge Local Plan	Local Plan	South Cambs District Council	Greater Cambridge Local Plan Development Strategy Update published in Jan 23 Full public consultation in Autumn 23.	https://www.greatercambridgeplanning.org/merging-plans-and-guidance/greater-cambridge-local-plan/
North East Cambridge Area Action Plan	Area Action Plan	South Cambridgeshire District Council & Cambridge City Council	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. Next steps are uncertain.	Link – East West Rail company
Cambourne to Cambridge	Transport and Works Act Order (TWAO)	Greater Cambridge Partnership	EIA consultation closed on 11 July 22	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 2023	Link to Greater Cambridge Partnership website
LTCP (Local Transport & Connectivity Plan)	Transport Plan	CPCA	Due to be consulted on between May 12 and Aug 4 2023	http://www.yourltcp.co.uk