

Monthly report for parish and community councils Oct 2016

For the Cottenham, Histon and Impington (CH&I) county council division of Cambridgeshire which also includes King's Meadow, Oakington & Westwick, Orchard Park and Rampton.

Full Council meeting

Council met in October. [Click here](#) for an account of that meeting as it happened. It wasn't a great meeting. Note that there will be an extra meeting in November regarding the devolution deal.

Committee meetings and other council matters

As expected there was a full set of committee meetings during October.

General Purposes: the committee met twice. Actually the second meeting was simply a continuation of the first which was adjourned to enable more data to be gathered and presented. There were no key decisions; at least that's when the agenda said. But the reason to have the second meeting was to be able to consider a response following the Government changing the rules regarding 'multi-year settlements' which relate to the Revenue Support Grant (RSG). It had said that the RSG would never be negative but then it changed its mind and said that Cambridgeshire would be minus £7.2 million in 2019/20. The committee was asked to decide whether or not to accept this. To me that's a key decision. Any way it didn't. [Click here](#) for the detail.

Adults: this committee did not meet.

Children & Young People: there were no key decisions. However the Committee did note a 'pressure' regarding 'looked after children' and highlighted its need for additional funding which cannot be met within the service's current 'cash limits'. This issue later went to General Purposes.

Economy & Environment: there were no key decisions. However this committee identified previously savings which it decided were no longer appropriate and which also cannot be met within the service's current 'cash limits'. [Click here](#) for a more information.

Highways & Community Infrastructure: there were no key decisions although (1) a cost overrun for the Ely archives centre was noted and passed to A&I (see below), and (2) the committee also agreed to recommend that previously agreed savings be reversed and funded. Is there a trend here?

Assets & Investments: there was one key decision viz the cost overrun for the Ely archives centre. The committee was fairly angry and there was a robust challenge to officers for their apparent lack of consideration of alternatives. It approved a go ahead with the project and appropriate funding but asked that officers investigate and bring back any viable alternative schemes to the January meeting.

Health: there were no key decisions. However the committee endorsed several recommendations regarding the Clinical Commissioning Group's review of urgent and emergency care. The first meeting of the joint Peterborough and Cambridgeshire scrutiny committee regarding the proposed merger of Peterborough and Hinchingsbrooke hospitals also took place (<http://bit.ly/2e1oWSP>).

I attended a confidential briefing of plans for the development of the Princess of Wales site in Ely.

Planning: there were no items on the agenda relating to Cottenham, Histon & Impington

The City Deal Joint Executive Board met and approved last month's Assembly recommendations regarding the Cambridge Cambourne bus and cycle link. Subsequently its chair has suggested that a key element of its phase 1 plans, Peak-time Congestion Control Points, do not appear viable so we can expect them to be axed. [Click here](#) for more opinion regarding this development.

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Consultations relevant to this division

Consultation	Purpose	Due date and link
Together For Families Personalisation Budget Survey	This survey will be used to help inform the writing of a report regarding the budget.	13 Nov 16 http://bit.ly/2e1kgfA
Minerals and Waste Planning Enforcement Plan	To seek views on the revised Enforcement Plan.	05 Dec 16 http://bit.ly/2eWSB48
2-year-old check and assessment in Cambridgeshire	To consult parents with children aged 2-3 years who have participated in the Integrated Review.	06 Jan 17 http://bit.ly/2eored2
Survey of Adult Carers in England (SACE)	This survey has been developed to learn more about whether services received by carers are helping them in their caring role	17 Feb 17 http://bit.ly/2ftpxlr

More local matters

The meeting between the chair of Assets & Investments and members of Cottenham Parish council regarding the former's development plans has finally been set up (after I reminded them again)

A letter to parents and other stakeholders about plans for new primary school capacity in Histon & Impington went out omitting changes I had requested. A subsequent meeting with Officers and IVC has given the former a better understanding regarding viable options.

Plans for gritting this winter have been announced (<http://bit.ly/2eJdxey>). However routes have been reduced by about one third. Some key routes have been axed including those used by IVC buses from Milton, Oakington and Girton ([click here](#) for more information)

Diary (next public meetings)

3 Nov	1000	Planning Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
10 Nov	1400	*Health Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
8 Nov	1000	Highways & Community Infrastructure	Share Hall, Cambridge
8 Nov	1400	Children and Young People Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
10 Nov	1000	*Economy & Environment Committee	Share Hall, Cambridge
17 Nov	1430	Greater Cambridge City Deal Executive Board	Meadows Community Centre
3 Nov	1400	Adults and Wellbeing Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
15 Nov	1030	Full Council (additional meeting)	Shire Hall, Cambridge
11 Nov	1000	*Assets & Investments Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
29 Nov	1400	*General Purposes Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
1 Nov	1000	Greater Cambridge City Deal Assembly	South Cambs, Cambourne
9 Nov	1400	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel	Peterborough Town Hall
17 Nov	1000	*Health & Wellbeing Board	Pathfinder House, Huntingdon

*committees of which I am a member; note these may change. I am Chair of the Health Com.

And finally ... the reaction of some parts of the media to the comments of Gary Lineker and Lily Allen about the fate of child migrants in Calais is strange. Suggesting that because you are privileged or have a bit of money you can't take a moral position doesn't seem right. Surely the opposite is true.