

Monthly report for parish and community councils Nov 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

We had an extraordinary council meeting during the month solely for the purpose of approving the 'devo 1' deal (including a directly-elected mayor) which we did. [Click here](#) for my account.

Committee meetings and other council matters

General Purposes: there were two key decisions. One taken in public regarding the Busway ([click here](#) for my take on that) and one taken in private relating to the waste PFI and the operations of the waste facility at Waterbeach. The Busway story still has a long way to go; there's big money at stake. My concern is that it gets addressed without regard to potential linkages with City Deal options. There was also debate of the budget consultations which I fear have been inconclusive.

Adults: there were no key decisions. However the committee did consider an option to maximise savings from the total transport pilot project in East Cambs by changing day centre times. It agreed that the impact of such changes would adversely impact a number of users and recommended that they be not made. It also agreed that the Council could be a signatory to the Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Sustainable Transformation Plan (STP) which has been developed by the NHS' Clinical Commissioning Group (CCG). It's part of a national program to save money and improve outcomes

Children & Young People: there was one key decisions relating to a restructuring to enable the Council to better support young people by realigning its services. At the same time it will save money. This committee also considered the East Cambs day centre times issue.

Economy & Environment: there were no key decisions. The agenda was rich with cycling projects. I expressed concern that with some projects we didn't really give cyclists an end-to-end scheme and that we must provide safe routes for cyclists through junctions and not just up to and beyond them.

The City Deal Joint Executive Board met and gave the go ahead for the first part of the Chisholm Trail north south cycle link. Note that reconsideration of the phase 1 schemes is scheduled for Jan 17.

Highways & Community Infrastructure: this committee did not meet.

Assets & Investments: there were no key decisions.

Health: there were two key decisions. The first related to the Council's healthy weight strategy and the second to the joint commissioning, along with Peterborough City Council, of counselling contracts for children and young people. This committee also agreed to the Council signing the STP.

Public Health is taking the lead in 'devo 2' and is developing a bid to fundamentally address health inequalities in Wisbech. It is recognised that (a) health inequalities reflect broader inequalities, and (b) there are many other influencing factors which need to be addressed at the same time. This was reinforced by the experts in the field who spoke at the launch event for the healthy weight strategy.

The Committee also completed its joint scrutiny, together with Peterborough City Council, of the proposed merger of Hinchingsbrooke and Peterborough hospital trusts. Both trusts have since approved the merger. Scrutiny will continue to make sure that promises are kept.

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

Monthly report for parish and community councils Nov 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.

Consultations relevant to this division

Consultation	Purpose	Due date and link
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/2eoerd2
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

Meetings have taken place between IVC, Histon junior and infants' schools, and CCC to ensure that good plans are put in place to deliver the additional primary school capacity places needed in 2018.

I joined county and parish officers to survey options for bike rack installations in Histon.

I attended the Council's first Parish Council conference. The Council announced a £1million fund to 'help community organisations with big ideas ...' (and save the Council money).

Diary (next public meetings)

6 Dec	1400	Children and Young People Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
7 Dec	1000	Highways & Community Infrastructure	Shire Hall, Cambridge
8 Dec	1430	Greater Cambridge City Deal Executive Board	Meadows Community Centre
8 Dec	1400	Adults and Wellbeing Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
13 Dec	1030	Full Council (additional meeting)	Shire Hall, Cambridge
15 Dec	1000	Planning Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
15 Dec	1400	*Health Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
16 Dec	1000	*Economy & Environment Committee	Share Hall, Cambridge
16 Dec	1000	*Assets & Investments Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
22 Dec	1400	*General Purposes Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
18 Jan	1000	Greater Cambridge City Deal Assembly	South Cambs, Cambourne
19 Jan	1000	*Health & Wellbeing Board	Pathfinder House, Huntingdon
1 Feb	1400	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel	Peterborough Town Hall
9 Feb	1400	Cambridgeshire Fire Authority	Hinchingbrooke Park

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

And finally ... Fidel Castro's died. He's been off the world stage for some time of course but through the 60s and the rest of the 20th century he was a visible figure, in his/Cuba's standoff with the USA and as a fully paid up member of the 3rd world alliance. There's no doubt that the regime which he replaced was pretty evil but reports of the way that the subsequent Cuban regime dealt with its opponents also make grim reading so it's not clear whether he left a net positive or negative contribution. I spent a very pleasant holiday in Cuba about 10 years ago and remember the ever present combos and rum cocktails, the empty roads and wonderful 1950s American cars, and the generally dreadful food despite the opportunities presented by both land and sea. But at the same time I was aware of near 100% literacy and an exemplary health and adult social care system.