

# Monthly report for parish and community councils December 2017

For the Histon and Impington (H&I) county council division of Cambridgeshire which also includes King's Meadow and Orchard Park.

---

## Full Council meeting

Full Council met in December. It was a short meeting and we were out by lunch. There's a narrative at <https://wp.me/p7tuu7-1LB>. It was most notable from my point of view for passing unanimously a motion which I had presented calling for the Cambridgeshire Music strategy to be revisited. This was prompted by the recent decision taken at the Commercial & Investment Committee which has 'unwittingly' rode roughshod over it. The revisit should enable a more balanced and rational decision to be taken concerning the proposed CREATE (Centre for Research and Engagement in Arts, Technology and Education) project.

## Committee meetings and other council matters

Adults: there were no key decisions. However it did consider its project to enable an increase in 'affordable' care home provision of 450 beds by leveraging its own asset base.

Children & Young People: there were two key decisions. In its first the committee agreed to increase the multiplier it uses to estimate the demand for primary school places in new developments from 20-30 to 30-40. Strangely it did not increase the multipliers for older students. In its second key decision it confirmed its support for a procurement strategy for children in care, 16-18.

Commercial & Investment: there were no key decisions. However the committee did nominate three members to the Cambridgeshire Music strategy panel. One is me which seems only right after all the fuss I've made.

Environment & Economy: there was one key decision relating to the allocation of the £3.2 million Integrated Transport Block part of the Local Transport Plan. Note how small this number is. Much of the money to be spent on our roads is now the responsibility of the Greater Cambridge Partnership and/or Combined Authority.

Communities & Partnerships: there were no key decisions. Bizarrely one of the Area Champions made the suggestion that area champion 'updates should only be reported on a quarterly basis as there was not always that much progress to be reported bi-monthly'. What do they do for their £5000 allowance?

General Purposes Committee: there were no key decisions. However buried under item 6(b) was consideration of the 'consultation' which will be taken as providing the necessary rationale for the Council not to raise council tax in its budget later this year. Go to <https://wp.me/p7tuu7-1LG> for my view on that.

Health: there were no key decisions. However it should be noted that the committee did not 'endorse' the draft revenue 2018/19 business plan proposals but merely noted them.

Highways & Community Infrastructure: there was just one key decision viz the same one which E&E Com took and reported above. It makes you think that maybe we've got too many committees.

Planning: there was nothing on the agenda relating to this division.

Health & Well Being Board: this committee did not meet.

## Monthly report for parish and community councils December 2017

For the Histon and Impington (H&I) county council division of Cambridgeshire which also includes King's Meadow and Orchard Park.

---

Neither the Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly nor the Greater Cambridge Partnership (GCP) Executive Board met.

The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority met. It seems to have been a largely procedural meeting including the details of how the CA will 'take over' the Local Enterprise Partnership. However it did agree to set up a 'land commission' to bring forward 'both public and private land for development'.

The Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel met to confirm the appointment of Ray Bisby to the position of Deputy Police and Crime Commissioner. R Bisby is an ex policeman and is currently a Peterborough City Councillor. The Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Fire Authority did not meet.

### Consultations relevant to this division

Consultation	Purpose	Due date and link
Fairer contributions policy (see above under Adults)	The Council is holding a consultation on four proposed changes to the Fairer Contributions Policy	23 Feb 18 <a href="http://bit.ly/2BQgPoz">http://bit.ly/2BQgPoz</a>
Setting of school term dates for 2019/2020 academic year	To review proposed term dates for community and voluntary schools in the County for the academy year 2019/2020.	12 Jan 18 <a href="http://bit.ly/2CPPy9U">http://bit.ly/2CPPy9U</a>

Note that the school term consultation ran from 4 Dec 17 over Xmas and the New Year.

### More local matters

I met County Officers to review plans for footpath improvements along Station Road in Histon.

I met County officers to review plans for Histon library in the light of the new landlord's plans. Both the landlord and the officers are committed to supporting the library in its present location.

I have participated (and chaired) further meetings relating to the 'leakages' at the Station Road service station. Note that early in 2018 all parties attended a meeting on site to agree next steps.

I met Andy Campbell, Stagecoach MD for Cambridgeshire, to talk about options to improve bus services in Histon & Impington.

I met Chris Tunstall, outgoing transport director at the Greater Cambridge partnership, and parish councillors to be briefed on developments and latest thinking.

**And finally** .... The snow in December had us all excited and yet again there was lots of comparison of this country with others which seem to fare better. The reason we do so badly of course is that we have much less practice and because snow is infrequent and typically only remains for a few days we don't have systems in place to enable us to live through it. But is that enough and shouldn't we consider living 'through' snow as a part of improving community resilience? Even if we can't live life as normal isn't there some in between state which we can strive for which prevents a complete standstill. There's always going to be a standstill if we have a real snow storm, that happens in other countries as well, but we should be able to recover more quickly than we do. Maybe this is something that the C&PCom could get its head around and its teeth into.

## Monthly report for parish and community councils December 2017

For the Histon and Impington (H&I) county council division of Cambridgeshire which also includes King's Meadow and Orchard Park.

---

### Diary (next public meetings)

5 Dec	1000	Highways & Community Infrastructure	Shire Hall, Cambridge
8 Jan	1000	*General Purposes Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
10 Jan	1400	Adults and Wellbeing Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
10 Jan	1000	Economy & Environment Committee	Share Hall, Cambridge
15 Jan	1400	Children and Young People Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
17 Jan	1400	*Health Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
17 Jan	1000	Communities & Partnership	Shire Hall, Cambridge
18 Jan	1000	*Commercial & Investments Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
18 Jan	1400	Greater Cambridge Partnership Assembly	Shire Hall, Cambridge
22 Jan	1000	*General Purposes Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
24 Jan	1000	Planning Committee	Shire Hall, Cambridge
31 Jan	1000	C&P Combined Authority	Shire Hall, Cambridge
31 Jan	1400	Cambridgeshire Police & Crime Panel	Peterborough Town Hall
1 Feb	1000	Health & Wellbeing Board	Shire Hall, Cambridge
5 Feb	1030	Full Council	Shire Hall, Cambridge
7 Feb	1400	Cambridgeshire Fire Authority	Hinchingbrooke Park
8 Feb	1600	Greater Cambridge Partnership Executive Board	SCDC offices, Cambourne

\*committees of which I am currently a member; these may change. Note that the Council's diary is now online at [https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cc\\_live/Meetings.aspx](https://cmis.cambridgeshire.gov.uk/cc_live/Meetings.aspx).